



Province of Alberta

The 29th Legislature  
Third Session

# Alberta Hansard

Thursday afternoon, June 1, 2017

Day 43

The Honourable Robert E. Wanner, Speaker

**Legislative Assembly of Alberta**  
**The 29th Legislature**

Third Session

Wanner, Hon. Robert E., Medicine Hat (ND), Speaker  
Jabbour, Deborah C., Peace River (ND), Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees  
Sweet, Heather, Edmonton-Manning (ND), Deputy Chair of Committees

Aheer, Leela Sharon, Chestermere-Rocky View (W)	Loyola, Rod, Edmonton-Ellerslie (ND)
Anderson, Hon. Shaye, Leduc-Beaumont (ND)	Luff, Robyn, Calgary-East (ND)
Anderson, Wayne, Highwood (W)	MacIntyre, Donald, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake (W)
Babcock, Erin D., Stony Plain (ND)	Malkinson, Brian, Calgary-Currie (ND)
Barnes, Drew, Cypress-Medicine Hat (W)	Mason, Hon. Brian, Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood (ND), Government House Leader
Bilous, Hon. Deron, Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview (ND), Deputy Government House Leader	McCuaig-Boyd, Hon. Margaret, Dunvegan-Central Peace-Notley (ND)
Carlier, Hon. Oneil, Whitecourt-St. Anne (ND), Deputy Government House Leader	McIver, Ric, Calgary-Hays (PC), Leader of the Progressive Conservative Opposition
Carson, Jonathon, Edmonton-Meadowlark (ND)	McKitrick, Annie, Sherwood Park (ND)
Ceci, Hon. Joe, Calgary-Fort (ND)	McLean, Hon. Stephanie V., Calgary-Varsity (ND)
Clark, Greg, Calgary-Elbow (AP)	McPherson, Karen M., Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill (ND)
Connolly, Michael R.D., Calgary-Hawkwood (ND)	Miller, Barb, Red Deer-South (ND)
Coolahan, Craig, Calgary-Klein (ND)	Miranda, Hon. Ricardo, Calgary-Cross (ND)
Cooper, Nathan, Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills (W), Official Opposition House Leader	Nielsen, Christian E., Edmonton-Decore (ND)
Cortes-Vargas, Estefania, Strathcona-Sherwood Park (ND), Government Whip	Nixon, Jason, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre (W), Official Opposition Whip
Cyr, Scott J., Bonnyville-Cold Lake (W)	Notley, Hon. Rachel, Edmonton-Strathcona (ND), Premier
Dach, Lorne, Edmonton-McClung (ND)	Orr, Ronald, Lacombe-Ponoka (W)
Dang, Thomas, Edmonton-South West (ND)	Panda, Prasad, Calgary-Foothills (W)
Drever, Deborah, Calgary-Bow (ND)	Payne, Hon. Brandy, Calgary-Acadia (ND)
Drysdale, Wayne, Grande Prairie-Wapiti (PC), Progressive Conservative Opposition Whip	Phillips, Hon. Shannon, Lethbridge-West (ND)
Eggen, Hon. David, Edmonton-Calder (ND)	Piquette, Colin, Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater (ND)
Ellis, Mike, Calgary-West (PC)	Pitt, Angela D., Airdrie (W), Official Opposition Deputy Whip
Feehan, Hon. Richard, Edmonton-Rutherford (ND)	Renaud, Marie F., St. Albert (ND)
Fildebrandt, Derek Gerhard, Strathmore-Brooks (W)	Rodney, Dave, Calgary-Lougheed (PC), Progressive Conservative Opposition House Leader
Fitzpatrick, Maria M., Lethbridge-East (ND)	Rosendahl, Eric, West Yellowhead (ND)
Fraser, Rick, Calgary-South East (PC)	Sabir, Hon. Irfan, Calgary-McCall (ND)
Ganley, Hon. Kathleen T., Calgary-Buffalo (ND)	Schmidt, Hon. Marlin, Edmonton-Gold Bar (ND)
Gill, Prab, Calgary-Greenway (PC)	Schneider, David A., Little Bow (W)
Goehring, Nicole, Edmonton-Castle Downs (ND)	Schreiner, Kim, Red Deer-North (ND)
Gotfried, Richard, Calgary-Fish Creek (PC)	Shepherd, David, Edmonton-Centre (ND)
Gray, Hon. Christina, Edmonton-Mill Woods (ND)	Sigurdson, Hon. Lori, Edmonton-Riverview (ND)
Hanson, David B., Lac La Biche-St. Paul-Two Hills (W), Official Opposition Deputy House Leader	Smith, Mark W., Drayton Valley-Devon (W)
Hinkley, Bruce, Wetaskiwin-Camrose (ND)	Starke, Dr. Richard, Vermilion-Lloydminster (PC)
Hoffman, Hon. Sarah, Edmonton-Glenora (ND)	Stier, Pat, Livingstone-Macleod (W)
Horne, Trevor A.R., Spruce Grove-St. Albert (ND)	Strankman, Rick, Drumheller-Stettler (W)
Hunter, Grant R., Cardston-Taber-Warner (W)	Sucha, Graham, Calgary-Shaw (ND)
Jansen, Sandra, Calgary-North West (ND)	Swann, Dr. David, Calgary-Mountain View (AL)
Jean, Brian Michael, QC, Fort McMurray-Conklin (W), Leader of the Official Opposition	Taylor, Wes, Battle River-Wainwright (W)
Kazim, Anam, Calgary-Glenmore (ND)	Turner, Dr. A. Robert, Edmonton-Whitemud (ND)
Kleinsteuber, Jamie, Calgary-Northern Hills (ND)	van Dijken, Glenn, Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock (W)
Larivee, Hon. Danielle, Lesser Slave Lake (ND)	Westhead, Cameron, Banff-Cochrane (ND), Deputy Government Whip
Littlewood, Jessica, Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville (ND)	Woollard, Denise, Edmonton-Mill Creek (ND)
Loewen, Todd, Grande Prairie-Smoky (W)	Yao, Tany, Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo (W)

**Party standings:**

New Democrat: 55      Wildrose: 22      Progressive Conservative: 8      Alberta Liberal: 1      Alberta Party: 1

**Officers and Officials of the Legislative Assembly**

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Shannon Dean, Law Clerk and Director of House Services	Philip Massolin, Manager of Research and Committee Services	Chris Caughell, Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms
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Stephanie LeBlanc, Parliamentary Counsel and Legal Research Officer	Janet Schwegel, Managing Editor of <i>Alberta Hansard</i>	Gareth Scott, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms

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Sarah Hoffman	Deputy Premier, Minister of Health
Shaye Anderson	Minister of Municipal Affairs
Deron Bilous	Minister of Economic Development and Trade
Oneil Carlier	Minister of Agriculture and Forestry
Joe Ceci	President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance
David Eggen	Minister of Education
Richard Feehan	Minister of Indigenous Relations
Kathleen T. Ganley	Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
Christina Gray	Minister of Labour, Minister Responsible for Democratic Renewal
Danielle Larivee	Minister of Children's Services
Brian Mason	Minister of Infrastructure, Minister of Transportation
Margaret McCuaig-Boyd	Minister of Energy
Stephanie V. McLean	Minister of Service Alberta, Minister of Status of Women
Ricardo Miranda	Minister of Culture and Tourism
Brandy Payne	Associate Minister of Health
Shannon Phillips	Minister of Environment and Parks, Minister Responsible for the Climate Change Office
Irfan Sabir	Minister of Community and Social Services
Marlin Schmidt	Minister of Advanced Education
Lori Sigurdson	Minister of Seniors and Housing

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

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

Chair: Mr. Coolahan  
Deputy Chair: Mrs. Schreiner

Cyr	McKitrick
Dang	Taylor
Ellis	Turner
Horne	

**Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future**

Chair: Mr. Sucha  
Deputy Chair: Mr. van Dijken

Carson	McPherson
Connolly	Panda
Coolahan	Piquette
Dach	Schneider
Fitzpatrick	Schreiner
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**Select Special Auditor General Search Committee**

Chair: Mr. Shepherd  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Malkinson

Cyr	Littlewood
Gill	van Dijken
Horne	Woollard
Kleinsteuber	

**Standing Committee on Families and Communities**

Chair: Ms Goehring  
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Drever	Orr
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**Standing Committee on Legislative Offices**

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Dang	Orr
Jabbour	Piquette
Luff	Schreiner
McIver	

**Standing Committee on Private Bills**

Chair: Ms McPherson  
Deputy Chair: Connolly

Anderson, W.	Kleinsteuber
Babcock	McKitrick
Drever	Rosendahl
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Fraser	Strankman
Hinkley	Sucha
Kazim	

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

Chair: Ms Fitzpatrick  
Deputy Chair: Ms Babcock

Carson	Loyola
Coolahan	McPherson
Cooper	Nielsen
Ellis	Schneider
Goehring	Starke
Hanson	van Dijken
Kazim	

**Standing Committee on Public Accounts**

Chair: Mr. Cyr  
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Barnes	Malkinson
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Littlewood	Westhead
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**Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship**

Chair: Loyola  
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Dang	Malkinson
Drysdale	Nielsen
Hanson	Rosendahl
Kazim	Woollard
Kleinsteuber	

## Legislative Assembly of Alberta

1:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 1, 2017

[The Speaker in the chair]

**The Speaker:** Good afternoon. Please be seated.

### Introduction of Visitors

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

**Ms Jabbour:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today on your behalf to introduce to all members of the Assembly former MLAs from Alberta, Ontario, Quebec, and Manitoba along with their spouses, who are here attending the Alberta Association of Former MLAs annual general meeting today and tomorrow. All of us here on this floor recognize your passion, and we truly understand the commitment all of you demonstrated either in this House or in your respective Legislatures across the country. We hope that your time after serving as elected officials has been equally fulfilling. Please know that your individual imprints on democratic history will never be forgotten.

Sitting in your gallery today, Mr. Speaker, are former Manitoba MLAs Mr. Clif Evans and Dr. Linda Asper; former Ontario MPP Mr. John Hastings; former Quebec MNA Ms France Dionne; former Alberta MLAs Mr. Bill Wyse, Mr. Blake Pedersen, Mr. Rob Renner, Mr. George Rogers, Mrs. Mary Anne Jablonski, Mr. Shiraz Shariff, Mr. Don Tannas, Mr. Bill Purdy, Dr. Raj Sherman, Mr. Gene Zwozdesky, Dr. David Carter, and Mr. Ray Martin. I ask all of these former members, who have risen, along with all of the other former Alberta MLAs that are sitting in the members' gallery to please accept the traditional warm welcome of this Assembly. [Standing ovation]

**The Speaker:** Let me just say, if there was ever a test for working without a net, today is the day.

### Introduction of Guests

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Little Bow.

**Mr. Schneider:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my distinct privilege to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly a remarkable group of grade 11 students from the Calvin Christian School in my riding. Now, Calvin Christian is located just off of highway 3, a couple of miles north of the town of Coalhurst. I had the privilege of meeting this impressive group of young students on the steps as we took a picture and met a couple of the teachers and some of the chaperone parents as well. As I say your name – and please forgive me if I butcher this – please rise and stay risen: Mr. Jeremy Fluit, Mr. Marinus Vande Merwe, Mr. Ben Middelkoop, Mrs. Glenda Middelkoop, Mr. Evert Van Ee, Mrs. Kim Van Ee, Mr. Frans VandeStroet, Mrs. Jolanda Vandenhoeck. Now I would ask the students to please rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of this Assembly.

**The Speaker:** Welcome.

The hon. Member for Red Deer-North.

**Mrs. Schreiner:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to rise today and introduce to you and through you to all my fellow members in the House the grade 6 class from Glendale elementary school in my constituency of Red Deer-North accompanied by their teachers, Mr. Adam Leonhardt and Ms Katie Bruinsma, along with

their chaperones, Sheri Smith, Aerielle Buchholz, Maria Lee, Meghan Elgert, and Dianne Rumhor. These bright and eager students are here to experience the wealth of history that is encompassed in our Legislature. I'd ask my guests to please rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of this House.

**The Speaker:** Welcome.

The hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning.

**Ms Sweet:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today on your behalf to introduce to all members of the Assembly your grandson Xavier Wanner-Lewis; your wife, Ms Joan Emard-Wanner; and your mother, Ms Mary McNeil Wanner. Xavier is a grade 6 student from Sunnyside school in Calgary and is visiting the Legislature with his nana and his great-grandma today. Xavier loves playing all sports but especially as a goalie for hockey. Mary McNeil Wanner was born in Weyburn, Saskatchewan, 98 and a half years ago, and Mary has called Medicine Hat home for over 30 years. Ms Wanner, Xavier, and Joan are seated in the Speaker's gallery, and I would ask them to please rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of this House.

**The Speaker:** So if there's any doubt about my anxiety, with all of those other people in addition to my mother – there is a high expectation.

**Mr. Hanson:** You'd better do a good job today, sir.

**The Speaker:** Yeah. I'm counting on you guys to make sure that I look good, okay?

**Mr. Cooper:** That's a problem.

**The Speaker:** I know I have a problem; I have about 86 problems.

The hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung.

**Mr. Dach:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is indeed a pleasure today to rise in the House to introduce to you and through you to members of the Assembly two very special constituents of mine, Mark and Sandi Sandercock. Mark has worked for the RCMP as a forensic scientist in Edmonton for almost 30 years. After being an occupational therapist for 10 years, Sandi's priorities changed with the arrival of two children, whom Mark and Sandi chose to educate at home. They are both looking forward to Mark's retirement and are thinking of starting a business. They are in the members' gallery today watching their daughter Claire in her last session in her position as a page, which she has held since January 2016. I would ask them to rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of this Assembly.

**The Speaker:** Welcome. And you can be proud.

The hon. Minister of Health.

**Ms Hoffman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As part of my acknowledgement of paramedics this week, as it is Paramedic Services Week, it's my pleasure to introduce two front-line paramedics with Beaver EMS. They are in Tofield and Viking. They're seated in our public gallery today. I'd ask that they rise as I say their names: Jason Geller, an advanced care paramedic with experience in both ground ambulance and critical care air transport; as well as Adrienne Renton, who is a primary care paramedic and who also volunteers with the CNIB and emergency social services. I want to thank them both for their life-saving care. Colleagues, please join me in extending the traditional warm welcome of our Assembly.

