



Province of Alberta

The 30th Legislature  
Second Session

# Alberta Hansard

Thursday afternoon, April 22, 2021

Day 102

The Honourable Nathan M. Cooper, Speaker

# Legislative Assembly of Alberta The 30th Legislature

Second Session

Cooper, Hon. Nathan M., Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills (UC), Speaker  
Pitt, Angela D., Airdrie-East (UC), Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees  
Milliken, Nicholas, Calgary-Currie (UC), Deputy Chair of Committees

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Allard, Tracy L., Grande Prairie (UC)  
Amery, Mickey K., Calgary-Cross (UC)  
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Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville (UC)  
Barnes, Drew, Cypress-Medicine Hat (UC)  
Bilous, Deron, Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview (NDP)  
Carson, Jonathon, Edmonton-West Henday (NDP)  
Ceci, Joe, Calgary-Buffalo (NDP)  
Copping, Hon. Jason C., Calgary-Varsity (UC)  
Dach, Lorne, Edmonton-McClung (NDP),  
Official Opposition Deputy Whip  
Dang, Thomas, Edmonton-South (NDP),  
Official Opposition Deputy House Leader  
Deol, Jasvir, Edmonton-Meadows (NDP)  
Dreeshen, Hon. Devin, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake (UC)  
Eggen, David, Edmonton-North West (NDP),  
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Government Whip  
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Fir, Tanya, Calgary-Peigan (UC)  
Ganley, Kathleen T., Calgary-Mountain View (NDP)  
Getson, Shane C., Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland (UC)  
Glasgo, Michaela L., Brooks-Medicine Hat (UC)  
Glubish, Hon. Nate, Strathcona-Sherwood Park (UC)  
Goehring, Nicole, Edmonton-Castle Downs (NDP)  
Goodridge, Laila, Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche (UC)  
Gotfried, Richard, Calgary-Fish Creek (UC)  
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Hoffman, Sarah, Edmonton-Glenora (NDP)  
Horner, Nate S., Drumheller-Stettler (UC)  
Hunter, Hon. Grant R., Taber-Warner (UC)  
Irwin, Janis, Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood (NDP),  
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Jones, Matt, Calgary-South East (UC)  
Kenney, Hon. Jason, PC, Calgary-Lougheed (UC),  
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LaGrange, Hon. Adriana, Red Deer-North (UC)  
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Long, Martin M., West Yellowhead (UC)  
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Loyola, Rod, Edmonton-Ellerslie (NDP)  
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Nally, Hon. Dale, Morinville-St. Albert (UC),  
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Schow, Joseph R., Cardston-Siksika (UC),  
Deputy Government Whip  
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Schweitzer, Hon. Doug, QC, Calgary-Elbow (UC),  
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Smith, Mark W., Drayton Valley-Devon (UC)  
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Turton, Searle, Spruce Grove-Stony Plain (UC)  
van Dijken, Glenn, Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock (UC)  
Walker, Jordan, Sherwood Park (UC)  
Williams, Dan D.A., Peace River (UC)  
Wilson, Hon. Rick D., Maskwacis-Wetaskiwin (UC)  
Yao, Tany, Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo (UC)  
Yaseen, Muhammad, Calgary-North (UC)

## Party standings:

United Conservative: 62

New Democrat: 24

Independent: 1

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Martin Long	Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business and Tourism
Muhammad Yaseen	Parliamentary Secretary of Immigration

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Chair: Mr. Orr  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Rowswell

Eggen  
Gray  
Issik  
Jones  
Phillips  
Singh  
Yaseen

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

Chair: Mr. Neudorf  
Deputy Chair: Ms Goehring

Armstrong-Homeniuk  
Barnes  
Bilous  
Irwin  
Reid  
Rosin  
Rowswell  
Sweet  
van Dijken  
Walker

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

Chair: Ms Goodridge  
Deputy Chair: Ms Sigurdson

Amery  
Carson  
Glasgo  
Gotfried  
Lovely  
Neudorf  
Pancholi  
Rutherford  
Sabir  
Smith

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

Chair: Mr. Schow  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Sigurdson

Ceci  
Lovely  
Loyola  
Rosin  
Rutherford  
Shepherd  
Smith  
Sweet  
Yaseen

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

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Deputy Chair: Mr. Ellis

Dang  
Deol  
Goehring  
Goodridge  
Long  
Neudorf  
Sabir  
Sigurdson, R.J.  
Williams

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

Chair: Mr. Ellis  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Schow

Amery  
Dang  
Getson  
Glasgo  
Irwin  
Nielsen  
Rutherford  
Sigurdson, L.  
Sigurdson, R.J.

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

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Deputy Chair: Mr. Reid

Armstrong-Homeniuk  
Barnes  
Deol  
Ganley  
Gotfried  
Jones  
Lovely  
Loyola  
Rehn  
Renaud

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

Chair: Ms Phillips  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Guthrie

Armstrong-Homeniuk  
Lovely  
Neudorf  
Pancholi  
Renaud  
Rowswell  
Schmidt  
Singh  
Turton  
Walker

### **Select Special Committee on Real Property Rights**

Chair: Mr. Sigurdson  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Rutherford

Ganley  
Glasgo  
Goodridge  
Hanson  
Milliken  
Nielsen  
Orr  
Rowswell  
Schmidt  
Sweet

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

Chair: Mr. Hanson  
Deputy Chair: Member Ceci

Dach  
Feehan  
Ganley  
Getson  
Guthrie  
Issik  
Loewen  
Singh  
Turton  
Yaseen

## Legislative Assembly of Alberta

1:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 22, 2021

[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 interest and prejudice, keep in mind their responsibility to seek to improve the condition of all.

Hon. members, please remain standing for the playing of *God Save the Queen*.

### Recording:

God save our gracious Queen,  
Long live our noble Queen,  
God save the Queen!  
Send her victorious,  
Happy and glorious,  
Long to reign over us,  
God save the Queen!

