

THIRD SESSION — TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 13

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

1:30 p.m.

PRAYERS

STATEMENT BY THE SPEAKER Ruling on a Point of Order (Unparliamentary Language)

Yesterday, November 15, 2022, the Deputy Government House Leader (Hon. Ms. Carr) raised a point of order alleging that the member for Regina Rosemont (Mr. Wotherspoon) used unparliamentary language during his response to a ministerial statement. The Opposition House Leader (Ms. Sarauer) requested I review the record. I have done so, and I am prepared to make my ruling.

A very similar comment by the member for Regina Rosemont was the subject of a ruling by Speaker Docherty on March 11, 2020. Speaker Docherty found a similar expression by the same member to be unparliamentary. The member's comments that relate to the government ripping off nuns and filling the pockets of those connected to the government insinuates that members of the government had acted in an unethical manner. As members know, remarks which question a member's integrity, honesty, or character are out of order.

Once again, the comments used by the member for Regina Rosemont went too far. For that reason, I find the point of order well taken and would ask the member for Regina Rosemont to rise, withdraw the remark, and again apologize for his statement.

Thereupon, the member for Regina Rosemont withdrew his remarks and apologized.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Petitions of citizens of the province of Saskatchewan were presented and laid upon the Table by the following members: Mowat, Lemaigre, Love, and Teed.

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 immediately create a bipartisan legislative committee on the mental health and addictions crisis in Saskatchewan.

(Sessional paper no. 48)

To fix the rural health care staffing crisis.

To implement Saskatchewan First policies and legislation.

To ban the practice of conversion therapy.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 31)

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 20)

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 24)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The order of the day being called for question no. 43, pursuant to rule 21(6), the question was converted and an order for return was issued. (see appendix)

SECOND READINGS

Bill No. 103 — The Accessible Saskatchewan Act

Moved by the Hon. Mr. Makowsky: That Bill No. 103 — The Accessible Saskatchewan Act be now read a second time.

A debate arising, it was on motion of Ms. Sarauer adjourned.

ADJOURNED DEBATES

Bill No. 88 — The Saskatchewan First Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Eyre: That Bill No. 88 — The Saskatchewan First Act be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 94 — The Public Pension and Benefits Administration Corporation Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Harpauer: That Bill No. 94 — The Public Pension and Benefits Administration Corporation Act be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 95 — The Surface Rights Acquisition and Compensation Amendment Act, 2022

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Reiter: That Bill No. 95 — The Surface Rights Acquisition and Compensation Amendment Act, 2022 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 96 — The Leafcutting Beekeepers Registration Repeal Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Marit: That Bill No. 96 — The Leafcutting Beekeepers Registration Repeal Act be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 97 — The Architects Amendment Act, 2022

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Carr: That Bill No. 97 — The Architects Amendment Act, 2022 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 98 — The Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency Amendment Act, 2022

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Tell: That Bill No. 98 — The Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency Amendment Act, 2022 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 99 — The Emergency 911 System Amendment Act, 2022

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Tell: That Bill No. 99 — The Emergency 911 System Amendment Act, 2022 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 100 — The Miscellaneous Statutes (Accretion) Amendment Act, 2022

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Marit: That Bill No. 100 — The Miscellaneous Statutes (Accretion) Amendment Act, 2022 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 101 — The Child and Family Services Amendment Act, 2022

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Makowsky: That Bill No. 101 — The Child and Family Services Amendment Act, 2022 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 102 — The Constitutional Questions Amendment Act, 2022 Projet de loi nº 102 — Loi modificative de 2022 sur les questions constitutionnelles

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Eyre: That Bill No. 102 — The Constitutional Questions Amendment Act, 2022 be now read a second time.

L'Assemblée reprend le débat ajourné sur la motion de l'hon. Mme Eyre: Que le projet de loi n° 102 — Loi modificative de 2022 sur les questions constitutionnelles soit maintenant lu une deuxième fois.

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

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

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Harrison (Meadow Lake):

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 3:11 p.m. until Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

Hon. Randy Weekes Speaker

QUESTIONS ORDERED FOR RETURN

The following written question was converted and an order for return was issued:

Return no. 41 (Ms. Wilson):