**The Speaker:** Welcome.

The hon. Member for Calgary-Elbow.

**Mr. Clark:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour to rise and introduce to you and through you to members of the Assembly my wife, Dr. Jessica Simon. Jess had me promise that I wasn't going to embarrass her, but when I'm your husband, that's a tall order. We all know what it takes to be in this Assembly, and what that takes is an incredibly strong family behind us. Jess is a remarkable mother who works full-time plus as a physician. More than anything, though, she's a remarkable person, and I'm incredibly lucky to have her as my wife. Jess, if I can ask you to please rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

**The Speaker:** Welcome. [interjections]

It's going to be a great day. Mr. Fildebrandt and I are laughing together. That's an outstanding happening. And I just made a mistake; my apologies to the House. I told you I was going to be nervous today.

The hon. Member for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville.

1:40

**Mrs. Littlewood:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's a privilege to rise and introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly one of my Fort Saskatchewan neighbours, Kelly Thompson. Kelly is a statesman, artist, and active community leader who is heavily involved in Fort Saskatchewan and surrounding areas. He has served on various government and community boards at municipal and provincial levels, including the Minister's Student Advisory Council and the Curriculum Policy Advisory Committee, and was named a national ambassador for bilingualism in 2011. I would like Kelly Thompson to now rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of this House.

**The Speaker:** Welcome.

**Mr. Carlier:** Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere pleasure to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly an energetic youth leader and her family. This young woman from Lacombe has been an active member and a leader of 4-H clubs in Lacombe and Lethbridge. She has been chosen as the recipient of the 4-H 2016 Premier's award. She has held executive positions in her clubs, has attended numerous programs, and has represented 4-H Alberta in various competitions. She is currently a third-year student at the University of Lethbridge, where she is taking a bachelor of science in agricultural biotechnology. I would like to ask Christine Suominen, her parents, Cameron and Annette, and brothers, David and Peter, to now rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of this Assembly.

**The Speaker:** Welcome.

The hon. Member for Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo.

**Mr. Yao:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Legislature Kichul Nam. He is the general secretary of the Edmonton Korean Canadian Cultural Foundation, and he is also a tae kwon do master. He wanted to know more about provincial politics, to which I indulged him. Please enjoy the warm welcome of this Assembly.

**The Speaker:** Welcome.

The hon. Member for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills.

**Mr. Cooper:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. You might say the outstanding constituency of Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills, as I have four outstanding constituents here joining us today. They are from

the lovely Torrington part of the constituency, home of the world-famous gopher museum.

**An Hon. Member:** I could go for that.

**Mr. Cooper:** I like what you did there with "go for that."

They are George and Betty Hiebert and their two lovely daughters, Melissa and Emily. They are in Edmonton because Melissa received a provincial recommendation for her piano-playing abilities and is competing at a competition later today.

**The Speaker:** Welcome.

Are there any other guests today, hon. members?

## Members' Statements

### Unionized Workers

**Mr. Westhead:** Once upon a time the Wildrose stood alongside unionized workers while the PCs tried to dismantle public-sector pensions. At that time the Wildrose position was "not [to] balance the budget on the backs of front line public sector workers and services." My, how times have changed. Nowadays about the only thing the Wildrose does promise is to balance the budget on the backs of public-sector workers and services.

It's clear that the Wildrose and their PC frenemies have shifted even further to the political right. Not long ago the Member for Cardston-Taber-Warner labelled Alberta's 300,000 unionized workers as thugs. Then last night the Member for Strathmore-Brooks pledged to throw out the Rand formula in an ideologically driven attempt to undermine unions. The members opposite are so blinded by their extreme ideology that they see paramedics and jail guards as enemies. Conservatives just don't understand working people. They would rather give tax breaks to their wealthy friends than allow people with disabilities to earn at least minimum wage.

But just who are these so-called thugs that the opposition vilifies? They are our neighbours, sisters, brothers, fathers, and mothers. They are our children's teachers. They are the nurses who care for us at urgent care clinics. They are not thugs, Mr. Speaker. Far from it. Unionized workers are kind and generous, and they make meaningful contributions in their communities. They fight for equal rights, safe workplaces, and against discrimination. On this side of the House we support the fundamental constitutional rights guaranteed to all Canadians. Our proposed changes to Alberta's Employment Standards and Labour Relations codes demonstrate our commitment to those values.

The opposition thinks the Alberta advantage is predicated on exploiting workers by denying them basic rights most other Canadians enjoy. Rather than a race to the bottom, as the conservatives would have it, I'm proud to stand with a government that is taking tangible steps to make life better for working people.

### Conservative Party Unity Agreement

**Mr. Stier:** Mr. Speaker, as a long-time member of the Wildrose and as one of the five members of the previous Wildrose caucus team that remained strong in their principles, I was so glad to be selected by my leader and caucus to participate this year in work on a historic unity agreement between the two conservative parties in Alberta. Many good people have worked long and hard on the new conservative unity agreement, and there is much more work ahead. It has been an honour and privilege to work on this process as I can say wholeheartedly that everyone involved is there for the right reasons.

As a grassroots, member-driven party, Wildrose's constitution requires 75 per cent support from members for this deal to go ahead. Therefore, I look forward to seeing a record level of democratic participation in the upcoming weeks and months. I joined Wildrose many years ago because it was a party that respected its members. This is as true today as it was then. The members of our party will be the ultimate decider on conservative unity, and I trust in whatever decision they make. This will be one of the greatest exercises in grassroots democracy Alberta has ever seen. Every single vote will matter.

In every corner of the province Albertans are asking for unity. They know the future of Alberta hangs in the balance. Our conservative unity team is working around the clock to ensure their voices are heard. We need good, everyday Albertans, regardless of occupation or location, to buy a membership and answer the call for democracy. I'm calling on these folks to take their future into their own hands and help write the next chapter of the Alberta story. To all Alberta conservatives: we have a unique opportunity to set a new standard for conservatism in Alberta. The spirit of the conservative movement in Alberta is stronger than any one name and any one party. Let's all come together and take back Alberta.

### Provincial Fiscal Policies

**Mr. Clark:** Mr. Speaker, self-attribution bias is the tendency for people to attribute successes or good outcomes to their own abilities while blaming failures on circumstances beyond their control. That sounds very familiar. When the NDP came to power, Alberta's economy was already on its way down. Oil prices were tumbling, and Alberta jobs and government revenues fell along with them, but anything bad that happened was only a result of circumstances beyond the NDP's control.

But did they do everything they could to cushion the blow? Absolutely not. Their biggest mistake was creating uncertainty in Alberta's investment climate, unnecessarily driving capital from our province. They didn't make any effort to find reasonable efficiencies in government, just like households and businesses all over our province were forced to do. They didn't pursue transformational change in health care, and they raised Alberta's corporate tax rate 20 per cent, which actually drove down tax revenues further than they would have gone from a slowing economy alone.

And now that Alberta's economy is recovering, who is there to take the credit? Why, it's the NDP, Mr. Speaker. They don't think it was their fault when things went wrong; it is certainly not their doing when the economy rebounds. I can assure you that Alberta's economy would come back much stronger if the NDP had exercised even a modicum of fiscal restraint and taken steps to create investor certainty. Sadly, the NDP haven't done enough to attract new industries to Alberta and instead continue to rely on the price of oil. I sincerely hope oil prices do recover and our economy with them, but the NDP needs to take real, concrete steps to support Alberta's entrepreneurial spirit.

The Alberta Party would pursue an "and" economy where we continue to produce reliable, responsible oil and gas, and we would create the conditions where Alberta entrepreneurs can create the jobs of tomorrow in green tech, agribusiness, renewables, IT, and so much more. It is possible, Mr. Speaker, but only if we have a government that understands innovation and is willing to create the conditions to allow it to happen here.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Stony Plain.

### Stony Plain Community Organization Grants

**Ms Babcock:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Community organizations in Stony Plain recently received \$271,000 through CFEP and CIP grant programs. It's impossible to talk about all the good work these organizations do, but I want to give it a try.

The Forest Green Parent Council Association received \$125,000 for the playground at Forest Green school. They fund raised for years and raised over \$55,000 themselves. With this grant and additional community and volunteer commitments they can now move ahead with their rebuild.

The Smithfield Community Hall Society received \$9,000 for upgrades to the septic tank and monitoring systems.

The Blueberry Community League received \$31,000 for renovations to the Blueberry Community Hall, which is home to the Blueberry Playschool and a venue for many other community events.

**1:50**

The Alberta Parenting for the Future Association received \$51,000 for renovations in the Family Connection Centre, where about 40 nonprofit organizations serve our community. The funds will be used to upgrade the aging kitchen so it can be used for things like healthy food classes, meal programs, and more.

The Graminia Community School Foundation received \$11,000 for communication equipment.

The Parkland Potters Guild received \$2,000 towards engaging the community in arts and learning.

Moms Canada received \$8,000 to help provide mentorship programs, learning opportunities, and resource connections for single mothers.

The Stony Plain Cowboy Gathering Society received \$9,000 for the music and art gathering 2017, which allows residents and visitors to experience top-notch talent in our own community.

The Carvel Ukrainian Cultural Society received \$23,000 for upgrades to the Carvel Hall facility, creating a new, barrier-free space for community use.

All of these organizations rely on the commitment of dedicated volunteers and staff and the support of our surrounding communities, and I'm so proud to be part of a community like Stony Plain, that pulls together and works together to make life better for all of us.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

### Oral Question Period

**The Speaker:** The hon. Leader of the Official Opposition.

### Carbon Levy and Pipeline Approvals

**Mr. Jean:** Albertans are footing the bill for a social licence plan that is getting Albertans absolutely nowhere. If the Premier truly believed that pipelines in every direction were good for our province, she would respect the National Energy Board process, that has served us so well, but she just couldn't help herself. She decided that imposing a carbon tax on Albertans was better for her NDP world view. Now that it's clear her social licence is getting us nowhere, will the Premier do the right thing and axe the carbon tax? Yes or no?

**Some Hon. Members:** *Groundhog Day.*

**Ms Notley:** Well, Mr. Speaker, yes, it is a little *Groundhog-y* in here today, I must say, but again I will say that the opposition would have us sacrifice jobs, investment in new pipelines by scrapping the

very program that got us the approval for the pipeline, that they never got. I don't know how much clearer I can be. The people who have the ability to make that decision are the federal government. The federal government made it very clear that they made that decision because of our climate leadership plan and the fact that the pipelines were delinked from carbon emissions. I know the member opposite is absolutely keen to cheer for Alberta's failure. We are not.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Premier.

**Mr. Jean:** The Premier should do the right thing and listen to the overwhelming majority of Albertans, who didn't ask for social licence and don't want this carbon tax, and scrap the tax. The Premier should know that there's no making eco radicals happy. She has some in her own caucus, so she should be aware of that. The sooner the Premier decides to stand up for our province and stop kowtowing to those who want Alberta to fail, the better off all Albertans will be. Will the Premier send a strong signal that she's finally looking out for Alberta's interests and rip up her fairy-tale social licence contract?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Premier.

**Ms Notley:** Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm wondering if the member opposite is actually getting his questions written by the Trump administration. Interestingly, a number of business leaders and investment leaders and leaders around the world are talking about how that's actually the wrong decision, the one that's being taken down south, for the world economy. The fact of the matter is that we need to understand that we need to work with our energy industry to reposition it as a progressive, sustainable, nonrenewable energy industry that can play on the international market. That's exactly what we've done together with industry, and that's how we're going to diversify the economy and grow the economy.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Premier.

**Mr. Jean:** The Premier created the hurdle to getting pipelines built in Canada. It's called social licence, and now the Premier finds herself constantly tripping over it. The rest of the world has rejected it, but it's no surprise, of course, that her brothers and sisters in the NDP have latched onto the social licence concept that the Premier created. They are the same people who wrote the Leap Manifesto. The Premier created the problem, and now she needs to fix it. When will the Premier send a clear signal to her NDP buddies, both west and east, that the only approvals needed for the pipelines in Canada are those coming from the NEB?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Premier.

**Ms Notley:** Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's actually the federal cabinet that makes the decision, not the NEB, and thankfully they did make the decision. As a result of that, we have a pipeline. We have a pipeline that's going to create tens of thousands of jobs. We have an additional pipeline. That pipeline is going to ensure that we can diversify our markets and get the best price for our resources, and that's something that's happened under our watch because we have never stopped advocating for it. Even as the members opposite prayed against its success because they saw it as a, quote, doomsday scenario, we had Albertans' backs.

**The Speaker:** Second main question.

## Wildfire Response Reviews

**Mr. Jean:** Today, Mr. Speaker, marks the one-year anniversary since the people of Fort McMurray were allowed to return to their community after the worst natural disaster in our province's history. Promised reports into the government's performance in the fire are either gathering dust on the minister's desk or are still not complete. There are too many unanswered questions from Albertans. People are tired of waiting, and they want transparency and full accountability from this government. When will these reports be released, and why the ongoing delays in the release of the reports by this government?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Premier.

**Ms Notley:** Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. You know, our government is absolutely committed to standing with the people of Fort McMurray as they work to recover from that awful disaster, and that's exactly what we've been doing from the first day and moving forward. I'm very proud of the work that the government has done, and I'm even more proud of the work that our public servants and our emergency responders have done, and of course I'm most proud of the way in which the people of Fort McMurray responded to this horrible, horrible challenge. We, as a result, are looking forward to receiving the two independent reports that we've commissioned, and I can tell the member opposite that they are imminent.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Premier.

**Mr. Jean:** The fact is that we've had two major fires that have devastated two northern communities since 2011. The Slave Lake fire Flat Top Complex report in 2011 warned that Alberta was at risk of "large and potentially . . . catastrophic wildfires." It appears that it happened. But even with that warning, several of the report's recommendations went unanswered, unimplemented, or not addressed with any sense whatsoever of urgency. It's become clear that reports commissioned by the government are not enough. Albertans deserve real answers, real accountability, and real action from this government. Will the Premier call an independent inquiry into our wildfire response, and if not, why not?

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. member.  
The hon. Premier.

**Ms Notley:** Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Well, in fact, the member opposite is mistaken because every single recommendation in the Flat Top report has been implemented. More to the point, however, it is really quite ridiculous that the member opposite would be calling for a public inquiry before he has reviewed one single fact from either one of the two independent reports that have been commissioned by the government of Alberta. It really makes one question whether this is really about good policy or whether it's about politics. I would urge the member opposite to read the two reports when they become available and then make a decision about what kind of inquiry is required.