**The Speaker:** Please be seated.

### Members' Statements

#### Premier's Leadership

**Mr. Carson:** Mr. Speaker, we are in the third wave of a global pandemic. Over 2,000 Albertans have lost their lives, thousands have been sick, and our front-line heroes have been working day and night to protect Albertans. Small businesses are struggling; Albertan families are struggling. Albertans need a government with their interests at heart and a commitment to getting them through this pandemic, but instead all Albertans can see is a government, like the Conservative governments of Alberta's past, more focused on navel-gazing and internal drama than the job they were elected to do.

This Premier is fighting his party and his caucus when he should be fighting this pandemic with 100 per cent of his energy and focus. His priorities are so backwards that as the third wave loomed over Albertans, he threatened to call an election to stop the infighting in his caucus. This Premier, who brags about the size of his mandate, was sent a letter by the members of his party telling him that he has lost the moral authority to lead them. His members told him that he is such a liability that even when he agrees with them, they can't support him, that he needs to resign. To quote the letter: once you have lost trust, it can never return. That is true.

The Premier has repeatedly let Albertans down and broken his trust in them during this pandemic. He acts late and does little. He blames others for the failings and mistakes of his government. He told Albertans to stay home for Christmas but then approved the international vacations of his caucus and staff. Albertans don't trust this Premier or this government.

So before the UCP descends into the long-established Conservative tradition of infighting and leadership challenges, I would raise a word on behalf of the Albertans watching from the outside, the Albertans who don't care about the caucus drama and the leadership issues the UCP insists on dragging into the public. They want a government focused on protecting and supporting them through this

pandemic, not a government focused on squabbling and petty infighting. It's clear they won't get that from the UCP.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche.

### Rural Health Care

**Ms Goodridge:** Thank you. I'm honoured to rise and recognize actions Alberta's government has taken to protect access to rural health care. On April 21 last year the government announced significant investments to address the unique challenges faced by rural communities and rural physicians in providing health care services. One of the highlights was to make changes to improve physician recruitment and retention. The \$60,000 cap on the rural, remote, and northern program was abolished, making it one of the most generous such programs in the country. Rural physicians were exempted from changes to overhead policies, on-call rates for rural physicians were increased, and medical liability rates for all rural physicians were frozen.

At the direction of the Minister of Health a task force was formed to provide advice on issues surrounding recruitment and retention of rural primary care physicians. The rural sustainability primary care task force will provide recommendations to the government by March 31, 2022.

Alberta's government also recently announced a \$6 million investment over three years to help students pay for their medical school. In exchange these students will complete residency training in rural Alberta and agree to practise in a rural community once graduated.

Alberta Health Services also continues its work to recruit family physicians all across rural Alberta to meet our community needs. Their physician resource planners identify and pursue physician recruitment opportunities and work closely with various community partners and organizations to recruit our physicians. Partners include local health councils, the Rural Health Professions Action Plan, and independent physician recruitment and retention committees.

Alberta's government is spending about \$90 million this year to address rural physician recruitment and retention. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to be part of a government that is taking real action to protect and improve access to quality health care all throughout rural Alberta.

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

### R-star Oil and Gas Site Reclamation Incentive

**Mr. Guthrie:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you know, the oil and gas sector plays a vital role in not only the economic success of Alberta but all of Canada. On a global stage our producers are the most innovative and environmentally responsible. Unfortunately, over the course of the last six years we have encountered extreme price volatility, which had a detrimental impact on the viability of many companies in our energy sector. Demand for oil will be strong for decades to come, so we need to look to the future to create policy that supports companies to maintain strong ESG track records while upholding a competitive investment environment.

One such proposed program is called R-star. R-star was designed to incentivize the cleanup of abandoned wells while encouraging future capital spend. The concept is simple. Upon completion of a well abandonment and receiving a reclamation certificate, companies earn a future royalty credit based upon a well site's liability value as predetermined by the Alberta Energy Regulator. Rather than using a heavy hand to enforce reclamation, this incentivizes companies to clean up sites while strengthening their balance sheet and providing opportunity for a company to grow organically

through investment in new production. The beauty of R-star is that credits can only be redeemed right here in Alberta, which means an economic benefit to our communities and jobs for the hard-working, go-get-'em people of this province.

Mr. Speaker, I'm encouraging all members of this House and the community at large to support R-star, and I encourage industry advocates like SAEN to keep putting forward proactive ideas like this one. I'm proud to be part of a UCP government that demonstrates strong support for environmental stewardship and has an eye on the horizon for the future success of this great province.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

### Environmental and Land-use Policies

**Member Irwin:** Happy Earth Day. Sadly, if the UCP have it their way, Earth Day won't be a happy day for long. And before I get accused of exaggerating, let's consider the vision the UCP has for our beautiful planet: the gorgeous eastern slopes of the Rockies will be ugly, gaping holes destroyed by open-pit mining; animals and plant life will be at risk because the proposed mine sites are vital natural areas for so many species; the water supply to various parts of Alberta, including traditional treaty territories, will be ruined. I don't know about you or the rest of Alberta, but I prefer my water without toxic chemicals.

On this Earth Day I'm so grateful to the countless Albertans from all over this province who rose up in protest of the UCP's reversal of the Lougheed coal policy, and I'm so grateful to the Niitsitapi Water Protectors and all those who demanded better for future generations.

We cannot depend on this government to prioritize the planet. This is the same party with climate-change-denying MLAs and whose federal counterpart voted against officially recognizing climate change, never mind all the research and the science proving otherwise.

Look, if you want to enjoy the great outdoors, you cannot count on the UCP, because when they're not pushing policies that destroy the great outdoors, they're making it harder for all of us to enjoy them. This pandemic has taken a lot from Albertans. For many, camping was one of the few affordable activities that they could access, but at a time when many Albertans are struggling, the UCP decided to jack up park fees. Albertans have been camping on Crown lands for generations, but those lands and others remain in jeopardy. This government only backed off on their plans to sell parks after all of you spoke out.

