



Province of Alberta

The 27th Legislature  
Second Session

# Alberta Hansard

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The Honourable Kenneth R. Kowalski, Speaker

# Legislative Assembly of Alberta

## The 27th Legislature

Second Session

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## Legislative Assembly of Alberta

1:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 26, 2009

[The Speaker in the chair]

### Prayers

**The Speaker:** Good afternoon.

Let us pray. Grant that we, the members of our province's Legislature, fulfill our office with honesty and integrity. May our first concern be for the good of all of our people. Let us be guided by these principles in our deliberations this day. Amen.

Please be seated.

### Introduction of Visitors

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, I would like to introduce to you a group of very distinguished Albertans who work very hard on behalf of the Last Post Fund. Founded in 1909, the fund is sustained by private donations and by Veterans Affairs Canada. It seeks to ensure that no eligible veteran is denied a dignified funeral and burial for lack of funds. The group who are in the Speaker's gallery ensure that this is done regardless of circumstance. As I call out their names, if they would rise, please. Here to commemorate the Last Post Fund's centennial year are Jim Corbett, president; Brigadier General Bill Buckham, past president, and his wife, Keatha; Bill Rawluk, chairman; Lieutenant Colonel Brian Murphy, past president and honorary legal counsel; counsellors Mary Jane Belec and Rick Morrissey; Major Ken Usher, Alberta branch manager; and Susan MacEachran, who has received assistance from the fund for the burial of her late husband, Grant, earlier this year. I would invite our guests to receive the warm traditional welcome of this House.

### Introduction of Guests

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Rocky Mountain House.

**Mr. Lund:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is indeed a great pleasure for me to introduce to you and through you to the members of the Assembly some 24 grade 6 and 7 students along with their teachers, Mr. Dean Townsend, Mr. Ian Murdoch, Mrs. Alanna Merklene, as well as helpers Mrs. Darlene Duncan, Mrs. Clare Cole, and Mrs. Norma Nicolay. Many of these students are neighbours of mine as Condor is a hamlet about 20 miles east of Rocky Mountain House. I would like them to stand and have the Assembly give them the traditional warm welcome.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Strathmore-Brooks.

**Mr. Doerksen:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is indeed my privilege today to introduce to you 61 students from St. Joseph's Collegiate school in Brooks. These students have travelled on two buses about five hours to get here yesterday and will travel home this evening. They are very excited to learn and eager to change the world. It was my privilege to speak to these students in their classroom about three weeks ago. They are accompanied today by four teachers, Mrs. Calin Musgrove, Mr. Jason Andrusiak, Miss Angela Bidyk, and Ms Marie Cailliau, and parents and helpers Mr. Mike Hollinda, Ms Trena Tait, Ms Leanne Anderson, and Mrs. Patty Schimmel and also bus drivers Mr. Garry Stein and Mr. Richard Young. I would ask them all to rise and enjoy the traditional warm welcome of this Assembly.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Advanced Education and Technology.

**Mr. Horner:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure today to rise and introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly a group of Albertans who represent my ministry's corporate services division. Corporate services is responsible for various corporate functions, including finance, administration, corporate planning, performance management, legal and legislative services. They've announced a great deal of tools and management systems to support our department in the implementation of our business plan. We have thirteen visitors today in the gallery. I'll ask them to rise as I call their names: Ms Edith Wong, Ms Alyssa Moritz, Mr. Michael Bell, Mr. Benedict Dy, Mrs. Alicia Garcia, Mrs. June Sawchuk, Mr. Shane Stuber, Ms Cheryl Vaillant, Mr. Terence Fung, Mr. Michael Rivest, Mr. Jas Deol, Mrs. Emilie Mahabir, and Mr. James Fan. They are seated in the members' gallery, and I would ask that all members give them the traditional warm welcome of this Assembly.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Seniors and Community Supports.

**Mrs. Jablonski:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can't see my guests in the members' gallery, but they may be in the visitors' gallery, so I'll introduce them anyway. I'd like to introduce to you and through you to all members of this Assembly two guests, Miss Luanne Whitmarsh and Mr. Brandon Powell from Calgary. There you are. Luanne Whitmarsh is the CEO of the Kerby Centre and leads 40 staff and over 600 volunteers at the centre. Luanne is a registered social worker who feels passionately and energetically about the people and programs at the centre. Brandon Powell is a strategic planning consultant with expertise in business, economic development, and urban and regional planning. Brandon has been consulting with the Kerby Centre over the past year to help them rebrand and to provide strategic planning for the centre's future. Please join me in welcoming Luanne and Brandon with the warm traditional welcome of the House.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs.

**Mrs. Fritz:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly Elizabeth DesCamp. Elizabeth is visiting from Calgary with Luanne and Brandon. Elizabeth is the director of the older adult program with Calgary Family Services, and she's shown an outstanding commitment to seniors in the community. Elizabeth and her staff have made a tremendous impact on the lives of seniors in Calgary. They've significantly increased their quality of life, especially through the elder friendly communities program. Elizabeth is standing here in the Assembly. Would you please join me in giving her the recognition that she so deserves.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development.

**Mr. Groeneveld:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to introduce to you and through you to the members of the Assembly communications staff from the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency, or ALMA. Joining us today are communications officers Carmen Palamarchuk and Nicole Paradis-Clancy, administrative assistant Amrit Matharu, and communications co-ordinator Gen Handley. ALMA is a bridge organization focused on achieving an internationally competitive and profitable livestock and meat industry for Alberta producers. They're seated in the members' gallery. I see that they're standing already, so I'd ask the House to please give them the usual warm welcome.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Calder.

**Mr. Elniski:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For the month of November thousands of men and women worldwide, myself included, have been growing moustaches or wearing fake ones to raise awareness and support for prostate cancer. I spoke about November in a member's statement yesterday. This afternoon I have the distinct pleasure to introduce to you and through you to the members of this Assembly the other two members of my LAO Team Mo, who between the three of us have raised just a hair over \$1,200. These two gentlemen have worked hard all month to raise funds for this important cause by growing and grooming their 'staches, and it's not been easy for them to grow a moustache that small. I would ask both Mr. Ryan Algar, legislative assistant, and Mr. Graeme Ireland, assistant to the director of government members' caucus, to please rise so we can see their moustaches way down here and receive the traditional greeting.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Montrose.

**Mr. Bhullar:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That's obviously hard to follow, and quite frankly I don't think I want to follow that. [interjection] Yeah, and no amount of money, sir, will make me do that.

**1:40**

It's my pleasure to rise and introduce to you and through you to members of this Assembly some absolutely inspirational individuals working in the area of adult literacy, here today. At work, home, school, and play literacy helps build meaningful connections with others and supports everyone's ability to make good decisions throughout their lives. Today's guests are led by Ms Carol Aube-Girard of the Edmonton Community Adult Learning Association, Margaret Rutherford of Edmonton public library, Candice Jackson from Literacy Alberta, Delena Tsang from Star Literacy, Adrienne Laughington from the Centre for Family Literacy, Rachel Posch from Edmonton John Howard Society, Susan Skaret from the learning centre, and Bonnie Caron and Iris Ayers from Project Adult Literacy Society. They're also joined by Beverly MacKinnon, the 2005 Canada Post literacy award recipient, as well as many students from the learning centre and from PALS. I'd ask them all to rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Mackay.

**Ms Woo-Paw:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my great pleasure to introduce to you and through you to members of this Legislature two very able advocates from the Alberta Graduate Council. With us today are Mr. Ryan McCarthy from the University of Calgary, whom I had the chance to meet about two years ago as a presenter at a leadership program. With Ryan is Mr. Christopher Skappak from the University of Alberta and chair of the Alberta Graduate Council. During my meeting with a representative from the council earlier this week I discovered that Christopher is the Chris that my son has talked about ever since he started university here in Edmonton six years ago. I see that you also have other colleagues here with you, and I would like to ask all of you to rise and receive the very warm welcome of this Assembly.

**The Speaker:** Are there others? The hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre.

**Ms Blakeman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. On September 16 the Rozsa Foundation of Calgary awarded their 2009 award for

arts administration. Of the nine nominees, five were from Edmonton, including the recipient of the award. Today I'm very honoured to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly those five Edmontonians for their amazing, creative hard work on behalf of Edmonton's premier arts organizations and festivals. Joining us today in the public gallery is Shelley Switzer, who is the producer for the Edmonton street performers. She was also recognized in the spring with a mayor's award for innovative artistic direction. With her are, also, Penny Ritco, executive director of the Citadel Theatre – Penny, please rise – Mary Phillips-Rickey, the general manager for Edmonton Opera. Unfortunately, we're missing Todd Janes, who is the general manager for Latitude 53, but we do have the recipient of this year's Rosza award for arts administration, Tom McFall, who is the executive director of the Alberta Craft Council. As a special treat Penny's sister Marilynn Kennedy, who is visiting from Ontario, was also able to join us today. Please welcome these distinguished arts administrators.

### Members' Statements

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Hays.

#### Last Post Fund

**Mr. Johnston:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It gives me great honour to rise today and mark a very important anniversary, the 100th anniversary of the Last Post Fund.

Mr. Speaker, I take you back to the year 1909 in Montreal. A veteran named Arthur H.D. Hair, moved by a powerful sense of patriotism after finding out a soldier was buried without a proper funeral, acted to ensure that every soldier was buried with dignity. Mr. Hair's actions launched a national nonprofit organization dedicated to the honour of our veterans.

Over the past 100 years the Last Post Fund has never deviated from their principles, principles of dignity, compassion, and respect that presided over its birth. In co-operation with Veterans Affairs Canada the Last Post Fund ensures that no eligible veteran is deprived of a dignified funeral, burial, and headstone for lack of financial resources, as befit those who have served their country in wartime or in peace.

Since 2009 is the centennial year, the Last Post Fund organized a series of commemorative ceremonies across the country to honour the thousands of veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice of their lives to serve our great country. Mr. Speaker, the most important of these ceremonies took place this year on June 21 at the National Field of Honour, located in Pointe-Claire, Quebec. On that day the first cemetery in Canada entirely devoted to veterans was designated as a national historic site by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Through the course of its history the Last Post Fund has arranged funerals and, where necessary, burial and a grave marker for more than 145,000 veterans – 145,000 veterans. This is an astonishing number and shows that this fund plays an integral role in honouring our veterans.

Mr. Speaker, as noted earlier, the Last Post Fund is a nonprofit organization, and any donations to the Last Post Fund allow this organization to continue its work, from establishing commemorative projects across Canada to placing markers for veterans who lie in unmarked graves to supporting the Last Post Fund's National Field of Honour.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to pay tribute to Mr. Arthur Hair and his associates, who started this worthwhile organization, and all those who donate and assist the fund in their goals. I would like to end with this quote from the Last Post Fund: "To honour and protect in

death seems but a small return to those who have protected their country in life.”

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre.

#### Arts Administrators

**Ms Blakeman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Earlier today I was able to introduce four of the five Edmonton arts managers who were nominated for the Rozsa awards. I am proud, proud fit to bursting, of these wonderful administrators. All of them work in the fabulous constituency of Edmonton-Centre.

As an arts administrator in my life before politics I so admire the skills, discipline, imagination, and talent these dedicated people have. They run organizations with multimillion-dollar budgets. They account for every penny to several levels of government and to the private-sector donors. They do more with less year after year after year.

Given the field, it is high praise indeed to honour Tom McFall as the recipient of the 2009 Rozsa award. For 10 years Tom has reinvigorated the Alberta Craft Council. He's created a centre of excellence by developing strategic plans with the board, establishing a downtown gallery and a shop to showcase and, more importantly, sell his members' fine crafts. Under his direction Alberta has increased its international reputation with Alberta fine craft artists exhibiting at the Smithsonian and now in South Korea at the 2009 Cheongju International Craft Biennale in Cheongju.

Like his colleagues, Tom is passionate, savvy to the market he works in, and collaborative with other artists and arts organizations in Edmonton and in Alberta. That is the secret weapon, Mr. Speaker. Alberta artists work together to survive in what can be a hostile environment. Tom has also volunteered his time with various art advocacy efforts and continues to provide leadership when asked.

I urge my colleagues to support these people and their organizations directly. Consider buying theatre tickets for volunteer recognition. Use the Craft Council items for silent auction contributions. Advertise in a festival brochure.

My admiration and respect to all of you, my administrative colleagues, and especially to you, Tom. It's very impressive. I know your staff and your family are very, very proud of your work. We are all grateful for what you all have brought to Edmonton and to Alberta.

Thank you so much.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Lougheed.