**Mr. Jean:** Mr. Speaker, they have not been fully implemented by this or the previous government.

Here are, actually, the independent inquiries that the NDP called for in opposition: the mad cow crisis, the state of the foster care system, queue-jumping, the murder of a Camrose group home worker, the state of mental health services, the state of our child welfare system, and government spending under the Redford government. If it was good enough for these types of incidents, why



is it not good enough for the wildfires that happened in Fort McMurray? We're calling for an inquiry where 2,500 homes were burned to the ground and an entire city of 80,000 people was evacuated for more than a month. It's reasonable, and it's something the Premier would have called for if in opposition. What has changed?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Premier.

**Ms Notley:** Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. In fact, what we have done is that we have commissioned two independent reviews of what happened with respect to the fire. As the member opposite knows, he was actually invited to participate in those reviews. In addition, the regional municipality will also be doing their own review. I think that it would be wise and not inflammatory for us to receive those reviews, to share them with the public, to review their conclusions, and then have a conversation about next steps.

**The Speaker:** Third main question.

### 2:00 Auditor General Recommendations on Health Care

**Mr. Jean:** Our health care system is bloated, wasteful, and inefficient, but the NDP is happy, as usual, with the status quo, a status quo where patients languish for 240 days for a knee replacement or 230 days for cataract surgery, a system where couples are divorced by nursing home as they age in a system where seniors are stuck waiting for long-term beds right across the province. The Auditor General has made it clear that it's time to measure performance by outcomes, not by dollars spent. Why doesn't the Premier agree?

**Ms Notley:** Well, Mr. Speaker, you know, as I've said repeatedly, there are actually a number of outcomes in our health care system that we're very proud of. We've managed to reduce a number of wait times in a number of different sectors. At the same time we've increased services in a number of different parts of the province with respect to addictions treatment and mental health services, and of course we've moved forward on significant infrastructure investments, that members opposite and their friends ignored for decades, like, for instance, the cancer centre in Calgary. In fact, we are absolutely focused on getting the best health care outcomes for Albertans, and we'll continue to do that.

**Mr. Jean:** The AG's report shows that the system is a mess right now from the very top. We have multiple systems that don't talk to each other and are muddled in duplication and waste. We have managers managing managers that manage managers and a health bureaucracy that remains very removed from local health care needs, which are so important. His report says that duplication has been ingrained for decades, but as time goes on, the need to make major structural changes gets more and more important and needs to be done right now. Is the Premier happy funnelling billions into this waste, or will she actually find the courage to stand up and fix it for Albertans?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Premier.

**Ms Notley:** Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. You know, I think one of the things that challenges our health care system in Alberta is the fact that it has been the victim of major structural change after major structural change after major structural change. Every time that happened, services went down, costs went up, and chaos ensued. The member opposite thinks that that's what we need

to do, more structural change. I say no. That's exactly what we said to Albertans in the last election, that's exactly what they voted for, and that's exactly what we're delivering.

**Mr. Jean:** Mr. Speaker, this is not my opinion; this is the Auditor General's opinion. They've clearly stated and highlighted the need for integration in the health care system. Other countries have integrated their systems, and now we are seeing Alberta fall down the rankings as other countries figure out how to deliver more and better health care for less money. Unnecessary prescriptions, repeat scans, and repeat tests, and the overall cost of long wait times are dragging our system way down. This is hurting patients, hurting Albertans and Alberta families. When can they expect to see fundamental change take place as recommended by the AG?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Premier.

**Ms Notley:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. As I've said before and I will happily said again – first of all, let me just point out that once again the members opposite just can't get their plan straight. One day they want us to cut \$3 billion out of our operating expense, and the next day they're complaining that we're not doing enough in the health care system and that somehow we can magically make it all better through some weird sort of restructuring. We all know what that actually means. They want to privatize. They want to bring in a two-tiered system. They want one health care system for the wealthy and another health care system for everyone else. That will never happen on our watch.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Premier.

The hon. Member for Calgary-Hays.

### Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline

**Mr. McIver:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This week the Premier arrogantly proclaimed the federal cabinet's approval combined with the National Energy Board's guarantees that shovels will be in the ground on Kinder Morgan. That would be nice, but her B.C. siblings promised to block the project. The Northern Gateway pipeline also had cabinet and NEB approvals, and where is that project today? Nowhere. To the Premier: with your B.C. NDP and Greens prepared to go to war against this project, what makes you think these two approvals from the feds add up to a guarantee when this has not been the case till now?

**Ms Notley:** Well, you know, Mr. Speaker, the failure of other pipelines that had approvals ultimately came down to the courts, and the courts said: "You know what? When you ram stuff through without accommodating indigenous interests, without considering environmental issues, without talking to the communities, then the thing ain't gonna fly." That's what happened under their cousin's federal system that was in place before. That is not, in my view, what happened this time. I think that those issues have been properly addressed both by the NEB process as well as by the subsequent process and by the cabinet's review. I suspect that we'll find that the courts support that view, and we'll get a . . .

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Premier.

**Mr. McIver:** Mr. Speaker, here's what did happen. The Premier did not campaign on a carbon tax, but she did campaign on killing Northern Gateway, which died despite NEB and federal approvals. After she blindsided Albertans with that carbon tax, she justified it with the promise of mythical social licence to convince B.C. eco warriors to support the project. The B.C. wing of the Premier's

party made it clear that nothing will buy social licence. To the Premier: will you now admit that you have no social licence even with your family and that you sold Albertans a bill of goods when you rammed the carbon tax down their throats?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Premier.

**Ms Notley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I will proclaim with great pride is that we have a climate leadership plan that enjoys the support of industry, that enjoys the support of indigenous people, that enjoys the support of the environmental community. This is a climate change leadership plan that will create jobs, will support diversification of the economy, and it will also – wait for it – reduce emissions, something which the previous government failed to take into account at all. We did that, and in addition we delinked emissions from pipeline construction. That is a fundamental argument that we have made and we will continue to make . . .

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Premier. Thank you.

**Mr. McIver:** The Premier's plan doesn't even have NDP support outside of Alberta. It's now proven that Albertans can't bank on federal and NEB approvals alone to be enough. For this government to suggest otherwise is wilful ignorance. On this side of the House we want this project to succeed. We want to see shovels in the ground, but there is no reasoning with the eco warriors who now call the shots in B.C. To the Premier: do you now regret opposing Northern Gateway, and do you have any real plan to get Kinder Morgan's shovels in the ground?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Premier.

**Ms Notley:** Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. What I don't plan to do is to talk down the chances for Alberta's growth, talk down the fact that Alberta is actually a great place to invest, try to discourage people from coming here by telling them the sky is falling when it's really not, all the kinds of politically motivated things that we see from those guys over there and those guys over there. They are so interested in their own political success that all they want to do is to see economic failure for Albertans. Thank God Albertans have a government that's actually standing up for them, that wants to see them prosper, that wants to create more jobs and – you know what? – is succeeding in that.

**The Speaker:** Calgary-Elbow.

### Dementia Care

**Mr. Clark:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Last month Dementia Network Calgary met, and the room was full to capacity. One of my constituents said that the stories she heard that day, quote, highlighted the magnitude of the gaps for care for people with dementia and their families and the lack of knowledge and understanding about dementia in our province. Now, after hearing this and other stories, I looked into whether there is a provincial dementia strategy, and it turns out that there was a thorough process that resulted in a draft report and recommendations in 2015. To the Premier: will you implement the recommendations of this report, and if not, will you commit to creating a comprehensive provincial dementia strategy?

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

**Ms Hoffman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question on the very important topic. The numbers of

Albertans continuing to be diagnosed with dementia are continuing to increase, and of course those individuals are impacted as well as their friends and their family members, who care about them. This is one of the reasons why we're investing in building 2,000 new long-term care and dementia care spaces throughout our province, and it's one of the reasons why we are pleased to have the report. The department is working on next steps, and we will continue to make sure that we move forward supporting Albertans, who clearly deserve to be supported.

**Mr. Clark:** But no commitment to creating an actual strategy.

Mr. Speaker, as the minister referenced, there are approximately 13,000 people in Calgary and area living with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, and it won't be long before 1 in 10 Albertans over the age of 65 and nearly half of Albertans over the age of 90 will be living with dementia. But the word "dementia" is mentioned exactly once in the Ministry of Health business plan. I'm concerned about this government's commitment to dementia care. Again to the Premier: is dementia care a priority for your government, and if so, why have you done so little about it?

2:10

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

**Ms Hoffman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Absolutely, health care and dementia care supports are a priority for this government. That's one of the reasons why, immediately upon taking government, we reversed the billion dollars' worth of cuts that were proposed by the outgoing government. That's one of the reasons why we're moving forward on building 2,000 long-term care and dementia care spaces throughout our province. That's one of the reasons why we're investing in and ensuring that front-line services can be grown and supported in terms of helping people live in the communities that they helped to build, and that's one of the reasons I'm so proud that physicians stepped up and renegotiated a contract enabling us to have half a billion dollars reinvested into the system to make sure that we can improve it.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. minister.

**Mr. Clark:** With respect, Mr. Speaker, without a strategy, how do you know what you're doing and why you're doing it and if the resources are in place that you need?

The federal government is debating a national Alzheimer's and dementia strategy, and Ontario has been proactive, recently announcing a \$100 million spend over the next three years to implement their dementia strategy. This government has the opportunity to do some good and enact a made-in-Alberta plan so that we're ready for any available funding the federal government may provide. I'll ask one more time: why are you not being proactive and bringing forward an Alberta-based dementia strategy?

**Ms Hoffman:** I'll answer the question one more time, Mr. Speaker. That's exactly what's happening. We are actually putting our investment where we say we will. We're making sure that we're supporting seniors in living in their communities, supporting their families, enhancing long-term care, home care, dementia care, and making sure that Albertans can have the supports they need rather than pushing for ideological cuts that all three conservative parties on the opposite side are pushing for. We're pushing to make Alberta stronger, we're supporting Alberta health care, and we're supporting the people who live here.

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

### Calgary Southwest Ring Road Construction Concerns

**Drever:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At a recent town hall and in my office I have heard many concerns from my constituents about the impacts of the southwest Calgary ring road project. Given that there have been discussions on putting an asphalt plant in this area and no decisions have been communicated to the residents of Calgary-Bow, to the Minister of Transportation: can this government give a clear answer to my constituents on whether or not an asphalt plant will be operating in their neighbourhood?

**Mr. Mason:** Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for her question. I want to thank her for her advocacy on this issue and for bringing the concerns of the residents to my attention. This is not the first time that she's done so. The Calgary ring road is an important and a complex project, but the safety of the residents is an important priority. It's my top priority. Due to the feedback we've received from the member's constituents and the member herself, we've selected a location for the asphalt plant west of Sarcee Trail and south of Glenmore Trail. The location is more than one kilometre away from the nearest residents, and it is the farthest of . . .

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. minister.  
First supplemental.

**Drever:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that residents of West Springs have expressed concerns about the gravel operations planned near Old Banff Coach Road and 101 Street S.W., what action is this government taking to protect the health and safety of Albertans from the effects of this operation?

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

**Mr. Mason:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Well, as I said, the government takes the health and safety concerns related to infrastructure projects very seriously indeed, and that's why we ordered a health impact assessment of the gravel operations. The report was reviewed by the acting medical officer of health, who found that our plans to monitor and mitigate dust levels will protect the health of community members. These measures include berms, processing gravel below the natural ground level, and monitoring noise and dust levels to ensure that appropriate thresholds are followed.

**The Speaker:** Second supplemental.

**Drever:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that residents have shared concerns about these operations with my office and your ministry for months, again to the Minister of Transportation: how has your ministry responded to this feedback, and was this feedback taken into account when making decisions about this project?

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

**Mr. Mason:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for her question. Quite simply, we've listened to the concerns of local residents and found the right balance between the work and the safety of the community and the people working on the project. We've held multiple information sessions about the project, and we're attending more this spring. My office has responded to over a hundred pieces of correspondence and dozens of phone calls on the issue. That's why we have moved asphalt operations as far as possible from homes and are putting in robust mitigation for gravel operations. Our government is committed to minimizing the impact of this work on the community.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. minister.

### Energy-sector Unemployment

**Mr. Panda:** When the big three oil sands companies announce thousands of layoffs, one number that doesn't show up is the thousands of contract workers – electricians, welders, pipefitters, work camp cooks, cleaners, and other unionized trades – that also get laid off as a ripple effect spreads across the province. Does the minister of economic development know how many contract jobs have been eliminated with the NDP-initiated downsizing of the oil sands?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Economic Development and Trade.

**Mr. Bilous:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and I'll thank the member for the question. First and foremost, you know, the number of layoffs that have occurred are attributed to the fact that there was a dramatic and sustained drop in the world price of oil, something which the government of Alberta, despite what the opposition says, does not control. We are a price taker, not a price maker. We acknowledge that it has been a rough couple of years for a lot of Alberta families and communities and workers. That's exactly why we announced our Alberta jobs plan, which has a historic investment in infrastructure and new projects with a number of other initiatives to help get Albertans back to work.

**Mr. Panda:** Mr. Speaker, given that this minister has responsibilities for growing the economy – yet so many like the engineers and unionized trades protesting here on Tuesday prove that the minister is killing jobs rather than creating jobs – and given that my friends and former colleagues cannot find jobs because the oil companies are leaving Alberta due to this government, with more pink slips still being handed to employees, outweighing new jobs, will the minister admit that his job-creation plan is a complete and utter failure?

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

**Mr. Bilous:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish the member opposite and his party would actually look at the statistics and facts that are coming out. Number one, the Conference Board of Canada is projecting that Alberta's economy will grow by 3.3 per cent this year, the highest and fastest growth out of any province in the country. Full-time employment rose for the third straight month. Alberta led the country in private-sector investment last year and is on track this year. The number of cars sold in Alberta, for example, is up 15 per cent. Alberta operators drilled just shy of 2,000 wells during the first three months of 2017.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. minister.

**Mr. Panda:** Mr. Speaker, given that the minister said that he would create a hundred thousand jobs, yet we are negative 60,000 jobs, which is 160,000 jobs away from his promise, and given that on Tuesday faces behind the jobs he destroyed came here and the minister was too busy to meet with them until he was shamed into it by the protest, can the minister explain why he disrespects the unemployed by refusing to meet with relevant stakeholders until they come in hundreds knocking on his door?

