



No. 23

# VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

THIRD SESSION – TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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**Tuesday, December 1, 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: Harper, Higgins, Junor, Forbes, Vermette, Broten, Morin, Yates, Iwanchuk, Taylor, Wotherspoon and Chartier.

### **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 the citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to provide a comprehensive provincial Autism Spectrum Strategy.

(Sessional Paper No. 68)

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. 2)

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

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 14)

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)

Of citizens of the Province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your Honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the Government to enact some form of rent control to protect Saskatchewan renters from unreasonable increases in rent.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 51)

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The following Bills were received, read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time at the next sitting:

Bill No. 126 – The Management and Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Act

(Hon. Ms. Heppner)

Bill No. 127 – The Assessment Management Agency Amendment Act, 2009

(Hon. Mr. Harrison)

Bill No. 128 – The Miscellaneous Statutes (Labour Mobility) Amendment Act, 2009

(Hon. Mr. Norris)

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

Mr. McMillan, Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies, presented the Eighth Report of the Committee:

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies: Eighth Report – Inquiry into Saskatchewan’s Energy Needs – Interim Report

(Sessional Paper No. 78)

On motion of Mr. McMillan:

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

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 545 to 547, 549 to 550 and 556 to 561, they were answered. (See Appendix)

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 548 and 551 to 555, the answers were tabled and, by reason of their length, converted by the Clerk to Return Nos. 48 to 53 pursuant to Rule 20(6).

(Sessional Paper Nos. 71 to 76)

**ADJOURNED DEBATES / DÉBATS AJOURNÉS**

**Bill No. 111 – The Northern Municipalities Consequential Amendments Act, 2009**  
**Projet de loi n° 111 – Loi de 2009 portant modifications corrélatives à la loi intitulée The Northern Municipalities Act, 2009**

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Harrison: That Bill No. 111 – The Northern Municipalities Consequential Amendments Act, 2009 – be now read a second time.

L’Assemblée reprend le débat ajourné sur la motion de l’hon. M. Harrison: Que le projet de loi n° 111 – Loi de 2009 portant modifications corrélatives à la loi intitulée The Northern Municipalities Act, 2009 – soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. Yates, adjourned.

Le débat se poursuit et sur motion de M. Yates, il est ajourné.

**Bill No. 112 – The Justices of the Peace Amendment Act, 2009**  
**Projet de loi n° 112 – Loi de 2009 modifiant la Loi de 1988 sur les juges de paix**

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 112 – The Justices of the Peace Amendment Act, 2009 – be now read a second time.

L’Assemblée reprend le débat ajourné sur la motion de l’hon. M. Morgan: Que le projet de loi n° 112 – Loi de 2009 modifiant la Loi de 1988 sur les juges de paix – soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. Nilson, adjourned.

Le débat se poursuit et sur motion de M. Nilson, il est ajourné.

**Bill No. 113 – The Justices of the Peace Consequential Amendments Act, 2009**

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 113 – The Justices of the Peace Consequential Amendments Act, 2009 – be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Mr. Harper, adjourned.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Gantefer:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

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The Assembly adjourned at 4:54 p.m. until Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.

*Hon. Don Toth*  
*Speaker*

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**RETURNS, REPORTS AND PAPERS TABLED**

The following papers were laid upon the Table:

By the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the following Professional Associations and amendments thereto, under provisions of the respective Acts:

The Saskatchewan Dietitians Association  
Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 15)

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 545, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:**

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?

Answer:

2007		2008		2009	
January	58	January	47	January	N/A
February	48	February	94	February	125
March	46	March	53	March	59
April	29	April	38	April	33
May	36	May	32	May	38
June	30	June	39	June	33
July	N/A	July	N/A	July	N/A
August	26	August	28	August	38
September	30	September	26	September	43
October	35	October	34	October	45
November	31	November	29		
December	29	December	31		

N/A = Not available

- July of each year is the Seniors Income Plan eligibility reassessment month.
- In January 2009, the Seniors Income Plan was enhanced.

**Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 546, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:**

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?

Answer:

Yes.

**Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 547, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:**

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?

Answer:

- (1) \$12,240,000
- (2) Projects that were not committed as of January 27, 2009 and were closest to being the most shovel ready projects.
- (3) Included in this answer are answers to (4), (5) and (6) also.

Projects	Start Date	Estimated Completion Date	# Units
PACH Seniors Project, 1031-1 <sup>st</sup> St E, Prince Albert	December 2009	December 2010	18
Milton Heights, 108 1100 Broadway Ave, Regina	January 2010	December 2012	60
Projects in planning not publicly announced	To be determined	To be determined	To be determined

**Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 549, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:**

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?

Answer:

(1) Saskatchewan Assistance Program – Maximum Benefits

January 1, 1990	Single Employable	Single Disabled	1 Adult (FE) 1 Child <6	2 Adults (FE) 2 Children <6
Adult Basic Needs - Tier 1 (Note 1)	\$415	\$675	\$640	\$850
Children's Basic Allowance	\$0	\$0	\$125	\$250

Note 1: Includes adult allowance, shelter, utilities, disability allowance, mobility allowance

(2) \$235 per child.

(3) N/A. The Discount Bus Pass program was implemented in 2004/05.

(4) N/A. The Saskatchewan Rental Housing Supplement program was implemented in 2005/06.

(5) N/A. The Transitional Employment Allowance was implemented in 2003/04.

(6) N/A. The Saskatchewan Employment Supplement was implemented in 1998/99.

**Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 550, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:**

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?

Answer:

(1) \$2,300,000

(2) Projects that were not committed as of January 27, 2009 and were closest to being the most shovel ready projects.

(3) Included in this answer are answers to (4), (5) and (6) also.

Projects	Start Date	Estimated Completion Date	# Units
Canadian Mental Health Association 74 18 <sup>th</sup> Street West, Prince Albert	January 2010	October 2010	8
DH2 Construction, 711 Avenue M South and 717 Avenue L South, Saskatoon	August 2009	May 2010	4
Ehrlo Community Services, 2027, 2031, 2035 and 2039 Osler Street Regina	March 2010	June 2011	40

**Mr. Forbes, to ask the Government the following Question No. 556, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Harpauer:**

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?

Answer:

**Maximum Monthly Benefits**

	July 1, 1998	May 1, 2001	\$ Change from Prev	May 1, 2004	\$ Change from Prev	July 1, 2005	\$ Change from Prev	May 1, 2006	\$ Change from Prev	May 1, 2008	\$ Change from Prev
<b>Base Benefit</b>											
1 Child	175.00	185.00	10.00	193.75	8.75	198.75	5.00	220.00	21.25	250.00	30.00
2 Children	210.00	222.00	12.00	232.50	10.50	238.50	6.00	264.00	25.50	300.00	36.00
3 Children	245.00	259.00	14.00	271.25	12.25	278.25	7.00	308.00	29.75	350.00	42.00
4 Children	280.00	296.00	16.00	310.00	14.00	318.00	8.00	352.00	34.00	400.00	48.00
5 Children	315.00	333.00	18.00	348.75	15.75	357.75	9.00	396.00	38.25	450.00	54.00
<b>Under 13 Supplement</b>											
1 Child	0.00	46.25	46.25	48.43	2.18	49.68	1.25	55.00	5.32	62.50	7.50
2 Children	0.00	55.50	55.50	58.12	2.62	59.62	1.50	66.00	6.38	75.00	9.00
3 Children	0.00	64.75	64.75	67.81	3.06	69.56	1.75	77.00	7.44	87.50	10.50
4 Children	0.00	74.00	74.00	77.50	3.50	79.50	2.00	88.00	8.50	100.00	12.00
5 Children	0.00	83.25	83.25	87.18	3.93	89.43	2.25	99.00	9.57	112.50	13.50

**Mr. Yates, to ask the Government the following Question No. 557, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Draude:**

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?

