

SECOND SESSION — TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 50

Monday, April 25, 2022

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: Wotherspoon, Conway, Love, and Mowat.

READING AND RECEIVING PETITIONS

According to order and pursuant to rule 16(7), petitions from residents of the province of Saskatchewan, requesting the following action, were read and received:

To restore direct rent payment for income support clients.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 19)

To fund In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) treatments in Saskatchewan.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 52)

To make no-cost prescription contraceptive available to all Saskatchewan people.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 107)

To design a home supports program for older adults in Saskatchewan.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 116)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The order of the day being called for question nos. 29 to 31, they were answered. (see appendix)

ADJOURNED DEBATES / DÉBATS AJOURNÉS

Bill No. 70 — The Legislative Assembly Amendment Act, 2021 Projet de loi nº 70 — Loi modificative de 2021 sur l'Assemblée legislative

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Tell: That Bill No. 70 — The Legislative Assembly Amendment Act, 2021 be now read a second time,

L'Assemblée reprend le débat ajourné sur la motion de l'hon. Mme Tell: Que le projet de loi n° 70 — Loi modificative de 2021 sur l'Assemblée legislative soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois,

and the proposed amendment moved by Ms. Sarauer:

et la modification proposée par Mme Sarauer :

That all the words after "that" be deleted and the following substituted:

This Assembly declines to give second reading to Bill No. 70, The Legislative Amendment Act, 2021 because it:

- 1. Fails to recognize the important role the Sergeant-at-Arms plays in defending democratic institutions;
- 2. Will result in security at the Legislative Building no longer being independent while eliminating a long-standing parliamentary custom;
- 3. Does not recognize the Speaker's constitutional duty to defend the privileges of the Legislative Assembly and its Members;
- 4. Will no longer allow for issues of security to be discussed at the bipartisan Board of Internal Economy; and
- 5. Effectively reduces the Sergeant-at-Arms to a ceremonial role and results in significantly less transparency regarding security issues that affect all members and all Saskatchewan people.

The debate continuing on the motion and the amendment, by leave of the Assembly, it was on motion of Ms. Young (Regina University) adjourned.

Le débat continue au sujet de la motion et l'amendement, et avec la permission de l'Assemblée, le débat est ajourné par la motion de Mme Young (Regina University).

Bill No. 79 — The Saskatchewan Indigenous Investment Finance Corporation Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Harrison (Meadow Lake): That Bill No. 79 — The Saskatchewan Indigenous Investment Finance Corporation Act be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 80 — The Innovation Saskatchewan Amendment Act, 2022

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Harrison (Meadow Lake): That Bill No. 80 — The Innovation Saskatchewan Amendment Act, 2022 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 81 — The Labour Mobility and Fair Registration Practices Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Harrison (Meadow Lake): That Bill No. 81 — The Labour Mobility and Fair Registration Practices Act be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 82 — The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2022

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Harpauer: That Bill No. 82 — The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2022 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 83 — The Tobacco Tax Amendment Act, 2022

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Harpauer: That Bill No. 83 — The Tobacco Tax Amendment Act, 2022 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 84 — The Provincial Sales Tax Amendment Act, 2022

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Harpauer: That Bill No. 84 — The Provincial Sales Tax Amendment Act, 2022 be now read a second time.

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

On motion of Mr. Dennis:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 3:15 p.m. until Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon.	Randy	Weekes
Speaker		

RETURNS, REPORTS, AND PAPERS TABLED

The following papers were laid upon the Table:

By the Hon. Mr. Morgan:

Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board: 2021 annual report

(Sessional paper no. 139)

By the Hon. Mr. McMorris:

Northern Municipal Trust Account: 2020 annual report

(Sessional paper no. 140)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following responses to written questions were tabled by the government:

Question no. 29 (Ms. Young (Regina University)):

To the Minister of Health, between December 1, 2020 and March 31, 2022, (a) what steps were taken by the Government of Saskatchewan to track the movement and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines in the province, (b) what software, data management, and/or accounting mechanisms were used to track the distribution and movement of COVID-19 vaccines in the province, and (c) what audit and/or verification activity was undertaken to assure the appropriate and intended use of COVID-19 vaccines in the province?

Answer:

- (a) Provincial COVID-19 vaccines are tracked in the Vaccine Distribution Tracking System (VDTS), a web portal developed by eHealth Saskatchewan. A policy for those who received vaccine was developed and shared with the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Northern Inter-Tribal Health Authority (NITHA), pharmacy wholesalers and pharmacies to enter vaccines received and shipped in VDTS on a real time basis. Quantity on hand was expected to be done daily (see (c) below).
- (b) Provincial COVID-19 vaccine distribution and movement is tracked in VDTS. Each service delivery location that stores vaccine uses VDTS to document COVID-19 vaccine doses that are received, shipped, and utilized.
- (c) COVID-19 vaccine inventory audits were conducted for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 fiscal years by the Ministry of Health, Financial Services Branch and by the Provincial Auditor of Saskatchewan.

As per the COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution and Tracking (VDTS) Policy and User Guide, each service delivery location is required to complete a physical count of inventory by midnight each day to ensure they align with the day's activities. Quantities on hand in VDTS are adjusted when there is a discrepancy once verified and reasons are provided.

Each site is also required to submit a wastage report form to the Ministry of Health to track vaccine doses that are unused and discarded for any reason, including expired product.

Question no. 30 (Ms. Young (Regina University)):

To the Minister of Health, does the Government of Saskatchewan know of any real or potential instances of misplaced, misappropriated, or lost COVID-19 vaccine doses in the province?

Answer:

No, the Government of Saskatchewan does not know of any real or potential instances of misplaced, misappropriated, or lost COVID-19 vaccine doses in the province.

Question no. 31 (Ms. Young (Regina University)):

To the Minister of Health, (a) have any investigations been launched by the Government of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Health Authority, or other provincial agency concerning instances of misplaced, misappropriated, or lost COVID-19 vaccines, and (b) if aforementioned investigations have been undertaken, what were the findings?

Answer:

- (a) The Government of Saskatchewan is not aware of any investigations launched by a provincial agency concerning instances of misplaced, misappropriated, or lost COVID-19 vaccines.
- (b) Not applicable.

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR RETURN

On Wednesday:

Ms. Wilson to seek an order of the Assembly for the following:

For a copy of the RFP for the Sask Vaccination Wallet application provided by the Quebec tech company Akinox.

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following questions were given notice on day no. 50 and are to be answered by day no. 55:

Question no. 32 (Ms. Wilson):

To the Minister of Health, the Sask Vaccination Wallet application is provided by the Quebec tech company Akinox as a white-labelled product, (a) was a middle entity providing service updates and at what price point, (b) what are the security protocols on these data centres, (c) is the data actually cloud-based storage, (d) what countries are hosting this service, and (e) what protocols are in place to prevent the extraction of individual data from the metadata?

Question no. 33 (Ms. Wilson):

To the Minister of SaskBuilds and Procurement, the Sask Vaccination Wallet application is provided by the Quebec tech company Akinox; they supply the Saskatchewan government, (a) was this through procurement or was it sole-sourced, (b) what company did the cybersecurity audit, (c) was the audit independently initiated by the Saskatchewan government to ensure the privacy of the information as per the privacy policies, (d) what encryption protocols are being utilized for the direct interface between user and servers for the Sask Vaccine Wallet application, and (e) where is the data being stored?