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

**Mr. Bilous:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The only kernel of truth in that preamble was the fact that there were dozens of workers that

came up to the Alberta Legislature. Not only did the Minister of Energy along with staff from Economic Development and Trade and from Labour meet with this group; after they came here both the Minister of Labour and I met with them. There are a number of announcements that have been made that are going to be putting engineers back to work in this province, including the fact that Pembina-PIC, one of the successful PDP applicants, will be tendering a \$100 million contract for detailed design work that will be going to engineers. As far as . . .

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. minister.  
The hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Wapiti.

## 2:20 New Edmonton Hospital

**Mr. Drysdale:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This week the government announced a new hospital in south Edmonton. This is great news for Edmonton and area residents, but I can provide many quotes from different ministers who have said that they won't make any capital announcements without first having a business case, functional plan, design, and cost estimates. So to the Minister of Infrastructure: do you have the business case, functional plan, design, and cost estimates for the new Edmonton hospital as per your announcement?

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

**Mr. Mason:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and thank you very much for the question. The issue really is this: do you announce a budget for a project without doing the work to decide what are the necessary services you're going to provide, what the need is going to be in the future, and what the approximate costs are? All of those things should be done before you develop a budget for the process and announce prices. We haven't done that. We've said that there's going to be a new hospital. We've said that we're doing the analysis, working with Alberta Health Services on what the needs are, what the mix of services is going to be. We've picked a site. We have not set a budget. Unlike the previous government that announced prices before they . . .

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. minister.  
First supplemental.

**Mr. Drysdale:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that the government has not produced these documents or doesn't have them and given that the Beaverlodge hospital has been the number one capital project in AHS's north zone for several years and they have done the business case and the functional plan and the Infrastructure minister said a few weeks ago that the design was almost done, to the same Minister of Infrastructure: does this urban-centric government have two different standards, one for big cities and one for rural Alberta, when it comes to capital announcements?

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

**Ms Hoffman:** Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question, which highlights the fact that his government, even while he was Minister of Infrastructure, failed to build a hospital in a community that – he's right – had been identified for many years as in need of one. I think it's pretty rich of you to say that we don't need one in Edmonton. We haven't had one in Edmonton since the 1980s. Premier Getty was in office. That is a long time. The people of Alberta deserve better, and all parts of Alberta deserve to have the very best care, and that's what they've got from this NDP government.

**The Speaker:** Second supplemental.

**Mr. Drysdale:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that in April 2016 the Minister of Infrastructure also criticized the former government for announcing the Grande Prairie hospital and then designing it and said, "Now we scope out our projects before we make a political announcement," and given that this government has not designed the Edmonton hospital before announcing it, to the minister: wouldn't you say that you are now designing the Edmonton hospital to fit your political announcement? How is this different from the previous government?

**Mr. Mason:** Well, it is very much different than the previous government. [interjections]

**The Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Mason:** If you take the Grande Prairie hospital as an example, it was announced including a price, including a budget. That's what the former Premier announced in Grande Prairie. It turns out that the price was way more than was necessary, but the bureaucracy decided that they had to design the hospital to fit the political announcement that had been made by that government's Premier. As a result, the shell of this hospital is quite a bit larger than it needs to be, and the costs are quite a bit higher than they needed to have been if that government had done its homework first, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Lac La Biche-St. Paul-Two Hills.

## Rural Education Funding

**Mr. Hanson:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Many rural schools are struggling to stay open given the compounding costs of the carbon tax, the cap on high school credit funding, the impact of Bill 1, and declining enrolment. A school board in my riding is facing some very difficult choices in trying to meet the needs of their students in their rural schools. To the Minister of Education: how many rural school boards have you met with to examine the funding model to find solutions to keep small rural schools open to avoid loss of front-line workers and lengthy bus rides for young students?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Education.

**Mr. Eggen:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you very much for the question. It's very important that we retain a high quality of education in all corners of the province, so that's why globally we have made sure that we have increased the funding to meet the needs of Alberta's schools. I have been meeting with school boards around the province. In fact, I will be meeting with the balance of them here on Saturday and then on Monday as well to talk about these very issues.

**The Speaker:** First supplemental.

**Mr. Hanson:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and to the minister for that answer. Given that the Wildrose policy recognizes the social and economic importance of keeping schools open in small urban and rural school environments and given that we advocate to better fund the associated costs and given that the recent rural school symposium focused on partnerships that can support a healthy, vibrant, rural community and given that many rural schools are facing closure or already have been closed, what is the minister doing specifically to ensure that the beating heart of rural Alberta is protected and that schools stay open?

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

**Mr. Eggen:** Well, thank you. This is a very important question that we need to address because, of course, if we do lose schools, they're very unlikely to open again, Mr. Speaker. We are working with some programs and looking to strengthen them. The small schools by necessity program looks to augment funds and looks for special geographic circumstances. We just announced the building of a school in Irma, Alberta, in partnership with the community raising money to use it as a community centre. I want to be creative because I want to make sure that we have the very highest quality education for all of our students.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. minister.  
Second supplemental.

**Mr. Hanson:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Given that last Friday I attended a meeting with the Aspen View school board in Athabasca along with the Member for Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater and given that they would like a meeting with you to request a review of the funding model for rural schools and given that the other member has not publicly brought the issue forward on behalf of the school board this week, how is the imminent closure of any Alberta school making life better for Albertans?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Education.

**Mr. Eggen:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I totally agree that it's very important that we seek to find creative ways to keep schools open and to build new schools in rural Alberta, to rightsize these schools so that we have something we can work with in the future. Certainly, we will be meeting with the specific school board. I'll be seeing them here on the weekend and on Monday, and I'd be glad to talk to them and the rest of the rural school boards about ways by which we can improve the funding model for rural education in the province of Alberta.

#### Minister of Finance

**Mr. Fildebrandt:** Today the NDP are in court again, being sued for their latest attempt at a beer tax tariff on out-of-province brews. The minister's first tariff failed, and he refused to listen. We warned him about his second tariff, and he refused to listen, and now they're in court again. If the minister loses in court again, it will throw Alberta's brewers into chaos and uncertainty and open up Alberta taxpayers to millions of dollars in back taxes. If the minister loses in court again, will he finally admit that he lacks the competence to do his job?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Economic Development and Trade.

**Mr. Bilous:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'll tell you what our government did. Our government is standing up for Alberta brewers. We are standing up for Alberta businesses. For far too long other provinces' companies have enjoyed Alberta's open borders and open trade markets. Finally, it took a New Democrat government to negotiate a fair trade agreement for all of Canada where now our brewers have equal access to other markets.

**Mr. Fildebrandt:** Given, Mr. Speaker, that it's clear that beer is impairing the judgment of the minister and he's not seeing straight as he swerves from left to left and that he has not only violated the Constitution on free trade but his very own laws that he himself introduced and given that he broke the law by illegally spending \$1.1 billion on the coal phase-out and that he had to repeal his own

debt ceiling law just months after he introduced it – the first step towards recovery is admitting that you have a problem. Will the Minister of Finance admit that he's got a spending problem?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Economic Development and Trade.

2:30

**Mr. Bilous:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know what? I want to commend, first of all, the Minister of Finance for his work to help support small brewers in this province. In less than three years the growth of craft breweries and brew pubs has exploded from 14 to over 60 by the end of this year. What I'd love to ask the member opposite and the opposition: why are they working against Alberta brewers and cheering for them to fail and defending brewers in other provinces? [interjections]

**The Speaker:** Order, please.

**Mr. Fildebrandt:** They should let the Finance minister stand up and stop benching him.

Given, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister of Finance has left behind a mess, with a projected \$100 billion debt, historically low credit ratings, record high spending, and a long trail of legal and constitutional violations that were easily avoidable, and given that the minister is starting to look like a renter who's left such a mess of the place that he plans to move out and forfeit the deposit, does the minister have any plans to clean up his mess, or does he intend to leave it to his successors?

**Mr. Bilous:** Mr. Speaker, you know, I want to start off by quoting the *National Post*. "Alberta's non-discriminatory uniform tax rate with targeted grants to craft brewers is the most trade and constitutionally compliant in Canada." We came up with a fair system, where we charge the same markup, whether it's a brewer from Alberta, Saskatchewan, or somewhere else, at \$1.25 a litre. We are standing up for Alberta brewers and Alberta crafters. The opposition is cheering for Saskatchewan. I want to know if the member opposite is planning to run in their next election. [interjections]

**The Speaker:** Order. [interjections] Order.

The hon. Member for Calgary-Lougheed.

#### School Transportation in Calgary

**Mr. Rodney:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Over half of all Calgary board of education bus students have enjoyed great success in attending schools of their own choosing, but parents are now being told that the board will no longer fund any portion of their transportation costs and that they'll no longer run school buses in these areas. That means that in many cases very young students will have to negotiate multiple transfers on public transit, which can be both terrifying and dangerous for children of that age. How can the minister possibly claim that Bill 1 is making life better for the 13,000 families who are simply trying to get their young people to their school of choice and back safely?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Education.

**Mr. Eggen:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, An Act to Reduce School Fees, in fact, does do that for 600,000 families. They will be seeing a reduction in their school fees, including bus fees as well. It's not an act to eliminate school fees because, of course, there are a myriad of fees that are out there after decades of this previous government allowing fees to go wild. We're bringing them

in. Certainly, I'm working with the Calgary board of education and many others to make sure that they understand both the letter of the law and the spirit of the law to keep school fees in moderation and to provide the services that they need.

**Mr. Rodney:** That's not what all these parents are saying, Mr. Speaker.

Given that the parents tell me that they are more than willing to pay increased transportation fees but that the CBE will not work with these families on a transportation solution because they feel that they're being held hostage by the minister's lack of understanding of the impact of his bill on parents and students, Minister, will you commit to working with school boards and actually consult with parents to ensure that funding has been provided, and will you commit to meeting with representatives from these families to find manageable, affordable, safe transportation solutions for these children so that these successful programs, that families have chosen, will not die?

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

**Mr. Eggen:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Certainly, I'm more than happy to and do work with parents and school boards around school fees in general and then bus routes specifically. You know, the effort to reduce school fees for Alberta families in general is very, very well received. Yes, there are some things to work out along the way, but at the end of the day for us to reduce school fees for more than 600,000 families in the fall – I think that we will see a considerable advantage and make life better for Alberta families.

**Mr. Rodney:** Given that the system was working extremely well before the NDP started manipulating it and given that a survey of parents in two schools in our area indicates that transportation costs will increase over \$850 each year and that costs for before and after school care will increase over \$530 to accommodate all the school time changes in an effort to reduce their transportation budget as a direct result of Bill 1, how can the minister claim that the NDP has the backs of these families, who are now faced with more than \$1,000 per child in additional costs with a significantly worse level of service than they enjoy right now?

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

**Mr. Eggen:** Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's very important for us to work together with school boards to make sure they understand that they're not meant to increase school fees because of An Act to Reduce School Fees. You know, the hon. member should have looked at the bill to see that one part of it is to reduce school fees and another one is to regulate to make sure that if school fees are excessive, they will not pass. These school fees will come to my attention, and we will review to see if, in fact, they are legitimate or not.

### Tourism and Canada 150

**Mr. Westhead:** Mr. Speaker, 2017 marks Canada's 150th birthday. Tourists from across Canada and around the world have their sights set on visiting Banff, the birthplace of our national parks system. This is great news for the tourism and hospitality industry but will put a lot of pressure on the park's infrastructure. Over the May long weekend 31,000 vehicles entering Banff set a new record. To the Minister of Culture and Tourism: what is the government doing to help towns like Banff and Lake Louise deal with the influx of tourists and to help ensure a positive visitor experience?

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

**Miranda:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. Staff in my department are working very closely with the town of Banff, Parks Canada, Banff/Lake Louise Tourism, and other stakeholders to effectively manage the increase in visitors to the province's national parks and to help ensure that visitors are aware of free shuttle services and other transit options within the Banff and Lake Louise area as well as to ensure accurate and timely information is available at entry gates and online before they arrive.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** First supplemental.

**Mr. Westhead:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister. Given that the government's latest stats show that the province's national parks and resorts experienced record visitation and occupancy rates last year – and this is great news for businesses in my riding and the region – to the minister: what strategic investments are you making to maximize these opportunities and expand the tourism industry?

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

**Miranda:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. We know that tourism spurs economic growth, creates jobs, and makes life better for Albertans. That's why we're partnering with the Aboriginal Tourism Association of Canada to help grow indigenous tourism in our province. We're enabling communities to reach and engage more people with improved tourism technologies through the visitor services innovation fund, and the government is investing \$54.2 million this year for improvements to campgrounds throughout Alberta through the Alberta parks capital plan.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Second supplemental.

**Mr. Westhead:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that the popularity of destinations like Banff and Lake Louise has a spillover effect on neighbouring communities like Cochrane, Canmore, and Kananaskis, again to the Minister of Culture and Tourism: what is being done to help these towns capitalize on the influx of visitors we are expecting this year and into the future?

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

**Miranda:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. We're working with Travel Alberta and the tourism industry to encourage visitors to travel beyond the mountain park resorts, to discover all the hidden gems that our province has to offer. Alberta's visitor information centres in places like Canmore, Hinton, West Glacier, and Crowsnest Pass are monitoring local conditions such as high traffic volumes to help redirect visitors to alternative sites and hidden gems in our province. We're also highlighting destinations like Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, a drive along Cowboy Trail, and a visit to Fort Macleod national historic site.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Cardston-Taber-Warner.

### Air Ambulance Service Contract

**Mr. Hunter:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has come to my attention that AHS has actively taken a role in assisting CanWest Air as they

attempt to comply in the multibase medevac RFP. We are being told that this includes contacting airport authorities and employing coercive tactics. AHS issued the RFP, and now the contractor selected is failing to meet that RFP, all while the losing contractors are left wondering how fair the process was to begin with. How can the Minister of Health be complicit by allowing this to happen?

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

**Ms Hoffman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. I wish it was about government policy, but instead it's slandering front-line workers, so that's unfortunate. I'd have to say that I respect the fact that there is a contract negotiation under way. That is taking place right now. Should it be successful or not, then we'll be in a position to discuss next steps, but I respect both parties, that are in the process of trying to negotiate a contract, doing that in a way that's fair, respectful, and appropriate.