#### Chronic Pain

**Mr. Rodney:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to share information about National Pain Awareness Week, which is recognized during every first week of November. The goal of the campaign is to increase awareness of the debilitating effects of chronic pain and promote the need for more research into effective treatment for chronic pain.

National Pain Awareness Week was created by the Canadian Pain Coalition, a patient-led organization which includes clinicians, researchers, and educators. Six million Canadians suffer from chronic pain, which interferes with quality of life and productivity and which places huge demands and costs on our health care system.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure many of us here today have a personal experience in this regard. People in pain miss work. They spend time in the hospital, and they visit their doctor often.

According to the Pain Coalition in Canada there's a large gap between what is known and what is practised in the treatment of

pain. Activities and events during National Pain Awareness Week aim to make the public and health care professionals aware of the need for greater knowledge of the causes and treatments of chronic pain, including a number of methods that cost nothing extra: prevention, good nutrition, and a regular exercise regime.

In Alberta we have a number of excellent centres and clinics that provide pain assessment and management for a wide range of health conditions. Additionally, the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research supports numerous research studies that investigate how pain can be better treated and controlled, but the truth is that every Albertan needs to become more informed about this significant health concern and actively seek new and better ways to avoid and conquer chronic pain.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

1:50

#### Oral Question Period

**The Speaker:** First Official Opposition main question. The hon. Leader of the Official Opposition.

#### Mental Health Innovation Fund

**Dr. Swann:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday the minister of health said that he did not cut the mental health innovation fund. However, the Health and Wellness annual report, which the minister signed off on, shows the fund was completely unspent last year. To the Premier. This fund was budgeted for but not spent. You say it was a reduction, but reducing spending by 100 per cent is a cut. How can the Premier deny this?

**Mr. Liepert:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I have had the opportunity to look into what the member raised yesterday, and there was a three-year commitment of funding of \$75 million to the mental health innovation fund, which was distributed at previous regional health authorities and now to Alberta Health Services. It went for some 36 projects. However, all \$75 million was not allocated. There simply was a surplus of some \$25 million, and that's going to be flowed as we move forward into the next budget year. So for the hon. leader to say that when you have a surplus, that's a cut, I mean, that math just doesn't make any sense at all.

**The Speaker:** The hon. leader.

**Dr. Swann:** Well, thanks, Mr. Speaker. If the Premier is concerned about the state of mental health treatment in Alberta and getting people out of hospital, into community, this is a fund that would help that. Can the Premier explain why this money specifically budgeted to improve mental health was not spent?

**Mr. Stelmach:** As the minister indicated, there was \$75 million available. It was available to those authorities that presented good, worthwhile projects, and the money that was expended was expended on those projects. There's \$25 million that's in surplus. It may be used for other worthwhile projects that may come forward, but as the minister said, the money will flow forward.

**Dr. Swann:** Well, again, Mr. Speaker, the mental health innovation fund was not spent, and it's not budgeted for in '09-10. Could the Premier explain why the program has now been permanently cut?

**Mr. Liepert:** Mr. Speaker, it hasn't been permanently cut. What I said earlier was that we have extended the \$25 million into the next budget year. In addition, we've committed, through our children's

mental health strategy, three-year funding of \$50 million. I will repeat what I said yesterday. Going forward, we are allocating additional dollars to mental health in this province, not less.

**The Speaker:** Second Official Opposition main question. The hon. Leader of the Official Opposition.

### Provincial Budget

**Dr. Swann:** Thanks, Mr. Speaker. Today's quarter update proves this government has taken no action to stop the fiscal swings our province is plagued with. We have a \$4.3 billion structural deficit, and the government is just sitting on its hands hoping things will get better. The only action taken was to cut core public services without providing any details as to the impact these cuts will have on Albertans. To the Premier: outside of relying on natural gas prices to increase, how is the government going to remove the structural deficit he got us into?

**Mr. Stelmach:** Mr. Speaker, the issues we're facing as the province of Alberta are external factors created by a world economic recession that, again, was placed upon our shoulders by some of the irregular banking regulations across the country. We have done a very good job in preparing for this by setting aside \$17 billion in the surplus gas fund. We call it the sustainability fund. We will use that fund to cover three-quarters of the anticipated deficit over this year and next year, and the other quarter will come from trimming our spending.

**Dr. Swann:** We now know that millions and millions of dollars will be cut from education, health care, and children's services, but we don't know how. Why is this government so secretive about where they're finding these cuts?

**Mr. Snelgrove:** Mr. Speaker, we took a very progressive step forward when we decided that it was probably more prudent to take some thoughtful reflection and look very carefully into government and see what we can do better. It's absolutely a tribute to the public service and to our administrative directors that we've been able to remove nearly a billion dollars out of government spending, and they don't even know where it happened.

**Dr. Swann:** Well, Mr. Speaker, when faced with a need for fiscal constraint, why did this government choose the core public services of health and education as the biggest places to cut rather than reducing the bloated size of this cabinet?

**Mr. Liepert:** Mr. Speaker, it would take a Liberal to think we could cut \$180 million out of the cabinet.

Let me deal with the health issue because that's the largest percentage of dollars. You know, we have a \$12.8 billion operating budget in health care, Mr. Speaker, and if you take 1 and a half per cent variance, that's \$120 million. This particular department is strictly run on demand: public demand, physicians' demand. We have to make some projections. What we've been able to find is less demand by physicians on the electronic medical records, less cost for prescription drugs because more generics are coming on stream. I guess I would ask the Leader of the Opposition: does he not want us to show those savings to Albertans?

**The Speaker:** Third Official Opposition main question. The hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar.

**Mr. MacDonald:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask my questions to the Premier, not the minister of health, who can't budget to save his life. To the Premier: why is this government cutting \$80 million from public education when it continues to support horse racing and ineligible farm fuels to the tune of \$65 million?

**Mr. Stelmach:** Mr. Speaker, with respect to education the minister has had a good dialogue with school boards. The school boards are sitting at about 400 and some million dollars' worth of surplus. He's asked school boards to dip into those surpluses starting this year to take any reductions or any kind of cutbacks out of the classroom. He's been able to do that, and school boards are co-operating. That just shows that the government has a good working relationship with the school boards and is leading in this plan.

**Mr. MacDonald:** I don't believe that because I saw evidence of the working relationship between the school boards and the Minister of Education the other morning at breakfast.

Again to the Premier: why is the government cutting \$188 million out of the health budget when you could shrink the size of cabinet by four and save \$54 million and leave the public health care budget alone?

**Mr. Stelmach:** I know that we're nearing the last few hours of this session. But, boy, if you took \$54 million for four ministers and you divided that by 23, then multiplied it again by the \$54 million, that is – I don't know where they're getting these figures.

Once again yesterday just all kinds of misinformation and, you know, blue skying everything. Again, the same evidence here. We know that we have to find \$2 billion in our budget. We will do that. I said yesterday that we were going to do that while protecting the core services of this government. We're getting a good buy-in from municipalities, from school boards, from the Alberta Medical Association, everyone. They're all working together as Albertans to make sure that at the end of two years we're back in the black and we're putting money back into the sustainability fund.

**Mr. MacDonald:** Again, Mr. Speaker, to the Premier. The Premier knows he has no intent of protecting public services. Why is this government spending millions of dollars on marketing firms, branding campaigns, and the Public Affairs Bureau while it's cutting the budget of public health care, public education, and children's services?

**Mr. Stelmach:** Mr. Speaker, our exports value at about \$100 billion. We have to be very diligent to ensure that we have the correct factual information out in all our markets, whether it be on what we're doing on air emissions, climate change, water strategy, just ensuring that the markets that we export to don't close the doors because of continued misinformation, most of that misinformation, quite frankly, coming from the party opposite.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood, followed by the hon. Member for Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo.

2:00

### Support for Alberta Families

**Mr. Mason:** Thanks very much, Mr. Speaker. This government has failed Alberta families. The rollout of the H1N1 vaccine was a failure of leadership that ignored high-risk populations and became a national embarrassment. Health care faces cuts and chaos while

energy companies receive billion-dollar subsidies for enhanced oil recovery. Why is the Premier forcing struggling Alberta families to pay the price of this government's bungling, its secrecy, and its misplaced priorities?

**Mr. Stelmach:** Mr. Speaker, that's the difference with a government that looks forward to the future and actually puts some common sense into where we spend our money. The \$2 billion that we have set aside for carbon capture and storage will in the end reduce the cost of coal-fired electricity because we will reduce the amount of carbon that will be put into the air. Secondly, the other project that was just announced the other day: we will use carbon dioxide to go back to the established oil fields and get more of the resource that's in the ground, and we'll do that without building any more roads, destroying any more trees, or drilling any more wells. There's about 60 per cent, at least, of the resource in the ground, and we're going to use carbon to extract it. Then, in fact, we'll get much more than the \$2 billion in royalties.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Mason:** Thanks very much, Mr. Speaker. The Premier's failure to protect public health care is undeniable, and what's worse is that it's deliberate. Operating under a veil of secrecy, this government has an agenda to privatize health care, which is causing increased hospital wait times, worse care for seniors, and bed closures. The Premier has failed Albertans, and he's taking the province in the wrong direction. To the Premier. Why won't you admit your secret? Families get less while your corporate sponsors of this Progressive Conservative government get more.

**Mr. Stelmach:** Looks like even the leader is getting tired.

Mr. Speaker, we have, I believe, found good balance in our budgeting process given the fact that we are facing a significant drop in the price of natural gas. For natural gas every dollar change in gigajoule of one unit is about a loss of \$1.1 billion to our budget. The other is that for every penny increase in the Canadian dollar compared to the American dollar annualized we lose about \$221 million. Those are the kind of balls in the air that we're balancing to make sure that we have the correct projections, protect our programs, yet at the end of two years ensure that we have money to put back into the sustainability fund to protect us for another recession or economic downturn that may come for the next generation.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Mason:** Thanks very much, Mr. Speaker. This Premier insists on putting his corporate friends ahead of ordinary Albertans. Every month Alberta families will look at their electricity bill and be reminded that this government is picking their pockets to benefit power companies. In the meantime, services are being cut across the board. When will the Premier admit that he's failing Alberta families by forcing them to pay more for less?

**Mr. Stelmach:** Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I guess, the hon. member doesn't get a chance to look at his bill, but he'll find that the price of electricity actually has dropped. That's a plus. We have the most generation increase here in Alberta compared to other provinces, oh, and, by the way, the most green energy generated per capita, no matter how you measure it, right here in the province of Alberta, which really is known for its energy on the hydrocarbon side. We've done a tremendous job leading the nation in terms of generation and also keeping the costs low.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo, followed by the hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre.

#### Funding for Fort McMurray Area

**Mr. Boutillier:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Last week in this House the minister of the Treasury Board – I don't call him president because it sounds too expensive – the word that he said was that he may consider cutting funding to Fort McMurray, the goose that's laying the golden egg. I know he didn't really mean that because he understands the value. My question to him from the folks in the coffee shop is this: have you decided to give more money to the Minister of Transportation? We actually see work being done on highway 63 that we hadn't seen all summer long. Have you given him some more money?

**Mr. Snelgrove:** Magically – magically – there is a very comprehensive plan, Mr. Speaker, that deals with the infrastructure rollout all across Alberta. You know, one of the things that happens in many different provinces is that you may have areas of high economic activity, but it's localized. In Alberta we've got growth that covers the province. Naturally, a great deal of it stems from Fort McMurray. We've allowed the Minister of Transportation – we've encouraged it. He's the one lobbying for it. We have been building infrastructure in Fort McMurray at a terrific pace, and we'll continue to do so.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Boutillier:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. While driving back to my constituency last weekend, around the Wandering River area I saw about 30 to 40 kilometres of clear-cutting that's going on, which is evidence of work that citizens that I speak to in the coffee shop can see. To the Minister of Transportation: I'd like to know what the plan is relative to the dollars that are being spent on highway 63, such an important corridor to the oil sands development in transporting goods and also to citizens.

**Mr. Ouellette:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I've got to give this hon. member kudos. He's always out there fighting for his constituents. He's sometimes not sure what they want, but he's always out there fighting for them anyway.

I will say that the President of the Treasury Board actually doesn't give anybody anything. He's a real – I don't know what you would call the President of the Treasury Board. He likes to make sure he gets things done right, but sometimes you have to talk about people being a little tight, you know? Anyway, I will say to the hon. member that we're working very, very hard on the highway to Fort McMurray. We are doing about 35 kilometres of brushing there right now. The second phase on our two interchanges up there is just getting under way. Our five-lane bridge is coming along very strong. We're doing a lot of work in that hon. member's constituency.