While I stand here worried about this section of Planet Earth that we call Alberta, I know that there's a better way. You've all shown that you're not willing to accept a government that prioritizes profits over our planet. Keep speaking out, keep pushing back, and keep fighting so that we can celebrate Earth Day not just today but every day.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Sherwood Park.

### 1:40 Industrial Heartland and Petrochemicals Industry

**Mr. Walker:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today I'd like to rise proudly to discuss some of the achievements our government has made in helping to fuel the success of Alberta's Industrial Heartland. Alberta's Industrial Heartland, or AIH, is the largest industrial area in western Canada and includes my community of Strathcona county. It is home to more than 40 petrochemical companies and is one of Canada's largest petrochemical processing regions. The government of Alberta has been proud to partner with

Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association on a number of initiatives over the last several years.

As Alberta seeks to diversify our energy sector through initiatives like the natural gas vision and strategy and the Alberta petrochemicals incentive program, the AIHA has provided key feedback and input as to how Alberta can best move forward in a way that brings businesses and jobs to our province. In fact, a facility in the heartland region was the first approved project under the petrochemicals incentive program, supporting over 16,000 jobs during construction and a further 300 once the project is complete. This facility is a \$4 billion plastic production plant owned by Inter Pipeline that is currently under construction and will receive \$408 million in grant funding to help bring new value to the region's petrochemical sector and expand the range of products capable of being produced in Alberta.

This is just one of many recent projects that will help Alberta's Industrial Heartland to become even more of a powerhouse in the global petrochemical market, all while helping the economy of Alberta.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

### Child Care

**Ms Pancholi:** There's an important conversation happening in Alberta and across the country right now about child care, but that conversation must be based in facts, not scare tactics. So let's talk facts. The UCP says that only 1 in 7 Alberta families choose licensed child care. Fact: there are only enough licensed child care spaces for 1 in 7 Alberta children. Imagine how many parents would choose licensed child care if there were enough spaces, where parents need them, and at a cost that they could afford. That, Mr. Speaker, would be parent choice.

The UCP says that affordability is not a major issue for parents. That explains why every action they've taken, including ending the \$25-per-day pilot program, has made child care more expensive for Albertans. Fact: the average cost of child care in Alberta is more than a mortgage payment, and 40 per cent of Albertans report affordability as a significant challenge in finding child care.

The UCP says that the federal child care announcement is only for, quote, 9-to-5, union-run, government-provided, institutionalized child care and excludes rural families. Fact: none of those claims are true about the federal announcement. Not one. And the term "institutionalized" is insulting and bears no resemblance to what's actually happening in child care programs, something the UCP members who use licensed child care know first-hand.

The UCP says that the federal government should give them the money with no strings attached because Alberta is unique. Well, the UCP might be right about that but not in the way this government thinks. Fact: Alberta has the youngest population in Canada. The employment rate of Alberta women, who experience the largest pay gap in the country, is now lower than any other province, down to 1984 levels, so we have the greatest need for affordable child care in the country. Fact: Alberta's current government has gutted the child care system, which is the biggest barrier to economic growth, increased GDP, and getting women back to work.

So, yes, Alberta is unique. We are uniquely in need of a government that will do whatever it takes to make sure all Alberta families have access to quality child care. One last fact: the UCP don't meet that need, and they never will. But that will all change in 2023.

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

### COVID-19 Related Border Closures

**Mr. Williams:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to tell the story of one of my constituents. My constituent Bryce lives in Peace River while his son, 15 years old, lives in Yellowknife with his family there. In the past his son came down to Peace River every summer, spring break, and most Christmases to spend quality time with his family, particularly his father. Throughout the school year his father would drive up to Yellowknife every month on a weekend to spend as much time as possible throughout the year.

Although having a split family can be difficult, this family makes it work even across a province and a territory. But that was before the pandemic. While the pandemic has the border closures happening at the Northwest Territories, the father and son have been unable to meet in person since August of last year. Strict quarantine rules make it so difficult that the son has a difficult choice if he comes down to Peace River because he would have to isolate for 14 days upon return to the Northwest Territories, and if the father goes to Yellowknife, he would have to isolate as well, taking time off work, making the financial burden very high. The truth is that in spite of the fact that they Facetime nearly every day, the distances are very difficult on this family. The mental health consequences are crushing our communities, particularly families like this. Even though they would spend time playing crib, fishing, golfing, camping, and canoeing, they can't do that right now.

I tell the story because it reflects so many of my constituents and folks across the province. My constituents have a special relationship with those in the Territories, and those border closures are making it very difficult. We have to understand that COVID is not the only concern for health on our communities and that life is fragile. I pine for a time when father and son are reunited.

We remember that COVID is difficult, but I know very soon we will have a time when Albertans across the province will be reunited with their family.

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

### COVID-19 Related Restrictions and Deaths

**Mr. Yao:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What is society's tolerance towards death? When it comes to restrictions in our society and a perceived imposition of a government's will on its people, well, it's a debate that's yet to happen. Did you know that life expectancy is greatly improved? Generally speaking, if you were born in 1900, you might expect to live to the age of 50. By 1951 it was 68 years. If you were born this year, you'll live to be on average 83 years old. We've beaten or at least been able to control or minimize diseases like diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella, polio, elephantiasis, cholera, syphilis, tuberculosis, malaria, yellow fever, smallpox, leprosy, diabetes, HIV, and even cancers. We can deal with obstructed arteries, save you from major trauma, cure your infections, but we've seen a setback this last year: COVID.

The question has arisen: how much does society sacrifice to prevent death? Our health system risks overloading because we have the technology and knowledge, but it takes a lot of effort to sedate someone in order to keep them alive while they're intubated and ventilated. Some are using plasma therapy to cure patients. People are on the heart-lung machines used in cardiac surgeries to oxygenate the blood while they heal. We've now even gone to the extreme of replacing both lungs in a patient. How sustainable is this? Do we accept that death happens and that people have to take self-responsibility in ensuring our personal safety? How can we emphasize support with family, friends, and government while society carries on?