2:40

**Mr. Hunter:** Mr. Speaker, given that AHS has issued a number of inaccurate, incomplete, or misleading statements to the media to counter legitimate concerns from local community leaders, including saying that the successful vendor will meet all requirements of the RFP by the time the existing contract expires in late August, and given that no lease arrangements or construction permits have been issued for new medevac bases in Medicine Hat or Peace River, Minister, how is it a fair and transparent process when AHS is rigging the RFP in favour of the operator without bases in these areas?

**Ms Hoffman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, for the question. Certainly, it's our constant expectation that things are done in a fair and upright manner, and that's going to continue to be my position. We expect that when there is an RFP, when there is a contract that's to be negotiated, it's done in a way that's fair. There hasn't been a contract signed yet. I think that the member opposite is trying to fan some flames when the truth is that there are negotiations happening right now. My commitment is to ensuring that we have local air ambulance at the communities where it's currently housed, and that will continue to be my commitment, ensuring that everybody is safe.

**Mr. Hunter:** In a nutshell, Mr. Speaker, given that there is ample evidence that CanWest cannot comply with the RFP and given that we have been told that the contract for Medicine Hat and Peace River will be signed today, why would the minister sign any contract with any potential service provider that cannot meet an RFP?

**Ms Hoffman:** Again, Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of accusations and hyperbole in place. AHS is in a position where they're the ones who are negotiating the specifics of the contract. My policy direction, which was very clear and in accordance with the Auditor General's recommendations, is to set the box and ensure that the service providers are operating within that. My box is ensuring that we have the very best care throughout the province, that no matter where you live, you have access to adequate air ambulance. Of course, we want to do that at a rate that's fair for taxpayers.

AHS, I believe, is having a conference call tomorrow with the municipalities of both Peace River and Medicine Hat, and I look forward to hearing how those conversations unfold, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** In 30 seconds, folks.

## Members' Statements

(continued)

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose.

### National Aboriginal History Month

**Mr. Hinkley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to mark the beginning of National Aboriginal History Month and acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 land. When we walk to this House and throughout the city, we do so in the footsteps of the indigenous peoples who lived here for thousands and thousands of years. Since 2009 June has been recognized each year as National Aboriginal History Month in Canada.

This year also marks the 21st anniversary of National Aboriginal Day, celebrated on June 21 of each year. The purpose of this national day of recognition is to encourage solidarity amongst all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people and for all Canadians to celebrate the many contributions and successes of indigenous peoples across the country. National Aboriginal Day also celebrates and recognizes the many diverse indigenous languages, cultural practices, spiritual beliefs, and communities. It is important to share these stories and this history because for too long they have been missing from Canada's official history.

Even more important is the work together, government to government, with First Nations to make life better for indigenous families. I'm very proud to be part of a government that is taking action to do just that by investing in clean water, education, jobs, and economic development to create opportunities and support strong First Nations communities.

I'm looking forward to participating in the upcoming activities this year and hope you all will as well. With little effort you can find amazing events in communities throughout Alberta. I invite you to Maskwacis to share the rich historical heritage of our central Alberta Cree nations. I will have the privilege to attend the inauguration of the Samson Cree Nation Chief and Council this June.

As we move forward together in reconciliation, let us acknowledge and embrace the long history of traditional teachings, medicines, spiritualism, and the many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Albertans. [Remarks in Cree]

Thank you.

### Landowner Property Rights

**Mr. Strankman:** With the recent Court of Appeal's decision upholding the Redwater Energy bankruptcy decision, it seems that once again the little guy is left in limbo while the local MLA is completely mute on the subject. Now landowners face issues such as the Lexin receivership, and unless they already had a judgment approved under a section 36 application to the Surface Rights Board, they are out of luck as their application will be put on indefinite hold.

Why does this matter? It matters because this government has been extremely vague in answering questions about how they are going to protect landowners in regard to renewable energy projects. Despite attempts by the opposition to ensure some level of accountability and protection measures, this government simply bullied its legislation through.

NDP ministers routinely ignore constituents' questions and, instead, attack the messenger. It's a typical response from a government that all too often rushes through incomplete or ill-thought-out legislation. Ministers routinely accuse their critics of being anti-industry or antijob. Recently one minister even took a

mayor's comments out of context to give a typical non answer to the Member for Little Bow's question. The mayor publicly expressed her disapproval, but I doubt that will stop the government from continuing the practice.

Given recent events and the lack of will exhibited by this government to stand up for landowners, it should really come as no surprise to Albertans. This government constantly puts its ideological agenda ahead of common sense and won't allow a basic thing such as property rights to stand in its way. A government whose approval ratings fall far behind the opposition parties' simply has nothing to lose.

Mr. Speaker, they may have the majority now, but that won't stop members of the opposition from shining a public light on silly ideological ways. We will continue to hold them accountable and to stand up for the average Albertan.

### Introduction of Bills

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose.

#### Bill 208 Government Organization (Utilities Consumer Advocate) Amendment Act, 2017

**Mr. Hinkley:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to request leave to introduce Bill 208, Government Organization (Utilities Consumer Advocate) Amendment Act, 2017.

Mr. Speaker, our government is committed to practical changes that make life more affordable for Albertans. Electricity and energy for homes, businesses, and public institutions are essential, and consumers need to know that the companies they're purchasing from are well regulated and fair. Bill 208 will support greater consumer protection, and I look forward to discussion and deliberation with my colleagues in the House.

[Motion carried; Bill 208 read a first time]

### 2:50 Tabling Returns and Reports

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Banff-Cochrane.

**Mr. Westhead:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to table a document which I referred to in my member's statement that proves that the Wildrose has moved to the ideologically extreme right and that they've broken their promise to working people.

**The Speaker:** Do we in fact have that point of order today? The hon. Member for Lac La Biche-St. Paul-Two Hills.

### Point of Order Language Creating Disorder

**Mr. Hanson:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'll try to be brief. I rise today on Standing Order 23(h), (i), and (j). I can just briefly run over them for you:

- (h) makes allegations against another Member;
- (i) imputes false or unavowed motives to another Member; [and]
- (j) uses abusive or insulting language of a nature likely to [cause] disorder.

At approximately 2:20 this afternoon, during question period, the hon. Minister of Economic Development and Trade used the term "the only kernel of truth," which, to me, would be a very clear implication that the minister called the Member for Calgary-Foothills a liar on all other statements that he made in his question.

Many references and roundabout ways of calling a member a liar have been attempted in this House and have been ruled out of order in the past, and I would ask . . . [interjections]

**The Speaker:** Hon. members.

**Mr. Hanson:** . . . that this be treated the same way and that the hon. member simply apologize and withdraw his comment.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Government House Leader.

**Mr. Mason:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Well, I don't believe that there is a point of order here. You know, I've watched with some interest as this sort of line of thinking has developed with the opposition. Because they have used very clear language that is unparliamentary such as "liar" – and they use that in their members' statements – and "deliberately misleading," which are clearly unparliamentary and have been ruled so not just by you but by previous Speakers here and Speakers throughout the Legislatures and Parliament of this country, that does not mean that any particular phrase that could be interpreted to suggest that someone has not told the full truth is, in fact, out of order.

Now, in this particular case the hon. minister said, "the only kernel of truth," so he was acknowledging, in fact, that there was some truth contained in the thing, but obviously he was disagreeing with some of the parts of the statement that had been made by the hon. member.

I think the opposition has been making a serious error here in their attempt to extrapolate clear rulings about clear violations such as saying "lie" or "deliberately mislead" and making that apply to a member in almost any situation that is actually part of the norm of parliamentary discourse in this place. Mr. Speaker, it's quite acceptable in this place to make statements like that. I often say, when I disagree with statements or facts in question period, that nothing could be further from the truth. There are other cases where Speakers have ruled on things like "the member is a stranger to the truth," different ways of expressing that point of view that are not considered unparliamentary.

The hon. Minister of Economic Development and Trade was very far from any sort of line with respect to his comment. He was talking about his view of the question that was being put to him, and he acknowledged that there was a kernel of truth. That may imply that there are some things that were not true in the statement. That's a far cry from calling a member a liar, Mr. Speaker, and I think it's time we settled this question without ambiguity because, clearly, the opposition doesn't understand the distinction, and I hope that we can get this cleared up.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Are there any other members who would like to speak to this matter?

Well, I agree. This particular discussion has gone on on so many, numerous, occasions that there seems to be a desire on this side of the House to see some kind of black-and-white rule with respect to the use of such words and phrases. There have been rulings in the past, some of which have been made by myself, with respect to this item. Most often, if not always, the point that I've made is to the context in which the comments are made, and even that particular application of principle is one of maybe an art form but certainly not a science.

The member wasn't accused of lying or of a deliberate falsehood, so it doesn't really qualify as an allegation. With respect to the "language of a nature likely to create disorder," Government House Leader, it is getting awfully close to that. You do make very



compelling arguments when you say statements like referring further from the truth, et cetera.

I contemplated this considerably when I heard the comment by the minister. I think soon we're going to be having a long summer respite, which might well help all of us, and I would ask each of you as we go forward to consider ways in which the points you want to protect personal freedom with are used in such a manner that we do not even risk causing a disorder in this House.

In this particular instance, hon. member, I don't believe there is a point of order. However, Government House Leader, let me remind everybody and your caucus to be more conscious, please, of the utilization of these phrases, and let us come back to this House in the fall with a better, shared understanding of what is acceptable in this House.

### Orders of the Day

#### Government Motions

##### Ombudsman and Public Interest Commissioner Appointment

22. Mr. Mason moved:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly concur in the report of the Select Special Ombudsman and Public Interest Commissioner Search Committee tabled in the Assembly on May 25, 2017, and recommend to the Lieutenant Governor in Council that Marianne Ryan be appointed as Ombudsman and Public Interest Commissioner for the province of Alberta for a five year term, effective July 1, 2017.

**The Speaker:** Any members who wish to speak to Motion 22?

Seeing and hearing none, no need for a closure statement. Having heard the motion as proposed by the Government House Leader, does the Assembly agree with the motion? All in favour, say yea.

**Hon. Members:** Aye.

**The Speaker:** Aye? Okay. Fine. Nay? Motion is carried. It's been one of those days.

[Government Motion 22 carried]

**Mr. Mason:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can certainly say yea to that decision.

##### Auditor General Search Committee

23. Mr. Mason moved:  
Be it resolved that:
1. A Select Special Auditor General Search Committee of the Legislative Assembly be appointed consisting of the following members, namely: Mr. Shepherd, chair; Mr. Malkinson, deputy chair; Mr. Cyr; Mr. Gill; Mr. Horne; Mr. Kleinsteuber; Mrs. Littlewood; Mr. van Dijken; and Ms Woollard, for the purpose of inviting applications for the position of Auditor General and to recommend to the Assembly the applicant it considers most suitable to this position.
  2. Reasonable disbursements by the committee for advertising, staff assistance, equipment and supplies, rent, travel, and other expenditures necessary for the effective conduct of its responsibilities shall be paid subject to the approval of the chair.
  3. In carrying out its responsibilities, the committee may with the concurrence of the head of the department utilize the services of members of the public service

employed in that department and of the staff employed by the Assembly.

4. The committee may without leave of the Assembly sit during a period when the Assembly is adjourned or prorogued.
5. When its work has been completed, the committee shall report to the Assembly if it is sitting. During a period when the Assembly is adjourned or prorogued, the committee may release its report by depositing a copy with the Clerk and forwarding a copy to each member of the Assembly.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, are there any other members who would wish to speak to Motion 23?

[Government Motion 23 carried]

#### 3:00 Committee Membership Changes

24. Mr. Mason moved:  
Be it resolved that the following committee membership changes be made.
- A. on the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future: that Mr. Panda replace Mr. Orr and that Mr. Gill replace Mr. Drysdale;
  - B. on the Standing Committee on Families and Communities: that Mr. Orr replace Mrs. Pitt;
  - C. on the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices: that Mr. Gill replace Mr. Ellis.

**The Speaker:** Are there any members that wish to speak to Motion 24?

[Government Motion 24 carried]

#### Alberta Property Rights Advocate

25. Mr. Mason moved:  
Be it resolved that:
1. The 2016 annual report of the Alberta Property Rights Advocate office be referred to the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship for the purpose of conducting a review of the recommendations outlined in the report;
  2. The committee may, without leave of the Assembly, sit during a period when the Assembly is adjourned or prorogued;
  3. In accordance with section 5(5) of the Property Rights Advocate Act the committee shall report back to the Assembly within 60 days of the report being referred to it if the Assembly is then sitting or, if it is not then sitting, within 15 days after the commencement of the next sitting.

**The Speaker:** Are there any members who wish to speak to Motion 25?

[Government Motion 25 carried]

#### Missing Persons Act

26. Mr. Mason moved:  
Be it resolved that:
1. The Missing Persons Act be referred to the Standing Committee on Families and Communities and the committee shall be deemed to be the special committee of the Assembly for the purpose of conducting a

- comprehensive review pursuant to section 13 of that act;
2. The committee may, without leave of the Assembly, sit during a period when the Assembly is adjourned or prorogued;
  3. In accordance with section 13 of the Missing Persons Act the committee must submit its report to the Assembly within one year after beginning its review, and that report is to include any amendments recommended by the committee.

**The Speaker:** Are there any members who wish to speak to Motion 26?

[Government Motion 26 carried]

## Government Bills and Orders Third Reading

### Bill 16 An Act to Cap Regulated Electricity Rates

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs on behalf of the hon. Minister of Energy.

**Mr. S. Anderson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my honour to rise and move third reading of Bill 16, An Act to Cap Regulated Electricity Rates, on behalf of the Minister of Energy.

I am proud to stand with my caucus colleagues to vote for putting the cap on electricity prices to make life more affordable for Albertans. I look forward to easing Albertans' minds by letting them know that we are keeping their electricity rates in check.

My caucus colleagues and I know how hard the energy-only electricity market has been on Alberta families. Unfortunately, that is not true of everyone in this House. Some have suggested that the broken system that we inherited is actually working. They've called it healthy, high functioning, and once prosperous. If you've never struggled to make ends meet or never felt sympathy for a family that worries about next month's prices, then maybe it seems to work just fine, but the people in our caucus remember far too well the hardship that volatile electricity prices have caused for Alberta families. Some of us have even experienced this first-hand.

