



No. 59

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

SECOND SESSION – TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

1:30 p.m.

ABSENCE OF THE SPEAKER

The Clerk advised the Assembly that the Speaker would not be present to open the sitting. Thereupon, the Acting Speaker took the chair.

PRAYERS

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Petitions of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan were presented and laid upon the Table by the following Members: Iwanchuk, Forbes, Morin, Broten and Vermette.

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

According to Order, the Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel having favourably examined the same pursuant to Rule 16(7), the following Petitions were read and received:

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to commit to indexing Saskatchewan minimum wage.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 34)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to commit to maintaining quality health care services and job security for all public health care providers.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 58)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to commit to maintaining and repairing Highway 123.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 60)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to ensure that CBO workers achieve wage equity.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 112)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to immediately expand the Graduate Retention Program to include Masters and Ph.D. graduates.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 114)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to financially assist Duck Lake residents with exorbitant water rates.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 115)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to invest in growing the capacity of the early childcare community to enable new childcare spaces.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 130)

BILL NO. 94 – THE PROFITS OF CRIMINAL NOTORIETY ACT

The following Bill was received, read the first time, and by leave of the Assembly and pursuant to Rule 72(1), ordered to be read a second time later this day:

Bill No. 94 – The Profits of Criminal Notoriety Act

(Hon. Mr. Morgan)

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 94 – The Profits of Criminal Notoriety Act – be now read a second time.

A debate arising and the question being put, it was agreed to and the said Bill was, accordingly, read a second time.

By designation of the Hon. Mr. Morgan, in accordance with Rule 81, Bill No. 94 – The Profits of Criminal Notoriety Act – was committed to the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN AND CENTRAL AGENCIES

Mr. Duncan, Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies presented the Seventh Report of the said committee, which is as follows:

Your committee considered the Estimates of the following government ministries and agencies and adopted the following resolutions:

Main Estimates, 2009-2010:

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2010, the following sums:

For Finance.....	\$203,208,000
For Government Services	\$42,203,000
For Information Technology Office	\$7,320,000
For Office of the Provincial Secretary.....	\$5,024,000
For Public Service Commission	\$39,477,000

Your committee reviewed the following Estimates for which no funds were requested or required to be voted:

Main Estimates, 2009-2010:**Executive Branch of Government**

For Finance – Debt Servicing (Statutory)

Fund Transfers

For Growth and Financial Security Fund (Statutory)

Lending and Investing Activities

For Municipal Financing Corporation of Saskatchewan (Statutory)

For Saskatchewan Opportunities Corporation (Statutory)

For Saskatchewan Power Corporation (Statutory)

For Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation (Statutory)

For Saskatchewan Water Corporation (Statutory)

For SaskEnergy Incorporated (Statutory)

Debt Redemption, Sinking Fund and Interest Payments

For Finance – Debt Redemption (Statutory)

For Finance – Sinking Fund Payments – Government Share (Statutory)

Your committee recommends that upon concurrence of its report by the Assembly, the sums as reported and approved shall be included in the Appropriation Bill for consideration by the Legislative Assembly.

(Sessional Paper No. 230)

On motion of Mr. Duncan:

Ordered, That the Seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies be now concurred in.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMY

Mr. Huyghebaert, Chair of the Standing Committee on the Economy, presented the Sixth Report of the said committee which is as follows:

Your committee considered the Estimates of the following government ministries and agencies and adopted the following resolutions:

Main Estimates, 2009-2010:

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2010, the following sums:

Executive Branch of Government

For Agriculture	\$480,494,000
For Energy and Resources.....	\$50,243,000
For Enterprise and Innovation Programs.....	\$22,133,000
For Enterprise Saskatchewan	\$47,305,000
For Environment.....	\$227,797,000
For Highways and Infrastructure.....	\$347,578,000
For Saskatchewan Research Council.....	\$15,016,000

Lending and Investing Activities

For Enterprise and Innovation Programs.....	\$5,500,000
For Highways and Infrastructure.....	\$1,052,000

Major Capital Expenditure

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2010, the following sum, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for that fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending on March 31, 2011:

For Highways and Infrastructure Capital	\$282,304,000
---	---------------

Your committee recommends that upon concurrence of its report by the Assembly, the sums as reported and approved shall be included in the Appropriation Bill for consideration by the Legislative Assembly.

