



Province of Alberta

The 30th Legislature  
Second Session

# Alberta Hansard

Tuesday morning, October 20, 2020

Day 54

The Honourable Nathan M. Cooper, Speaker

# Legislative Assembly of Alberta The 30th Legislature

Second Session

Cooper, Hon. Nathan M., Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills (UCP), Speaker  
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Milliken, Nicholas, Calgary-Currie (UCP), Deputy Chair of Committees

Aheer, Hon. Leela Sharon, Chestermere-Strathmore (UCP)  
Allard, Hon. Tracy L., Grande Prairie (UCP)  
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Bilous, Deron, Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview (NDP)  
Carson, Jonathon, Edmonton-West Henday (NDP)  
Ceci, Joe, Calgary-Buffalo (NDP)  
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Dach, Lorne, Edmonton-McClung (NDP)  
Dang, Thomas, Edmonton-South (NDP)  
Deol, Jasvir, Edmonton-Meadows (NDP)  
Dreeshen, Hon. Devin, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake (UCP)  
Eggen, David, Edmonton-North West (NDP),  
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Ellis, Mike, Calgary-West (UCP),  
Government Whip  
Feehan, Richard, Edmonton-Rutherford (NDP)  
Fir, Tanya, Calgary-Peigan (UCP)  
Ganley, Kathleen T., Calgary-Mountain View (NDP)  
Getson, Shane C., Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland (UCP)  
Glasgo, Michaela L., Brooks-Medicine Hat (UCP)  
Glubish, Hon. Nate, Strathcona-Sherwood Park (UCP)  
Goehring, Nicole, Edmonton-Castle Downs (NDP)  
Goodridge, Laila, Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche (UCP)  
Gotfried, Richard, Calgary-Fish Creek (UCP)  
Gray, Christina, Edmonton-Mill Woods (NDP),  
Official Opposition Deputy House Leader  
Guthrie, Peter F., Airdrie-Cochrane (UCP)  
Hanson, David B., Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul (UCP)  
Hoffman, Sarah, Edmonton-Glenora (NDP)  
Horner, Nate S., Drumheller-Stettler (UCP)  
Hunter, Hon. Grant R., Taber-Warner (UCP)  
Irwin, Janis, Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood (NDP),  
Official Opposition Deputy Whip  
Issik, Whitney, Calgary-Glenmore (UCP)  
Jones, Matt, Calgary-South East (UCP)  
Kenney, Hon. Jason, PC, Calgary-Lougheed (UCP),  
Premier  
LaGrange, Hon. Adriana, Red Deer-North (UCP)  
Loewen, Todd, Central Peace-Notley (UCP)  
Long, Martin M., West Yellowhead (UCP)  
Lovely, Jacqueline, Camrose (UCP)  
Loyola, Rod, Edmonton-Ellerslie (NDP)  
Luan, Hon. Jason, Calgary-Foothills (UCP)  
Madu, Hon. Kaycee, QC, Edmonton-South West (UCP),  
Deputy Government House Leader  
McIver, Hon. Ric, Calgary-Hays (UCP),  
Deputy Government House Leader  
Nally, Hon. Dale, Morinville-St. Albert (UCP),  
Deputy Government House Leader  
Neudorf, Nathan T., Lethbridge-East (UCP)  
Nicolaidis, Hon. Demetrios, Calgary-Bow (UCP)  
Nielsen, Christian E., Edmonton-Decore (NDP)  
Nixon, Hon. Jason, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre  
(UCP), Government House Leader  
Nixon, Jeremy P., Calgary-Klein (UCP)  
Notley, Rachel, Edmonton-Strathcona (NDP),  
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Pancholi, Rakhi, Edmonton-Whitemud (NDP)  
Panda, Hon. Prasad, Calgary-Edgemont (UCP)  
Phillips, Shannon, Lethbridge-West (NDP)  
Pon, Hon. Josephine, Calgary-Beddington (UCP)  
Rehn, Pat, Lesser Slave Lake (UCP)  
Reid, Roger W., Livingstone-Macleod (UCP)  
Renaud, Marie F., St. Albert (NDP)  
Rosin, Miranda D., Banff-Kananaskis (UCP)  
Rowswell, Garth, Vermilion-Lloydminster-Wainwright (UCP)  
Rutherford, Brad, Leduc-Beaumont (UCP)  
Sabir, Irfan, Calgary-McCall (NDP),  
Official Opposition Deputy House Leader  
Savage, Hon. Sonya, Calgary-North West (UCP),  
Deputy Government House Leader  
Sawhney, Hon. Rajan, Calgary-North East (UCP)  
Schmidt, Marlin, Edmonton-Gold Bar (NDP)  
Schow, Joseph R., Cardston-Siksika (UCP),  
Deputy Government Whip  
Schulz, Hon. Rebecca, Calgary-Shaw (UCP)  
Schweitzer, Hon. Doug, QC, Calgary-Elbow (UCP),  
Deputy Government House Leader  
Shandro, Hon. Tyler, QC, Calgary-Acadia (UCP)  
Shepherd, David, Edmonton-City Centre (NDP)  
Sigurdson, Lori, Edmonton-Riverview (NDP)  
Sigurdson, R.J., Highwood (UCP)  
Singh, Peter, Calgary-East (UCP)  
Smith, Mark W., Drayton Valley-Devon (UCP)  
Stephan, Jason, Red Deer-South (UCP)  
Sweet, Heather, Edmonton-Manning (NDP),  
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Toor, Devinder, Calgary-Falconridge (UCP)  
Turton, Searle, Spruce Grove-Stony Plain (UCP)  
van Dijken, Glenn, Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock (UCP)  
Walker, Jordan, Sherwood Park (UCP)  
Williams, Dan D.A., Peace River (UCP)  
Wilson, Hon. Rick D., Maskwacis-Wetaskiwin (UCP)  
Yao, Tany, Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo (UCP)  
Yaseen, Muhammad, Calgary-North (UCP)