One thing that I know for sure: once you've lived through these challenges, once you've struggled alongside other families who have worried that their next bill might break their budget, you can't forget how broken our system has been, so I cannot understand how anyone could forget the years of wild price swings, the many months of sudden spikes that we have lived through alongside our neighbours and constituents. On our side we can't forget the hardships caused by these spikes, but given that some in this House have called these spikes reasonable and part of a healthy, high-functioning market that was working well, apparently it bears repeating.

From 2010 to 2014 the one thing you could bank on with your power bill was that you could never bank on it. The only thing that was consistent with the bill was its inconsistency. In those five years rates were over the cap of 6.8 cents as often as they were under. So if anyone is still struggling to understand why we are doing this, you need only to look back a few years.

What made it even harder for families and small businesses was the volatility. From month to month you didn't know what rates might do. Spikes regularly sent prices over 8 cents per kilowatt hour and often over 10 cents. In 2011 and 2012 alone rates flirted with or surpassed 12 cents in six separate months and once jumped over 15 cents. That meant typical residential electricity bills with energy

charges well over \$90 per month, two to three times what they were only a season earlier. How does a family plan for that? How do you make your family budget work with that kind of uncertainty, and how could you ever forget the anxiety that comes with it?

While some have said that this was part of a working system, that this was fair and reasonable treatment of Albertans, we have decided to take action. We are bringing the reforms Alberta needs to make our power system cleaner and more stable. Our capacity market will bring stability to the broken, volatile system that we inherited, a system that clearly hasn't been working for Albertans and a system that the top experts said was struggling to attract new investments.

Designing the right fix for such a broken system is going to take some time. It was left too long in disrepair. While we're stuck with a system we all inherited, that spikes our power rates unpredictably, Albertans deserve to feel secure that they can at least guess at next month's rates. They deserve to have more security for their finances than has been allowed under our current market.

With this bill Albertans would know that they wouldn't need to pay more than the cap, and that applies straight across the province to all consumers on the RRO, including those who receive their RRO from an REA or a municipality. As we know, these providers are in a different situation. The Alberta Utilities Commission does not regulate their rates. That meant that it was more complex to include them in the cap in a fiscally prudent manner. But we committed to working with the REAs and municipalities to include them in the cap, and through this collaboration we found a good solution. Promise made, promise kept. We're thrilled to be able to make the cap work for the REAs and for all Albertans. That's why we are setting this cap, so that regulated rates can't spike to unreasonable levels the way they have in years past.

**Mr. MacIntyre:** Oh, what are you drinking over there?

**Mr. S. Anderson:** You should cool your jets, Member.

That's our plan in a nutshell.

The electricity system is complex, but making life more affordable for Alberta families is a simple idea. We are setting the stage for a more reliable electricity system that is more attractive to investors and more stable and predictable for consumers. While we take the necessary time to get that right, we won't let the broken system we inherited continue to subject consumers to its scary roller coaster. We are making life better for Albertans by moving forward with our bill to cap electricity rates.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Innisfail-Sylvan Lake.

**Mr. MacIntyre:** You guessed it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Well, that was an interesting fairy tale. Just to maybe illuminate something for the hon. member, Albertans have had available to them all the way along fixed-rate contracts, which brings stability to their electricity prices. We know that. Most Albertans are aware of that. In fact, I would say that all Albertans except maybe the hon. member have been aware of that.

Let's get down to what this particular piece of legislation is really about. It is not about protecting Albertans from price spikes in electricity. This act is a bill to protect this government from enraged Albertans, enraged as they watch this government mismanage the electricity file consistently, from the get-go; enraged as they watch this government bankrupt the Balancing Pool, vaporizing a \$705 million surplus in literally months, forcing the Balancing Pool to the verge of bankruptcy, having to introduce Bill 34, a rushed piece of legislation to try to get something in place to bail out the Balancing Pool because this government mismanaged the electricity file

so bad that now we're staring at \$4.437 billion of debt. That's certainly making life more affordable for Albertans, isn't it?

3:10

This bill is actually to protect this government from enraged Albertans as they see this government destroy the once competitive power market and replace it with a \$20 billion electricity market, \$20 billion in utility debt that we have not had. That's now going to be on the backs of the taxpayers.

During debate this government rallied their backbenches to speak in support of this bill with a blistering defence, and I just want to repeat some of the excellent oratory that we were receiving from other side there. We had the hon. Member for Sherwood Park telling us that the REAs would be very supportive of this because they're co-ops and they're socialists, after all. Well, frankly, the responses I'm getting from the REAs are not repeatable in this House.

Then we had the hon. Member for Calgary-Klein talking to us about how the government

does not intend to remove the powers of REA boards of directors or city councils that independently set their own rates. However, to help ensure that rates are reasonable, the government will put a mechanism in place that will provide reimbursement for reasonable rates, and here we have our mechanism that we're discussing in this section.

Should these providers choose to put in place unreasonable rates, the government will . . .

On and on he went. Basically, charging the REAs, that are member owned, member driven – their members are on the board – and suggesting that these REAs are somehow going to be unreasonable to their own people. It was just incredible. I tell you, what a blistering defence of this bill.

This bill has nothing to do whatsoever with protecting Albertans. It has everything to do with ensuring that this government has as minimal and as controlled a PR problem as possible as they move our electricity forward into the most expensive model possible, with the greatest amount of debt possible, and it's mounting by the day. By their own estimates we're looking at over \$4 billion just to bail out the Balancing Pool, thanks to their excellent management of that, what was supposed to be an arm's-length body.

Then, of course, we come to the section in this bill regarding the MSA, the Market Surveillance Administrator, or, as I like to call them, the electricity police. Of course, again we had the Member for Calgary-Klein illuminating us on the purpose of that section, the section regarding the MSA. According to his own words, the section of the proposed act is to actually enable the MSA to add to their capabilities. I think he might have used the word "enhance." Well, I believe the hon. member needs a new thesaurus because in the act itself it says, "limiting or restricting any powers, duties or functions of the Commission or the Market Surveillance Administrator as the Minister considers necessary." News flash: limiting and restricting are not synonymous with enhancing. Those aren't synonyms for the words "enhance" or "add" or "enable." Limiting and restricting is exactly what it says, to rein in.

We saw this very same thing with Bill 27 as this government is terrified of having the Market Surveillance Administrator actually investigate and look into the situations regarding renewables deployment in this province. They're terrified of it, so much so that they absolutely stopped the MSA, through Bill 27, from being able to do its job. Here we have now the minister, an elected politician, meddling in the affairs of a surveillance administrator whose mandate is to be free of political interference, whose mandate is to protect us, the people of Alberta, in a manner that is unfettered by politics. Yet here we have the very minister being given extraordinary powers to determine what the MSA is and is not able to

do. That is reprehensible. They are completely gutting the powers of the MSA here.

This, as I said, is not an act to protect consumers. This is an act to protect this government from enraged Albertans experiencing the full onslaught from this government's reckless disembowelment of our deregulated electricity market. It's crazy.

So on we go. We have a situation where this government has so mismanaged the electricity file that we now have a broken system. A competitive system is the very best mechanism to protect consumers. It always has been. The protection comes from various players vying for our dollars, providing better services than the competition, better prices than the competition, better anything and everything than the competition. It's good. It's healthy for an economy to have strong competition. It's interesting to note that the very portions of our electricity bill that have actually riled Albertans the most over the years are all those sections of our electricity bill that have remained fully regulated by the government. The deregulated side of our electricity bill, the actual consumption charges for the usage of electricity, is the line item that has been coming down. We're down now around 3 cents and a bit. That's a great rate. The current RRO is great, yet this government seems to think they need to protect Albertans from that, really, pegging it at 6.8 cents for some reason. It's wild.

This government seems to think that they know better, and they are going to completely gut the deregulated system that we have in place and put that whole thing as a regulated system. We are going to have capacity contracts. And on that note, it should be pointed out that this particular bill before us right now expires once the capacity contracts come in. That raises the question: don't we need protection after that? Aren't we going to need protection from these unreasonable people jacking up our electricity rates that the government seems to think are out there lurking in the wings? Somehow at the end of four years, when the capacity market comes along, well, we're not going to need that kind of protection?

There are things going on here. The stage is being set for Albertans to experience an Ontario-style jump in the cost of electricity, not just the consumption cost. There are many more costs other than the per kilowatt charge that Albertans are paying or are going to be paying for electricity. This government is going to need, if they carry out their 30 per cent renewables by 2030, something in the order of 2,400 megawatts of new transmission just to connect all of the renewables to the grid. Somebody is going to have to pay for that. Guess who? The good old taxpayers again, on and on.

We're going to have \$20 billion to \$25 billion in cost in capacity contracts. That's going to be on the taxpayer's back. Then there are transition costs yet that we do not know about for how this government plans to help our coal mining communities. On and on and on these costs keep mounting. On and on and on this government keeps shifting those burdens onto the taxpayer. On and on this government is hiding. They're hiding the true cost of their mismanagement of this electricity file. It is atrocious. They continually say, "No, we're not following in Ontario's footsteps," yet the tracks are unmistakable, shifting the burden onto the taxpayers when we had no utility debt before, putting in place all kinds of mechanisms that weren't necessary in an open-competition market like we had, hindering the ability of the Market Surveillance Administrator to do their job.

It's one thing after another, Mr. Speaker. This government is definitely taking us down the Ontario path. There is no mistake about it. Just take a look at who's working in the wings behind for this government. It's all there. The earmarks are there. It's unmistakable.

**An Hon. Member:** There's a conspiracy.

3:20

**Mr. MacIntyre:** Here we go with \$20 billion. Twenty billion dollars is not a conspiracy; \$4.437 billion in Balancing Pool debt is not a conspiracy.

These are bills Albertans didn't see before. This government is actually encumbering future generations through their own mismanagement. All of that utility debt is going to be added to the provincial debt, and it's just going to balloon that \$70 billion number up to who knows what? That's going to be on our children and our children's children because of this government, and it is completely unnecessary.

The electricity system wasn't broken. What is broken is a government that doesn't know how to manage its affairs. What is broken is a Minister of Finance that has at least been consistent, consistently bad but consistent. Five credit downgrades: that is not sound management. Bankrupting the Balancing Pool is not sound management.

The Minister of Energy wouldn't even respond to the pleadings from the chairman of the Balancing Pool when he was in desperate need of direction from her department, and there was silence. They ended up having to pay a \$29 million penalty because of that minister's mismanagement, on and on again.

The electricity system wasn't broken. What was broken is this government, and this government is breaking the people of Alberta, financially encumbering future generations with an irresponsible and reprehensible amount of debt. It is shameful. They should be apologizing to Albertans for their mismanagement of Albertans' economy, Albertans' electricity system.

As you can tell, Mr. Speaker, I'm not in favour of this bill. I knew you knew that.

**An Hon. Member:** Say it ain't so.

**Mr. MacIntyre:** Yeah, it's true. I'm not in favour of this bill.

Being faithful to our job as the Official Opposition, we put forward some amendments that would make this bill better. The government made it really clear that they don't want the MSA to be able to exercise its powers, so the amendment was voted down.

If I had the time, I would have loved to have carried on with this, but frankly, Mr. Speaker, it's obvious that this government thinks this bill is just dandy the way it is, that it's fine to give away the arm's-length nature of our Market Surveillance Administrator and the other agencies within our electricity system and allow for the Minister of Energy to meddle as deeply as the minister wants to within those functions and, I will say, to the detriment of Albertans.

I will not be supporting this bill. I would urge all my hon. colleagues not to support this bill.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose.

**Mr. Hinkley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For years before the NDP won government, we saw harmful electricity price spikes making life for Albertans very difficult. That is why we are taking action. The problem was especially acute in the first half of the decade, from 2010 to 2014. Electricity prices were over the government's 6.8-cent price cap half of the time. They were regularly over 8 cents, often 10 cents, and Alberta families had to deal with spikes near and over 12 cents in six separate months from 2011 to 2012. In fact, the price spiked one month, one time, to 15 cents. The energy charge on the average residential bill could move between \$20 and \$90, depending on the month.

People certainly noticed, and we heard this when we were campaigning. For the government the problem was always clear: the energy-only market that the PCs adopted in the early 2000s requires price volatility to work.

The archives are replete with examples of news coverage of this problem, particularly in the first half of the decade, when families endured the hardship of budgeting with spikes up to 60 per cent from one month to the next. From November 2010: Frigid Weather Sees Power Price Spike. From July 2011: August Brings 30% Spike in Local Power Bills and EPCOR Hikes Power Bills to Spike 43%. From December 2011: Anger over Electricity Prices Puts Producers on Edge. From January 2012: Power Price Spike Shuts Plants; Altasteel, Alberta Newsprint Halt Production as Electricity Cost Hits Threshold Level. From a July 2012 *Edmonton Journal* article: now in a free market system, where private companies assume all risk, there's no incentive to build anything that isn't practically profitable; that makes the system less elastic and could lead us into occasional darkness. From 2014: Albertans Warned of Power "Price Spike." From the *Calgary Herald* July 2015: consumers will see jump in power bills. In August 2015 the *Calgary Herald* said: province's electricity policy under review after complaints; aggressive behaviour by utilities and price spikes cited as reasons.

This is not a two-year problem. This has been going on for more than a decade.

The cause of these recurring spikes was not a mystery. In an October 2012 *Calgary Herald* article called Alberta Power Rates among Highest in Country; Deregulated Market Blamed for Price Spikes, with the opening line, "Residents of Calgary and Edmonton still pay among the highest prices for electricity in the country," you can read this clear passage: "Electricity consultant Sheldon Fulton said electricity costs for residential consumers are high in Alberta because of market volatility that can rocket the megawatt-hour price of electricity." It's not something that's happened just since we became the government.

As the volatility and uncertainty for consumers continued, even the PCs had to take notice, and they renewed their well-worn messages about considering changes. In October 2014 the late Premier Prentice said:

I'm open to a look-see at why we have the consumer price spikes that we have had and what can be done about them and what steps we need to take to ensure that we don't experience these going forward.

And:

The kind of price spikes we've had for consumer pricing of electricity in a province where energy is abundant is something that people want a closer look at.

Through these years the Wildrose knew that the system was unfair to consumers. The Wildrose opposition used to see the problem. In December 2013 Wildrose critic Joe Anglin told the *Herald* that Albertans keep getting gouged each month by their power bills. He also said that we've got to change how the wholesale market operates so there aren't those wild swings in electricity prices and that the cost spike hurts families and businesses and demonstrates that Energy minister Ken Hughes is obviously oblivious to the deficiencies of the power market.