Answer:

(1) As of October 31, 2009, CIC has committed \$52,078,212.49.

(2) Cash calls to CIC for investments were made as follows:

APEX Investment Dates	\$ Amount
Feb. 20, 2007	1,780,631.80
Feb. 20, 2007	100.00
June 25, 2007	2,129,064.91
Sept. 18, 2007	770,107.00
Dec. 20, 2007	625,111.13
April 30, 2008	776,222.92
April 30, 2008	689,936.76
June 9, 2008	544,569.28
August 8, 2008	1,293,171.90
Oct. 31, 2008	869,916.97
Jan. 26, 2009	3,588,407.46
Feb. 27, 2009	2,337,901.83
April 23, 2009	814,895.32
Total	\$16,220,037.28

(3) As of October 31, 2009, Apex partners committed \$42,614,421.32.

(4) Apex partners submitted cash calls on the same dates in proportion to their interest in the Apex fund.

**Mr. Yates, to ask the Government the following Question No. 558, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Draude:**

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?

Answer:

- (1) PFM Fund Capital Inc.
- (2) The Apex Fund Manager received a base fee of \$300,000 for the first year. In subsequent years, the base fee will be 1.75% of the first \$30 million of the net asset value of the fund, reducing to 1.50% where net asset value of the fund exceeds \$30 million. The fund manager can receive a bonus where any gain realized from a fund investment exceeds the preferred return for that investment.
- (3) That information is unavailable because Victoria Park Capital objects to the release of the compensation it received for the management of investments on behalf of Investment Saskatchewan.

**Mr. Yates, to ask the Government the following Question No. 559, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Draude:**

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?

Answer:

- (1) As of September 30, 2009, the fund has returned \$11.203 million to limited partners as a result of investment exit activity.
- (2) Yes, on January 15, 2009, sold its investment in VillaNova Energy Corporation.
- (3) Yes, as of September 30, 2009, three investments had nominal write-downs.
- (4) Bonus Energy Ltd.  
Crusader Drilling Corp.  
CanElson Drilling Inc.  
Factory Optical Holdings Inc.  
Hesterman Technical Services  
IM Wireless Communications Ltd.  
Lazar Equipment Ltd.  
Lewvan Village LP  
Pro Metal Industries  
Regwin Hotel LP  
StorageVault Canada Inc.  
Triwest Exploration Inc.  
Villanova Resources Inc.  
Visima Holdings Inc.  
Westfire Energy Inc.
- (5) Depending on the investment, other capital comes from sources such as the general public, lending institutions and management.



**Mr. Yates, to ask the Government the following Question No. 560, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Draude:**

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?

Answer:

- (1) The fund is to make equity or near equity investments in Saskatchewan small and medium-sized businesses. Total investment by Apex is between \$1 million and \$4 million per investee. At least 50% of the fund's overall portfolio has to be invested in geographic locations outside of Regina and Saskatoon.
- (2) No.
- (3) N/A

**Mr. Yates, to ask the Government the following Question No. 561, which was answered by the Hon. Ms. Draude:**

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?

Answer:

- (1) The other funding partners are a number of Saskatchewan Credit Unions and individuals.
- (2) See answers to Written Question Nos. 557 (1) and 557 (3).
- (3) Cash calls occur as investments are made by the fund.
- (4) The final closing for all capital contributions is December 31, 2009.
- (5) No.
- (6) N/A

## **NOTICE OF MOTION FOR A SEVENTY-FIVE MINUTE DEBATE**

On Thursday:

Ms. Eagles to move the following motion:

That this Assembly recognizes the actions taken by our government to provide increased financial support for those less advantaged and maintaining these supports in the face of the current global recession.

## **NOTICE OF PRIORITY ITEMS**

On Thursday:

### **No. 1 (Opposition)**

#### **SECOND READINGS**

Bill No. 609 – The Whistleblower Protection Act

(Mr. Iwanchuk)