## Party standings:

United Conservative: 63

New Democrat: 24

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Martin Long	Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business and Tourism
Jeremy Nixon	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Community and Social Services
Muhammad Yaseen	Parliamentary Secretary of Immigration

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

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

Chair: Mr. Orr  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Getson

Allard  
Eggen  
Glasgo  
Jones  
Loyola  
Nielsen  
Singh

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

Chair: Mr. Neudorf  
Deputy Chair: Ms Goehring

Allard  
Armstrong-Homeniuk  
Barnes  
Bilous  
Dang  
Horner  
Irwin  
Reid  
Stephan  
Toor

### **Select Special Democratic Accountability Committee**

Chair: Mr. Schow  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Horner

Allard  
Ceci  
Dang  
Goodridge  
Nixon, Jeremy  
Pancholi  
Rutherford  
Sigurdson, R.J.  
Smith  
Sweet

### **Standing Committee on Families and Communities**

Chair: Ms Goodridge  
Deputy Chair: Ms Sigurdson

Amery  
Carson  
Ganley  
Glasgo  
Guthrie  
Neudorf  
Nixon, Jeremy  
Pancholi  
Rutherford  
Yao

### **Standing Committee on Legislative Offices**

Chair: Mr. Schow  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Sigurdson

Gray  
Lovely  
Nixon, Jeremy  
Rutherford  
Schmidt  
Shepherd  
Sweet  
van Dijken  
Walker

### **Special Standing Committee on Members' Services**

Chair: Mr. Cooper  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Ellis

Dang  
Deol  
Ganley  
Goehring  
Goodridge  
Long  
Neudorf  
Walker  
Williams

### **Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills**

Chair: Mr. Ellis  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Schow

Glasgo  
Horner  
Irwin  
Neudorf  
Nielsen  
Nixon, Jeremy  
Pancholi  
Sigurdson, L.  
Sigurdson, R.J.

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

Chair: Mr. Smith  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Schow

Armstrong-Homeniuk  
Carson  
Deol  
Ganley  
Issik  
Jones  
Lovely  
Loyola  
Rehn  
Reid  
Renaud  
Turton  
Yao

### **Standing Committee on Public Accounts**

Chair: Ms Phillips  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Gotfried

Barnes  
Dach  
Guthrie  
Hoffman  
Reid  
Renaud  
Rosin  
Rowswell  
Stephan  
Toor

### **Select Special Public Health Act Review Committee**

Chair: Mr. Milliken  
Deputy Chair: Ms Rosin

Ganley  
Gray  
Hoffman  
Long  
Lovely  
Neudorf  
Reid  
Rowswell  
Shepherd  
Turton

### **Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship**

Chair: Mr. Hanson  
Deputy Chair: Member Ceci

Dach  
Feehan  
Getson  
Loewen  
Rehn  
Rosin  
Sabir  
Singh  
Smith  
Yaseen

## Legislative Assembly of Alberta

10 a.m.