This is from an *Edmonton Sun* article from October 2014:

Wildrose energy critic Jason Hale said the market is volatile and unaffordable for businesses and families on fixed incomes. The Wildrose is pledging to reduce price volatility for consumers and businesses who have not signed a fixed price contract for their electricity – if Wildrose is elected government.

That is exactly what our bill, An Act to Cap Regulated Electricity Rates, does, and I support this bill. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, before we move to 29(2)(a), I wonder if we could get unanimous consent to make an introduction to the House.

[Unanimous consent granted]

**Introduction of Guests**  
(*reversion*)

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Cardston-Taber-Warner.

**Mr. Hunter:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly members of the Johnson family who have travelled long and far for five and a half hours from the community of Barnwell to be here. I would like to ask them to rise and remain standing as I call their names: Angela Johnson, Dylan Johnson, Brandon Johnson, Jennifer Johnson, and Justin Johnson. Please join with me in giving them the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

**The Speaker:** Welcome.

**Government Bills and Orders**  
Third Reading

**Bill 16**  
**An Act to Cap Regulated Electricity Rates**  
(*continued*)

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, are there any questions for the Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose under 29(2)(a)?

Seeing and hearing none, is there anyone else that wishes to speak to Bill 16?

Hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs, do you wish to close debate?

3:30

**Mr. S. Anderson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to take a moment to express how proud the Minister of Energy is of this legislation – we all are – and my gratitude to everyone who contributed to its development and enactment.

I want to begin by thanking the bill's cosponsors, the Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose and the Member for Calgary-Klein. Each of these members has contributed to this important legislation with their hard work, their feedback, and their input.

I also want to thank my caucus colleagues for their support, motivated for some by their first-hand experience with the hardships caused by our volatile electricity system, and for all their compassion for the Alberta families that each and every one of us knows have struggled.

I also want to thank the Energy ministry staff for all of the hard work they have contributed to developing this careful, measured, and precisely tailored piece of legislation. In direct contrast to the worry and anxiety that Albertans have felt in the past, Albertans will benefit from the security and certainty of this policy.

Thank you to all who have made this possible.

[The voice vote indicated that the motion for third reading carried]

[Several members rose calling for a division. The division bell was rung at 3:31 p.m.]

[Fifteen minutes having elapsed, the Assembly divided]

[The Speaker in the chair]

For the motion:

Anderson, S.	Hinkley	Phillips
Babcock	Hoffman	Piquette

Bilous	Horne	Renaud
Carlier	Larivee	Rosendahl
Carson	Littlewood	Schmidt
Cortes-Vargas	Loyola	Schreiner
Dang	Mason	Shepherd
Eggen	McLean	Sigurdson
Feehan	Miller	Sweet
Goehring	Nielsen	Turner
Gray	Payne	Woollard

Against the motion:

Anderson, W.	Loewen	Starke
Hanson	MacIntyre	Stier
Hunter		

Totals:	For – 33	Against – 7
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[Motion carried; Bill 16 read a third time]

**Government Bills and Orders**  
Committee of the Whole

[Ms Sweet in the chair]

**The Deputy Chair:** I would like to call the committee to order.

**Bill 17**  
**Fair and Family-friendly Workplaces Act**

**The Deputy Chair:** We are currently on amendment A13. Are there any comments, questions, or amendments to be offered in respect to this? The hon. Member for Cardston-Taber-Warner.

**Mr. Hunter:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I just wanted to finish up with talking about this issue. The amendment that we brought forward, I think, is misunderstood by the members opposite.

**Mrs. Littlewood:** The government.

3:50

**Mr. Hunter:** For now.

I just wanted to be able to clarify really quickly what this amendment is trying to accomplish, and that is that with overtime – there are two scenarios. Number one is that an employee wants to be able to work overtime, yet there's really no incentive for the employer to have that happen. But it would just work better if the employee can work. Maybe he or she needs to be able to earn some extra money that month. The other scenario is that the employer needs to have the employee work overtime. This happens all the time in the workforce. Those situations are completely different.

What this amendment was specifically trying to accomplish was to delineate between those two. When the employer wants the employee to work, then they should have to pay time and a half. We agree with that. That makes sense. And we would agree with the government if that's the case. The government has stated, though, that if you work overtime, you should always be paid at time and a half. The problem is that there are times where the employee just wants to be able to earn a little extra money, so they're initiating the process. They're initiating the process in order to be able to work. Now, in the event that the employer doesn't really care if they work or don't work – it can happen tomorrow, whatever – this allows the employee to be able to work hard, be able to earn a little extra money without actually penalizing the employer. This amendment is specific in terms of being able to try to help the employee.

Now, I've heard many times the government opposite say that this is about trying to help the employee. This amendment, I thought, out of all the amendments that we've presented, would be

the amendment that you would pass because it specifically speaks to this issue. Let's not penalize an employee that has a lot of energy and excitement and wants to work hard. Let's give them the opportunity to be able to do that. If you pass the bill the way it stands now, it will incentivize the employer not to allow that person to work extra time because they will have to say: "You know what? I don't know if I really want to give them the extra half time."

I really would like to be able to present that to the members opposite because I see this. I've seen this many times in the workforce. I don't think that we should be telling employees or shackling employees from actually being able to – if they want to work hard, let them work hard. If they want to work longer, let them work longer. Don't penalize them for that desire to be able to work longer. But if you do pass it the way it is, the employer will be disincented to stop an employee from actually working the extra time, and we don't want that in Alberta. Albertans are hard workers. You know that. We know that. We shouldn't penalize them for wanting to work hard.

You know, I recognize that – I had some communication with the Labour minister through texting. We talked a little bit about this. She said: you know, it would have been better if you guys had sent this over to us so that we could have taken a look at it. I agree. I apologize for not doing that. I just thought that when you heard this, it would make a lot of sense, that we could pass this thing, and then we'd be able to move forward on it.

I hope that you will take a sober second look at this amendment, take a look at it as a way of being able to help incentivize employers to allow for that work if the employee so chooses and not to stop that employee from being able to either bank time or work longer if they want to.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

**The Deputy Chair:** Thank you, hon. member.

Are there any other members wishing to speak to amendment A13? The hon. Member for Edmonton-Decore.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Thanks, Madam Chair. I appreciate the member's comments. As we had mentioned earlier, one of the things that we are looking to do with regard to our labour regulations and whatnot is to bring the standard up to, you know, the level that a lot of really good employers out there are setting, okay? We don't want to be looking at this race to the bottom. It's the race to the top here. Again, there are a lot of really, really good employers out there that are well and beyond above this. When they start offering overtime, you know, they don't even think about it. They're paying time and a half because that's how much they value their employees, and their employees are more than willing to go out of their way in order to work with their employer.

One of the concerns, of course, that I had mentioned was that the language as presented here will put precarious workers in a position where if we have an employer that maybe isn't as upstanding as a lot of the employers here in Alberta are, they will start to compel these employees to work overtime but at straight time pay, and they really do want to get time and a half.

With that said, I mean, I don't want to belabour this any longer. I won't be able to support this amendment, and I will encourage other members of the House to not support it as well.

**The Deputy Chair:** Thank you, hon. member.

Any other members wishing to speak to the amendment A13? The hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Smoky.

**Mr. Loewen:** Thank you very much, Madam Chair. I do want to just take a moment to talk about this amendment. I guess what I see this as is that by not passing this amendment, it actually stifles

opportunities for employees, for workers. What I see is, I guess, that a couple different situations could come about. Let's say that a particular employee had a particular hobby that would have him partake in this hobby during regular work hours, and the employer doesn't care when he or she puts their hours in as long as the hours get put in. Now, when this employee goes to the employer and says: "Okay. I would like to work an evening and a Saturday so that I could have Monday morning off because that's the only opportunity I have to partake in this hobby of mine." And the employer says: "I would love to do that because it doesn't matter to me when you put the hours in as long as you put them in, but I honestly can't afford to give you time and a half for that for something that's for your enjoyment." Turning down this amendment cuts away that opportunity.

Let's say, for instance, that the employee – maybe their cousin had a doctor's appointment, and this employee was very close to their cousin. It wouldn't apply under anything else as far as a close family member to attend with this cousin to go to a doctor's appointment, so the employee says to the employer: "Could I work extra hours here so that I can take this time off to go with my cousin?" And the employer would say: "Well, I would love to, except I would have to pay or give you time and a half off, and that's just not in the budget to do that."

This is a very simple, straightforward amendment. This would help employees in their dealings with their employer, and it would help that kind of interaction between the two. This actually interferes with that opportunity for employees and employers to work collaboratively to help each other with their schedules. So I do want to speak in favour of this amendment. I think it's pretty straightforward to be able to give this opportunity to employees.

I would hope that it wasn't the intention of this portion of the bill to take away this opportunity for employees and employers to work together to accommodate each other and create a win-win situation. These situations I just described are win-win for both. The employer doesn't lose anything, they get a happier employee, and the employee gets to partake in activities that they want to partake in that they otherwise wouldn't. Both win in this situation, so I'm really not quite certain why the government won't support this amendment. I think it makes perfect sense. Win-win to both. I can't see a problem with it. Honestly, you know, if a worker is working overtime, time and a half, that's the standard. That's fine. But in a situation like this where the employee could ask the employer for time off and want to work time in lieu, that's not an infringement on their rights. It's actually something they were requesting, and I think that's only fair.

Thank you for the opportunity to leave these comments. Thank you.

4:00

**The Deputy Chair:** Thank you, hon. member.

Are there any other members wishing to speak to amendment A13? The hon. Member for Edmonton-Decore.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I think the member across the way might be confusing overtime with things like averaging agreements, which are currently accessible by employees when, you know, schedules don't sort of work into the normal 9-to-5 workday. They have the ability to talk to their employer and say: can we move things around a little bit, which could give me a potential day off over here? Employees already have the access and the ability to do that.

When we're talking about overtime, overtime is overtime. Like I've always told my membership before, don't ever bank on overtime – okay? – because the employer has the right to hand out

that overtime if they see fit and if it works into their business plan and whatnot.

Special arrangements within their normal schedules are already accessible. This amendment does not address that, but for folks that are in the position of vicarious work, they could be compelled to work for straight time when, rightfully, they should be getting overtime.

**The Deputy Chair:** Thank you, hon. member.

Are there any other members wishing to speak to amendment A13?

Seeing none, I will call the question.

**Hon. Members:** Question.

[The voice vote indicated that motion on amendment A13 lost]

[Several members rose calling for a division. The division bell was rung at 4:02 p.m.]

[Fifteen minutes having elapsed, the committee divided]

[Ms Sweet in the chair]

For the motion:

Anderson, W.	Loewen	Stier
Hanson	Starke	

Against the motion:

Anderson, S.	Gray	Payne
Babcock	Hinkley	Phillips
Bilous	Hoffman	Piquette
Carlier	Horne	Renaud
Carson	Larivee	Rosendahl
Cortes-Vargas	Littlewood	Schmidt
Dach	Loyola	Schreiner
Dang	Mason	Shepherd
Eggen	McLean	Sigurdson
Feehan	Miller	Turner
Goehring	Nielsen	Woollard

Totals:	For – 5	Against – 33
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[Motion on amendment A13 lost]

**The Deputy Chair:** We are now on the original bill. The hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre.

**Mr. Shepherd:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I appreciate the opportunity to rise. I just wanted to address a statement that I made earlier this morning.\* I had the opportunity to return to *Hansard* and read a bit more closely a comment that I had remembered from the Member for Cardston-Taber-Warner. Now, when I had recalled that remark, I had made some comments on it this morning, and after having referred to *Hansard* and having reread his original comments, I would like to correct some statements that I made on the record.

To begin, Madam Chair, I'd like to just reference what the member actually did say here in the House. I believe it was in May of last year when we were debating a motion on the minimum wage. The member stated:

But remember this: the difference between a tax and charity is that the tax is mandated; charity is freely given.

So when I hear the argument saying, "You know what? We should do more," guess what? In reality, when they came to this great country, people came here not for a guarantee. They came for an opportunity. They did not ask for a guarantee. In communist countries they got a guarantee. That is not what we offer in Canada. What we offer here is an opportunity. If you

come here and you work hard, you study, you develop your skills, you have the ability to grow and prosper and provide for your family, whatever the sky offers. This is what we offer here in Alberta. This is what we offer here in Canada.

Now, Madam Chair, in recalling this, when the member was saying, "They did not ask for a guarantee. In communist countries they got a guarantee," I had interpreted him as referring to minimum wage in general and that it was his belief that minimum wage in general was a guarantee that should not be provided.

4:20

I recognize, Madam Chair, having read this more closely in context, that the member was simply disagreeing with the idea that we should be guaranteeing that people are able to earn a decent living from minimum wage, that they should be able to earn a living wage.

Indeed, the member on other occasions commented that the then minister of jobs, skills, training, and labour had remarked that that was the reason why we were raising the minimum wage, so that all Albertans would be able to have or take home a decent living wage. His remark at that time was:

Well, I hate to tell you, but no one started this minimum wage as a living wage. That is not something that we ever promised anybody. We promised people that if you go get educated and you get more skills, then you can rise up in your jobs.

And again he referenced that:

We're not a communist country. This is not something that we do here.

While I fundamentally disagree with the member, and I think that historically it's quite clear that minimum wage was always intended to be a wage on which people could afford to live, I misconstrued the member's statement this morning, and I did want to clarify that for the record.

Thank you.

**The Deputy Chair:** Thank you, hon. member.

The hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Smoky.

**Mr. Loewen:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I do want to stand again and address this bill once more. I guess one of the things we've been talking about a lot is the secret ballot and what it does and what it doesn't do and the effects of coercion by not having a secret ballot. I just want to read a few comments here.

A secret ballot prevents most ills, since no one knows how an employee will vote or voted, irrespective of signing a card. Conversely, a serious flaw in the public card check process is that it is inherently rife with the potential for intimidation by union officials.

In 1996, an employer presented evidence to the NLRB that "on the day before the election, a bargaining unit employee approached another employee and solicited her to sign a union authorization card. The card solicitor allegedly stated that the employee had better sign a card because if she did not, the Union would come and get her children and it would also slash her car tires."

I'm going to go through and read a few more of these comments here.

The modern record is full of cases of intimidation. Former United Steelworkers organizer Richard Torres wrote in a February 2007 letter to the House Education and Labor Committee that he quit his job when a union official "asked me to threaten migrant workers by telling them they would be reported to federal immigration officials if they refused to sign check-off cards."

