



No. 24

VOTES and PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

SECOND SESSION – TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

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: Belanger 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 petition was read and received:

Of citizens of the province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to undertake to ensure SaskTel delivers cellular service to the Canoe Lake First Nation.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 7)

Of citizens of the province of Saskatchewan humbly praying that your honourable Assembly may be pleased to cause the government to provide Saskatchewan people with a fair statement of the province's finances and provide trustworthy financial management.

(Addendum to Sessional Paper No. 11)

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMY

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

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

Supplementary Estimates, 2012-2013 (November):

Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2013, the following sums:

Executive Branch of Government

For Economy \$15,984,000

For SaskBuilds \$2,000,000

Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2013, the following sums, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for that fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014:

Major Capital Expenditure

For Highways and Infrastructure Capital..... \$50,000,000

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. 23)

On motion of Mr. Toth:

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

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Mr. Kirsch, Chair of the Standing Committee on Human Services, presented the Second Report of the said committee, which is as follows:

Your committee considered the Supplementary Estimates of the following government ministry and adopted the following resolution:

Supplementary Estimates, 2012-2013 (November):

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2013, the following sums:

Executive Branch of Government

For Labour Relations and Workplace Safety..... \$525,000

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. 24)

On motion of Mr. Kirsch:

Ordered, That the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Human Services be now concurred in.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN AND CENTRAL AGENCIES

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

Your committee considered the Supplementary Estimate of the following crown corporation for which no funds were requested or required to be voted:

Supplementary Estimates, 2012-2013 (November):

Lending and Investing Activities

For Saskatchewan Power Corporation (Statutory)

(Sessional Paper No. 25)

On motion of Mr. Brkich:

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

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND JUSTICE

Mr. Michelson, Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice, presented the Third Report of the said committee, which is as follows:

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

Supplementary Estimates, 2012-2013 (November):

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2013, the following sums:

Executive Branch of Government

For Corrections, Public Safety and Policing.....\$70,000,000

For Government Relations\$15,235,000

For Parks, Culture and Sport \$5,000,000

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. 26)

On motion of Mr. Michelson:

Ordered, That the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice Services be now concurred in.

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The Order of the Day being called for Question Nos. 115 to 182, they were answered. (See Appendix)

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE

Summary of Resolutions adopted:

GENERAL REVENUE FUND

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 2012-2013

EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ended March 31, 2013 the following sums:

BUDGETARY EXPENSES

1.	For Corrections, Public Safety and Policing	70,000,000
2.	For Economy	15,984,000
3.	For Government Relations	15,235,000
4.	For Labour Relations and Workplace Safety	525,000
5.	For Parks, Culture and Sport	5,000,000
6.	For SaskBuilds Corporation	2,000,000

GENERAL REVENUE FUND

MAJOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2013, the following sums, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for that fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending on March 31, 2014:

1. For Highways and Infrastructure Capital \$50,000,000

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Krawetz:

Resolved, that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2013, the sum of one hundred eight million, seven hundred forty-four thousand dollars be granted out of the general revenue fund.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Krawetz:

Resolved, that towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty on account of certain charges and expenses of the public service for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2013, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for the fiscal year are also granted for fiscal year ending on March 31, 2014, the sum of fifty million dollars be granted out of the general revenue fund.

The said Resolutions were reported, read twice and agreed to, and the Committee given leave to sit again.

THE APPROPRIATION ACT, 2012 (No. 2)

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Krawetz: That Bill No. 87 – The Appropriation Act, 2012 (No. 2) – be introduced and read the first time.

The question being put, it was agreed to and the said bill was, accordingly, read the first time.

By leave of the Assembly and pursuant to Rule 72(2), the said bill was then read a second and third time and passed under its title.

ROYAL ASSENT

2:40 p.m.

Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, having entered the Chamber, took her seat upon the Throne.