To the Minister of Health and the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health, information obtained via a freedom of information request showed that the Ministry of Health reported there were 1,229 adverse reactions from December 30, 2020 to October 26, 2021, due to the experimental COVID-19 inoculations. During that time 1,649,640 injections had been given, therefore a reported reaction rate of .075 per cent or 7.5 for every 1,000 injections. On the Saskatchewan government website as of September 18, 2022, the total number of adverse reactions reported by the government was 1,320. That means only 91 more adverse effects were reported in the next 11 months during which an additional 920,000 injections were given. This is .0098 per cent reaction rate or 9.8 for every 10,000 injections. Statistically, that is a drastic change in ratio which raises the questions: (a) whether the criteria for reporting adverse reactions was changed after October 2021, and if so, how, why and by whom, (b) the person or government agency that is responsible for monitoring adverse reactions, and the thresholds the government has set to determine whether the COVID-19 injection schedule(s) should be continued, halted, and/or modified, and (c) where the public can view this information.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

On Monday:

Hon. Ms. Tell to move first reading of Bill No. 106 — The Police Amendment Act, 2022

Hon. Ms. Tell to move first reading of Bill No. 107 — The Provincial Protective Services Act

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following questions were given notice on day no. 9 and are to be answered by day no. 14:

Question no. 44 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Highways, (a) what is the most recent average International Roughness Index (IRI) for each of the following sections (both eastbound and westbound) of #1 Highway: (i) between McLean and Jct. #10 near Balgonie, (ii) between Jct. #10 near Balgonie to Jct. Victoria Avenue near Brandt Industries, (iii) Jct. Victoria Avenue to Jct. #33, (iv) Jct. #33 to Jct. #6, (v) Jct. #6 with Ring Road near the weigh scales, and (vi) Jct. with Ring Road to Pense; (b) on what date were the IRI measurements above taken; (c) which clause(s) in the Regina Bypass Partners Agreement specify the minimum acceptable ride standards; and (d) what provisions does the contract make for enforcement if the minimum standards are not met?

Question no. 45 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority, which private liquor stores operated in Saskatchewan in (a) 2017, (b) 2018, (c) 2019, (d) 2021, and (e) 2022, and what was the net revenue SLGA received from each of these stores?

Question no. 46 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority, which public liquor stores operated in Saskatchewan in (a) 2017, (b) 2018, (c) 2019, (d) 2021, and (e) 2022, and what was the net revenue SLGA received from each of these stores?

Question no. 47 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Education, (a) how much education tax did the province collect from each individual School Division in the fiscal years: (i) 2009-2010, (ii) 2010-2011, (iii) 2011-2012, (iv) 2012-2013, (v) 2013-2014, (vi) 2014-2015, (vii) 2015-2016, (viii) 2016-2017, (ix) 2017-2018, (x) 2018-2019, (xi) 2019-2020, (xii) 2020-2021, (xiii) 2021-2022, and (xiv) 2022-2023; (b) what was the total grant paid to each individual School Division in the above years; (c) what Historic High Schools operated during the above fiscal years; (d) how much did they receive in grants from the province during the above fiscal years; (f) how much did they receive in grants from the province during the above fiscal years; (g) what associate schools operated during the above fiscal years; (g) what associate schools operated during the above fiscal years; (h) how much did they receive in grants from the province during the above fiscal years; (g) what associate schools operated during the above fiscal years?

Question no. 48 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Immigration and Career Training, (a) how many Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee applications did the Ministry receive in the fiscal years: (i) 2008-2009, (ii) 2009-2010, (iii) 2010-2011, (iv) 2011-2012, (v) 2012-2013, (vi) 2013-2014, (vii) 2014-2015, (viii) 2015-2016, (ix) 2016-2017, (x) 2017-2018, (xi) 2018-2019, (xii) 2019-2020, (xiii) 2020-2021, (xiv) 2021-2022, and (xv) 2022-2023; (b) how many nominations did the province of Saskatchewan make in the above years; and (c) how many nominees, plus their family members, arrived in the province in the above years?

Question no. 49 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Health, for each of the fiscal years 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023, what health services were available at the health centres, integrated facilities, and medical facilities in each of the following communities: (a) Arborfield, (b) Beechy, (c) Bengough, (d) Birch Hills, (e) Borden, (f) Capri, (g) Climax, (h) Coronach, (i) Craik, (j) Cupar, (k) Cutknife, (l) Dinsmore, (m) Dodsland, (n) Eatonia, (o) Edam, (p) Elrose, (q) Eston, (r) Filmore, (s) Gainsborough, (t) Goodsoil, (u) Grenfell, (v) Gull Lake, (w) Imperial, (x) Invermay, (y) Ituna, (z) Kincaid, (aa) Lafleche, (ab) Lampman, (ac) Langenburg, (ad) Leoville, (ae) Loon Lake, (af) Lucky Lake, (ag) Macklin, (ah) Mankota, (ai) Milden, (aj) Montmartre, (ak) Neilburg, (al) Nokomis, (am) Norquay, (an) Oxbow, (ao) Pangman, (ap) Pontiex, (aq) Radville, (ar) Rockglen, (as) Smeaton, (at) Spalding, (au) St. Walburg, (av) Theodore, (aw) Vanguard, (ax) Watson, (ay) Whitebear, and (az) Whitewood?