**Mr. Boutillier:** The first part of the response, I think, was bordering on the G-word, gibberish. The second part of the answer was pretty good. That is comforting to know.

My question is again to the Minister of Transportation. I know the Treasury Board is recognizing the golden goose. We want to continue to feed the golden goose that generates revenues. I have to ask you: do you support the golden goose being fed relative to highway 63, and in fact what can you do to enhance the funding to help the oil sands in the future in terms of growing the business to ultimately generate more revenue for all Albertans, including Fort McMurray?

**Mr. Ouellette:** Mr. Speaker, I don't really call it the golden goose. I actually honestly believe that we have to look after all Albertans. I do believe that Fort McMurray is a huge opportunity for this province. I think we do everything in our power to keep all the people that work up there safe. We want to generate as much economic development as we can for them, but in the meantime, we're going to keep up with the infrastructure that's needed for those people to have a good quality of life.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, followed by the hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie.

### Climate Change

**Ms Blakeman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. People want this government to be strong on the environment, to be a leader, to protect us, and to do something concrete on climate change. What citizens see is a lot of talk, lots of pretty pictures, and very little action. To the Minister of Environment: will the Premier go to Copenhagen and show leadership and not just protectionism for business as usual, like Alberta's coal-fired power plants?

**Mr. Renner:** Well, Mr. Speaker, it's good timing that the member should ask this question. I just returned as little as half an hour ago from Ottawa, where provincial environment ministers met with the federal minister, and we talked about just that issue: what is Canada's position going to be in Copenhagen? I don't have a lot of time to go through a large position in 35 seconds, but if she will ask some supplementary questions, I'll be more than happy to provide a little bit more information.

**Ms Blakeman:** Well, I hope it's about action, not just talk.

Back to the same minister: given that Alberta has excelled at doing as little as possible and the U.S. target is much tougher, is Alberta prepared to leap from doing as little as possible to the U.S.'s more demanding standards?

**Mr. Renner:** Well, Mr. Speaker, Alberta has indicated that we support the position that has been adopted by Canada, and that position is that there would be a 20 per cent reduction. The United States just came out yesterday and announced that they would be aiming towards a 17 per cent reduction by 2020. There's a one-year difference in the base year between the two. You do the math, and it works out to about the same thing. Alberta is prepared and is committed, and in fact Albertans expect the government of Alberta to meet that commitment.

2:10

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Ms Blakeman:** Thank you. Back to the same minister. Well, given that this government would have Alberta's emissions continue to increase until 2020, how will the minister ensure that Alberta meets its part of the federal target of a 20 per cent reduction below 2006 levels by 2020?

**Mr. Renner:** Mr. Speaker, part of the plan – and the member knows very well – is the application of technology. That technology takes some time. Technology such as carbon capture and storage, technology such as transformational technology that greens energy production takes some time. The fact of the matter is that this world, this Earth, is going to be dependent to some extent on hydrocarbons for the next 15 to 20 and perhaps even 30 years. What we need to

do in Alberta is ensure that we have the same degree of effort, the same commitment to CO<sub>2</sub> reduction that the rest of the world is taking.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, followed by the hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity.

### H1N1 Influenza Immunization Program

**Mr. Bhardwaj:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recently Canada's top doctor bluntly stated her frustration with the nasty politicking that has erupted around the H1N1 response. Yesterday, Anne Doig stated that both doctors and patients are frustrated that politicians waged a war of words alleging mismanagement of the nation's response to H1N1. My questions are to the Minister of Health and Wellness. Mr. Minister, you have been quoted saying Alberta's vaccination program has been a success. On what basis are you making these assertions?

**Mr. Liepert:** Well, Mr. Speaker, the member's preamble refers to something I'm going to table later in the House, five copies. Yes. It is some comments made by the head of the Canadian Medical Association, and I'm going to table them for the purposes of the Leader of the Opposition, who reminds us constantly that he is a physician, so that and he can see what the head of the Canadian Medical Association thinks about some of his antics over the last few weeks.

What has been a success, Mr. Speaker, is that as of the end of day yesterday some 800,000 Albertans have been vaccinated with the H1N1 vaccine. That's roughly 24 per cent of our population. I want to take this opportunity as this Legislature winds down to encourage all members, all Albertans to continue to go and receive their vaccinations. I'm going to go on Saturday to get mine, and I hope that everyone in this Assembly by the end of this weekend is vaccinated.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Bhardwaj:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. My only supplemental is to the same minister. H1N1 has dominated the news. My constituents from Edmonton-Ellerslie, especially those with a chronic illness, are asking how they will be able to receive the seasonal flu vaccine with such a great focus on the H1N1 program.

**Mr. Liepert:** Well, the member is absolutely correct that during the rollout of the H1N1 vaccine program we had to temporarily suspend the seasonal flu vaccination. But I am pleased to say that starting on Monday, Mr. Speaker, at all the mass immunization clinics you can receive both your H1N1 and your seasonal flu vaccine. In addition to that, we are now in the process of getting our H1N1 vaccine out to physicians and pharmacists, those that want to administer the vaccine. At the same time, you can go to those particular physicians and pharmacists, and you'll also be able to receive your seasonal flu vaccine.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, followed by the hon. Member for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills.

### Postsecondary Education Costs

**Mr. Chase:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the session concluding, the minister of advanced education has one final chance to provide clarity and comfort to postsecondary students concerned about the

affordability of their education, which would also provide a sense of job security for support staff and for untenured professors. If the minister of advanced education is going to entertain sizable increases to tuition, will he also revisit lifetime student loan limits to ensure that graduate students do not find themselves unable to borrow to finance their education?

**Mr. Horner:** Mr. Speaker, all things are being reviewed, and we will be reviewing lifetime loan limits. They are also a cost pressure that we have in our department, and I would reiterate again as I'm sure the hon. member will be going back to the headlines to do his research: there are no proposals in my department at present for any increases above the CPI maximum for tuition.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Chase:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The beauty of *Hansard* is that we have a historical record, so when I ask the minister in the spring why he didn't follow through with his review, it'll be there on record. Will the minister admit that a provincial arts and culture endowment, as we have urged for some time, would have helped to cushion vulnerable graduate students in the social sciences and the humanities from the worst of the downturn?

**Mr. Horner:** Well, Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, our comprehensive research institutions are struggling with the endowments that they have, that they've become somewhat dependent on in some areas. Certainly, we're reviewing all of the funding mechanisms that we have for our postsecondaries. In fact, we've been working with our postsecondary partners over the last 12 to 15 months on the potential of a new funding framework that we might be able to use that would help all faculties. We intend that in the new year we're going to be looking at that as potentially being brought forward as part of our budget process. The hon. member will have ample time to debate my budget here in this House in the spring.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Chase:** Thank you. Yes, postsecondary institutions are struggling with the recession's effect on endowment funds, but the logic that they would have suffered even greater losses had their endowments been higher is a little bit abstract. Instead of giving institutions arbitrary one-off exemptions to raise tuition above provincial caps, why doesn't the minister simply return the setting of tuition rates to the provincial Legislature, where they were, rightfully, before they became the sole discretion of the minister under Bill 40?

**Mr. Horner:** Well, Mr. Speaker, we have something in the thousands of different programs that are offered throughout the 26 postsecondary institutions in the province. We have thousands of various different tuition levels. I don't believe that anyone has ever brought forward into this House a list of all of the tuitions and then asked this House to debate whether or not those tuitions are higher or lower or correct. I believe that the process that we have in place with the CPI cap is a very valid process. It's one that protects students from across-the-board increases higher than what the consumer price index is and will continue to do so.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills, followed by the hon. Member for Lethbridge-East.

### Big Prairie Road Bridge

**Mr. Marz:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. This past month a bridge on the Big Prairie Road over the Little Red Deer River was totally destroyed by fire set by vandals. The cost of the removal of the rubble is over \$70,000 alone, which I understand has been made available to the county of Mountain View by the Minister of Transportation, and I appreciate that. The people are concerned that the creosote-treated lumber that's now in the river – and the river is freezing up – has not yet been cleaned up. To the Minister of Transportation: when can the community expect this cleanup and removal to be completed?

**Mr. Ouellette:** Well, Mr. Speaker, first of all, I'd like to tell the hon. member that I am aware of this unfortunate incident. My department has been working with the county, providing advice on how to deal with the removal of the truss and burned material from the waterway. We have provided \$84,000 through the local bridge program. I understand that the county has received quotes for the project, and I'm sure the work is going to begin, if it hasn't already, very shortly.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Marz:** Thanks for that, Mr. Speaker. I understand that the replacement costs are well over \$2 million for a new bridge. Could the minister explain whose responsibility it is to replace this bridge?

**Mr. Ouellette:** Well, Mr. Speaker, this bridge is a local bridge, so the county would be responsible for its replacement. That said, the county can apply for provincial funding under the local bridge program, but I have to tell you that the program has been fully committed for the '09-10 year. We have also asked the county to provide information on other crossings in the area to evaluate priorities that could assist with future funding decisions.

**Mr. Marz:** Again, thanks for that to the Minister of Transportation. But, you know, the constituents regularly use this bridge for daily trips to work, moving agricultural equipment, also for emergency services. They're very concerned about the reliability of detours because of the constant flooding of the river. Is there any other assistance aside from what the minister already stated, such as an emergent fund that maybe could be accessed for this type of structure?

2:20

**Mr. Ouellette:** Mr. Speaker, we would review any funding request based on priorities and available budget. The county can also use some of the provincial grant funding that is available to municipalities. As you know, Mr. Speaker, we give hundreds of millions of dollars to municipalities every year to try to help with their infrastructure. They could use the rural transportation grant money, the AMIP money, the MSI money, the new deals for cities and communities. There are a bunch of different grants that I'm sure would be eligible in order to do that project.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Lethbridge-East, followed by the hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona.

### Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped

**Ms Pastoor:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The '08-09 annual report for Seniors and Community Supports showed that \$42 million was unspent in AISH supports last year. This is money that was debated

in budget and was meant to support Alberta's most vulnerable people. To the Minister of Seniors and Community Supports: what is the minister's reason for such a large amount from AISH supports not going to those who need it most and whose workers are quitting because of lack of funding?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Mrs. Jablonski:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As anybody knows if you've ever been involved in the budget process, you have to do projections for the year ahead. One of our projections included an increase in the caseload for AISH clients and an increase in the caseload of seniors who might be going into assisted living facilities because we have a supplementary accommodation benefit for them. In that year the uptake that we expected didn't happen, and that's why we had that extra money in the budget that she saw in the report that she received the other day.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Ms Pastoor:** Yes. Perhaps part of the uptake was because some of the rules had been changed, and it's more difficult to get into these programs.

Can the minister explain what happened to the \$42 million from AISH and the \$54 million from income support for seniors that went unspent last year? Is this money still on your books, or has it gone back to general revenue?

**Mrs. Jablonski:** Mr. Speaker, I'd like to remind everybody that in last year's budget, announced for April 1, we gave an increase of \$100 in the AISH allowance for each of our 40,000 AISH members. That would be \$1,188 per month.

Getting back to the question that I was just asked, what we did was reallocate the money within the budget. We used some of that money for lodge modernization improvement. We have lots of lodges throughout this province that need some modernization. We've put money towards that, and we've put money towards more capital projects for assisted living for our seniors.

**Ms Pastoor:** Thank you to the minister for that. I actually have two questions, so now I'm in a quandary. I'm going to go to my true, standard question that I ask every six months. Why will the minister not commit to indexing AISH supports in the same way that MLA salaries are?

**Mrs. Jablonski:** Mr. Speaker, we all know that projecting our budgets is a very difficult exercise. Projecting the future is a very difficult exercise. I want to make sure that the programs that we have for our most vulnerable people in this province are sustainable into the future. I think the way that we conduct our AISH program, which is a review every two years and this year an increase of a hundred dollars per month, an increase probably never seen before, are the reasons why I want to be able to maintain the flexibility of having that review every two years and giving more than a cost-of-living increase when necessary.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona, followed by the hon. Member for West Yellowhead.

#### Support for Children in Care

**Ms Notley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In response to the most recently released quarterly report, the Ministry of Children and

Youth Services admits that there were 37 incidents of abuse to 58 children in the minister's care between January and March alone. The majority of these involved some form of abuse at the hands of foster parents. Now, the minister has known for years that they don't have enough foster parents or adequate resources but this year could only point to a net increase of 37 foster parents. Since the minister so clearly has so much more work to do to protect our children, on what planet could she have concluded that her ministry could afford to hand over \$16 million to the Provincial Treasurer?