I'll just keep reading some of these. They are numerous.

An affidavit given to the NLRB described a New Jersey food service staff member's ordeal, where a union organizer visited her home,

\*See page 1495, left column, paragraph 3

and we talked about the visiting of homes by union members, and told her “I wouldn’t have a job in Sept. if I didn’t sign the card and that the Union would make sure that I was fired.”

Now, this is an affidavit, Madam Chair.

I’ll go on to another one.

Mike Ivey, a Freightliner employee, gained attention when he fought organizing attempts by the United Auto Workers. According to a March 2007 story, Ivey said, “Some employees have had five or more harassing visits from these (United Auto Worker) organizers . . . The only way, it seems, to stop the badgering and pressure is to sign the card.”

I’ll just continue.

A local of the United Food and Commercial Workers, for example, went so far as to institute a bounty system that offered a three-tier “incentive plan” to pay employees per signature they collected from their colleagues.

So here they had a bounty system where they had a three-tier system to encourage people to go and badger their colleagues to get signatures.

In the famous Gissel Packing case the Supreme Court stated:

We would be closing our eyes to obvious difficulties, of course, if we did not recognize that there have been (card solicitation) abuses, primarily arising out of misrepresentations by union organizers as to whether the effect of signing a card was to designate the union to represent the employee for collective bargaining purposes or merely to authorize it to seek an election to determine that issue.

Madam Chair, just another example here, and that was actually from a court case.

Why would someone sign a card if they didn’t support joining a union? Consider this letter to the editor of the *Winnipeg Free Press* from April 2016. That’s pretty recent. Dave Deighton described

how two large union organizers came by his house late at night to encourage him to sign a card in favour of joining a union. The letter writer went on to describe how the process was intimidating and that the secret ballot . . .

**The Deputy Chair:** Hon. member, I hesitate to interrupt, but pursuant to Standing Order 4(3) we will now rise and report progress.

[Ms Sweet in the chair]

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

**Mr. Rosendahl:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Committee of the Whole has had under consideration certain bills. The committee reports progress on the following bill: Bill 17. I wish to table copies of all amendments considered by the Committee of the Whole on this date for the official records of the Assembly.

**The Acting Speaker:** Thank you, hon. member.

Does the Assembly concur in the report?

**Hon. Members:** Aye.

**The Acting Speaker:** All those opposed? So ordered.

The hon. Government House Leader.

**Mr. Mason:** Yes, Madam Speaker, given that’s it’s almost 4:30 and we automatically adjourn at 4:30 but we don’t want to spend the next two minutes sitting here, I will move that we call it 4:30 and adjourn until Monday at 1:30 p.m.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 4:27 p.m.]



## **Bill Status Report for the 29th Legislature - 3rd Session (2017)**

**Activity to Thursday, June 1, 2017**

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 1 to 200 are Government Bills. Bills numbered 201 or higher are Private Members' Public Bills. Bills numbered with a "Pr" prefix 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 a Bill comes into force "on proclamation," "with exceptions," or "on various dates," please contact Legislative Counsel, Alberta Justice, 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 chapter number until the conclusion of the Fall Sittings.

### **Bill 1 — An Act to Reduce School Fees (Eggen)**

First Reading — 6 (*Mar. 2, 2017 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 105-10 (*Mar. 8, 2017 morn.*), 192-96 (*Mar. 9, 2017 aft.*), 235-42 (*Mar. 14, 2017 morn.*), 269-71 (*Mar. 14, 2017 aft.*), 273-74 (*Mar. 15, 2017 morn., adjourned*), 282-91 (*Mar. 15, 2017 morn., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 424-31 (*Mar. 21, 2017 aft.*), 556-58 (*Apr. 6, 2017 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 674-78 (*Apr. 19, 2017 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — 879 (*May 4, 2017 aft.*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2017 c6 ]

### **Bill 2\* — An Act to Remove Barriers for Survivors of Sexual and Domestic Violence (Ganley)**

First Reading — 67-68 (*Mar. 7, 2017 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 110-11 (*Mar. 8, 2017 morn.*), 192 (*Mar. 9, 2017 aft.*), 314-22 (*Mar. 15, 2017 aft.*), 336-39 (*Mar. 16, 2017 morn., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 455-59 (*Mar. 22, 2017 aft., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 678-79 (*Apr. 19, 2017 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — 879 (*May 4, 2017 aft.*) [Comes into force May 4, 2017; SA 2017 c7 ]

### **Bill 3\* — Voluntary Blood Donations Act (Hoffman)**

First Reading — 208 (*Mar. 13, 2017 aft., passed.*)

Second Reading — 323-36 (*Mar. 16, 2017 morn., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 394-400 (*Mar. 21, 2017 morn.*), 421-24 (*Mar. 21, 2017 aft., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 472-80 (*Mar. 23, 2017 aft., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Mar. 30, 2017 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force Mar. 30, 2017; SA 2017 cV-5 ]

### **Bill 4 — Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2017 (\$)**

First Reading — 191 (*Mar. 9, 2017 aft, passed*)

Second Reading — 306-07 (*Mar. 15, 2017 aft., adjourned*), 322 (*Mar. 15, 2017 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 389-93 (*Mar. 21, 2017 morn.*)

Third Reading — 449-52 (*Mar. 22, 2017 aft., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Mar. 30, 2017 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force Mar. 30, 2017; SA 2017 c2 ]

### **Bill 5 — Appropriation (Interim Supply) Act, 2017 (\$) (Ceci)**

First Reading — 266 (*Mar. 14, 2017 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 310-14 (*Mar. 15, 2017 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 393-94 (*Mar. 21, 2017 morn.*)

Third Reading — 452-55 (*Mar. 22, 2017 aft., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Mar. 30, 2017 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force Mar. 30, 2017; SA 2017 c1 ]

**Bill 6 — Northland School Division Act (Eggen)**

First Reading — 524 (*Apr. 4, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 558-61 (*Apr. 6, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 671-74 (*Apr. 19, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 755-59 (*May 2, 2017 morn., passed*)  
Royal Assent — 879 (*May 4, 2017 aft.*) [Comes into force May 4, 2017; SA 2017 cN-5.1 ]

**Bill 7 — An Act to Enhance Post-secondary Academic Bargaining (Schmidt)**

First Reading — 552 (*Apr. 6, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 679-81 (*Apr. 19, 2017 aft.*)  
Committee of the Whole — 810-15 (*May 3, 2017 morn.*), 828-38 (*May 3, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 865-66 (*May 4, 2017 morn., passed*)  
Royal Assent — 879 (*May 4, 2017 aft.*) [Comes into force May 4, 2017, with exception; SA 2017 c4 ]

**Bill 8\* — An Act to Strengthen Municipal Government (S. Anderson)**

First Reading — 577 (*Apr. 10, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 691-700 (*Apr. 20, 2017 morn.*), 716-22 (*Apr. 20, 2017 aft.*), 780-84 (*May 2, 2017 aft., passed on division*)  
Committee of the Whole — 784-95 (*May 2, 2017 aft.*), 838-45 (*May 3, 2017 aft.*), 855-65 (*May 4, 2017 morn., passed with amendments*)  
Third Reading — 991-1004 (*May 11, 2017 morn.*), 1101-06 (*May 16, 2017 aft.*), 1107-10 (*May 17, 2017 morn., passed on division*)

**Bill 9 — Marketing of Agricultural Products Amendment Act, 2017 (Carlier)**

First Reading — 606 (*Apr. 11, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 683-87 (*Apr. 20, 2017 morn., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 687-90 (*Apr. 20, 2017 morn., passed*)  
Third Reading — 759-62 (*May 2, 2017 morn., passed*)  
Royal Assent — 880 (*May 4, 2017 aft.*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2017 c5 ]

**Bill 10 — Appropriation Act, 2017 (\$) (Ceci)**

First Reading — 670-71 (*Apr. 19, 2017 aft., passed on division*)  
Second Reading — 690-91 (*Apr. 20, 2017 morn.*), 700-02 (*Apr. 20, 2017 morn.*), 722-23 (*Apr. 20, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 762-67 (*May 2, 2017 morn.*), 795-97 (*May 2, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 799-810 (*May 3, 2017 morn.*), 845-47 (*May 3, 2017 aft., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — 880 (*May 4, 2017 aft.*) [Comes into force May 4, 2017; SA 2017 c3 ]

**Bill 11\* — Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Amendment Act, 2017 (Gray)**

First Reading — 771 (*May 2, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 849-55 (*May 4, 2017 morn.*), 924-39 (*May 9, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 1072-77 (*May 16, 2017 morn.*), 1092-1101 (*May 16, 2017 aft.*), 1168-69 (*May 18, 2017 morn., passed with amendments*)  
Third Reading — 1199-1202 (*May 23, 2017 morn., passed*)

**Bill 12\* — New Home Buyer Protection Amendment Act, 2017 (S. Anderson)**

First Reading — 877 (*May 4, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 939-44 (*May 9, 2017 aft.*), 945-56 (*May 10, 2017 morn., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 956-62 (*May 10, 2017 morn.*), 1004-1008 (*May 11, 2017 morn.*), 1008-10 (*May 11, 2017 morn.*), 1111-20 (*May 17, 2017 morn., passed with amendments*)  
Third Reading — 1169-71 (*May 18, 2017 morn., passed*)

**Bill 13 — Securities Amendment Act, 2017 (Ceci)**

First Reading — 893 (*May 8, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 977-90 (*May 10, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 1027-31 (*May 11, 2017 aft.*), 1065-72 (*May 16, 2017 morn., passed*)  
Third Reading — 1137-44 (*May 17, 2017 aft., passed*)

**Bill 14 — An Act to Support Orphan Well Rehabilitation (McCuaig-Boyd)**

First Reading — 1090 (*May 16, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 1144-52 (*May 17, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 1225-30 (*May 23, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 1244-46 (*May 24, 2017 morn., passed*)

**Bill 15 — Tax Statutes Amendment Act, 2017 (Ceci)**

First Reading — 1137 (*May 17, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 1184-89 (*May 18, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 1215-25 (*May 23, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 1246-48 (*May 24, 2017 morn., passed*)

**Bill 16 — An Act to Cap Regulated Electricity Rates (\$) (McCuaig-Boyd)**

First Reading — 1214 (*May 23, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 1262-78 (*May 24, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 1279-91 (*May 25, 2017 morn.*), 1291-97 (*May 25, 2017 morn.*), 1351-58 (*May 29, 2017 eve.*), 1389-1406 (*May 30, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 1514-17 (*Jun. 1, 2017 aft., passed on division*)

**Bill 17\* — Fair and Family-friendly Workplaces Act (Gray)**

First Reading — 1260 (*May 24, 2017 aft., passed on division*)  
Second Reading — 1311-22 (*May 25, 2017 aft.*), 1359-61 (*May 29, 2017 eve.*), 1363-76 (*May 30, 2017 morn.*), 1407-20 (*May 30, 2017 eve.*), 1421-32 (*May 31, 2017 morn., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 1432-36 (*May 31, 2017 morn.*), 1449-66 (*May 31, 2017 aft.*), 1467-79 (*May 31, 2017 eve.*), 1490-99 (*Jun. 1, 2017 morn.*), 1517-20 (*Jun. 1, 2017 aft., adjourned*)

**Bill 18 — Child Protection and Accountability Act (Larivee)**

First Reading — 1388 (*May 30, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 1481-90 (*Jun. 1, 2017 morn., passed*)

**Bill 201 — Justice System Accountability Act (Jean)**

First Reading — 127 (*Mar. 8, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 208-20 (*Mar. 13, 2017 aft., defeated on division*)

**Bill 202\* — Protecting Victims of Non-Consensual Distribution of Intimate Images Act (Cyr)**

First Reading — 245 (*Mar. 14, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 375-86 (*Mar. 20, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 578-86 (*Apr. 10, 2017 aft., passed with amendments*)  
Third Reading — 738-40 (*May 1, 2017 aft., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — 880 (*May 4, 2017 aft.*) [Comes into force 3 months after date of Royal Assent; SA 2017 cP-26.9 ]

**Bill 203 — Alberta Standard Time Act (Dang)**

First Reading — 253 (*Mar. 14, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 496-503 (*Apr. 3, 2017 aft., referred to the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future*)

**Bill 204 — Protection of Property Rights Statutes Amendment Act, 2017 (Stier)**

First Reading — 444 (*Mar. 22, 2017 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 503-07 (*Apr. 3, 2017 aft.*), 899-905 (*May 8, 2017 aft.*), 1046-50 (*May 15, 2017 aft., reasoned amendment agreed to on division*)

**Bill 205\* — Advocate for Persons with Disabilities Act (Jansen)**

First Reading — 552 (*Apr. 6, 2017 aft.*)  
Second Reading — 1050-57 (*May 15, 2017 aft.*), 1120-25 (*May 17, 2017 morn., moved to Government Bills and Orders*), 1153-63 (*May 18, 2017 morn., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 1163-68 (*May 18, 2017 morn.*), 1191-99 (*May 23, 2017 morn., passed with amendments*)  
Third Reading — 1231-43 (*May 24, 2017 morn., passed on division*)

**Bill 206 — Child, Youth and Family Enhancement (Adoption Advertising) Amendment Act, 2017 (Aheer)**

First Reading — 1024 (*May 11, 2017 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1334-45 (*May 29, 2017 aft., passed on division*)

**Bill 207 — Regulatory Burden Reduction Act (Hunter)**

First Reading — 1310 (*May 25, 2017 aft., passed*)

**Bill 208 — Government Organization (Utilities Consumer Advocate) Amendment Act, 2017 (Hinkley)**

First Reading — 1512 (*Jun. 1, 2017 aft., passed*)

**Bill Pr1 — Calgary Jewish Centre Amendment Act, 2017 (Kazim)**

First Reading — 524 (*Apr. 4, 2017 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1110 (*May 17, 2017 morn., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1110-11 (*May 17, 2017 morn., passed*)

Third Reading — 1261-62 (*May 24, 2017 aft., passed*)

**Bill Pr2 — Paula Jean Anderson Adoption Termination Act (MacIntyre)**

First Reading — 524 (*Apr. 4, 2017 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1027 (*May 11, 2017 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1027 (*May 11, 2017 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 1110 (*May 17, 2017 morn., passed*)





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