Question no. 50 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Highways, (a) what highway projects were underway in Saskatchewan in the following fiscal years: (i) 2008-2009, (ii) 2009-2010, (iii) 2010-2011, (iv) 2011-2012, (v) 2012-2013, (vi) 2013-2014, (vii) 2014-2015, (viii) 2015-2016, (ix) 2016-2017, (x) 2017-2018, (xi) 2018-2019, (xii) 2019-2020, (xiii) 2020-2021, (xiv) 2021-2022, and (xv) 2022-2023; (b) which construction company was awarded each of these contracts; (c) were these construction companies based in Saskatchewan, and (d) what was the cost of each these contracts?

Question no. 51 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Highways, (a) what are the locations of each project to improve Saskatchewan highways in the fiscal year 2022-2023, and (b) how many kilometres do each of these improvement projects span?

Question no. 52 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Health, (a) what Long-Term Care Facilities were operating in Saskatchewan in each of the following fiscal years: (i) 2012-2013, (ii) 2013-2014, (iii) 2014-2015, (iv) 2015-2016, (v) 2016-2017, (vi) 2017-2018, (vii) 2018-2019, (viii) 2019-2020, (ix) 2020-2021, (x) 2021-2022, and (xi) 2022-2023; and (b) how many beds in each Long-Term Care Facility were funded and occupied by a resident?

Question no. 53 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Health, (a) what were the locations of each hospital operating in Saskatchewan in the following fiscal years: (i) 2008-2009, (ii) 2009-2010, (iii) 2010-2011, (iv) 2011-2012, (v) 2012-2013, (vi) 2013-2014, (vii) 2014-2015, (viii) 2015-2016, (ix) 2016-2017, (x) 2017-2018, (xi) 2018-2019, (xii) 2019-2020, (xiii) 2020-2021, (xiv) 2021-2022, and (xv) 2022-2023; and (b) how many funded beds did each hospital contain in the above years?

Question no. 54 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister Responsible for SaskPower, (a) what were the names of the contractors assigned to each floor of the refurbishment of the SaskPower headquarters in the following fiscal years: (i) 2018-2019, (ii) 2019-2020, (iii) 2020-2021, (iv) 2021-2022, and (v) 2022-2023; (b) what was the cost of the contract for the refurbishment of each floor of the SaskPower headquarters in the above fiscal years; and (c) what work was undertaken in the refurbishment of each floor of the SaskPower headquarters in the above fiscal years; the above fiscal years?

Question no. 55 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister Responsible for SaskPower, (a) what were the names of the contractors assigned to each floor of the refurbishment of the second office tower purchased south of the head office in the following fiscal years: (i) 2018-2019, (ii) 2019-2020, (iii) 2020-2021, (iv) 2021-2022, and (v) 2022-2023; (b) what was the cost of the contract for each floor of the refurbishment of the second office tower in the above fiscal years; (c) what work was undertaken in the refurbishment of the second office tower in the above fiscal years; and (d) what is the total cost of completed work on the refurbishment of the SaskPower head office and second office tower?

Question no. 56 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister Responsible for SaskPower, (a) what is the name of the construction contractor responsible for Phase One of the logistics warehouse complex that is to be located at the Global Transportation Hub, (b) what is the cost of the contract for Phase One, (c) how many phases remain in the construction of the logistics warehouse complex, (d) how much will each phase cost, and (e) what is the anticipated completion date of each phase?

Question no. 57 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Education, (a) of the 2021-2022 to 2025-2026 Canada-Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement's \$2.59 million earmarked to fund one-time grants in support of recruitment and retention of certified Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) and group family childcare assistants in regulated childcare centres and group family childcare homes, how much is the province's contribution, (b) how many regulated childcare centres have received the grant of \$145 per regulated space for children up to the age of 6, (c) how many regulated group family childcare homes have received the grant of \$145 per regulated space for children up to the age of 6, (d) what is the total amount of the grants that have been forwarded to regulated childcare centres, and (e) what is the total amount of the recruitment and retention grant that has been forwarded to regulated group family childcare homes?

Question no. 58 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Education, (a) of the 2021-2022 to 2026-2026 Canada-Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement, how much of the \$5.4 million earmarked to provide up to \$2 an hour increased pay for Early Childhood Educators (ECEs), how much is the province's contribution, (b) how many Early Childhood Educators have received up to a \$2 an hour pay increase, (c) how many Early Childhood Educators in regulated childcare centres have received up to a \$2 an hour pay increase, (d) how many Early Childhood Educators in regulated group family childcare homes have received up to a \$2 an hour pay increase, and (e) what is the total amount of the Wage Enhancement Grant that has been expended?