The Speaker addressed Her Honour:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

This Legislative Assembly at its present Session has passed a bill which, in the name of the Assembly, I present to Your Honour and to which the bill I respectfully request Your Honour's Assent.

The Clerk of the Assembly then read the title of the bill that had been passed as follows:

Bill No. 66 – The Saskatchewan Advantage Grant for Education Savings (SAGES) Act

Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor then replied: “In Her Majesty’s name, I assent to this bill.”

The Speaker then said:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

This Legislative Assembly has voted the supplies required to enable the government to defray the expenses of the public service. In the name of the Assembly I present to Your Honour the following bill, to which bill I respectfully request Your Honour’s Assent:

Bill No. 87 – The Appropriation Act, 2012 (No. 2)

Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor then replied: “In Her Majesty’s name, I thank the Legislative Assembly, accept their benevolence, and assent to this bill”.

Her Honour then retired from the Chamber.

2:42 p.m.

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 85 – The Saskatchewan Employment Act

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Morgan: That Bill No. 85 – The Saskatchewan Employment Act – be now read a second time.

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

ADJOURNED DEBATES

Bill No. 69 – The Information Services Corporation Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. McMorris: That Bill No. 69 – The Information Services Corporation Act – be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 82 – The Saskatchewan Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2012

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Krawetz: That Bill No. 82 – The Saskatchewan Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2012 – be now read a second time.

The debate continuing, it was on motion of Ms. Sproule, adjourned.

Bill No. 83 – The Foreign Worker Recruitment and Immigration Services Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Boyd: That Bill No. 83 – The Foreign Worker Recruitment and Immigration Services Act – be now read a second time.

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

The Speaker 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. Dan D'Autremont
Speaker

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 115, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Boyd:

To the Minister of the Economy: (1) How many migrant workers worked in Saskatchewan in 2012? (2) 2011? (3) 2010? (4) 2009? (5) 2008? (6) 2007? (7) 2006? (8) 2005? (9) 2004? (10) 2003? (11) 2002? (12) 2001? (13) 2000?

Answer:

The term “migrant worker” is not used in immigration data reporting.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 116, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Boyd:

To the Minister of the Economy: (1) What was the country of origin of the migrant workers who worked in Saskatchewan in 2012? (2) 2011? (3) 2010? (4) 2009? (5) 2008? (6) 2007? (7) 2006? (8) 2005? (9) 2004? (10) 2003? (11) 2002? (12) 2001? (13) 2000?

Answer:

The term “migrant worker” is not used in immigration data reporting.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 117, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Boyd:

To the Minister of the Economy: (1) How many temporary foreign workers worked in Saskatchewan in 2012? (2) 2011? (3) 2010? (4) 2009? (5) 2008? (6) 2007? (7) 2006? (8) 2005? (9) 2004? (10) 2003? (11) 2002? (12) 2001? (13) 2000?

Answer:

Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) administers the Temporary Foreign Worker program. Information is currently only available regarding the number of temporary foreign workers present or entering the province on an annual basis from 2000 to 2011.

Temporary Foreign Workers present in Saskatchewan on December 1											
2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
1315	1335	1458	1521	1704	1989	2167	2946	4308	5930	5882	6989

Source: CIC Facts and Figures

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 118, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Boyd:

To the Minister of the Economy: (1) What was the country of origin for the temporary foreign workers who worked in Saskatchewan in 2012? (2) 2011? (3) 2010? (4) 2009? (5) 2008? (6) 2007? (7) 2006? (8) 2005? (9) 2004? (10) 2003? (11) 2002? (12) 2001? (13) 2000?

Answer:

Note: Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) administers the Temporary Foreign Worker program. Information is currently only available regarding the source country of temporary foreign workers present in the province on an annual basis from 2001 to 2010. The 2011 and 2012 numbers are not yet available.

(1) N/A

(2) N/A

(3) Philippines, United States, People’s Republic of China, India, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Mexico, Germany, Australia, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, France, Iran, Nigeria, Israel, New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Russia, Ghana, Libya, and Turkey.