**Ms Tarchuk:** Mr. Speaker, they're correct in that we had \$16 million. I'm pleased to say those savings are being made without impacting any children or families in this province. About \$5 million of that will be savings through the hiring freeze. Again, those positions have nothing to do with front-line workers, which is great. The rest of the savings are all discretionary funding. So I can assure this member that it is not going to impact families and children in this province.

**Ms Notley:** Well, Mr. Speaker, no impact means no improvement.

Now, in his annual report the advocate expressed considerable concern about how kinship care is failing Alberta's children. Since he works directly for the minister, his criticisms have to be tempered. So when he expresses concern, we know it's an issue screaming for attention. The report suggests that funding, support, and placement of kids in inappropriate situations are areas of current ministry neglect. Clearly, the minister has more work to do. Clearly, you couldn't afford to lose that money. How can you justify reducing your budget by one single cent?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Ms Tarchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are so many things that I could address there. First of all, I know that the advocate is very supportive of our kinship program. As far as improvements, what we're all about is continuous improvement. I've said before that this is a very immense system. It is a high-risk business. What's really important and what I do not support is undervaluing or discrediting our staff. What I do focus on is minimizing risks, which is very important, and maximizing our strengths. How we do that is through our commitment to continuous improvement.

**Ms Notley:** Well, Mr. Speaker, there are chronic problems, and there is no evidence of improvement. Now, this government is fond of comparing our current deficit and money management issues to a family budget, but every responsible parent knows that you don't increase your mortgage payments if it means that you're not going to be able to feed your kids. The minister is the de facto parent for roughly 9,000 of Alberta's children, but she's not acting responsibly. Why isn't the minister advocating for enough money to address the long-standing failures of her ministry rather than writing a cheque to the minister of finance for funds she can't afford to lose?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Ms Tarchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think we are acting responsibly. Again, when we talk about improvement, I mean, we've done nothing this year but demonstrate over and over the commitment to improvement. That was through the foster care review, through the work that's being done through the kinship review, the advocacy review, and it's not just reviewing the system; we actually have been acting on all recommendations that are coming forward. I would suggest to this member – I know that she's

well aware, and I've mentioned it to the House before – that right now under way we have a child intervention panel that's taking a look at our entire system to really check out whether we have the capacity to deal with all kinds of social issues that are emerging. I would suggest that there is a call for public input. If anyone goes to our website, there is a discussion guide. We're seeking advice, and I would suggest that this member, if she's got any feedback to provide, goes ahead and does that. We'd welcome it.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for West Yellowhead, followed by the hon. Member for Calgary-McCall.

### Rocky Mountain World Heritage Sites

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Many of my constituents and, for that matter, constituents from Livingstone-Macleod to north of Peace River are concerned by media reports this week that more provincial parks may be included in a new Parks Canada submission to expand Canadian Rocky Mountain parks world heritage sites in Alberta. My questions are to the Minister of Tourism, Parks and Recreation. Could the minister please explain what is happening and how this report came about?

**Mrs. Ady:** Well, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is right. I've seen the media stories that have been arising from the national parks draft management plan document, which mentions a proposal to include provincial parks in the expanded world heritage sites. But in this province we are implementing the plan for parks, and we're using the government's land-use framework as the vehicle for how we decide these policies. We're not actively working on this. I have not allocated any budget to it. The hon. member is right: we would extensively be consulting with his constituents if this was in fact happening.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Campbell:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My final question is to the same minister. Does your department plan to move forward on the expansion of the Rocky Mountain sites under a UN designation, and if so, what limitation would it put on the province to manage its own provincial parks and wilderness areas?

**Mrs. Ady:** Well, Mr. Speaker, let me be clear first. We manage the provincial parks. Even if there was a world heritage designation put on it, we would still manage the provincial parks. But as to the UNESCO designation, it is a good thing. There are 15 in this country. We have five. We're really proud of that. It tells the whole world: we've got some special stuff here you want to come see. So it's not a bad thing. But let me reiterate to this member: we manage the provincial parks, and we will continue to.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for West Yellowhead.

The hon. Member for Calgary-McCall, followed by the hon. Member for Calgary-North Hill.

### Secondary Ticket Sales

**Mr. Kang:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the Grey Cup approaching, this government has chosen to leave ticket buyers totally unprotected from inflated ticket prices from secondary ticket sales. A Service Alberta spokesman has even admitted that Alberta has recently scrapped its only antiscalping law. To the Minister of Service Alberta: why won't the minister protect Grey Cup fans from being ripped off?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Mrs. Klimchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With respect to ticket reselling, that is indeed under the Fair Trading Act, and the Fair Trading Act does have protection under that act. I have to say that of the 140,000 calls we get to our consumer line, we've only had about 20 calls on ticket reselling. That's really important to note here. With respect to the Grey Cup event happening in Calgary, it's really important for consumers, if they are going to purchase a ticket, to know that it is a valid ticket and to do their homework.

2:30

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Kang:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The minister clearly doesn't understand the Fair Trading Act. As we have already argued on another issue, the Fair Trading Act only requires a corporation to disclose just how much they are charging consumers but doesn't protect against scalping practices. So to the minister again: given that Internet sales sites like Ticketmaster have nearly a monopoly on tickets for major venues, how can the minister say that people should simply choose not to buy tickets from Internet scalping sites? Won't the minister admit that the government has to take some action on this?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Mrs. Klimchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With regard to the issue of Ticketmaster right now, the federal Competition Bureau is looking at that very issue as we speak. With respect to the price of tickets, as Minister of Service Alberta it's not my job to tell Albertans what they should be paying for tickets, and that's what's really important here. The consumers have the power in their hands to buy valid tickets, and I would encourage them to purchase tickets from reputable sources.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Kang:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All that Ticketmaster has done is to change the way consumers are directed to secondary websites. That doesn't solve the problem. To the same minister again: given that the governments of Saskatchewan and Ontario have introduced legislation to crack down on secondary ticket sales, why is Alberta moving in the opposite direction by eliminating Internet scalping protection for consumers?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Mrs. Klimchuk:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am indeed aware of the new legislation that has been proposed in Saskatchewan. It's really important to note that here in Alberta with the whole ticket reselling business, there are new ways of approaching it, paperless tickets. There are a number of issues. With respect to protecting consumers, the regulations that Service Alberta has recently developed with respect to heat submetering, payday loans, and gift cards, those are the regulations that protect consumers and protect their pocketbooks.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-North Hill, followed by the hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity.

### Oil Sands Global Image

**Mr. Fawcett:** Thank you. Mr. Speaker, as the climate change fearmongering and rhetoric heats up leading up to the Copenhagen summit in a couple weeks, hilarity has ensued with an individual,

who shall remain unnamed, spreading convenient lies about Alberta's oil sands operations. Could the hon. Minister of Energy provide this Assembly and all Albertans assurances that these convenient lies are just that?

**Mr. Knight:** Mr. Speaker, the government of the province of Alberta works extremely hard developing policy and working with our industry partners to address the concerns around greenhouse gas emissions. We do have energy input reduction programs. I would suggest that perhaps some individuals may want to park their airplanes and look a little closer to home with respect to the greenhouse gas emission problem. Now, the Jacobs report will indicate that mined bitumen feedstock into U.S. refineries, in fact, is more CO<sub>2</sub> friendly than California thermal-assisted heavy production.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Fawcett:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My last question is to the hon. Minister of Energy as well. What is the minister doing to protect the ingenuity, risk, and hard work of Albertans in developing one of the world's most innovative energy and environmental operations from the convenient mistruths of someone who is only interested in self-promotion and turning a profit based on fear and misinformation?

**Mr. Knight:** Well, I think that now we have a situation here where the world – the world – is recognizing the work that the province of Alberta is doing under the leadership of this Premier with carbon capture and storage. It's stellar work moving ahead. It is an inconvenient truth that individuals have had periods of time – one I could think of, eight years – to ratify international treaties that would help to clean up issues that they have. He did nothing. He had his chance, and he did not lead. Mr. Speaker, this government will.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, followed by the hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake.

#### Contracted Children's Services Agencies

**Mr. Chase:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In responding to the hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona, the children's minister referenced an internal review that is being conducted. I hope that review will be tabled early in the next spring session and not sanitized like previous child advocate reports.

Social agencies now have a timeline placed on their funding to help children with a range of disorders from fetal alcohol syndrome to drug addiction and behavioural problems. To the minister: if the funding is limited by time rather than progress, how will these agencies be able to care for children without provincial funding once their time runs out?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Ms Tarchuk:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm actually not sure which review you were speaking to. If it was the child intervention panel review, we do expect a report in the spring and recommendations, and certainly that would be public.

I didn't quite catch the second question. Maybe you could forward me some more information on what you're speaking about with timelines.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Chase:** Thank you. The reason you didn't hear the second question was that your hon. members were shouting.

How can the minister be sure that funding based on unfeasible time limits will not negatively impact quality of care for these kids? Hopefully, the Member for Calgary-Egmont didn't prevent you from hearing that question.

**Ms Tarchuk:** Mr. Speaker, I assume the member – are you talking about contracted agencies? [interjection] No, I didn't understand the question.

Anyways, again, if you want to give me some details. I can tell you that our contracts with contracted agencies are focused on what's best for the child, and timelines do not enter that.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mr. Chase:** Thank you. Outcomes-based. Social workers, doctors, psychologists, and agency service providers working under the auspices of the ministry have no clearly established responsibilities. Without clear roles and responsibilities we have seen that kids fall through cracks that, Ms Minister, have now become crevasses. Why is the minister not clearly defining these roles for outcomes-based options?

**Ms Tarchuk:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that he identified what he is talking about with outcomes-based. I think what's really important to state here is that we are not moving forward on outcomes-based formulas without working with our contracted agencies. I said the other day that, you know, our agencies are fairly enthusiastic about that. They're passing on those opinions. We're finding that where outcomes-based exists elsewhere, they're seeing awfully good results. So I certainly would stand behind the movement of working with our contracted agencies to try to improve outcomes for kids.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake, followed by the hon. Member for Whitecourt-Ste. Anne.

#### Oil Sands Air Quality Monitoring

**Mrs. Leskiw:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Acid rain and its effect on our lands and waterways are serious concerns of my constituents and all Albertans. My question is to the Minister of Environment. Claims were made in the media this past summer that we have stopped testing for acid rain in the Fort McMurray region. How are my constituents who live in close proximity to industrial development like the Cold Lake oil sands and Fort McMurray oil sands being protected if the government is putting less of a priority on testing for acid rain?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Mr. Renner:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can assure this member and her constituents that testing, in fact, does remain a priority for this government. We do need to be vigilant. Acid deposition sampling has been in place in this province for in excess of 30 years. We have been reviewing that program, and we've determined that there are 12 areas in this province that have intensive emissions that warrant regular, ongoing monitoring. In other areas in the province probably intermittent monitoring is appropriate. I can assure the hon. member that the results of all of this monitoring are indicating that we do not have an issue. We do not have a problem with acid rain and acid deposition, and our job is to keep it that way.

**The Speaker:** The hon. member.

**Mrs. Leskiw:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My only supplementary is to the same minister. Factors contributing to acid rain such as industrial development are expected to increase in coming years. What is the government doing to ensure that our lands and water resources are protected in the future in areas like Fort McMurray and Cold Lake?

2:40

**Mr. Renner:** Well, Mr. Speaker, we take our responsibility extremely seriously. I mentioned that we have been testing for 30 years, and that testing has indicated that there is not a concern with acid deposition that would pose any risk to the environment. That being said, it's a known fact that there is expanding industrial development in this province, and it's absolutely essential that we be vigilant to ensure that this situation that currently exists continues to stay in place. I will assure the member that that will be the case.

**The Speaker:** Well, the time has expired. Hon. members, we have a very, very full Routine to get through before 3 o'clock. That was 90 questions and responses today. I'm not going to stop the Routine. We're going to continue to move very quickly.

### Members' Statements

*(continued)*

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Lesser Slave Lake.

#### Helping Our Students to Succeed Project

**Ms Calahasen:** Thank you. The helping our students to succeed, otherwise known as HOSTS, project operates in three High Prairie schools and serves grades 6 to 9 students and their families. Grades 6 to 9 is a crucial time in a child's life as they begin to develop physically, mentally, and emotionally. Unfortunately, it is estimated that 10 to 20 per cent of Canadian youth are affected by mental illness resulting from anxiety, depression, substance use disorders, and other mental health issues.