(Sessional Paper No. 231)

On motion of Mr. Huyghebaert:

Ordered, That the Sixth Report of the Standing Committee on the Economy be now concurred in.

The following Bills were reported without amendment and consideration in Committee of the Whole having been waived, by leave of the Assembly, they were read the third time and passed:

Bill No. 76 – The Wildlife Habitat Protection Amendment Act, 2008 (No. 2)

Bill No. 84 – The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Amendment Act, 2009

The following the Bill was reported without amendment and consideration in Committee of the Whole having been waived, by leave of the Assembly, it was read the third time and passed, on Division:

Bill No. 71 – The Innovation Saskatchewan Act

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 360 to 370, they were answered. (See Appendix)

ADJOURNED DEBATES

Bill No. 80 – The Construction Industry Labour Relations Amendment Act, 2009

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Norris: That Bill No. 80 – The Construction Industry Labour Relations Amendment Act, 2009 – be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, the Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings and adjourned the Assembly without question put, pursuant to Rule 6(6).

The Assembly adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

Hon. Don Toth
Speaker

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 360, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: On March 30, 2009, it was announced that Habitat for Humanity will receive \$1 million to build 20 homes in Saskatchewan. (1) In which communities will these homes be built (2) How many homes will be built in each community? (3) How much money is allocated to each community? (4) What are the street addresses of these homes?

Answer:

- (1) Saskatoon, Regina, Prince Albert, Moose Jaw, Lloydminster and Yorkton.
- (2) Number of units built in each community will be decided by Habitat for Humanity.
- (3) Community allocations will be determined by the number of units built in each community.
- (4) Street addresses for units are not yet known.

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 361, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many families qualified for the Saskatchewan Employment Supplement in 2007? (2) 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009? (5) March 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 6,228 - annual average.
- (2) 5,825 - annual average.
- (3) 6,008
- (4) 5,817
- (5) 6,164

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 362, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many families qualified for the Saskatchewan Family Health Benefits in 2007? (2) 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009? (5) March 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 16,960 - annual average.
- (2) 15,469 - annual average.
- (3) 15,002
- (4) 15,031
- (5) 15,125

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 363, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many people qualified for the provincial training allowance in 2007? (2) 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009? (5) March 2009?

Answer:

This does not fall under the responsibility of the Ministry of Social Services and should be directed to the Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour.

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 364, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new families with children received Income Assistance in the Southwest region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 170
- (2) 163
- (3) 147
- (4) 159

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 365, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many new TEA cases were open in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 523
- (2) 697
- (3) 677
- (4) 650

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 366, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many SAP/TEA cases were open in the Northeast region in November 2008? (2) December 2008? (3) January 2009? (4) February 2009?

Answer:

- (1) 2,689
- (2) 2,796
- (3) 2,879
- (4) 2,929

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 367, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many single seniors (Type 1) living in special care homes received SIP? (2) How many of these received the maximum amount of \$25/month?

Answer:

- (1) 730 in April 2009.
- (2) 439 in April 2009.

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 368, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many senior married couples (Type 2) living in special care homes received SIP? (2) How many of these received the maximum amount of \$25/month?

Answer:

- (1) 4 in April 2009.
- (2) 3 in April 2009.

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 369, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many senior married couples (Type 3) living in special care homes received SIP? (2) How many of these received the maximum amount of \$25/month?

Answer:

- (1) 2 in April 2009.
- (2) 2 in April 2009.

Mr. Forbes asked the Government the following Question No. 370, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many senior married couples (Type 4) living in special care homes received SIP? (2) How many of these received the maximum amount of \$25/month?

Answer:

- (1) None in April 2009.
- (2) None in April 2009.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

On Monday:

Hon. Ms. Heppner to move First Reading of Bill No. 95 – The Management and Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Act

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following Questions were given notice on day no. 58 and are to be answered by day no. 63:

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 373:

To the Premier: (1) Were any third parties (including, but not limited to, law firms) contracted to negotiate any part of any severance packages for any dismissed individual from the government? (2) If so, which third party was contracted? (3) How much was that third party paid in total? (4) How many severance negotiations was that third party involved with? (5) If the third party was a law firm, which individual lawyers were paid?

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 374:

To the Premier: (1) Is the government spending any money on the western branch of the “public policy forum”? (2) If so, how much money is being spent? (3) Which government agencies or Crown corporations are spending money? (4) What is the stated purpose of the spending? Note: For the purpose of this question “spending” includes direct government payments, loans, loan guarantees, grants or any other type of transfer of resources from government to this agency.