(4) Philippines, United States, People’s Republic of China, India, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Mexico, Germany, Australia, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, France, Iran, Nigeria, Israel, New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Russia, Ghana, Libya, and Turkey.

- (5) Philippines, United States, People's Republic of China, India, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Mexico, Germany, Australia, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, France, Iran, Nigeria, Israel, New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Russia, Ghana, Libya, and Turkey.
- (6) Philippines, United States, People's Republic of China, India, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Mexico, Germany, Australia, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, France, Iran, Nigeria, Israel, New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Russia, Ghana, Libya, and Turkey.
- (7) Philippines, United States, People's Republic of China, India, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Mexico, Germany, Australia, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, France, Iran, Nigeria, Israel, New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Russia, Ghana, and Libya.
- (8) Philippines, United States, People's Republic of China, India, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Mexico, Germany, Australia, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, France, Iran, Nigeria, Israel, New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Russia, Ghana, Libya, and Turkey.
- (9) Philippines, United States, People's Republic of China, India, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Mexico, Germany, Australia, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, France, Iran, Nigeria, Israel, New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Russia, Ghana, Libya, and Turkey.
- (10) Philippines, United States, People's Republic of China, India, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Mexico, Germany, Australia, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, France, Iran, Nigeria, Israel, New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Russia, Ghana, Libya, and Turkey.
- (11) Philippines, United States, People's Republic of China, India, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Mexico, Germany, Australia, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, France, Iran, Nigeria, Israel, New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Russia, Ghana, Libya, and Turkey.
- (12) Philippines, United States, People's Republic of China, India, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Mexico, Germany, Australia, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, France, Iran, Nigeria, Israel, New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Russia, Ghana, Libya, and Turkey.
- (13) Philippines, United States, People's Republic of China, India, Republic of South Africa, United Kingdom, Ukraine, Mexico, Germany, Australia, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, France, Iran, New Zealand, Brazil, Japan, Ghana, and Libya.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 119, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Boyd:

To the Minister of the Economy: (1) What categories of employment (and how many in each) were temporary foreign workers employed in 2012? (2) 2011? (3) 2010? (4) 2009? (5) 2008? (6) 2007? (7) 2006? (8) 2005? (9) 2004? (10) 2003? (11) 2002? (12) 2001? (13) 2000?

Answer:

Citizenship and Immigration Canada administers the Temporary Foreign Worker program. The information currently available does not have categories of employment for Saskatchewan.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 120, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #1 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "*The Workers' Compensation Act, 1979* apply to all employees in Saskatchewan with no exclusions"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Not implemented.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 121, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #2 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that