However, research shows that community-based mental health services such as the HOSTS project that support families and communities are part of prevention and early detection as well as part of the solution in avoiding the much greater downstream costs resulting from the prevalence of mental health illness in Canada. Consistent with the best practice literature regarding child and youth mental health services, the primary goal of the HOSTS project is to promote resiliency skills in students, skills which enable youth to bounce back from life's setbacks and challenges. Toward this goal, the HOSTS project provides one-on-one support for students at risk, develops and implements prevention and health promotion initiatives within the schools, and connects students and their families with community resources and services.

Over the past two and a half years the HOSTS team has built strong relationships within the High Prairie region and with the staff and students in their schools. These relationships have allowed HOSTS to play a vital front-line role in prevention and early detection of youth mental health issues in the High Prairie region. More so, the HOSTS project has come to serve a critical role in the lives of students who are at risk of falling through the cracks. The success of the HOSTS project in High Prairie has been facilitated by its foundation in community partnerships, which have allowed the development of a truly unique and dynamic team approach to mental health capacity building within the schools.

The team consists of a project co-ordinator; a youth success coach; an aboriginal mentorship coach; a health and wellness coach, who is contracted through Alberta Health Services; and an addictions counsellor, who is contracted through Alberta mental health and addictions services. This complement of roles has fostered a holistic approach to student mental health and well-being. As a result, the students and families of the High Prairie region are the lucky recipients.

Congratulations. You truly are making a difference.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford.

#### International Day of Persons with Disabilities

**Mr. Horne:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Next Thursday, December 3, marks the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Proclaimed by the United Nations in 1982, this day is dedicated to improving the understanding of disability issues and affirming our commitment to the rights of persons with disabilities. It is also a day set aside to celebrate the courage and achievements of our fellow Albertans who live with disabilities and in particular their many contributions to our economy, our culture, and an improved quality of life for all.

Around the province the International Day of Persons with Disabilities celebrations will feature presentations of the Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities awards of excellence. These awards honour and recognize Albertans with disabilities and those who support them in four categories: education, employment, community, and public awareness. Mr. Speaker, as a province we have a collective responsibility to ensure that people with disabilities receive the supports and services they need to participate to the fullest possible extent in community life. The focal point for much of this work in Alberta is the Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities.

I am very proud to serve with such a distinguished group of Albertans. Under the able leadership of Chair Marlin Styner of Red Deer, the council continues work in critical areas, including the expansion of sustainable employment opportunities for disabled persons and the development of standards for universal, barrier-free design. I look forward to providing further updates to the House on this work in the new year.

Mr. Speaker, as parliamentarians we have the opportunity and, I believe, the duty to support the work of the council and that of other community organizations working in this area. I invite all members to participate, if possible, in their local communities in events on December 3.

Thank you very much.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona.

#### Carbon Emissions Reduction

**Ms Notley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the world's leaders gather in Copenhagen to discuss a new climate protocol, this government continues to promote its laughable intensity emissions limits. Reductions based on intensity targets are insulting to the Copenhagen process and endorsed only by the remnants of the failed Bush administration. The government is always willing to capitulate to industry while the issue of climate change remains at the environmental forefront internationally.

There is a marked unwillingness and an inability to balance environmental needs with industry demands, and any attempts by this government in recent months to dispel this notion are merely window dressing. While the Premier ignores the threat of climate

change in the hope that it will just go away, our largest trading partners are moving to introduce absolute reductions of greenhouse gases, and it is likely that these plans will penalize imports from countries that refuse to acknowledge environmental realities and take meaningful steps to clean them up, countries like Canada, provinces like Alberta. This lack of leadership paves the way for the federal government to ignore the imminent need to act, and all of this leads to Alberta's and, indeed, Canada's embarrassment on the international stage.

We have a responsibility not only provincially but nationally and internationally to ensure that we are adhering to a meaningful emissions reductions scheme. Instead of concrete actions with viable solutions, this Premier prefers to waste taxpayers' money by committing a total of \$2 billion of provincial money to a carbon capture and storage project that is more focused on enhanced oil recovery than it is on environmental protection, that is still experimental, and that is yet another subsidy for very profitable oil and gas corporations. What this government needs to do is realign its priorities and come up with concrete, enforceable targets which will take into account the social and political and environmental issues at stake in the ongoing development of the tar sands.

The world will be watching us next week in Copenhagen and asking questions that this government won't be able to answer, primarily because our Premier can't be bothered to attend. The international community will be demanding that we act in an environmentally responsible and sustainable way. We all know we can. We need to. The cost of inaction is unacceptable.

### Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Lacombe-Ponoka as chair of the Standing Committee on Resources and Environment.

**Mr. Prins:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to table five copies of the report of the Standing Committee on Resources and Environment, which provides a summary of the public presentations received by the committee at its November 2 and November 4, 2009, meetings respecting various issues within the Resources and Environment Committee mandate.

Thank you.

### Presenting Petitions

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Montrose.

**Mr. Bhullar:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure today to rise and present a petition from the good people of Chateau Estates, whom I very happily represent. It states: "We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government to build a road to replace 84th Street that will connect Chateau Estates Park to 16th Avenue."

The second petition, Mr. Speaker, with 72 signatures representing residents of Calgary and area, states:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to:

- Grandfather the rights and status of all currently-practicing Registered Massage Therapists . . . in Alberta.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung.

**Mr. Xiao:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm presenting two petitions today. Actually, they are of the same nature. The first one, with

5,778 signatures, represents residents of Edmonton and area, and it states:

We the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta or its representatives, including Boards and Commissions, to locate double circuit 500kV transmission power lines 800 metres away from homes, schools, daycares, hospitals and [even] environmentally sensitive areas or locate them underground.

That's the first one.

The second one, with 1,088 signatures, represents the residents of Edmonton and area, and it states:

We the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta or its representatives, including Boards and Commissions, to locate double circuit high voltage transmission lines (550 KV) away from residential neighborhoods or locate them underground.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honour for me to represent the voice of my constituents. I will keep continuing to do so.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo.

**Mr. Boutilier:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the hon. Member for Calgary-Glenmore it's my pleasure today to table the member's petition – and I read – pertaining to:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government to redevelop Alberta Hospital [as has been mentioned in this House] as necessary in order to maintain all services, programs, and beds operating as of September 1, 2009.

I submit today over 5,000 signatures.

### 2:50 Tabling Returns and Reports

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Health and Wellness.

**Mr. Liepert:** Thanks, Mr. Speaker. I thought I'd help the opposition out a little bit since they do the bulk of their research through the local media. I would table five copies of a story that's in the media quoting Anne Doig, the president of the Canadian Medical Association, who is urging on behalf of doctors and patients politicians to quit waging a war of words alleging mismanagement of the nation's response to H1N1: "As a family physician whose primary focus is her patients, I say this partisan political posturing must stop."

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Calder in his position as deputy chair of the Heritage Savings Trust Fund Committee.

**Mr. Elniski:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to section 15(2) of the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund Act and as deputy chair of the Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund it is my pleasure to table the 2009-10 second-quarter update to the fund. Copies will be distributed to the members this afternoon.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Strathcona.

**Mr. Quest:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to table the appropriate number of copies of a petition with 674 names mainly from Strathcona county and the Edmonton area. It reads: "We, the undersigned, are opposed to the construction of a high voltage power line across or within sight of the Country Side Golf Course in Strathcona County."

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark.

**Dr. Sherman:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I'm tabling five copies of a petition with 120 signatures from students at NorQuest College asking for continued support of the Alberta Works learners' program and oversight of educational institutions who administer the Alberta Works learners' program. The petition states:

We the undersigned Residents of Alberta, Petition the Legislative Assembly to pass legislation that will increase the Alberta Works Learners fund and pass legislation that will make Educational Institutions Responsible for properly monitoring incoming and outgoing students based on their career goals.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar.

**Mr. MacDonald:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Speaking of mismanagement, I have a tabling today that summarizes the wasteful spending of this government. It totals \$577 million, including one item of \$1.7 million in lottery grants to golf courses based on a 10-year average. It's a summary of spending cuts that could be made without gutting public health care, public education, or children's services.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung.

**Mr. Xiao:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just right before we started this session, two little children came to my office to drop off the signatures they collected in my constituency. Their names are Jessie and Cassidy. They collected 102 signatures, and it states: "Bury powerlines, please." I'd like to table these signatures.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity.

**Mr. Chase:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I have four tablings today dealing with funding shortfalls. My first tabling is a budget submission from the Alberta Graduate Council. This report outlines the priorities of Alberta's graduate students such as continuing current scholarships, increasing base funding, maintaining tuition levels, supporting international students, and providing operating funding for research.

My second set of tablings includes five copies of the brochure entitled *Solutions: All That's Missing Is U*, from Homeless Awareness Week, which took place September 14 through 20 in Calgary, which illustrates that homelessness is still a growing problem, with the number of people needing a place to sleep in Calgary growing at a rate five times the rate of population growth this year.

Next, I have five copies of the list of 2009 FCSS-funded programs and services, all of which have worked tirelessly for years on making funding dollars stretch as far as they can and providing services that are obviously essential to society and which save untold dollars in government spending through their involvement in the not-for-profit sector.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I have the requisite number of copies of the 2008 report on Calgary's FCSS program and 2009 funding recommendations, which I received after having the pleasure of meeting with Alderman Connelly; Martin Hornstein, the executive director of the Learning Disabilities Association of Alberta, Calgary chapter; and Debra Hartley, social planner, family and community support services with the city, and which highlighted how FCSS-funded agencies are facing increasing demands for services without increased funding resources and focusing on how preventative

services save dollars over time and are one of the best investments government can make.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona.

**Ms Notley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Member for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood I'd like to table the appropriate number of copies of a petition which was circulated in the area of Norwood school in his riding. The petition reads:

We the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly of Alberta to urge the government to do more to protect our community schools in Edmonton's inner city. Our City Centre Education Project schools are an integral part of our communities and are essential to the revitalization of our neighborhoods. Don't close our schools.

The petition has approximately 1,300 signatures.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Whitecourt-St. Anne.

**Mr. VanderBurg:** Thanks, Mr. Speaker. I have five copies of a letter from Mr. Ron Stern, president and CEO of Alberta Newsprint Company. Thank you, sir.

**The Speaker:** The hon. President of the Treasury Board.

**Mr. Snelgrove:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I do, I just want to congratulate those that have sacrificed their facial hair for some money. I will say that in our caucus we raised a hundred dollars to shave the Minister of Municipal Affairs very quickly, and then we took a look and raised \$500 to not shave. So that's it.

On behalf of the minister of finance, Mr. Speaker, I wish to table the 2009-10 quarterly budget report for the second quarter. This quarterly report has already been provided to all MLAs. We have also made this report public as required by section 9 of the Government Accountability Act. Accordingly, I wish to table the required number of copies of the second-quarter fiscal update, 2009-10, which serves as our amended fiscal plan.

### Tablings to the Clerk

**The Clerk:** I wish to advise the House that the following documents were deposited with the office of the Clerk.

On behalf of the hon. Mr. Snelgrove, President of the Treasury Board, report of selected payments to the Members and former Members of the Legislative Assembly and persons directly associated with Members of the Legislative Assembly, year ended March 31, 2009.

On behalf of the hon. Mr. Liepert, Minister of Health and Wellness, pursuant to the Health Facilities Review Committee Act the Alberta Health Facilities Review Committee annual report 2008-2009. Pursuant to the Health Professions Act the Alberta College of Occupational Therapists annual report 2008-2009; the College of Alberta Dental Assistants annual report, June 1, 2008, to May 31, 2009; the College of Alberta Psychologists annual report 2008-2009, with attached financial statements; the College of Hearing Aid Practitioners of Alberta annual report 2008-2009; and the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Alberta annual report 2009.

### Projected Government Business

**Ms Blakeman:** Well, I'd be very interested to hear from the Government House Leader what projected government business he anticipates for next week. I'm assuming it's more along the lines of returning to our constituencies and going back to work there.

**Mr. Zwozdesky:** Mr. Speaker, in anticipation of the Assembly adjourning this afternoon right after completion of Royal Assent by His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, I am going to advise the House that there is no projected government business to report.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Deputy Speaker.

#### Page Recognition

**Mr. Cao:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker and all hon. members. Each day of the session we are served by the dedicated efforts of our pages. Daily they show patience and understanding of our many demands. On behalf of all members of this Assembly and as Deputy Speaker I would like to present each page a Christmas gift to say thank you and to wish a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our pages and their families. Now, I would like to ask the head page, Conor Smyth, to receive his gift and to distribute our gifts to other pages. I would ask all members to show our sincere appreciation for the pages. [Standing ovation]

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, Standing Order 7(7) now kicks in as the chair is to advise all members of the Assembly that we've arrived at 3 o'clock. If we want to continue the Routine, there have been several here asking for permission to revert to introductions. Is anybody opposed to waiving the Routine to deal with the introductions?

