



No. 20

# VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

THIRD SESSION – TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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Wednesday, November 25, 2009

1:30 p.m.

*PRAYERS*

**PRESENTING PETITIONS**

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

**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 invest in the planning and construction of new long-term care beds in La Ronge

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 3)

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. 4)

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. 5)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to invest in an affordable housing program throughout the Battlefords.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 6)

Of the citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to manage the provincial finances more responsibly and prudently.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 7)

Of the 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. 13)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to commit to providing repairs to Highway 310.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 44)

#### **REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN AND CENTRAL AGENCIES**

The following 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:

Bill No. 116 – The Traffic Safety (Drivers' Licences and Hand-held Electronic Communications Equipment) Amendment Act, 2009

#### **REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND JUSTICE**

The following 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:

Bill No. 99 – The Emergency 911 System Amendment Act, 2009

#### **WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 540 and 542 to 544, they were answered. (See Appendix)

The Order of the Day being called for Question No. 541, pursuant to Rule 20(5)(a), the question was converted and an Order for Return was issued:

Mr. Yates, for Return No. 47 showing:

To the Government: (1) To each Minister, the effects of budgetary restraints in your ministry in the 2009/10 fiscal year, including, how many FTE positions are unfilled as a result of budget constraints. (2) The number of hours of work that have been reduced as a result of budget constraints. (3) The number of early layoffs there has been as a result of budget constraints. (4) The number of capital

projects that have been delayed as a result of budget constraints, and which ones. (5) The programs that have been cut as a result of budget constraints, and by how much. (6) The grants that have been cut as a result of budget constraints, and by how much. (7) The number of retirements (that will not be replaced) that have occurred.

## **SECOND READINGS**

### **Bill No. 118 – The Milk Control Repeal Act**

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Bjornerud: That Bill No. 118 – The Milk Control Repeal Act – be now read a second time.

A debate arising, it was on motion of Mr. Nilson, adjourned.

### **Bill No. 119 – The Ticket Sales Act**

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 119 – The Ticket Sales Act – be now read a second time.

A debate arising, it was on motion of Mr. Nilson, adjourned.

### **Bill No. 120 – The Financial Administration Amendment Act, 2009**

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Gantefer: That Bill No. 120 – The Financial Administration Amendment Act, 2009 – be now read a second time.

A debate arising, the Speaker interrupted proceedings and adjourned the Assembly without question put, pursuant to Rule 6(6).

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

*Hon. Don Toth*  
*Speaker*

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Mr. Yates, to ask the Government the following Question No. 540, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:**

To the Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Telecommunications: (1) How many investments in infrastructure did SaskTel make, and how much was spent in total on infrastructure by SaskTel in 2001? (2) 2002? (3) 2003? (4) 2004? (5) 2005? (6) 2006? (7) 2007?

Answer:

- (1) Total capital investment in Saskatchewan for 2001: \$123.5 million
- (2) Total capital investment in Saskatchewan for 2002: \$160.2 million
- (3) Total capital investment in Saskatchewan for 2003: \$129.7 million
- (4) Total capital investment in Saskatchewan for 2004: \$119.6 million
- (5) Total capital investment in Saskatchewan for 2005: \$137.6 million
- (6) Total capital investment in Saskatchewan for 2006: \$224.5 million
- (7) Total capital investment in Saskatchewan for 2007: \$167.4 million

Capital investment may include anything from buildings, network (access, transport), towers, software, gateways, and does include the salaries for capital projects.

**Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 542, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:**

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) As a result of the new reorganization in the Ministry of Social Services as referred to in the Children's Advocate Progress Report released Thursday, November 12, 2009, what positions were lost in the ministry because of the reorganization? (2) What new positions were created in the ministry because of the reorganization? (3) What positions and services now exist in the Central region since the reorganization? (4) What position and services now exist in the Northern region? (5) What positions and services now exist in the Southern region? (6) What is the total cost to date for the reorganization? (7) When will the new organization plan be placed on the ministry website? (8) Are there new contact numbers and when will these be placed on the website?

Answer:

- (1) Information is not yet available as the ministry is still in the process of finalizing and implementing its new organizational structure. The transition to the new structure is expected to be complete by December 31, 2009.
- (2) Refer to (1).
- (3) Refer to (1).
- (4) Refer to (1).
- (5) Refer to (1).
- (6) None.
- (7) Refer to (1).
- (8) Refer to (1).

**Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 543, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:**

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) Is there an updated organizational chart based on page 27 of the 2008/09 Ministry of Social Services Annual report? (2) Please provide a copy.

Answer:

Information is not yet available as the ministry is still in the process of finalizing and implementing its new organizational structure. The transition to the new structure is expected to be complete by December 31, 2009.

**Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 544, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:**

To the Minister of Social Services: Can you please describe the new reorganization of the Ministry of Social Services as referred to in the Children's Advocate Progress Report released Thursday, November 12, 2009?

Answer:

The new structure of the Ministry of Social Services will be comprised of four divisions:

- Child and Family Services - This division will focus on developing, designing and implementing effective child welfare programs and services delivered by the ministry or its community partners. The new management structure in the division is being designed to support front line service delivery.
- Corporate Services - This new division will develop, implement and evaluate frameworks that align and integrate the policy, planning, corporate systems and performance management of the ministry's three program divisions. Centralizing and coordinating corporate services functions in this division will reduce overlap and duplication and allow program divisions to focus on client service delivery. This division will also house a strengthened central policy unit to allow for insight into common clients across programs through co-ordinated research, policy and evaluation.
- Housing – This division is being restructured to achieve greater alignment with the ministry through strategic policy, program delivery, and operating practices to serve the ministry's clients and the public at large.
- Income Assistance and Disability Services - This new division aligns the Office of Disability Issues and the former Community Living and Income Assistance divisions in a new structure that will integrate program and service design for people with disabilities. It will also develop, design and implement income benefit programs and services.

## **NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS**

On Monday:

Hon. Ms. Heppner to move First Reading of Bill No. 121 – The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2009

Hon. Ms. Heppner to move First Reading of Bill No. 122 – The Environmental Assessment Amendment Act, 2009

Hon. Ms. Heppner to move First Reading of Bill No. 123 – The Forest Resources Management Amendment Act, 2009

Hon. Mr. Morgan to move First Reading of Bill No. 124 – The Legal Profession Amendment Act, 2009

Hon. Mr. Boyd to move First Reading of Bill No. 125 – The Crown Minerals Amendment Act, 2009

Ms. Junor to move First Reading of Bill No. 610 – The Seniors' Bill of Rights Act

## NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

**The following Questions were given notice on day no. 18 and are to be answered by day no. 23:**

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 545:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) How many recipients of the Saskatchewan Seniors Income Plan had their benefits partially reduced in each month in 2007? (3) 2008? (4) Up to October, 2009?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 546:

To the Minister of Social Services: Did recipients of the Saskatchewan Seniors Income Plan (SIP), who had their benefits partially reduced, receive written notice of their partially reduced benefit levels in 2008?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 547:

To the Minister of Social Services: The Federal Budget 2009 is investing \$400 million over two years for the construction of social housing units for low-income seniors. (1) How much money did, or will, Saskatchewan receive under this initiative? (2) How is it being allocated? (3) What specific projects are being supported by this initiative? (4) When will the projects start? (5) When will they be completed? (6) How many units are involved in each project?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 548:

To the Minister of Social Services: The Federal Budget 2009 provided a one-time federal investment of \$1 billion over two years for renovations and energy retrofits for up to 200,000 social housing units on a 50/50 cost-shared basis with provinces. (1) How much money did, or will, Saskatchewan receive under this initiative? (2) How is it being allocated? (3) What specific projects are being supported by this initiative? (4) When will the projects start? (5) When will they be completed? (6) How many units are involved in each project?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 549:

To the Minister of Social Services: What is the dollar amount of support individuals could receive for each of the following programs on January 1, 1990: (1) Saskatchewan Assistance Program? (2) Child Care Subsidy? (3) Discount Bus Program? (4) Saskatchewan Rental Supplement Program? (5) Transitional Employment Allowance? (6) Saskatchewan Employment Supplement?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 550:

To the Minister of Social Services: The Federal Budget 2009 is investing \$75 million over two years for the construction of social housing for person with disabilities. (1) How much money did (or will) Saskatchewan receive under this initiative? (2) How is it being allocated? (3) Which specific projects are supported by this initiative? (4) When will the projects start? (5) When will they be completed? (6) How many units are involved in each project?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 551:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) What is the date of each increase for the Saskatchewan Assistance Program since 1990? (2) What was the amount of each increase?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 552:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) What is the date of each increase for the Child Care Subsidy since 1990? (2) What was the amount of each increase?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 553:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) What is the date of each increase for the Discount Bus Program since 1990? (2) What was the amount of each increase?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 554:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) What is the date of each increase for the Saskatchewan Rental Supplement Program since 1990? (2) What was the amount of each increase?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 555:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) What is the date of each increase for the Transitional Employment Allowance since 1990? (2) What was the amount of each increase?

Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 556:

To the Minister of Social Services: (1) What is the date of each increase for the Saskatchewan Employment Supplement since 1990? (2) What was the amount of each increase?

Mr. Yates, to ask the Government the following Question No. 557:

To Minister Responsible for Crown Investments Corporation: (1) With respect to the Apex Investment Fund, how much in total has CIC committed to this fund as of October 31, 2009? (2) On what dates and in what amounts were monies from CIC deposited with the fund? (3) How much in total have CIC's partners committed to this fund as of October 31, 2009? (4) On what dates and in what amounts were monies from the partners deposited with the fund?

Mr. Yates, to ask the Government the following Question No. 558:

To Minister Responsible for Crown Investments Corporation: (1) With respect to the Apex Investment Fund, who serves as the fund's manager? (2) What management fees and other considerations does the fund manager receive for its work? (3) How does the level of compensation provided to the Apex Investment Fund manager compare to the level of compensation provided to Victoria Park Capital with respect to its former management of investments on behalf of Investment Saskatchewan?

Mr. Yates, to ask the Government the following Question No. 559:

To Minister Responsible for Crown Investments Corporation: (1) With respect to the Apex Investment Fund, what returns on investment have been achieved by the fund since its creation? (2) Have any of the investments made by the fund been sold? (3) Have any of the investments made by the fund been written down or written off? (4) What is the current list of investments held by the fund? (5) Who are the other investors in the investee entities besides the fund?

Mr. Yates, to ask the Government the following Question No. 560:

To Minister Responsible for Crown Investments Corporation: (1) What are the current goals and objectives guiding the management of the Apex Investment Fund? (2) Have the investment goals and objectives of the fund changed since its creation in 2007? (3) And if so, how?

Mr. Yates, to ask the Government the following Question No. 561:

To Minister Responsible for Crown Investments Corporation: (1) With respect to the Apex Investment Fund, in addition to the Crown Investments corporation, who are the funding partners in this fund? (2) How much has each partner committed to the fund? (3) What is the basis of draw down of the respective commitments? (4) Is there a sunset date on the funding commitments? (5) Have the funding commitments changed since the inception of the Apex Investment Fund? (6) If so, when and how much for each partner?

**The following Questions were given notice on day no. 19 and are to be answered by day no. 24:**

Mr. Furber, to ask the Government the following Question No. 562:

To the Minister of Energy and Resources: Has there been any discussions between the Government of Saskatchewan and any private industry regarding nuclear waste storage in Saskatchewan?

Mr. Furber, to ask the Government the following Question No. 563:

To the Minister of Energy and Resources: Has there been any discussions between the Government of Saskatchewan and the Nuclear Waste Management Organization regarding nuclear waste storage in Saskatchewan?

Mr. Furber, to ask the Government the following Question No. 564:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) Is there a difference between lease fees for cabins on Crown land in subdivisions and lease fees for cabins on Crown land in remote areas in the Northern Administrative District? (2) If so, please explain the reason for the difference.

Mr. Furber, to ask the Government the following Question No. 565:

To the Minister of Environment: Has there been any discussions between the Government of Saskatchewan and any private industry regarding nuclear waste storage in Saskatchewan?

Mr. Taylor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 566:

To the Minister of Enterprise: Has there been any discussions between the Government of Saskatchewan and any private industry regarding nuclear waste storage in Saskatchewan?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 567:

To the Minister of Health: How many acute care beds were there in 2009 for each of the 13 Health regions (Athabasca, Keewatin Yatthe, Mamawetan Churchill River, Prairie North Health Region, Prince Albert Parkland, Kelsey Trail, Heartland, Saskatoon, Sunrise, Cypress, Five Hills, Regina Qu'Appelle and Sun Country)?



Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 568:

To the Minister of Health: How many acute care beds were there in 2008 for each of the 13 Health regions (Athabasca, Keewatin Yatthe, Mamawetan Churchill River, Prairie North Health Region, Prince Albert Parkland, Kelsey Trail, Heartland, Saskatoon, Sunrise, Cypress, Five Hills, Regina Qu'Appelle and Sun Country)?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 569:

To the Minister of Health: How many acute care beds were there in 2007 for each of the 13 Health regions (Athabasca, Keewatin Yatthe, Mamawetan Churchill River, Prairie North Health Region, Prince Albert Parkland, Kelsey Trail, Heartland, Saskatoon, Sunrise, Cypress, Five Hills, Regina Qu'Appelle and Sun Country)?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 570:

To the Minister of Health: Is Torisel covered under the Saskatchewan Drug Plan?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 571:

To the Minister of Health: (1) Why is Avastin not listed on the Saskatchewan Drug Formulary? (2) Is it covered under the Saskatchewan Drug Plan?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 572:

To the Minister of Health: Scientific standard for highest neck manipulation has listed 6 restrictions when highest neck manipulation should not be done. (1) What is being done with these recommendations? (2) Are the restrictions being implemented? (3) If not, why not?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 573:

To the Minister of Health: What is the status of stem cell therapy in Saskatchewan?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 574:

To the Minister of Health: (1) Will an independent provincial addictions agency be created in 2009? (2) What are the terms of reference for the independent provincial addictions agency? (3) What is the composition of the independent provincial addictions agency? (4) How much funding is being provided for the independent provincial addictions agency?

Ms. Junor, to ask the Government the following Question No. 575:

To the Minister of Health: Saskatchewan's first batch of H1N1 vaccinations total 56,000 doses. (1) Which category of people received this first batch of injections? (2) What percentage of these vaccinations ended up being injected into people's arms?

Mr. Lingenfelter, to ask the Government the following Question No. 576:

To the Minister of Agriculture: (1) What groups or organizations were consulted before the Coyote Bounty was put in place? (2) When did those consultations take place?

Mr. Lingenfelter, to ask the Government the following Question No. 577:

To the Minister of Agriculture: The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Review listed 16 recommended changes to Saskatchewan Crop Insurance. The Government of Saskatchewan said they would be implementing 12 of the 16 recommendations in the 2009/10 crop year. (1) Which recommendations will be implemented in the 2009/10 crop year? (2) Which recommendations will not be implemented in the 2009/10 crop year? (3) Why will they not be implemented?

Mr. Lingenfelter, to ask the Government the following Question No. 578:

To the Minister of Agriculture: Is the \$40.1 million dollars that is being taken out of agriculture programming going to result in increases to the cost of crop insurance premiums?

Mr. Lingenfelter, to ask the Government the following Question No. 579:

To the Minister of Agriculture: There is a total of \$40.1 million being taken out of agriculture programs. (1) What agriculture programs will be affected? (2) How does this affect the AgriStability program? (3) How will this affect the Crop Insurance program? (4) How will this affect the AgriInvest Program?

Mr. Lingenfelter, to ask the Government the following Question No. 580:

To the Minister of Agriculture: (1) What is happening to the 60% federal funding associated with the reduction in provincial AgriStability money? (2) Is this money still coming or has it been lost?

Ms. Morin, to ask the Government the following Question No. 581:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) Is there a difference between lease fees for cabins on Crown land in subdivisions and lease fees for cabins on Crown land in remote areas outside of the Northern Administrative District? (2) If so, please explain the reason for the difference.

Ms. Morin, to ask the Government the following Question No. 582:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) What is the average lease fee for cabins on Crown land in remote areas in the Northern Administrative District in 2007? (2) 2008? (3) 2009?

Ms. Morin, to ask the Government the following Question No. 583:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) What is the average lease fee for cabins on Crown land outside of the Northern Administrative District where there has been a subdivision in 2007? (2) 2008? (3) 2009?

Ms. Morin, to ask the Government the following Question No. 584:

To the Minister of Environment: (1) What is the average lease fee for cabins on Crown land in remote areas outside of the Northern Administrative District in 2007? (2) 2008? (3) 2009?

Ms. Morin, to ask the Government the following Question No. 585:

To the Minister of Environment: How are lease fees for cabins on Crown land calculated?

Ms. Morin, to ask the Government the following Question No. 586:

To the Minister of Environment: Has there been any discussions between the Government of Saskatchewan and the Nuclear Waste Management Organization regarding nuclear waste storage in Saskatchewan?