states: “All self-employed people have the option of being covered by Workers’ Compensation Board (WCB), as is currently the case. Where no salary is paid, an income level of not less than 50% of the maximum assessable earnings be chosen by the self-employed and be the base on which premiums are set”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) This issue is addressed by WCB policy. That policy is currently under review.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 122, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #3 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “The Workers Compensation Board examine all rate groups with a view to determining groups in as fairly and balanced a way as possible. The impacts of any changes be analyzed actuarially and a sensitivity analysis of any changes provided”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB believes that this recommendation, in effect, endorses the process it uses now. WCB policies govern assigning or changing classifications, and employer appeals. During each year, the board examines the classification of several industries. An overall sensitivity analysis is carried out every five years.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 123, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #4 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “The Government of Saskatchewan, working with WCB and all public sector employers, take steps to ensure that it is a model employer and an example to the private sector with respect to safe work places and working towards the elimination of claims and injuries”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Partially implemented. A variety of activities are underway to improve safety in the public sector.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 124, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #5 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “In those instances where an industry has a safety association, those safety associations have the primary responsibility to develop and deliver safety and prevention programming to support employers in creating a safe and injury free workplace”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB believes that this recommendation, in effect, endorses the process it uses now. WCB policies govern safety associations. The WorkSafe strategic partnership coordinates the activities of the WCB, the Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety, and safety associations in developing and delivering prevention programs.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 125, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #6 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "In cases where an industry has no safety associations, WCB actively pursue the formation of safety associations. Where no such associations are formed, WCB be responsible to ensure that employers have access to safety and prevention programming with the costs of these WCB activities borne by those participating rate groups"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB believes that this recommendation, in effect, endorses the process it uses now. WCB policies do not specify that WCB can or should unilaterally solicit new safety associations. Nevertheless, this is done through the WorkSafe strategic partnership.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 126, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #7 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB continue to fully share information with OHS on claims histories and injury data by employer, so that OHS can apply its efforts in ways that lead to the greatest injury reduction and largest improvements in safety. WCB report to stakeholders and OHS on the effectiveness of OHS' activities"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB believes this is an endorsement of what the WCB is already doing to share information with the Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 127, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #8 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "The maximum benefit level which is currently set at \$55,000 be raised immediately to \$59,000. Over the next 4 years, it be increased annually by a percentage of the annual average wage in Saskatchewan until it reaches 165% of that average annual wage. Henceforth, the maximum be adjusted yearly to remain at 165% of the annual average wage in the province"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented.
- (2) Section 37.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 128, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #9 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB develop processes to minimize moral hazard"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB is aware of this issue. The policies and the resources of the WCB aim for appropriate claim decisions and disability management. Senior WCB managers spend considerable time reviewing policies and trends in claim results. In the few cases where actual

fraud occurs, the WCB seeks prosecution through the justice system. A tips line is available for the public to report any instances of suspected fraud. It is an ongoing commitment for the WCB to improve its effectiveness and adopt best practices in claim processes.

(2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 129, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #10 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "Amend subsection 74(3) to allow the worker to choose to either purchase an annuity or receive a lump sum payment when the accumulated capital and interest is \$25,000 or less in 2012 and to adjust the \$25,000 in increments of \$1,000 annually in subsequent years to reflect the average percentage change in the Consumer Price Index"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

(1) Implemented.

(2) Section 73.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 130, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #11 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB inform claimants taking out annuities about the options and consequences of choosing an inflation protected annuity versus a flat rate option"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

(1) Disagree with recommendation. The WCB has always declined to advise workers about the type of retirement income investment they should make. The WCB does not have the expertise or the authority to do this. The legislation and WCB policies only address payment for life and guarantee of capital. The WCB encourages workers to seek expert financial advice from financial advisers.

(2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 131, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #12 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB actively pursue enhancement of effective strategies for education and follow up with physicians and other healthcare providers with respect to return to work"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

(1) Implemented. The WCB believes that this recommendation, in effect, endorses the process it uses now. The WCB continues to pursue negotiations and written agreements with healthcare professional associations, including the Saskatchewan Medical Association. A continuum of care advisory committee made up of worker, employer and healthcare stakeholders also advises the WCB on this subject.

(2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 132, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #13 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB create one electronic physician's Return to Work form to ensure clarity and accountability and the timely distribution of relevant information to the employee, employer and WCB"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Partially implemented. The WCB is expanding the use of electronic reports, using its new claims computer system, and this is intended to include report forms relating to fitness for work.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 133, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #14 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB be able to accurately monitor return to work programs and ensure that they are being effectively applied and administered in alignment with duty to accommodate legislation and that the programs incorporate: objective medical and physical restrictions and limitations; manager and supervisor engagement; employee, and where applicable, union engagement; monitoring; and evaluation"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Under review. WCB staff employ education and resources to support best practices in the workplace, including claim statistics and advice on return to work programs. This includes the components recommended by COR2010. Related work procedures are being reviewed now.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 134, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #15 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "All parties involved in a claim are to always be treated with respect and dignity"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB believes that this is already being addressed. It was central to the recent claims administration and service review mandated by the government. WCB "caring in action" training and work quality reviews address appropriate communications by staff dealing with workers and employers on injury claims.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 135, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #16 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB executives recognize that fundamental changes need to occur with respect to organizational culture and employee satisfaction. WCB implement the identified changes"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB agrees with this recommendation in principle but believes that it is already being addressed. The WCB has been monitoring and reporting on the corporate culture

for some years, and benchmarking it against comparable organizations. Results show continued improvement in employee satisfaction and engagement. A new survey tool is being used in 2012.