[Unanimous consent granted]

3:00

#### Introduction of Guests (continued)

**The Speaker:** Thank you very much. First of all, the hon. Minister of Energy, who should be smiling today because he is currently celebrating his 44th wedding anniversary with his very young bride.

**Mr. Knight:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Swan Hills, 44 years ago today. First church wedding in Swan Hills, and there was no church.

It gives me great pleasure and it's an honour for me to be able to rise to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly some of my department staff. They're in the members' gallery. As I read out their names I'd ask them to stand, please: Tim Grant, Rhonda Duncan, Ian McKay, Bevan Laing, Jason Adam, Murray Anderson, Susan Sangalla, Matthew Good, and Kristin Stolarz. They were instrumental, of course, in the work that's been done relative to the transmission system and the bill that we had recently before the House, and I would ask all members of the Assembly to give them a warm and generous welcome.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Peace River.

**Mr. Oberle:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour for me to rise today to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly our government members' caucus staff. This is a fantastic group of young professionals. I find it absolutely invigorating to work with them. This is me invigorated. From my own office we have Lisa Stachniak and Graeme Ireland. From the research and communications branch we have Jeri Romaniuk, Nickolas Bailey, Chad Barber, Ryan Barberio, Elizabeth Clement, Andre Despina, Kim Gaudet, Josh McGregor, Natalie Sigalet, Jonathan Koehli, Christine Myatt, Brock Harrison, Eldon McIlwain, and Patrick Naud. And we have legislative assistants Jan Aldous, Ryan Algar, Emily Anderson, Tracy Arnell, Courtney Banman, Lianne Bell, Colin

Connon, Lindsay Cooke, Tawny Elliott, Damon Enns, Ashley Geis, Sarah Desharnais, Kate Jenvey, Wendy King, Robyn Kowalski, Jonathan Huckabay, Hana Marinkovic, Brock Mulligan, Renee Reitsma, Marshall Thiessen, and Dianne Wills. I would like to ask that all members join me in thanking these dedicated individuals, and I ask that we give them the traditional warm welcome of the House.

#### Orders of the Day

#### Government Motions

#### Adjournment of Fall Session

23. Mr. Zwozdesky moved on behalf of Mr. Hancock:  
Be it resolved that pursuant to Standing Order 3(9) the Legislative Assembly stand adjourned on November 26, 2009, upon completion of Royal Assent by His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, that motion is neither debatable nor amendable, so I ask for your concurrence.

[Government Motion 23 carried]

#### Royal Assent

**Mr. Stelmach:** Mr. Speaker, His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor will now attend upon the Assembly.

[The Premier and the Sergeant-at-Arms left the Chamber to attend the Lieutenant Governor]

[The Mace was draped]

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, in the year 2009 we started sitting on February 10. Today is November 26, but to the end of sitting yesterday afternoon in 2009 we sat for 63 days, including 10 evening sittings. In 2008 we sat 56 days, which included 36 evening sittings. The number of minutes this year that we've sat is 17,342, compared to 18,665 in 2008. The number of hours we have sat in 2009 is 289 hours and two minutes, compared to 311 hours and five minutes in 2008. Interestingly enough, while we sat fewer hours, more words were spoken. This year in 2009 to 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon 2,317,404 words were spoken. Oh, sorry. That's incorrect. A few less than last year, which was 2,455,104.

The number of words spoken by members in standing committee meetings this year was 1,188,234, compared to 898,705 last year. The number of hours of committee meetings to date this year, in 2009, is 140 hours, 57 minutes not counting meetings held in camera, compared to 110 hours, 23 minutes for 2008. So there's a substantial increase.

In Oral Question Period we had 14 occasions this year in which 17 sets of questions and answers were asked, as compared to 2008, when there were 11. This year we had 11 opportunities when 18 sets of questions and answers were provided. Last year it was 24. This year we had one occasion on which 19 sets of questions and answers were provided. Last year we had two. Last year we had two occasions on which 21 sets of questions and answers were given as compared to this year. The total number of questions and answers as of yesterday was 6,080, an average of 96.51 per day. Last year there were fewer questions asked, 5,643, but they averaged 102.6 questions and answers per day.

Government bills that have received royal assent to now is 46, but in a few minutes from now there'll be 16 more added, so that makes

62. Last year it was 52. The number of government bills presumed to be left on the Order Paper this year is zero compared to one last year.

Private members' bills which received royal assent this year is two, the same as last year. We've now had 46 private members' bills passed since the changes were made.

In terms of sessional papers to noon of today it was 696, compared to 641 for 2008.

[The Sergeant-at-Arms knocked on the main doors of the Chamber three times. The Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms opened the doors, and the Sergeant-at-Arms entered]

**The Sergeant-at-Arms:** All rise, please. Mr. Speaker, His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor awaits.

**The Speaker:** Sergeant-at-Arms, admit His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor.

**The Sergeant-at-Arms:** Order!

[Preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Norman L. Kwong, CM, AOE, and the Premier entered the Chamber. His Honour took his place upon the throne] [applause]

**His Honour:** Standing ovation. What did I do? Thank you very much, hon. members. Please be seated.

3:10

**The Speaker:** May it please His Honour, the Legislative Assembly has at its present sitting passed certain bills to which and in the name of the Legislative Assembly I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

**The Clerk:** Your Honour, the following are the titles of the bills to which Your Honour's assent is prayed.

- 31 Rules of Court Statutes Amendment Act, 2009
- 46 Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Disclosure Act
- 48 Crown's Right of Recovery Act
- 49 Municipal Government Amendment Act, 2009 (No. 2)
- 50 Electric Statutes Amendment Act, 2009
- 51 Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2009
- 53 Professional Corporations Statutes Amendment Act, 2009
- 54 Personal Information Protection Amendment Act, 2009

- 55 Senatorial Selection Amendment Act, 2009
- 56 Alberta Investment Management Corporation Amendment Act, 2009
- 57 Court of Queen's Bench Amendment Act, 2009
- 58 Corrections Amendment Act, 2009
- 59 Mental Health Amendment Act, 2009
- 60 Health Professions Amendment Act, 2009
- 61 Provincial Offences Procedure Amendment Act, 2009
- 62 Emergency Health Services Amendment Act, 2009
- 205 Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure (Third Party Advertising) Amendment Act, 2009

[The Lieutenant Governor indicated his assent]

**The Clerk:** In Her Majesty's name His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to these bills.

**The Speaker:** Your Honour, on behalf of all Members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta may we wish you the very best of the festive season, the best of wishes to both yourself and Mrs. Kwong. Let there be peace, happiness, and good health in your family.

Thank you.

**His Honour:** Thank you very much.

**The Sergeant-at-Arms:** All rise, please.

[Preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Lieutenant Governor and the Premier left the Chamber] [applause]

[The Mace was uncovered]

**The Speaker:** Please be seated.

As we await the return of the Premier, may I extend to all of you the very, very best for the upcoming festive season. May there be peace in your family. May there be happiness in your family. May there be safety in your family.

**Mr. Zwodzesky:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to just make this motion formally again, that we conclude now and adjourn until an appointed time in the new year in accordance with the standing orders.

I, too, would like to wish everyone a very successful and happy and merry Christmas and festive season and thank them for their outstanding support in the House over the last couple of months.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 3:16 p.m. pursuant to Government Motion 23]



## **Bill Status Report for the 27th Legislature - 2nd Session (2009)**

**Activity to November 26, 2009**

The Bill sponsor's name is in brackets following the Bill title. If it is a money Bill, (\$) will appear between the title and the sponsor's name. Numbers following each Reading refer to Hansard pages where the text of debates is found; dates for each Reading are in brackets following the page numbers. Bills numbered 200 or higher are Private Members' Public Bills. Bills with lower numbers are Government Bills. Bills numbered Pr1, etc., are Private Bills.

\*An asterisk beside a Bill number indicates an amendment was passed to that Bill; the Committee line shows the precise date of the amendment.

The date a Bill comes into force is indicated in square brackets after the date of Royal Assent. If it comes into force "on proclamation," "with exceptions," or "on various dates," please contact Legislative Counsel for details at (780) 427-2217. The chapter number assigned to the Bill is entered immediately following the date the Bill comes into force. SA indicates Statutes of Alberta; this is followed by the year in which it is included in the statutes, and its chapter number. Please note, Private Bills are not assigned a chapter number until the conclusion of the fall sittings.

- 1      Employment Standards (Reservist Leave) Amendment Act, 2009 (Stelmach)**  
First Reading -- 6 (Feb. 10 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 90-93 (Feb. 17 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 503-4 (Mar. 19 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 583-84 (Apr. 8 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Apr. 20 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c4]
- 2      Lobbyists Amendment Act, 2009 (Redford)**  
First Reading -- 9 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 93-94 (Feb. 17 aft.), 121-23 (Feb. 18 aft.), 212-14 (Mar. 3 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 575-79 (Apr. 8 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 609 (Apr. 9 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Apr. 20 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c5]
- 3      Credit Union Amendment Act, 2009 (Berger)**  
First Reading -- 17 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 123-24 (Feb. 18 aft.), 202-03 (Mar. 3 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 579-80 (Apr. 8 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 609-10 (Apr. 9 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Apr. 20 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force April 1, 2009; SA 2009 c3]
- 4      Post-secondary Learning Amendment Act, 2009 (Bhullar)**  
First Reading -- 17 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 124 (Feb. 18 aft.), 353-56 (Mar. 11 aft.), 585-86 (Apr. 8 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 680-83 (Apr. 16 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 912-15 (Apr. 30 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (May 26 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force May 26, 2009; SA 2009 c11]
- 5      Marketing of Agricultural Products Amendment Act, 2009 (Griffiths)**  
First Reading -- 17 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 125 (Feb. 18 aft.), 214-15 (Mar. 3 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 506-07 (Mar. 19 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 585 (Apr. 8 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Apr. 20 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c6]
- 6      Protection of Children Abusing Drugs Amendment Act, 2009 (Forsyth)**  
First Reading -- 18 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 356-60 (Mar. 11 aft.), 586 (Apr. 8 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 633-38 (Apr. 14 aft.), 861-65 (Apr. 28 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 899-900 (Apr. 29 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (May 26 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c12]

- 7 Public Health Amendment Act, 2009 (Liepert)**  
First Reading -- 18 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 437-38 (Mar. 17 aft.), 439-40 (Mar. 17 aft.), 586-87 (Apr. 8 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 865-70 (Apr. 28 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 900 (Apr. 29 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (May 26 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c13]
- 8 Feeder Associations Guarantee Act (\$) (Groeneveld)**  
First Reading -- 18 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 203-08 (Mar. 3 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 580-83 (Apr. 8 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 610 (Apr. 9 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Apr. 20 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 cF-11.1]
- 9 Government Organization Amendment Act, 2009 (Campbell)**  
First Reading -- 18 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 360-61 (Mar. 11 aft.), 587-88 (Apr. 8 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 895-97 (Apr. 29 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 915-17 (Apr. 30 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (May 26 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force May 26, 2009; SA 2009 c9]
- 10 Supportive Living Accommodation Licensing Act (Dallas)**  
First Reading -- 18 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 361-62 (Mar. 11 aft.), 588 (Apr. 8 aft.), 889-91 (Apr. 29 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 920-21 (Apr. 30 aft.), 980-83 (May 5 aft.), 1118-20 (May 12 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1407-08 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 cS-23.5]
- 11 Fisheries (Alberta) Amendment Act, 2009 (VanderBurg)**  
First Reading -- 19 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 362-63 (Mar. 11 aft.), 891-92 (Apr. 29 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 983 (May 5 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1408-09 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009; SA 2009 c22]
- 12 Surface Rights Amendment Act, 2009 (Berger)**  
First Reading -- 19 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 383-85 (Mar. 12 aft.), 892-95 (Apr. 29 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1120-21 (May 12 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1409 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c31]
- 13 Justice of the Peace Amendment Act, 2009 (Redford)**  
First Reading -- 19 (Feb. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 385 (Mar. 12 aft.), 895 (Apr. 29 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1121-22 (May 12 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1409 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009; SA 2009 c27]
- 14 Carbon Capture and Storage Funding Act (\$) (Knight)**  
First Reading -- 138 (Feb. 19 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 208-10 (Mar. 3 aft.), 884-89 (Apr. 29 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 921-22 (Apr. 30 aft.), 1114-18 (May 12 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1409-11 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009; SA 2009 cC-2.5]
- 15 Dunvegan Hydro Development Act (Oberle)**  
First Reading -- 105-06 (Feb. 18 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 210-11 (Mar. 3 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 504-06 (Mar. 19 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 584-85 (Apr. 8 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Apr. 20 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force April 20, 2009; SA 2009 cD-18]