In this endeavour perhaps we should consider the actions of our nation's leader, Prime Minister Trudeau, whose business savviness has forced Canadians to delay second doses of vaccines against recommendations, redirected vaccines from third-world countries to Canada, had Canada ranked 42nd internationally in vaccine success until recently. His vaccine strategy is to overload provinces with vaccines to make them look so bad and him look, oh, so good for an election. Now, this is a guy who looks like he's willing to sacrifice a lot for his own good. Should we?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Red Deer-South.

### Truth

**Mr. Stephan:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Galileo is the father of the scientific method, observation and experiment, formulation and testing of hypotheses. Galileo said that the Earth revolved around the sun. He was attacked for saying so: "The science is settled. Follow the evidence. The sun rises in the east and sets in the west; the sun must revolve around the Earth." He was disparaged and subjected to the Inquisition, a de facto cancel culture.

While there are immutable moral truths, our understanding of the world we live in has and will evolve with time. Asserting that the science is settled to shut down good-faith inquiry can be a form of cancel culture, undermining the scientific method, which by definition tests prevailing orthodoxies. Prevailing orthodoxies may be correct, but there needs to be an openness that they may be only partially right or even wrong. The truth prevails without the need for cancel culture. Sometimes the media forsakes its stewardship as an impartial reporter of fact in favour of half-truth. Too often there is selective fact emphasis, which can distort truth or, worse, support narratives of fear or contention. Large groups should not be condemned and labelled by the actions of a few. It is wrong to seek to destroy a person's name and character by interpreting and sometimes twisting a person's words in the worst possible ways.

Let us be loyal to the truth and to speak the truth in love. We will be happier and better.

1:50

### Oral Question Period

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora has the first question.

### COVID-19 Response

**Ms Hoffman:** Mr. Speaker, yesterday Alberta reported a record number 1,332 variant cases of COVID-19. Many Albertans believe this Premier waited too long to act and was distracted by the COVID-denying cohort within the Conservative caucus. Albertans now fear that their businesses and schools will stay closed longer, their hospitals will be overwhelmed, and that they won't be able to spend time with friends and family this summer. We have the highest per capita case count in Canada. Does the Premier take any responsibility for the role that he played in causing the third wave?

**Mr. Kenney:** Mr. Speaker, that question is ridiculous and very typical of the NDP, always seeking to politicize this pandemic. The third wave is present in most colder jurisdictions across the northern hemisphere. I don't take responsibility for the third wave in British Columbia under an NDP government any more than the other provinces. This is not a political issue; it is a public health issue. That is how Alberta has approached it, seeking to take a balanced approach to protect lives and livelihoods, to protect our health care system, human lives, and the broader health of our society.

**Ms Hoffman:** Except Alberta has the highest per capita rate, Premier. Effective today 68,000 Edmonton public and Catholic students must learn from home. They join another 90,000 from Calgary, Fort McMurray, and Sherwood Park who are already there. We know many parents across the province fear that they will be next and that their families will be thrown into chaos looking for a plan to prevent things from getting even worse. To the Premier: give Alberta families hope. Will you do anything new to make their schools safer and prevent more closures? We want them open. Teachers want them open. Families want them open. They need the Premier to act now to make them safer.

**Mr. Kenney:** Mr. Speaker, schools are safe. It is time that the NDP stopped the fearmongering. We have 700,000 students of whom 1,800 – 1,800 – have been identified as having received transmission of the virus in school. That means that 99.75 per cent of Alberta students have not been affected by in-classroom transmission. The NDP's supposed plan would do absolutely nothing to change that fact.

**Ms Hoffman:** A hundred and sixty thousand have been sent home, Premier, and you're doing nothing to make things better for when they go back.

The Premier scoffed when asked why workers at the Cargill meat plant will no longer receive the COVID-19 vaccine that they were promised. Dr. Amy Tan has worked with racialized communities throughout the pandemic. She told the CBC that she believes these workers, most of which are from racialized communities, are being systemically ignored. To the former federal minister of immigration and the current Premier: are you really going to ignore these workers? Their lives may very well depend on you.

**Mr. Kenney:** Well, Mr. Speaker, only the NDP could take a shortage of vaccines, a cancellation of vaccine shipments and turn it into a question of racial division. Shame on them. They didn't receive the vaccines that they were promised, which is deeply regrettable, because Alberta did not receive the vaccines that Alberta was promised. Sixty-five thousand Moderna vaccines, some of which were going to that and other meat-packing plants, were cancelled, did not show up as they were scheduled. We cannot deliver vaccines that we do not have.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar has the next question.

### Coal Development Policies

**Mr. Schmidt:** In late October the then minister of economic development and trade met with a foreign coal company and went on record offering to do anything to get their project approved. Six months later the coal policy was quietly rescinded. Fast-forward to Tuesday, in Public Accounts we heard that the ministry conducted absolutely no economic analysis of the impact of coal development, no assessment of what it meant for other industries. It begs the question: why did the Premier sell out to the coal industry and put their interests above those of every other industry?

**Mr. Kenney:** Mr. Speaker, again, that question is patently ridiculous. Alberta has a 140-year history of coal mining, including on the eastern slopes, including under the previous NDP government. In fact, as I pointed out before, the predecessor to the NDP, the Alberta Labour Party, was founded by the coal mining unions. The NDP government approved of and supported the expansion of coal mines in this province. We are consulting with Albertans to ensure we

strike the right balance between environmental protection and responsible resource development.

**Mr. Schmidt:** It seems to me that consulting Albertans should require full information on the economic development and the impact of that. If the government cared about Albertans and the jobs they currently have, the Premier wouldn't have just handed a blank cheque to the coal industry. In his first year of the government's mandate the Premier waxed poetically about doubling the tourism industry in 10 years, but at the same time he was sabotaging the industry's chance for success. At Public Accounts officials confirmed that there was no analysis done on the implications of coal development on the 10-year tourism strategy. To the Premier: will your government finally conduct an analysis of the impact of coal development on tourism?