(2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 136, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #17 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB staff receive enhanced training in customer service and recognize that these stakeholders are WCB's customers. WCB regularly monitor the effectiveness of the training provided"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

(1) Implemented. The WCB believes that this is already being addressed. It was central to a recent claims administration and service review mandated by the government. WCB "caring in action" training and work quality reviews address appropriate communications by staff dealing with workers and employers on injury claims. Customer service competencies are now part of job descriptions, used in hiring and performance evaluation. WCB uses a contract firm to survey randomly selected customers, using methods drawn from citizen centred best practice service management tools, so that the results are representative of all of their customers.

(2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 137, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #18 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "A program of continuous improvement using input from front line staff be developed and implemented. A Continuous Improvement Committee on Customer Service be set up and maintained within WCB to do this"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

(1) Implemented. The WCB has just created a process improvement department and assigned specific managerial responsibilities.

(2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 138, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #19 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "All WCB decisions be explained in writing using plain language"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

(1) Implemented. WCB "clear language" administrative procedure has been approved. WCB managers will ensure compliance.

(2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 139, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #20 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "Privacy considerations always be a priority and all applicable privacy legislation be

respected”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) WCB has pre-existing privacy policies. They were reviewed in 2012 and will be updated in 2013.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 140, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #21 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “WCB make use of modern communication processes including electronic transfer of files to get the right information to the right people at the right time. A Continuous Improvement Committee on Information Systems be established to keep communication technology as a focus, and up to date”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Partially implemented. The WCB intends to make more use of on-line services now that a new claims computer system is in place. This is planned.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 141, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #22 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “All monitoring and evaluation measures including time to first cheque be examined for unintended consequences and amended if necessary”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Under review. The WCB is presently reviewing all WCB performance measures, starting with the corporate balanced scorecard.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 142, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #23 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “A comprehensive customer service survey be undertaken by the Committee for Continuous Improvement on Customer Service at WCB using an external surveyor prior to the set up each Committee of Review. The results of the survey be made known to stakeholders and used to plan further action”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB will continue to use the present citizen centred survey methodology. Publication of survey results on the WCB website will begin in 2013, and should be available for the next committee of review.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 143, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #24 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “An additional two full-time members, one from labour and one from employers, be appointed