Mr. Calvert, to ask the Government the following Question No. 375:

To the Premier: (1) Will Garnet Garvin receive any payout, severance or otherwise, as a result of his leaving the employment of the government of Saskatchewan? (2) What will the amount of these payments be and for what purpose? (3) If there is any kind of severance package, please include all details such as pension and benefit payments.

Mr. Wotherspoon, to ask the Government the following Question No. 376:

To the Minister of Education: (1) What is the composition of the Provincial Panel on Student Achievement? (2) Who are the current members?

Mr. Wotherspoon, to ask the Government the following Question No. 377:

To the Minister of Education: (1) Does the 2009/10 budget include any capital investment for infrastructure as advocated by the Saskatchewan Library Association, for specifically, needed headquarter refurbishments/renovations? (2) Is so, what amount?

Mr. Wotherspoon, to ask the Government the following Question No. 378:

To the Minister of Education: (1) Which school divisions will be delivering technology supported learning courses in 2009/10? (2) 2008/09?

Mr. Wotherspoon, to ask the Government the following Question No. 379:

To the Minister of Education: (1) In regard to the new technology supported learning programs, recognizing that not all communities or schools currently have the technological infrastructure to take advantage of these programs, is there a timeline for all schools to be able to access these programs? (2) If so, what is that timeline? (3) How many schools are not currently able to access these programs?

Mr. Wotherspoon, to ask the Government the following Question No. 380:

To the Minister of Education: (1) As it relates to the elimination of the ministry's correspondence and technology supported learning program, has every student in every school had, at minimum, the same access to course offerings as through the previous model of correspondence and distance education?

Mr. Wotherspoon, to ask the Government the following Question No. 381:

To the Minister of Education: (1) As it relates to budget vote ED03, the School Operating K-12 Initiatives which has received an almost 3.3 million increase, which schools are receiving money? (2) How much money is each school receiving? (3) What is the process a school follows to access the funds?

Mr. Wotherspoon, to ask the Government the following Question No. 382:

To the Minister of Education: How many educational assistants were employed by Saskatchewan school divisions in 2008/09?

Mr. Wotherspoon, to ask the Government the following Question No. 383:

To the Minister of Education: The P3 Secretariat is currently working on a mandate for the Secretariat. (1) Will educational facilities, including but not limited to schools, be within the scope of any studies or projects by this body? (2) Has the Ministry of Education arrived at any positions or directions with regard to education Public Private Partnerships? (3) Has the Ministry offered any input to the Secretariat? (4) If so, what is the context of that input?

Mr. Wotherspoon, to ask the Government the following Question No. 384:

To the Minister of Education: (1) Does this 2009/10 budget include any assistance to libraries, that have noted their struggles to provide wage equity with other parts of Canada, to recruit and retain the needed library professionals? (2) If so, what amount?

Mr. McCall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 385:

To the Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations: How much funding is allocated in the 2009/10 provincial budget for the Northern Enterprise Region in the north western portion of the province?

Mr. McCall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 386:

To the Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations: How much funding is allocated in the 2009/10 provincial budget for the Northern Enterprise Region in the north eastern portion of the province?

Mr. McCall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 387:

To the Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations: How much funding is allocated in the 2009/10 provincial budget for Northern Enterprise Regions?

Mr. McCall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 388:

To the Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations: (1) How much provincial government funding was provided to the Woodlands and Waterways Regional Development Corporation in total in 2004/05? (2) 2005/06? (3) 2006/07? (4) 2007/08? (5) 2008/09?

Mr. McCall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 389:

To the Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations: (1) How much provincial government funding was provided to the Woodlands and Waterways Regional Development Corporation for projects in 2004/05? (2) 2005/06? (3) 2006/07? (4) 2007/08? (5) 2008/09?

Mr. McCall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 390:

To the Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations: (1) How much provincial government funding was provided to the Woodlands and Waterways Regional Development Corporation for operations in 2004/05? (2) 2005/06? (3) 2006/07? (4) 2007/08? (5) 2008/09?

Mr. McCall, to ask the Government the following Question No. 391:

To the Minister of First Nations and Métis Relations: How much funding is allocated in the 2009/10 provincial budget for the Woodlands and Waterways Regional Development Corporation?