**Mr. Kenney:** Well, Mr. Speaker, of course, the 10-year tourism strategy was interrupted by a minor event called a once-in-a-century pandemic. The Minister of Jobs, Economy and Innovation is working with the tourism industry, including through a \$20 million increase in funding for tourism Alberta to support their postpandemic relaunch. With respect to coal mining I want the NDP to meet with all of the union members, the thousands of union members, who work responsibly in Alberta's coal industry and tell them that the NDP wants to put every single one of them out of work.

**Mr. Schmidt:** It's weird that the pandemic didn't cause a pause to the coal mining industry in this province.

It's not just the tourism industry, though, that's under threat from this government's backwards coal policy; it's also ranchers and agriculture. As this Premier quietly worked to dismantle the coal policy, the Ministry of Jobs, Economy and Innovation failed the people of Alberta. Despite being the central clearing house in government to bring in a wide range of perspectives on economic development, the ministry told Public Accounts that they did zero broader economic analysis and provided no advice about what the coal policy rescinding will mean. Will the Premier commit to releasing the results of the online survey immediately?

**Mr. Kenney:** The member opposite just said, quote, it's weird that the coal industry wasn't shut down during the pandemic. It would only be weird for a New Democrat because they have wanted to shut down the entire economy hard from day one. We just heard it from him. They wanted to shut down the mining industry. Guess what. Mining, including the energy sector, Mr. Speaker, is a quarter of the province's economy, and they think it's weird that we didn't shut them down. Thank goodness they were not in office during this time of great crisis.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning is next.

### AgriStability Program

**Ms Sweet:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today the leaders of the Alberta NDP joined fellow New Democrats in Saskatchewan and Manitoba to call on the Conservative governments in all three provinces to go back to the table with Ottawa and invest in what is necessary to maximize funding for Alberta's agriculture industry. This is a direct response to the call of agricultural industry leaders in all three provinces. The federal AgriStability proposal goes until 2023, and for every dollar the province invests, they get a dollar and a half back. This is a modest and reasonable request to the government. Will the UCP step up and listen to farmers and ranchers?



**The Speaker:** The hon. the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board.

**Mr. Toews:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can say yes, we will listen to farmers and ranchers. The minister of agriculture does that every day. He's every day on the job listening to Alberta's great agriculture producers. There has been a recent change. We have removed the reference margin limit cap in the AgriStability program. This will in fact improve the program while the minister works with industry groups to create an even better risk management program.

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

**Ms Sweet:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the minister is also aware, the compensation rate did not change in this negotiation. That is what I'm talking about. Eleven Alberta agricultural associations and organizations asked the province to sign the proposal. These voices included Alberta barley, beef producers, canola, pork, pulse growers, sugar beet growers, potato growers, Wheat Commission, and the Alberta Federation of Agriculture. They've all clearly articulated their position, and it's known to this government. To the Premier. Farmers and producers have spoken loudly. Why isn't this government listening? Why don't they sign on to the compensation rate changes?

**Mr. Toews:** Mr. Speaker, this government is listening intently to farmers and ranchers across the province. While the minister works with industry groups on a renewed approach to business risk management, let me read into the record some of the accomplishments. We've repealed the disastrous Bill 6 that the members opposite punished Alberta's farmers and ranchers with. We passed Bill 27, which is to protect farmers and ranchers from trespassing protesters. We've created results-driven agriculture research. We provided a 20 per cent discount to AgriInsurance premiums and much, much more.

2:00

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

**Ms Sweet:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thanks to the Finance minister for giving farmers back their own money. Again, we're talking about compensation rate. The effects of COVID-19 on the supply chain impact agriculture significantly, and we have a UCP government that routinely leaves federal money on the table. What this government is actually doing is trying to save money on the backs of Alberta farmers and ranchers. To the Premier: will he admit he's putting political ideology over supporting Alberta's agricultural sector, and will he explain how we're supposed to support the agricultural economic future without compensation?

**Mr. Toews:** Mr. Speaker, let me express to the hon. member what we really are doing for Alberta agriculture producers. We recognize that that industry competes globally. We have a world-class industry in this province, and we're positioning that industry to be most competitive. In fact, let me say this. The Alberta agriculture industry is one of the shining lights in our effort to grow this economy. They are one of the shining lights in the current economic recovery that's taking shape today.

#### COVID-19 Outbreak Reviews and Liability

**Ms Gray:** Sixty-one per cent of Alberta's COVID-19 fatalities originated in long-term care. Residents and staff have died. We've also seen workers die as a result of a massive COVID-19 outbreak at the Cargill and JBS meat-packing plants. Families are grieving. They've lost loved ones, and our hearts go out to all of them. People

want answers. They want to know how these outbreaks happened. Was enough done to keep their workplaces safe? They want to know that if there was negligence, those operators who are negligent will be held accountable. Will the Premier commit that the government will not introduce legislation that cuts off justice for these families?

**Mr. Shandro:** Well, as the member knows, nothing can be spoken about until later on this afternoon, when the hon. the Member for Calgary-Fish Creek is going to be tabling his legislation, Mr. Speaker. I look forward to the opportunity to see the legislation that will be tabled by that hon. member, and we will be able to speak on it then.

**Ms Gray:** The workers of Cargill endured so much through this pandemic. They were assured by this government that their workplace was safe when the agriculture minister had been briefed that workplace transmission was happening and chose not to disclose that to them. Thousands of workers were infected, and tragically three lives have been lost. These workers and the families of those who lost loved ones are looking for answers. A class-action lawsuit has already been filed against Cargill on behalf of these workers. Will the Premier commit that he will not introduce legislation that would void that class-action lawsuit? These families have lost Alberta workers. They're seeking justice.

**Mr. Kenney:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**Ms Gray:** These families deserve answers, they deserve justice, and they deserve a government that supports them. This government has a chance to stand with these families, workers, residents, and staff to show that they have their backs during this pandemic. [interjections] I'm going to keep it very simple and ignore the heckling from the government about dead workers. Will the Premier or any member of the cabinet confirm that they will not stand in the way of justice . . .