to the WCB Board of Directors as soon as possible”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Disagree with recommendation.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 144, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #25 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “A Board manual be created and provided to Board members outlining their duties and obligations and the timing and frequency of same. It should be updated regularly and make up a part of the orientation of any new Board members”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The role of the board is detailed in its existing governance policy, which is currently under review.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 145, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #26 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “Board members receive competitive compensation to attract and retain quality personnel”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Not implemented. The board’s remuneration is reviewed periodically. Present remuneration is considered appropriate.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 146, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #27 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “The terms of Board members be staggered to provide both renewal and continuity”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Disagree with recommendation.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 147, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #28 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “Decisions made by the WCB Board with respect to appeals be consistent with WCB policies. Where policies are not appropriate, they be amended within 90 days. Section 25 of the Act be amended to require the board to consider policies in its decisions”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Not implemented. The board does consider its policies when it makes decisions.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 148, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #29 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "The WCB continue to review its policies to ensure that its entire policy manual is reviewed regularly"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The board believes this is an endorsement of the process the WCB already has in place. The WCB has a rigorous review process, to ensure no policy continues for more than three years without review.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 149, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #30 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "A line by line legal review of the 1979 Workers' Compensation Act be undertaken to cover 'housekeeping' type items and ensure the Act is up to date and consistent. This report will be conducted using legal input and stakeholder feedback"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented.
- (2) All.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 150, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #31 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "Amend the Act to explicitly include the existing two levels of appeal, namely the Appeals Department within WCB and the Appeals Tribunal"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented.
- (2) Section 18.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 151, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #32 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "Adequate resources, both in quantity and quality be provided at all levels of the appeal processes"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB staffing levels in the appeal process have been reviewed and are considered to be adequate.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 152, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #33 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "The Board publish a report in the Compensation Reporter and Annual Report, showing the numbers of outstanding appeals and how long they have been in process, e.g. three to six months, six to nine months etc., and speak to this at Compensation Institute and other stakeholder events"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Not implemented.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 153, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #34 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "Within two weeks of filing an appeal, all appellants be provided with a date on which they can expect their appeal to be heard"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Partially implemented. The WCB is doing this whenever possible.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 154, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #35 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "All appeal decisions be communicated in writing, written in plain language and include the rationale and references to all material used in making the decision"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Under review. Appeal decisions are presently being reviewed for quality and clear language standards.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 155, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #36 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "Each decision include the contact information of a WCB employee for any needed discussion. Claimants are entitled to a follow-up conversation"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB has made recent improvements in letters, particularly decision letters.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 156, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #37 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB adjudicators consult WCB's medical advisory services and ensure their involvement in

the early stages of complex claims adjudication to confirm the quality and extent of the medical information presented by the claimant's health care provider, and adjudicator follow up"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Partially implemented. The WCB process will be improved to ensure consistent access to staff medical officers.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 157, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #38 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "A continuous improvement program be implemented to cover the medical aspects of claims adjudication. It be conducted under the Continuous Improvement Committee on Customer Service and make use of input from WCB's medical advisory staff"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. Adequate medical evidence and opinion for decisions is one of the quality criteria the WCB uses in current quality control and quality assurance reviews.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 158, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #39 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "The Board revise its pre-existing condition policy and procedures to ensure that the opinion of the injured worker's health care provider is obtained before making a decision to deny or terminate benefits"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Partially implemented. The WCB will improve report forms, to facilitate health care providers' explanations of relevant pre-existing conditions.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 159, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #40 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "The Board ensure transparency so it is evident that medical staff have considered a claimant's work history and any recent medical assessments before reaching a conclusion"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. WCB claims entitlement and case management staff are trained to collect this information before the medical staff are involved, but medical officers will be reminded to cover these factors off in all of their opinion memos.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 160, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #41 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "Wherever the Act specifies a penalty of \$1000 or less payable upon summary conviction, this

penalty be replaced by an administrative penalty of an equal amount to be collected by WCB”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Partially implemented.
- (2) Section 183.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 161, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #42 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “As WCB is the sole funder to OHS, funding to OHS be based upon OHS needs and should be provided by WCB through Treasury Board. OHS is not to be subjected to the staffing limitations or financial restrictions applied to the taxpayer supported ministries or agencies”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Disagree with recommendation. Believe it is appropriate to keep Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) as a branch of the Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 162, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #43 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “Training offered by OHS relate specifically to the Act and regulations. WCB should provide training related to prevention”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Partially implemented. Safety associations and the WCB are directly engaged in injury prevention training.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 163, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #44 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “WCB analyze, report claims and injury data and provide this information to OHS to inform and direct enforcement activities”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB believes this is an endorsement of current practice.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 164, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #45 (Workers’ Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: “WCB receive annual reports from OHS that demonstrate increased enforcement efficiencies due to the information received from WCB”? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers’ Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The board believes this is an endorsement of what it is already doing through the WorkSafe strategic partnership.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 165, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #46 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "As WCB is the sole funder to Office of the Workers' Advocate (OWA), funding to OWA be based upon OWA needs and be provided by WCB through Treasury Board. OWA will not be subjected to the staffing limitations or financial restrictions applied to the taxpayer supported ministries or agencies. OWA will remain accountable to the Treasury Board"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Disagree with recommendation. Believe it is appropriate to keep OWA as a branch of the Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 166, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #47 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "The Government of Saskatchewan value safety and prevention and act as a model employer throughout the public sector by building the culture of safety through the prevention of workplace injuries"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety continues to work with the WCB to promote a culture of safety through WorkSafe Saskatchewan. A number of initiatives are underway across the public sector to enhance safety.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 167, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #48 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "The rate groups affecting sub codes and affiliates within large sectors such as mining and the health care industry be examined and adjusted for fairness"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB believes that the process it uses now addresses the concerns. It routinely undertakes classification reviews to ensure that industry classifications are consistent with underlying Meredith principles and its classification principles. The named industries have been reviewed in recent years, at their request.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 168, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #49 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB be more diligent with respect to benefit control and advise employers of its efforts"?