- 16 Peace Officer Amendment Act, 2009 (Lindsay)**  
First Reading -- 106 (Feb. 18 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 385-86 (Mar. 12 aft.), 919-20 (Apr. 30 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1122 (May 12 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1411 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force May 1, 2009; SA 2009 c30]
- 17 Securities Amendment Act, 2009 (Fawcett)**  
First Reading -- 106 (Feb. 18 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 386-87 (Mar. 12 aft.), 622-26 (Apr. 14 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 737 (Apr. 21 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 917-19 (Apr. 30 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (May 26 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force May 26, 2009; SA 2009 c14]
- 18\* Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement Implementation Statutes Amendment Act, 2009 (Stevens)**  
First Reading -- 161 (Mar. 2 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 211-12 (Mar. 3 aft.), 349-52 (Mar. 11 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 381-83 (Mar. 12 aft.), 446-54 (Mar. 17 aft., amendments agreed to), 472--81 (Mar. 18 aft.), 482-83 (Mar. 18 aft.), 574-75 (Apr. 8 aft., passed with amendments)  
Third Reading -- 604-09 (Apr. 9 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Apr. 20 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force April 20, 2009; SA 2009 c7]
- 19\* Land Assembly Project Area Act (Hayden)**  
First Reading -- 161 (Mar. 2 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 438-39 (Mar. 17 aft.), 626-33 (Apr. 14 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 683-90 (Apr. 16 aft.), 737-53 (Apr. 21 aft., amendments agreed to), 770-84 (Apr. 22 aft.), 797-806 (Apr. 23 aft.), 857-61 (Apr. 28 aft., passed with amendments)  
Third Reading -- 897-99 (Apr. 29 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (May 26 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 cL-2.5]
- 20 Civil Enforcement Amendment Act, 2009 (Denis)**  
First Reading -- 161 (Mar. 2 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 767 (Apr. 22 aft.), 1265 (May 26 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1329 (May 26 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1412 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c18]
- 21 Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2009 (\$) (Snelgrove)**  
First Reading -- 283 (Mar. 9 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 377-80 (Mar. 12 aft.), 386 (Mar. 12 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 440-43, 454 (Mar. 17 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 468-71 (Mar. 18 aft.), 481 (Mar. 18 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Mar. 23 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force March 23, 2009; SA 2009 c2]
- 22 Appropriation (Interim Supply) Act, 2009 (\$) (Snelgrove)**  
First Reading -- 344 (Mar. 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 380-81 (Mar. 12 aft.), 386 (Mar. 12 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 443-46, 454 (Mar. 17 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 471-72 (Mar. 18 aft.), 481-82 (Mar. 18 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Mar. 23 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force March 23, 2009; SA 2009 c1]
- 23\* Municipal Government Amendment Act, 2009 (Danyluk)**  
First Reading -- 401 (Mar. 16 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 735 (Apr. 21 aft.), 1195 (May 14 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1329-30 (May 26 eve., passed with amendments)  
Third Reading -- 1527-28 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force January 1, 2010; SA 2009 c29]
- 24 Animal Health Amendment Act, 2009 (Griffiths)**  
First Reading -- 303 (Mar. 10 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 735-36 (Apr. 21 aft.), 969-70 (May 5 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1246 (May 25 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1412 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c17]

- 25 Teachers' Pension Plans Amendment Act, 2009 (\$) (Evans)**  
First Reading -- 283 (Mar. 9 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 767 (Apr. 22 aft.), 970-72 (May 5 aft.), 1105-06 (May 12 eve., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1167-69 (May 13 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1447-49 (Jun. 1 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force September 1, 2009, with exceptions; SA 2009 c32]
- 26\* Wildlife Amendment Act, 2009 (Mitzel)**  
First Reading -- 303 (Mar. 10 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 736 (Apr. 21 aft.), 1265-68 (May 26 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1330-31 (May 26 eve., passed with amendments)  
Third Reading -- 1412-13 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009; SA 2009 c36]
- 27\* Alberta Research and Innovation Act (\$) (Horner)**  
First Reading -- 466 (Mar. 18 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 767-69 (Apr. 22 aft.), 1003-06 (May 6 aft.), 1094-98 (May 12 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1170-73 (May 13 eve.), 1229-40 (May 25 eve., passed with amendments)  
Third Reading -- 1507-10 (Jun. 2 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 cA-31.7]
- 28 Energy Statutes Amendment Act, 2009 (McFarland)**  
First Reading -- 467 (Mar. 18 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 769-70 (Apr. 22 aft.), 1006-07 (May 6 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1246-49 (May 25 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1413 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009, with exceptions; SA 2009 c20]
- 29 Family Law Amendment Act, 2009 (Denis)**  
First Reading -- 401 (Mar. 16 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 851-52 (Apr. 28 aft.), 1268-69 (May 26 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1358-60 (May 27 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1528 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009; SA 2009 c21]
- 30 Traffic Safety Amendment Act, 2009 (Drysdale)**  
First Reading -- 401 (Mar. 16 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 736-37 (Apr. 21 aft.), 1269-73 (May 26 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1360-63 (May 27 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1528-30 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009, with exceptions; SA 2009 c35]
- 31\* Rules of Court Statutes Amendment Act, 2009 (Denis)**  
First Reading -- 402 (Mar. 16 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 852-53 (Apr. 28 aft.), 1273-75 (May 26 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1711-13 (Nov. 3 aft., passed with amendments)  
Third Reading -- 1773-74 (Nov. 5 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c53]
- 32 Alberta Public Agencies Governance Act (Horne)**  
First Reading -- 467 (Mar. 18 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 853 (Apr. 28 aft.), 1275-80 (May 26 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1365 (May 27 eve.), 1449-55 (Jun. 1 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1524 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 cA-31.5]
- 33 Fiscal Responsibility Act (Evans)**  
First Reading -- 545 (Apr. 7 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 853-54 (Apr. 28 aft.), 972-79 (May 5 aft., passed on division)  
Committee of the Whole -- 998-1003 (May 6 aft.), 1109-14 (May 12 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1526-27 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force April 1, 2009; SA 2009 cF-15.1]

- 34 Drug Program Act (\$) (Liepert)**  
First Reading -- 882 (Apr. 29 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 979-80 (May 5 aft.), 1014-15 (May 6 aft.), 1194-95 (May 14 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1384-87 (May 27 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1524 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation, with exceptions; SA 2009 cD-17.5]
- 35 Gas Utilities Amendment Act, 2009 (McFarland)**  
First Reading -- 591 (Apr. 9 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 854 (Apr. 28 aft.), 1280-81 (May 26 aft.), 1344-45 (May 27 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1387 (May 27 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1524-25 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c24]
- 36\* Alberta Land Stewardship Act (\$) (Morton)**  
First Reading -- 818-19 (Apr. 27 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 882 (Apr. 29 aft.), 1134-40 (May 13 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1371-84 (May 27 eve., passed with amendments)  
Third Reading -- 1503-07 (Jun. 2 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 cA-26.8]
- 37 Alberta Corporate Tax Amendment Act, 2009 (\$) (Evans)**  
First Reading -- 701 (Apr. 20 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 854-55 (Apr. 28 aft.), 1106 (May 12 eve., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1187 (May 14 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1406 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009; SA 2009 c15]
- 38 Tourism Levy Amendment Act, 2009 (Evans)**  
First Reading -- 702 (Apr. 20 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 855 (Apr. 28 aft.), 1106 (May 12 eve., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1187-88 (May 14 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1406 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009; SA 2009 c34]
- 39 Tobacco Tax Amendment Act, 2009 (Evans)**  
First Reading -- 702 (Apr. 20 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 855-56 (Apr. 28 aft.), 1107-08 (May 12 eve., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1188-90 (May 14 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1406-07 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009, with exceptions; SA 2009 c33]
- 40 Alberta Personal Income Tax Amendment Act, 2009 (Brown)**  
First Reading -- 702 (Apr. 20 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 856 (Apr. 28 aft.), 1108 (May 12 eve., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1190 (May 14 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1407 (May 28 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009, with exceptions; SA 2009 c16]
- 41 Protection for Persons in Care Act (Brown)**  
First Reading -- 766 (Apr. 22 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 856 (Apr. 28 aft.), 1345-50 (May 27 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1387-90 (May 27 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1525-26 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 cP-29.1]
- 42 Gaming and Liquor Amendment Act, 2009 (Anderson)**  
First Reading -- 734 (Apr. 21 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 857 (Apr. 28 aft.), 1350-58 (May 27 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1455-60 (Jun. 1 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1525 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c23]

- 43 Marketing of Agricultural Products Amendment Act, 2009 (No. 2) (Griffiths)**  
First Reading -- 850 (Apr. 28 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 883 (Apr. 29 aft.), 1149-53 (May 13 aft.), 1155-61 (May 13 eve., passed on division)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1365-71 (May 27 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1497-99 (Jun. 2 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009; SA 2009 c28]
- 44\* Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Amendment Act, 2009 (Blackett)**  
First Reading -- 850 (Apr. 28 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 883-84 (Apr. 29 aft.), 1007-14 (May 6 aft.), 1036-38 (May 7 aft.), 1140-47 (May 13 aft.), 1161-66 (May 13 eve.), 1173-74 (May 13 eve., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1283-84, 1294-1329 (May 26 eve., passed with amendments)  
Third Reading -- 1460-80 (Jun. 1 eve., passed on division)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c26]
- 45 Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2009 (Redford)**  
First Reading -- 933-34 (May 4 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1098-1103 (May 12 aft.), 1147-49 (May 13 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1240-46 (May 25 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1510 (Jun. 2 aft.), 1523 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009; SA 2009 c19]
- 46 Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Disclosure Act (Quest)**  
First Reading -- 966 (May 5 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1706-07 (Nov. 3 aft.), 1708-10 (Nov. 3 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1716-17 (Nov. 3 aft.), 1772-73 (Nov. 5 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1852-54 (Nov. 17 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 cG-12]
- 47 Appropriation Act, 2009 (\$) (Snelgrove)**  
First Reading -- 1049 (May 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1085-94 (May 12 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1166-67 (May 13 eve.), 1169 (May 13 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1190-94 (May 14 aft.), 1195 (May 14 aft., passed on division)  
Royal Assent -- (May 26 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force May 26, 2009; SA 2009 c8]
- 48 Crown's Right of Recovery Act (Liepert)**  
First Reading -- 1049 (May 11 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1706 (Nov. 3 aft.), 1710-11 (Nov. 3 aft.), 1735-42 (Nov. 4 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1843-47 (Nov. 17 eve.), 1897-99 (Nov. 18 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1899-1900 (Nov. 18 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 cC-35]
- 49 Municipal Government Amendment Act, 2009 (No. 2) (Lukaszuk)**  
First Reading -- 1426 (Jun. 1 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1500-01 (Jun. 2 aft.), 1707-08 (Nov. 3 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1713-16 (Nov. 3 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1733-35 (Nov. 4 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force November 26, 2009; SA 2009 c49]
- 50\* Electric Statutes Amendment Act, 2009 (Knight)**  
First Reading -- 1426 (Jun. 1 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1501-02 (Jun. 2 aft.), 1816-36 (Nov. 17 aft.), 1866-86 (Nov. 18 aft.), 1887-96 (Nov. 18 eve., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1917 (Nov. 19 aft.), 1963-74 (Nov. 23 eve.), 2004-16 (Nov. 24 aft.), 2017-23, 2028-32 (Nov. 24 eve., passed with amendments)  
Third Reading -- 2050-62 (Nov. 25 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c44]
- 51 Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2009 (Redford)**  
First Reading -- 1700 (Nov. 3 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1770 (Nov. 5 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1847 (Nov. 17 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1900 (Nov. 18 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force November 26, 2009; SA 2009 c48]