**Mr. Schow:** Point of order.

**Ms Gray:** . . . for grieving families when this pandemic is over? It's a simple question. Give these families a clear answer.

**The Speaker:** A point of order is noted at 2:03.

**Mr. Kenney:** I just did. The answer was yes, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche.

#### COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout and Paid Leave for Employees

**Ms Goodridge:** Thank you. After a long, dark road this past year, with the COVID-19 pandemic, vaccinations are now the light at the end of our tunnel, and they are the key to our province's recovery. Yesterday Alberta's government took swift action to remove potential barriers so that eligible Albertans are able to get vaccinated when their turn comes. To the minister: is any eligible employee able to take advantage of this new COVID-19 vaccination leave when they qualify to be vaccinated, and is their leave job protected?

**The Speaker:** The hon. the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board.

**Mr. Toews:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the question. Bill 71 was introduced and passed yesterday because our government wants to reduce the barriers for

any Albertan being able to get their vaccination. No one should have to choose between putting food on the table for their families and receiving a COVID-19 vaccination. All eligible employees, whether full-time or part-time, regardless of the length of their employment are able to access this paid leave.

**Ms Goodridge:** Thank you, Minister. Given that Albertans across the province are anxiously waiting for their opportunity to be vaccinated and to help protect themselves and others from COVID-19 and given that many Alberta businesses are waiting, wanting eased public health restrictions so that they can get back to work and given that we continue to encourage employees and employers to work together as they now schedule this new COVID-19 vaccination leave, to the minister: can you please highlight the benefits to employers of having a vaccinated workforce?

**The Speaker:** The hon. the Minister of Finance.

**Mr. Toews:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. All Albertans want to put COVID-19 behind them, and that's why our government has taken action. Having a vaccinated workforce will mean lower absenteeism for employees and make a more stable workforce for our Alberta businesses. We thank each and every Albertan that takes a vaccine, and we also thank each and every employer as they work with their employees to accommodate vaccinations.

**Ms Goodridge:** Thank you, Minister. Given that our COVID-19 vaccination program is ramping up all across our province and given that with Bill 71 Alberta's government has taken swift measures to reduce the barriers to any eligible Albertan receiving the COVID-19 vaccine if they so choose and given that vaccinations are crucial not only for Alberta's workforce but for families as well, to the minister: can you please stress the importance of what having a vaccinated population will mean for Albertans all across this province?

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

**Mr. Toews:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker and again to the member for the question. COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the lives and livelihoods of Albertans. The faster Albertans are vaccinated, the faster our economy will be able to open up. Our government is focused on getting Albertans back to work, and we thank everyone for the steps that they're taking each day to help accomplish that goal together.

**The Speaker:** The Member for Calgary-Mountain View has a question.

### Energy Company Liabilities

**Ms Ganley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday we found out that SanLing Energy will be ceasing operations at the end of the month. This comes after the AER suspended licences of the company last month as a result of maintenance and cleanup orders. Basically, the company is walking away from any responsibility, and it could be Albertans who are on the hook to clean it up. SanLing holds licences for 2,266 wells, 227 facilities, and 2,170 pipelines. To the minister: how much are taxpayers going to be on the hook for?

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

**Mr. McIver:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've actually got to say that I'm kind of surprised. That was a good question, and I thank the hon. member for the good question, but, as the hon. member also pointed out, this happened yesterday. While the question is

good – I acknowledge that – I don't think it's fair to actually ask that the answer be available today. I think it's fair to ask the question, and in due course the answer will be available. It's just not available today.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View.

**Ms Ganley:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that we already have a growing orphan well problem in this province and that SanLing repeatedly refused to follow the rules or follow compliance orders, essentially flouting the rules, and given that companies like SanLing seem to think that they can walk away from their responsibilities, Minister, SanLing is just the tip of the iceberg. What are we doing to resolve this problem?

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

**Mr. McIver:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I expect the hon. member knows, because there's been considerable talk about this in the House, our government is working together with the federal government. We have an orphan well program that's been in place for a long time. We're working together with the federal government. Our environment minister and our Premier worked with them to get funding to help clean up orphan wells. As the hon. member said, this particular company may have been doing this for a long time, which would include the four years that that member was a minister and did nothing about this issue.

**Ms Ganley:** Given that there is also a growing crisis of unpaid property taxes by some oil and gas companies, with over \$245 million owing to municipalities, and given that the government has done nothing to support these municipalities, leaving Alberta taxpayers on the hook, and given that the Minister of Municipal Affairs said at AUMA last week that there's not much the government can do to recoup the amounts owed, to the government: is anyone willing to stand up for Albertans and take real action to combat this growing crisis?

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

**Mr. Kenney:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Minister of Transportation has answered that question, but since that member is rising, I'd like to raise something that I find deeply disturbing. Yesterday she posted on Twitter a comment referring to the hon. the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Innovation as "another angry mediocre white man." Does the member believe that it is appropriate to make pejorative remarks about fellow hon. members based on their race?

### 2:10 Support for Youth Transitioning out of Care

**Ms Pancholi:** Mr. Speaker, this morning I wrote to the Minister of Children's Services after hearing concerns from within her department that she plans to go forward with cuts to supports for vulnerable young people previously in government care. I told the minister that I've heard that she's planning to press ahead with reducing the eligibility age for the supports and financial assistance program, or SFAA program, from 24 to 22, the very cut she previously intended to make that is now the subject of a constitutional challenge. To the minister: is the government moving forward with cuts to the eligibility age for SFAA, yes or no?

**Mr. Glubish:** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Children's Services has worked hard to ensure that youth in care and those young adults transitioning out of care have the support they need during this time. We understand that these times are unprecedented and have created

new challenges, especially for those who are most vulnerable. As we remain in the pandemic, all youth aged 22 to 23 will continue to receive SFAA benefits. Caseworkers and recipients will plan over a period of months to ensure they have natural supports in place and are set up to succeed as adults once the pandemic subsides.

