



FOURTH SESSION — TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

of the

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 46

Monday, April 15, 2024

1:30 p.m.

PRAYERS

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

On Thursday, April 10, 2024, the Deputy Government House Leader (Hon. Ms. Carr) rose on a point of order alleging that the Leader of the Opposition (Ms. Beck) indirectly accused the Premier (Hon. Mr. Moe) of being dishonest in her statement, “Saskatchewan people expect their leaders to be honest and forthright.” The Opposition House Leader (Ms. Sarauer) argued that the words were not out of order. I committed to reviewing the record and have since conducted a thorough review of the *Hansards* published in the past few weeks.

In my review, I found many instances where members on both sides of the floor insinuated that other members were being dishonest or untrustworthy. Members will recall that, in some of these cases, I asked members to withdraw and apologize for their statements. I will direct members to *Beauchesne’s* 6th edition, which states on page 151, “It is not unparliamentary temperately to criticize statements made by Members as being contrary to the facts; but no imputation of intentional falsehood is permissible.” While proper debate may involve different interpretations of fact, members well know that impugning the honesty and integrity of other members is unparliamentary.

In determining a ruling, a Speaker must take more than just the words or phrases spoken by a member into account. As is noted in *Beauchesne's*, the tone, manner, and intention of the person speaking must also be considered. Additionally, as Speaker Toth noted on December 7, 2010:

. . . the context and use of the word is key to determining whether or not it is acceptable. One of the acceptability tests is cited in *The House of Commons Procedure and Practice*, 2nd edition, at page 614, which is as follows: "Remarks directed specifically at another member which question that member's integrity, honesty or character are not in order.

Over the past few weeks, in addition to insinuations of dishonesty, I also found that members on both sides of this Chamber have increasingly engaged in inflammatory and provocative statements, personal attacks, and name calling, which have caused disruption in this Chamber. Such instances were not limited to question period but could be found throughout Routine Proceedings during introduction of guests, presenting petitions, and statements by members. I have repeatedly asked members to withdraw and apologize for their conduct, yet unparliamentary behaviour persists.

In the context of the escalating disorder in this Chamber and similar statements over the past few weeks, I find the point of order well taken. However, given the numerous infractions on Thursday, I will not single out the Leader of the Opposition to apologize.

I would like to conclude by quoting Speaker Docherty from April 18, 2019, page 5834 of *Hansard*. "The decorum we show in this Assembly is not merely out of respect for each other, it is instead an expression of the respect we all owe the constituents we represent."

Honourable members come to this Chamber to reflect diverse viewpoints and to debate alternatives. I expect all members to do so respectfully according to their code of ethical conduct. When members engage in unparliamentary conduct, they are disrespectful not only to other members but to this very institution and to the people we serve.

PRESENTING PETITIONS

Petitions of citizens of the province of Saskatchewan were presented and laid upon the Table by the following members: Kirsch, Nippi-Albright, Teed, and Clarke.

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 recruit and retain doctors to provide adequate and accessible health care to Rosthern, Duck Lake and surrounding area.

(Sessional paper no. 171)

To pass legislation to improve conditions for Saskatchewan workers.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 17)

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

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 21)

To immediately address the short-staffing crisis in health care.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 153)

To immediately suspend the carbon tax across the nation of Canada and acknowledge its significant impact on affordability and inflation in Canada.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 155)

To suspend the collection of the provincial fuel tax from gasoline and diesel for a period of six months to help families struggling with the high cost of living.

(Addendum to sessional paper no. 170)

ADJOURNED DEBATES

Bill No. 156 — The Tobacco Tax Amendment Act, 2024

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Harpauer: That Bill No. 156 — The Tobacco Tax Amendment Act, 2024 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 157 — The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2024

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Harpauer: That Bill No. 157 — The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2024 be now read a second time.

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

NAMING OF MEMBER

During adjourned debates, the Speaker requested Mr. Harrison (Meadow Lake) to withdraw unparliamentary language. Mr. Harrison (Meadow Lake) refused to withdraw the words after the Speaker asked him to do so. Mr. Harrison (Meadow Lake) then withdrew from the Chamber.

Whereupon, Mr. Harrison (Meadow Lake) was named by the Speaker as follows:

Mr. Harrison (Meadow Lake), in accordance with rule 57(2), I name you for disregarding the authority of the Chair.

Bill No. 158 — The Saskatchewan Commercial Innovation Incentive (Patent Box) Amendment Act, 2024

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Harrison (Meadow Lake): That Bill No. 158 — The Saskatchewan Commercial Innovation Incentive (Patent Box) Amendment Act, 2024 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 159 — The Revenue and Financial Services Amendment Act, 2024

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Ms. Harpauer: That Bill No. 159 — The Revenue and Financial Services Amendment Act, 2024 be now read a second time.

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

Bill No. 160 — The Immigration Services Act

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of the Hon. Mr. Harrison (Meadow Lake): That Bill No. 160 — The Immigration Services Act be now read a second time.

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

On motion of the Hon. Ms. Carr:

Ordered, That this Assembly do now adjourn.

The Assembly adjourned at 2:43 p.m. until Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Randy Weekes
Speaker

NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

On Wednesday:

Ms. Nippi-Albright to move first reading of Bill No. 616 — The Duty to Consult Act

NOTICE OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

The following questions were given notice on day no. 44 and are to be answered by day no. 49:

Question no. 7 (Ms. Wilson):

To the Minister of Environment, regarding *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010*, *The Agricultural Packaging Product Waste Stewardship Regulations*, and the Saskatchewan Grain Bag Recycling Program, how does the government ensure the accessibility and effectiveness of the Saskatchewan Grain Bag Recycling Program across Saskatchewan, especially in rural and remote areas, and which percentage of total fees are allocated for enforcement for the years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024?

Question no. 8 (Ms. Wilson):

To the Minister of Environment, regarding *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010*, *The Agricultural Packaging Product Waste Stewardship Regulations*, and the Saskatchewan Grain Bag Recycling Program, when was the punitive fine process for the Saskatchewan Grain Bag Recycling Program last reviewed?

Question no. 9 (Ms. Wilson):

To the Minister of Environment, regarding *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010*, *The Agricultural Packaging Product Waste Stewardship Regulations*, and the Saskatchewan Grain Bag Recycling Program, can the minister provide the criteria and dates for the appointment of Cleanfarms as the program administrator including the renewal process for the Saskatchewan Grain Bag Recycling Program for the years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024?