- 52\* Health Information Amendment Act, 2009 (Rogers)**  
First Reading -- 436 (Mar. 17 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 436 (Mar. 17 aft., reinstated), 437 (Mar. 17 aft., referred to Standing Committee on Health), (May 25 aft., reported to Assembly)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1284-94 (May 26 eve., passed with amendments)  
Third Reading -- 1526 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c25]
- 53\* Professional Corporations Statutes Amendment Act, 2009 (Weadick)**  
First Reading -- 1546 (Oct. 26 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1742-46 (Nov. 4 aft.), 1837-40 (Nov. 17 eve., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1974-77 (Nov. 23 eve., passed with amendments)  
Third Reading -- 2023-24 (Nov. 24 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c51]
- 54 Personal Information Protection Amendment Act, 2009 (Denis)**  
First Reading -- 1569 (Oct. 27 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1746-51 (Nov. 4 aft.), 1770-71 (Nov. 5 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1847-51 (Nov. 17 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1901 (Nov. 18 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c50]
- 55 Senatorial Selection Amendment Act, 2009 (Webber)**  
First Reading -- 1546 (Oct. 26 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1751 (Nov. 4 aft.), 1765-70 (Nov. 5 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1851-52 (Nov. 17 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1901-02 (Nov. 18 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force November 26, 2009; SA 2009 c54]
- 56 Alberta Investment Management Corporation Amendment Act, 2009 (Evans)**  
First Reading -- 1633 (Oct. 29 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1703 (Nov. 3 aft.), 1771-72 (Nov. 5 aft.), 1840-42 (Nov. 17 eve., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1918-22 (Nov. 19 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1984 (Nov. 23 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force November 26, 2009; SA 2009 c40]
- 57 Court of Queen's Bench Amendment Act, 2009 (Weadick)**  
First Reading -- 1633 (Oct. 29 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1703 (Nov. 3 aft.), 1842-43 (Nov. 17 eve., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- (Nov. 19 aft., passed)  
Third Reading -- 1984 (Nov. 23 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force November 26, 2009; SA 2009 c42]
- 58 Corrections Amendment Act, 2009 (Griffiths)**  
First Reading -- 1642 (Oct. 29 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1703-04 (Nov. 3 aft.), 1923-25 (Nov. 19 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1977-79 (Nov. 23 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 2025-27 (Nov. 24 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c41]
- 59 Mental Health Amendment Act, 2009 (Sherman)**  
First Reading -- 1666 (Nov. 2 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1704-05 (Nov. 3 aft.), 1925 (Nov. 19 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1979-83 (Nov. 23 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 2027 (Nov. 24 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force January 1, 2010; SA 2009 c47]
- 60 Health Professions Amendment Act, 2009 (Quest)**  
First Reading -- 1642 (Oct. 29 aft., passed)  
Second Reading -- 1705 (Nov. 3 aft.), 1925 (Nov. 19 aft., passed)  
Committee of the Whole -- 1998-2000 (Nov. 24 eve., passed)  
Third Reading -- 2027 (Nov. 24 eve., passed)  
Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force November 26, 2009; SA 2009 c46]

- 61\***     **Provincial Offences Procedure Amendment Act, 2009 (Lukaszuk)**  
 First Reading -- 1666 (Nov. 2 aft., passed)  
 Second Reading -- 1705-06 (Nov. 3 aft.), 1961 (Nov. 23 eve., passed)  
 Committee of the Whole -- 1983-84 (Nov. 23 eve., passed with amendments)  
 Third Reading -- 2027-28 (Nov. 24 eve., passed)  
 Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c52]
- 62**     **Emergency Health Services Amendment Act, 2009 (Liepert)**  
 First Reading -- 1866 (Nov. 18 aft., passed)  
 Second Reading -- 1917 (Nov. 19 aft.), 1961-63 (Nov. 23 eve., passed)  
 Committee of the Whole -- 2000-04 (Nov. 24 eve., passed)  
 Third Reading -- 2028 (Nov. 24 eve., passed)  
 Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force November 26, 2009; SA 2009 c45]
- 201**     **Traffic Safety (Vehicles with Unlawfully Possessed Firearms) Amendment Act, 2009 (Hehr)**  
 First Reading -- 106 (Feb. 18 aft., passed)  
 Second Reading -- 165-76 (Mar. 2 aft.), 284-86 (Mar. 9 aft., defeated on division)
- 202**     **Municipal Government (Municipal Auditor General) Amendment Act, 2009 (Johnston)**  
 First Reading -- 138 (Feb. 19 aft., passed)  
 Second Reading -- 286-96 (Mar. 9 aft.), 406-08 (Mar. 16 aft., referred to Standing Committee on Community Services), (Nov. 25 aft., reported to Assembly, not proceeded with)
- 203\***     **Local Authorities Election (Finance and Contribution Disclosure) Amendment Act, 2009 (Johnson)**  
 First Reading -- 251-52 (Mar. 5 aft., passed)  
 Second Reading -- 408-16 (Mar. 16 aft.), 829-31 (Apr. 27 aft., passed)  
 Committee of the Whole -- 1053-64 (May 11 aft., passed with amendments)  
 Third Reading -- 1209-15 (May 25 aft., passed)  
 Royal Assent -- (May 26 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c10]
- 204**     **Provincial-Municipal Tax Sharing Act (Blakeman)**  
 First Reading -- 498 (Mar. 19 aft., passed)  
 Second Reading -- 831-32 (Apr. 27 aft.), 934-41 (May 4 aft., defeated on division)
- 205**     **Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure (Third Party Advertising) Amendment Act, 2009 (Anderson)**  
 First Reading -- 649-50 (Apr. 15 aft., passed)  
 Second Reading -- 941-46 (May 4 aft., passed on division)  
 Committee of the Whole -- 1215-22 (May 25 aft.), 1427-33 (Jun. 1 aft., passed on division)  
 Third Reading -- 1787-93 (Nov. 16 aft., passed)  
 Royal Assent -- 2077 (Nov. 26 aft.) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2009 c43]
- 206\***     **School (Enhanced Protection of Students and Teachers) Amendment Act, 2009 (Forsyth)**  
 First Reading -- 621 (Apr. 14 aft., passed)  
 Second Reading -- 1433-38 (Jun. 1 aft.), 1547-55 (Oct. 26 aft., passed)  
 Committee of the Whole -- 1793-1800 (Nov. 16 aft.), 1941-47 (Nov. 23 aft., passed with amendments)  
 Third Reading -- 1948-53 (Nov. 23 aft., adjourned)
- 208**     **Life Leases Act (Mitzel)**  
 First Reading -- 1208 (May 25 aft., passed)  
 Second Reading -- 1555-59 (Oct. 26 aft., adjourned)
- 209**     **Children's Services Review Committee Act (Chase)**  
 First Reading -- 1610 (Oct. 28 aft., passed)
- 216**     **Alberta Outdoors Weekend Act (Rodney)**  
 First Reading -- 2045 (Nov. 25 aft., passed)
- Pr1**     **Beverly Anne Cormier Adoption Termination Act (Anderson)**  
 First Reading -- 376 (Mar. 12 aft., passed)  
 Second Reading -- 1480 (Jun. 1 eve., passed)  
 Committee of the Whole -- 1502 (Jun. 2 aft., passed)  
 Third Reading -- 1532 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)  
 Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009; SA 2009 c37]

**Pr2\* Caritas Health Group Statutes Amendment Act, 2009 (Elniski)**

First Reading -- 376 (Mar. 12 aft., passed)

Second Reading -- 1480 (Jun. 1 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole -- 1530-31 (Jun. 3 aft., passed with amendments)

Third Reading -- 1532 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)

Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force April 1, 2009; SA 2009 c38]

**Pr3\* Les Filles de la Sagesse Act Repeal Act (Dallas)**

First Reading -- 376 (Mar. 12 aft., passed)

Second Reading -- 1480 (Jun. 1 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole -- 1502 (Jun. 2 aft., passed with amendments)

Third Reading -- 1532 (Jun. 3 aft., passed)

Royal Assent -- (Jun. 4 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 4, 2009; SA 2009 c39]





## Table of Contents

Introduction of Visitors .....	2063
Introduction of Guests .....	2063, 2075
Members' Statements	
Last Post Fund .....	2064
Arts Administrators .....	2065
Chronic Pain .....	2065
Helping Our Students to Succeed Project .....	2073
International Day of Persons with Disabilities .....	2073
Carbon Emissions Reduction .....	2073
Oral Question Period	
Mental Health Innovation Fund .....	2065
Provincial Budget .....	2066
Support for Alberta Families .....	2066
Funding for Fort McMurray Area .....	2067
Climate Change .....	2068
H1N1 Influenza Immunization Program .....	2068
Postsecondary Education Costs .....	2068
Big Prairie Road Bridge .....	2069
Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped .....	2069
Support for Children in Care .....	2070
Rocky Mountain World Heritage Sites .....	2071
Secondary Ticket Sales .....	2071
Oil Sands Global Image .....	2071
Contracted Children's Services Agencies .....	2072
Oil Sands Air Quality Monitoring .....	2072
Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees .....	2074
Presenting Petitions .....	2074
Tabling Returns and Reports .....	2074
Tablings to the Clerk .....	2074
Projected Government Business .....	2074
Page Recognition .....	2075
Royal Assent	
Bill 31 Rules of Court Statutes Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 46 Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Disclosure Act .....	2077
Bill 48 Crown's Right of Recovery Act .....	2077
Bill 49 Municipal Government Amendment Act, 2009 (No. 2) .....	2077
Bill 50 Electric Statutes Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 51 Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 53 Professional Corporations Statutes Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 54 Personal Information Protection Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 55 Senatorial Selection Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 56 Alberta Investment Management Corporation Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 57 Court of Queen's Bench Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 58 Corrections Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 59 Mental Health Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 60 Health Professions Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 61 Provincial Offences Procedure Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 62 Emergency Health Services Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077
Bill 205 Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure (Third Party Advertising) Amendment Act, 2009 .....	2077

## STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

### Select Special Auditor General Search Committee

Chair: Mr. Mitzel  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Lund  
Blakeman  
Campbell  
Lukaszuk  
MacDonald  
Marz  
Notley  
Rogers

### Select Special Chief Electoral Officer Search Committee

Chair: Mr. Mitzel  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Lund  
Bhullar  
Blakeman  
Campbell  
Horne  
Lukaszuk  
MacDonald  
Marz  
Notley  
Rogers

### Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund

Chair: Mrs. Forsyth  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Elniski  
Blakeman  
Campbell  
DeLong  
Denis  
Johnston  
Kang  
MacDonald

### Standing Committee on Community Services

Chair: Mr. Doerksen  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Hehr  
Benito  
Bhardwaj  
Chase  
Johnson  
Johnston  
Lukaszuk  
Notley  
Rodney  
Sarich

### Standing Committee on the Economy

Chair: Mr. Campbell  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Taylor  
Allred  
Amery  
Bhullar  
Hinman  
Marz  
McFarland  
Taft  
Weadick  
Xiao

### Standing Committee on Health

Chair: Mr. Horne  
Deputy Chair: Ms Pastoor  
Dallas  
Fawcett  
Notley  
Olson  
Quest  
Sherman  
Taft  
Vandermeer  
Vacant

### Standing Committee on Legislative Offices

Chair: Mr. Mitzel  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Lund  
Bhullar  
Blakeman  
Campbell  
Horne  
Lukaszuk  
MacDonald  
Marz  
Notley  
Rogers

### Special Standing Committee on Members' Services

Chair: Mr. Kowalski  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Oberle  
Elniski  
Fawcett  
Hehr  
Leskiw  
Mason  
Rogers  
Taylor  
VanderBurg  
Weadick

### Standing Committee on Private Bills

Chair: Dr. Brown  
Deputy Chair: Ms Woo-Paw  
Allred            Jacobs  
Amery            MacDonald  
Anderson        McQueen  
Benito            Olson  
Bhardwaj        Quest  
Boutilier        Rodney  
Calahasen       Sandhu  
Dallas            Sarich  
Doerksen        Taft  
Forsyth

### Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing

Chair: Mr. Prins  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Hancock  
Amery            Mitzel  
Berger            Notley  
Calahasen       Oberle  
DeLong           Pastoor  
Doerksen        Redford  
Forsyth           Rogers  
Johnson        Sherman  
Leskiw           Taylor  
Liepert           Zwozdesky  
McFarland

### Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Chair: Mr. MacDonald  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Quest  
Benito            Johnson  
Bhardwaj        Kang  
Chase            Mason  
Dallas            Olson  
Denis            Sandhu  
Drysdale        Vandermeer  
Fawcett          Woo-Paw  
Jacobs

### Standing Committee on Public Safety and Services

Chair: Mr. VanderBurg  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Kang  
Anderson  
Brown  
Calahasen  
Cao  
Griffiths  
MacDonald  
Sandhu  
Woo-Paw  
Vacant

### Standing Committee on Resources and Environment

Chair: Mr. Prins  
Deputy Chair: Ms Blakeman  
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Boutilier  
Denis  
Drysdale  
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