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

[The Speaker in the chair]

### Prayers

**The Speaker:** Lord, the God of righteousness and truth, grant to our Queen and to her government, to Members of the Legislative Assembly, and to all in positions of responsibility the guidance of Your spirit. May they never lead the province wrongly through love of power, desire to please, or unworthy ideas but, laying aside all private interests and prejudice, keep in mind their responsibility to seek to improve the condition of all.

Please be seated.

Hon. members, before we begin and get on to the business of the day, I'd like to welcome you all back here to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. It's spectacular to see you all happy and healthy. It really is the most wonderful time of year.

### Statement by the Speaker

#### Chamber Practices during COVID-19 Pandemic

**The Speaker:** I'd also like to remind you of modifications to the Chamber practices in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. As you recall, we've placed two tables on either side of the Chamber. Since tablings and petitions will not be picked up by the pages, members are to deposit documents they table or petitions they present during the daily Routine in the trays on the tabling tables. These tables are also where members can find copies of bills introduced during the Routine as bills are no longer distributed to members at their desk. If members have amendments, pages will continue to retrieve the original along with 95 copies from the mover and provide copies to the table and to the Speaker or the Chair of Committees. House leaders will also receive a copy, and the other members can raise their hand to receive a copy from the pages. Additional copies will be placed on the tabling tables for members to pick up at their convenience. Hand sanitizer is also located at these tables and in the south members' lounges as well as at the entrances to the Confederation and opposition lounges.

Handwritten notes will no longer be sent between members. However, notes are permitted to be sent to and from the Speaker, to and from members or the table to deal with procedural matters. Given the restrictions on note sending, I will for the 2020 fall sitting prepare to relax the rule with respect to the use of electronic devices during Oral Question Period. However, fines for leaving your sounds on will remain in place. I'll also allow members to transit electronic messages in lieu of handwritten notes. I do ask that during Oral Question Period these devices only be used when necessary to communicate regarding the Assembly proceedings. As always, please ensure your device remains muted.

Finally, members should continue to practise physical distancing in the Chamber and lounges and should take note of the guidance outlined in two memos that were sent to all members on August 24, 2020, and again on October 15, 2020, in regard to face coverings in public places in both the Federal Building and the Legislature. I appreciate the co-operation of the House leaders in organizing their caucuses to allow additional space between members who are in attendance in the Chamber.

We are at Ordres du jour.

## Orders of the Day

### Government Motions

**The Speaker:** The hon. Government House Leader has the call.

#### Physical Distancing in Legislature Chamber

38. Mr. Jason Nixon moved:

Be it resolved that despite Standing Orders 13(7), 16, and 32(4)(b), for the duration of the 2020 fall sitting of the Second Session of the 30th Legislature and to allow for appropriate physical distancing within the Chamber during that time, all members may sit, speak, and vote in any seat that has not been assigned to them provided that they immediately relinquish that seat on the request of

- (a) the member who has been assigned that seat, or
- (b) the Speaker.

**Mr. Jason Nixon:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and welcome back to all members of the Legislature. I will start off today with Government Motion 38. These measures are similar to the ones that were adopted during the spring sitting. This will allow, of course, all members of the Chamber to continue to participate in debate while maintaining physical distancing.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, according to Standing Order 18 this is a debatable motion. If anyone has any questions, comments, or concerns with the motion, now would be the time to express them.

Seeing none, I am prepared to call the question.