**Ms Pancholi:** Well, given that the SFAA program provides critical financial and emotional supports to these vulnerable young people and given that there's been a disturbing increase in the number of deaths among young adults this year who are part of that program and given that we are still in the middle of a pandemic and the minister herself stated publicly that she would make sure that no young adult is left without supports at a difficult time, can the minister definitively promise in this Assembly that the government is not currently working on plans now or in the immediate future to lower the eligibility age for this program?

**Mr. Glubish:** Mr. Speaker, as I've said, the Minister of Children's Services is working hard to ensure that youth in care and those young adults who are transitioning out of care have the supports that they need. A good example of that is how Alberta is the only jurisdiction in Canada to offer a bursary program that includes social, emotional, and funding supports specifically for young adults formerly in care while they pursue postsecondary studies, and the supports we provide after former youth in care turn 18 are among the most generous in the country. Many provinces are moving towards tailoring supports specific to youth not based on their ages, and we're doing the same. Our front-line workers will continue to work closely with young adults to ensure they have the right financial supports.

**Ms Pancholi:** Given that there is no assurance there for these young people requiring these supports and given that during debate of the 2021 budget the minister indicated funding for a full year of the SFAA program was included and is available and given that this minister lost the trust of so many advocates and support workers that work with these vulnerable young people when she attempted to push through these cruel cuts to funding without consultation or any consideration of the real impact it would have on their lives, to the minister: will she actually rule out permanently any cuts to the SFAA program, and will she apologize to vulnerable Albertans and the people who support them for the damage that these cuts have created?

**Mr. Glubish:** Mr. Speaker, I mean, I guess, I just need to say it a third time, that the Minister of Children's Services continues to work hard to ensure that youth in care and those young adults transitioning out of care have the supports that they need. Our front-line workers will continue to work closely with these young adults to ensure that they have the right financial, emotional, and practical supports, including stable connections to their community and to other important individuals in their lives that will endure well beyond government programs, programs like advancing futures, for example – it's a one-of-a-kind program which pays for all postsecondary costs, including a living allowance – and mentoring programs to help build natural, lifelong connections that can continue well into adulthood.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Lesser Slave Lake has a question.

#### Affordable Housing in Lesser Slave Lake

**Mr. Rehn:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the most important catalysts for sustainable and tangible economic growth is the

cultivation of robust housing availability and the consistency such availability provides to residents' quality of life. To the Minister of Seniors and Housing: what measures are being taken or explored for improving the availability of housing for all communities across Lesser Slave Lake?

**The Speaker:** The hon. the Minister of Seniors and Housing.

**Ms Pon:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. Alberta's government has committed to affordable housing for those most in need, which is including the individuals, families living in the communities outside of our urban centres and in the town of Slave Lake. Our government remains committed to the P3 mixed-income 40-unit project by investing \$4.2 million as a capital grant, helping to meet the needs of Albertans in this community.

**Mr. Rehn:** Mr. Speaker, given that there is a need for new housing units of all tenures and given that regions like Lesser Slave Lake are not immune to rising housing costs and given that the goal of home ownership is critical to building strong personal financial foundations as well as contributing to our broader economy, can the minister please inform the House of her plans to increase the supply of all types of housing in rural regions across Lesser Slave Lake?

**The Speaker:** The hon. the minister of seniors.

**Ms Pon:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and the member for the question. Our government is committed to transforming the affordable housing system in northern Alberta and the entire province. This transformation will result in more flexible, fair, and inclusive housing options that meet Albertans' needs for now and in the future. Our government has redefined our role, tapping into community experts, expanding partnerships, rewarding innovations, and simplifying the housing system as outlined in our report.

**Mr. Rehn:** Mr. Speaker, given that the need for affordable housing is growing and given that planned projects under way for said affordable housing will result in much-improved units for those needing housing in the constituency, to the Minister of Seniors and Housing: can she, for the sake of information for this Assembly and my constituents, provide a timeline for when the affordable housing project in Slave Lake, particularly the one she just spoke about earlier, will fully come to fruition?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Seniors and Housing.

**Ms Pon:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the question. The expressions of interest for the affordable housing project in Slave Lake closed on April 8. We are currently reviewing some of the results in the submissions. I would like to assure the Assembly that we are working closely with the town of Slave Lake and the housing management body for this affordable housing project.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-McCall is next.

#### COVID-19 Related Public Health Order Enforcement

**Mr. Sabir:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To get through this pandemic, we all need to work together, get vaccinated, and follow the rules set out about public health designed to protect the health of all Albertans. Throughout this pandemic 576 tickets under public health have been issued; however, over 40 per cent of those tickets have been withdrawn. This sends a concerning message to those Albertans who are following the rules. Can the Minister of Justice

explain why so many tickets issued under his watch are being withdrawn?

**The Speaker:** The hon. the Minister of Justice.

**Mr. Madu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me thank Alberta Health Services and law enforcement and staff at the chief Crown prosecution office for working together to ensure that, you know, we investigate and implement the public health orders that have been put in place to ensure we protect Albertans. I am thankful for those public servants who are working day and night to ensure compliance with the public health orders, and I am confident that they will continue to do that so that we can put this pandemic behind us.

**Mr. Sabir:** Given that it does our public health and law enforcement professionals a disservice if faith in public health orders is undermined and given that this government has already done damage to the trust that many Albertans have in public health orders with this government's refusal to stand up to the 17 members of the caucus who are seeking to undermine the public health orders in place and given the critical nature of the public health orders, will the Minister of Justice commit to a review of the legislation in order to get to the bottom of why so many of these tickets are being thrown out?

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

**Mr. Madu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At the Justice ministry we expanded, you know, the role of the sheriffs and community peace officers to be able to enforce the public health orders across our province. The Member for Calgary-McCall would know that elected leaders do not direct enforcement, do not direct prosecution. These are matters that are dealt with independently. I expect the Member for Calgary-McCall to not inject politics or partisanship on a matter that ought to be dealt with independently by those whom we have charged with that responsibility.