(2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB believes that claims incorporate appropriate controls. However, benefits on each claim ultimately depend on the evidence collected to weigh the merits of the claim.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 169, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #50 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "Funds received from fines and administrative penalties imposed by WCB be retained by WCB and rerouted into primary prevention activities"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Not implemented.
- (2) N/A

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 170, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #51 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "Voluntary incentive programs be offered within industries and sectors and implemented on a gradual basis. Industries would be responsible for how the incentive program would be structured. Payment for the programs would come from within the industry"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Partially implemented. The WCB has recently committed to stakeholders that a review of its experience rating policy will be completed in 2013.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 171, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #52 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "All workers and employers have timely access to files without the need to file an appeal. A good rationale such as privacy legislation must be provided for any access that is denied"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented.
- (2) Section 173.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 172, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #53 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB set up a dedicated process for privacy through which all requests for information from files should be passed, and responses to requests be provided in a timely manner"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Not implemented. WCB privacy policies were reviewed in 2012 and will be updated in 2013.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 173, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #54 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "The rates for upcoming years be circulated to employer groups and large employers before finalizing them. Enhanced opportunities be offered to receive employer input prior to finalizing the rates. WCB ensure that information on all aspects of rate setting continue to be provided at the Comp Institute and by other means"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Not implemented. The WCB rate-setting process itself will be reviewed after the rates for 2013 are concluded. This is expected to confirm it is the best process in Canada.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 174, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #55 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "WCB be required to seek stakeholder input before finalizing any changes in policy"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Not implemented. The WCB has under consideration a discussion paper on stakeholder policy consultations. The board will use this paper as the basis to consider expanding its policy consultation process in 2013. Policies are essentially the board's delegation of powers to its staff. In past the board has used a consultation process for major policy changes.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 175, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #56 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "Separate resources be established within WCB dedicated exclusively to serving employers, especially smaller employers and those new to WCB. It be adequately resourced with knowledgeable staff who can respond accurately in a timely manner"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Under review. WCB is now considering realignment or increase of staffing to serve small employers better.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 176, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety, (1) What is the status of implementing recommendation #57 (Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2011) that states: "A progress report be published annually listing the recommendations from the report of the Committee of Review, their status (e.g. implemented or not) and an explanation for that status. This report be shared with stakeholders and posted on the WCB website"? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to this recommendation?

Answer:

- (1) Implemented. The WCB will include this in its annual report to stakeholders as posted on the WCB website.
- (2) None.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 177, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) What is the status of implementing the recommendations of the Workers' Compensation Act, Committee of Review, Final Report, 2006? (2) What specific sections of Bill 58, *The Workers' Compensation Act, 2012* apply to these recommendations?

Answer:

- (1) Twenty-nine policy recommendations from the 2006 Committee of Review were implemented by the Workers' Compensation Board. They do not involve Bill No. 58.
- (2) Twelve legislative recommendations from the 2006 Committee of Review were included in Bill No. 58. They can be found in sections: 2, 4, 7, 18, 37, 45, 53, 59, 69, 73, 88, 118, and 174.