[Government Motion 38 carried]

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

#### Committee Membership Changes

41. Mr. Jason Nixon moved:

Be it resolved that the membership of the Assembly's committees be replaced as follows:

- A. on the Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund that Mr. Turton replace Mrs. Allard, Ms Gray replace Member Loyola, and Ms Phillips replace Mr. Nielsen;
- B. on the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices that Member Ceci replace Mr. Schmidt and Member Loyola replace Ms Gray;
- C. on the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills that Ms Ganley replace Ms Pancholi;
- D. on the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing that Mr. Reid replace Mr. Schow as deputy chair, Ms Pancholi replace Ms Ganley, Mr. Carson be removed, Mr. Schow be removed, and Mr. Turton be removed;
- E. on the Standing Committee on Public Accounts that Mr. Schmidt replace Ms Hoffman;
- F. on the Special Standing Committee on Members' Services that Mr. Sabir replace Ms Ganley;
- G. on the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future that Ms Rosin replace Mrs. Allard;
- H. on the Standing Committee on Families and Communities that Mr. Sabir replace Ms Ganley;
- I. on the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship that Ms Ganley replace Mr. Sabir and Ms Fir replace Ms Rosin.

**Mr. Jason Nixon:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. These changes are needed based on conversations, of course, with both caucuses. I do understand there was an error of omission, so trust that an amendment is probably forthcoming shortly to remove the Minister of Municipal Affairs from the Select Special Democratic Accountability Committee. This is because it's not the current practice of the Assembly to appoint cabinet ministers to Assembly committees.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, Standing Order 18 allows for a debatable motion. Is there anyone else who'd like to bring a question or comment? The hon. the chief government whip.

**Mr. Ellis:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and I welcome everybody back to the Assembly. I do have an amendment, as previously indicated by the hon. Government House Leader. I would like to move an amendment to Government Motion 41, and I certainly have the papers here to be distributed.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, this will be referred to as amendment A1.

The hon. Member for Calgary-West.

**Mr. Ellis:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I move that Government Motion 41 be amended by adding the following after part I:

J. on the Select Special Democratic Accountability Committee that Ms Fir replace Mrs. Allard.

As mentioned by the Government House Leader, there was an error of omission, and this amendment will fix that so that we don't have a situation where a member of Executive Council is a member of a committee of the Assembly.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, is there anyone wishing to provide a question or comment or join in the debate on amendment A1? The hon. the Official Opposition House Leader.

**Ms Sweet:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd just like to congratulate the hon. minister in her new appointment and to welcome Ms Fir, or the Member for Calgary- . . .

**An Hon. Member:** Peigan.

**Ms Sweet:** Thank you.  
. . . to the committee.

**The Speaker:** Even in the kindest of ways the use of names would be inappropriate inside the Chamber.

Is there anyone else wishing to join the debate? In fact, Standing Order 29(2)(a) is available.

Seeing none, anyone else wishing to join in the debate?

I am prepared to call the question on amendment A1.

[Motion on amendment A1 carried]

**The Speaker:** We are on the main motion, and it still allows time for anyone to join in the debate should there be any further question, comment, or debate to be added.

Seeing none, I am prepared to call the question.

[Government Motion 41 as amended carried]

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

**Mr. Jason Nixon:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Jason Nixon:** I'm just very excited to be back inside the Chamber, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** So excited.

#### 10:10 Evening Sittings

39. Mr. Jason Nixon moved:

Be it resolved that pursuant to Standing Order 4(1), for the duration of the 2020 fall sitting of the Second Session of the 30th Legislature, the Assembly shall meet on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings for consideration of government business unless the Government House Leader or a member of the Executive Council on the Government House Leader's behalf advises the Assembly that there shall be no evening sitting by providing notice during Notices of Motions in the daily Routine or at any time no later than 6 p.m. on the sitting day on which the evening sitting will be cancelled.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, this is not a debatable motion, so I will call the question.

[Government Motion 39 carried]

**The Speaker:** The hon. Government House Leader is on his feet.

**Mr. Jason Nixon:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this point I also wish to advise the Assembly that pursuant to Standing Order 3(1.2) there shall be no morning sittings for the following days: Wednesday, October 21, 2020; Thursday, October 22, 2020; Tuesday, October 27, 2020; Wednesday, October 28, 2020; Thursday, October 29, 2020; Tuesday, November 3, 2020; Wednesday, November 4, 2020; Thursday, November 5, 2020.

With that, I will move to adjourn the Assembly until 1:30 p.m. today.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 10:11 a.m.]

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