Question no. 59 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Education, (a) what were the monthly fees for infant, toddler, preschool, and kindergarten children in regulated childcare centres in the following fiscal years: (i) 2019-2020, (ii) 2020-2021, (iii) 2021-2022, and (iv) 2022-2023; (b) what were the monthly fees for infant, toddler, preschool, and kindergarten children in regulated group family childcare homes in the above fiscal years; (c) what was the monthly subsidy for infant, toddler, preschool, and kindergarten children in regulated childcare centres in the above fiscal years; and (d) what was the monthly subsidy for infant, toddler, preschool, and kindergarten children in regulated group family childcare homes in the above fiscal years; toddler, preschool, and kindergarten children in regulated group family childcare homes in the above fiscal years?

Question no. 60 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Education, (a) what, if any, stakeholder and community consultations have taken place with respect to the implementation of the commitments made in the Canada-Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement, and (b) what further consultations are planned and with which organizations and groups?

Question no. 61 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Education, (a) how many more licensed childcare spaces have been created since the signing of the Canada-Saskatchewan Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement, and (b) what will the Saskatchewan government do in a systemically sustainable way that will meet the expansion targets set out in the agreement?

Question no. 62 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister of Education, (a) what is the government's short and long-term systemic strategy for addressing the critical shortage of qualified early childhood educators in Saskatchewan, (b) what specific measures will the government be undertaking and what is the timetable for implementing those measures, and (c) how will these measures sustain this new system into the future?

Question no. 63 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister responsible for SaskTel, what urban municipalities currently do not have cell phone service in Saskatchewan?

Question no. 64 (Ms. Sarauer):

To the Minister responsible for SaskTel, what First Nations reserves currently do not have cell phone service in Saskatchewan?

The following question was given notice on day no. 11 and is to be answered by day no. 16:

Question no. 65 (Ms. Wilson):

To the Minister of Social Services and the Minister of Seniors, re: Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability program, the Saskatchewan Assured Income for Disability, or SAID, is a program that was welcomed by the disabled community because it took them off the welfare role and assured them that they would have a consistent income through their lifetime. However, according to some recipients, they have been forced to apply for Canada Pension Plan benefits at age 60. This means their CPP benefits will pay approximately 30 per cent less when they reach the age of 65 and no longer qualify for SAID; (a) will the government verify that SAID recipients are forced to apply for their federal Canada Pension Plan benefits at age 60; if yes, (b) why; (c) has the government tested the legality of forcing disabled people to apply for Canada Pension Plan early, thereby affecting their future income for life after they become seniors at age 65; (d) has the government tested whether the practice of forcing disabled people to apply for benefits early is discriminatory; and (e) will the government stop this practice so that disabled citizens can enjoy the full benefits that should be available to them through CPP once they turn 65?

The following question was given notice on day no. 12 and is to be answered by day no. 17:

Question no. 66 (Ms. Wilson):

To the Minister of Health and the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health, in its annual report, the Saskatchewan Health Authority reports that it spent \$386,009.00 on Pacific Fresh Fish, a company that imports exotic fresh fish from around the world and retails at premium prices: (a) in detail, what was purchased from Pacific Fresh Fish in the fiscal year 2021-22, (b) what was the purpose of the purchases from Pacific Fresh Fish, (c) who was (were) the recipient(s) of the Pacific Fresh Fish purchases, (d) in a time when the SHA claimed it was struggling to provide adequate health care to Saskatchewan citizens, what is the justification to spend almost \$400,000 dollars on Pacific Fresh Fish, and (e) will the ministry investigate these expenditures and hold the administration of Saskatchewan Health Authority to account for how it spends taxpayer money?

The following question was given notice on day no. 13 and is to be answered by day no. 18:

Question no. 67 (Ms. Wilson):

To the Minister of Health and the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health, in its annual report, the Saskatchewan Health Authority spent \$627,898.00 on Starbucks Coffee Canada, (a) in detail, what was purchased from Starbucks in the fiscal year 2021-22, (b) what was the purpose of the purchases from Starbucks, (c) who was (were) the recipient(s) of the Starbucks purchases, (d) in a time when the SHA claimed it was struggling to provide adequate health care to Saskatchewan people, what is the justification to spend well over half a million dollars on Starbucks, and (e) will the Ministry investigate these expenditures and hold the administration of Saskatchewan Health Authority to account for how it spends taxpayer money?