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 178, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) How many people were injured in farm related accidents in 2011? (2) 2010? (3) 2009? (4) 2008? (5) 2007? (6) 2006? (7) 2005? (8) 2004? (9) 2003? (10) 2002? (11) 2001? (12) 2000? (13) How many people were killed in farm related accidents in 2011? (14) 2010? (15) 2009? (16) 2008? (17) 2007? (18) 2006? (19) 2005? (20) 2004? (21) 2003? (22) 2002? (23) 2001? (24) 2000?

Answer:

- (1) No data.
- (2) No data.
- (3) No data.
- (4) No data.
- (5) Same answer as Written Question No. 6.
- (6) 238 in 2006-07 fiscal year.
- (7) 198 in 2005-06 fiscal year.
- (8) 169
- (9) 225
- (10) 211
- (11) 274
- (12) 262
- (13) No data.
- (14) No data.
- (15) 15
- (16) 12
- (17) 9
- (18) 9
- (19) 18
- (20) 17
- (21) 21
- (22) 16
- (23) 13
- (24) 15

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 179, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) How many inquiries were made to the Saskatchewan Labour Standards branch regarding potential infractions in 2011? (2) 2010? (3) 2009? (4) 2008? (5) 2007? (6) 2006? (7) 2005? (8) 2004? (9) 2003? (10) 2002? (11) 2001? (12) 2000? (13) How many of these infractions were followed up in 2011? (14) 2010? (15) 2009? (16) 2008? (17) 2007? (18) 2006? (19) 2005? (20) 2004? (21) 2003? (22) 2002? (23) 2001? (24) 2000?

Answer:

(1)	2011-12	32,338
(2)	2010-11	37,703
(3)	2009-10	32,535*
(4)	2008-09	37,778
(5)	2007-08	42,028
(6)	2006-07	44,549
(7)	2005-06	45,080
(8)	2004-05	No data
(9)	2003-04	No data
(10)	2002-03	No data
(11)	2001-02	No data
(12)	2000-01	No data

*Methodology for tracking was changed.

		Complaints Filed	Complaints Closed
(13)	2011-12	2,135	2,214
(14)	2010-11	2,429	2,465
(15)	2009-10	2,458	2,535
(16)	2008-09	2,290	2,101
(17)	2007-08	2,048	2,247
(18)	2006-07	2,278	2,197
(19)	2005-06	2,533	2,454
(20)	2004-05	2,364	2,541
(21)	2003-04	2,662	2,352
(22)	2002-03	2,208	2,324
(23)	2001-02	2,476	2,557
(24)	2000-01	2,571	2,686

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 180, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) How many Labour Standards inspectors are currently employed and actively working? (2) How many Occupational Health and Safety inspectors are currently employed and actively working?

Answer:

- (1) 16
- (2) 38

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 181, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

To the Minister of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety: (1) In terms of completing the labour legislation consultation and review, what is the total cost of meetings? (2) What are the addition ministry staff costs? (3) What are the costs of outside consultants? (4) What is the total forecasted cost of this review?

Answer:

	2012-13 (to Nov 28, 2012)	2011-12
(1) Ministry Advisory Committee meetings	\$13,701	-
(2) Additional Staff hired	\$147,002	\$4,408
(3) Consultants	\$183,905	\$24,192
(4) Overall Forecast cost for the review	\$700,000 (estimate)	\$31,260(actual)

Mr. Forbes asked the government the following Question No. 182, which was answered by the Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff:

To the Minister of Environment: How many conservation officers are currently employed and actively working for the Ministry of Environment?

Answer:

There are 141.88 conservation officers currently employed and actively working for the Ministry of Environment.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

On Day No. 26:

Hon. Mr. Boyd to move First Reading of Bill No. 86 – The Regulatory Modernization and Accountability Act