**Mr. Sabir:** Given that during this global pandemic and especially during the deadly third wave we cannot have public health orders that no one believes will be enforced and given that the Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police have urged the province to consider escalating consequences for those who continue to break public health measures – that's a request coming from the Association of Chiefs of Police – is the minister listening to this call, and will he consider escalating consequences against those who recklessly endanger public health?

2:20

**Mr. Madu:** Mr. Speaker, it is disappointing but not surprising that the Member for Calgary-McCall would seek to undermine the hard work of men and women of law enforcement.

**Ms Gray:** Point of order.

**Mr. Madu:** Mr. Speaker, you know, let me thank the staff at Alberta Health Services, again, those who work within our justice system for their diligence in making sure that all Albertans comply with the public health measures. I am confident that enforcements are being carried out across our province, but what we will not do is to allow the political class to direct enforcement. [interjections]

**The Speaker:** Order. Order.

The hon. Member for Edmonton-City Centre has the call.

### COVID-19 Vaccine Availability in Racialized Communities

**Mr. Shepherd:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The data is clear. Racialized communities have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. They're more likely to be employed as front-line essential service workers and in higher risk settings like meat-packing plants, are much less likely to have access to supports like paid sick leave. Unfortunately, they also face more challenges to getting vaccinated, including lack of transportation, language and cultural barriers, challenges accessing information and booking appointments online. To the Minister of Health: what, if any, specific steps are being taken or planned to promote and provide vaccinations to racialized communities?

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, I did fail to note the point of order at 2:20, but I have made myself a note.

The hon. Minister of Health to answer.

**Mr. Shandro:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for the question. It's a fantastic and thoughtful question. AHS has purposely made steps to make sure that they have vaccination clinics that are close to those communities; for example, close to public transportation so that folks who might not have the ability to drive themselves can use public transportation and be able to make their way to a vaccination clinic; for example, in Calgary the Genesis Centre. AHS purposely made a vaccination clinic at the Genesis Centre with that in mind as well as making sure they were continuing to expand the rollout to our pharmacies.

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

**Mr. Shepherd:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now, given that in December the government recognized the importance of working with cultural community leaders through COVID care teams and given that provinces like Ontario and B.C. are using initiatives like mobile vaccination teams and pop-up clinics in high-risk congregate settings, residential buildings, and faith-based locations to promote and provide vaccinations in hot-spot neighbourhoods and impacted communities, to the Minister of Health: will the government consider working with local cultural leaders and health professionals to make vaccinations more accessible to their communities? Could we see mobile vaccination teams or pop-up clinics in Alberta to help get them vaccinated?

**Mr. Shandro:** The simple answer is yes, Mr. Speaker. We are.

I'd also just like to point out that our COVID care teams, that are going throughout our communities, are also reaching out to those racialized communities and making sure that they understand the safety and the efficacy of vaccines as well as providing knowledge about the other supports that government is able to provide to those folks throughout the pandemic.

But the answer, quite simply, to his question is yes, and we already are.

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

**Mr. Shepherd:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now, given that I recently received a proposal from At-Taqwa mosque in my constituency to partner with a local pharmacist to promote and provide vaccinations to over 8,000 members of local East African communities and given that they estimate that in those communities they serve, vaccination uptake by eligible individuals is currently less than 10 per cent and given that I've submitted their proposal to host a vaccination site at the mosque to both AHS and the minister's office, will the minister

commit to following up with his staff and AHS to see if we could make this collaboration and perhaps others like it happen?

**Mr. Shandro:** The answer again is yes. Those are the types of opportunities that we have been seeking since December, when we started to plan the vaccine rollout, Mr. Speaker, so that we can have not just AHS but also those innovative community partners who want to work with AHS – for example, the pharmacies working with the ministry to be able to provide greater capacity for us. We know that vaccine uptake is going to be directly correlating to the amount of opportunities we have in the community to be able to explain the safety and the efficacy of the vaccines to all Albertans, whether it's our family physicians or pharmacists, so that people can have greater uptake.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Red Deer-South has a question to ask.

### Federal Carbon Tax

**Mr. Stephan:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Supreme Court conferred a dangerous power on Ottawa, ripe for abuse, that under the guise of a carbon tax can disproportionately harm Albertans. Let's be honest. Carbon taxes are as much political as they are environmental. If Quebec was an oil and gas jurisdiction, Ottawa would never impose these forms of carbon taxes. To the minister: how does Ottawa's carbon tax disproportionately harm Alberta businesses and families?

**Mr. Kenney:** Well, Mr. Speaker, I disagree with the member in one respect, at least, which is that carbon taxes are not as political as they are environmental; they are far more political than they are environmental. There's been no evidence of reductions of emissions in Canada as a result of punishing people for filling up their gas tanks and heating their homes. I would point out that Quebec, for example, is permitted by the government of Canada to operate a cap and trade scheme, the effective price of which is \$20 a tonne versus the \$40-a-tonne notional price in Alberta, which is going to \$170 a tonne, which is why we fought this all the way to the Supreme Court and will choose an option that imposes the lowest cost on Albertans.

**Mr. Stephan:** Given that the U.S., our biggest trading partner, has no federal carbon tax and given that Ottawa's carbon tax is \$40 per tonne and given that the Trudeau Liberals say that they will increase the carbon tax by over 400 per cent, to \$170 per tonne, to the minister: what will this carbon tax do to Alberta's ability to compete for capital investment in our natural resources?

**The Speaker:** The hon. the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board has risen.

**Mr. Toews:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker and again to the member for the question. The member is correct. The carbon tax imposed on Alberta businesses and on Albertans will actually undermine our competitiveness as our key sectors do compete on the global stage. We are doing everything in our means to combat this tax – of course, that's why we took our case all the way to the Supreme Court – and in the meantime we're doing everything else we can to create the most competitive business environment possible to ensure that Alberta businesses can compete within Canada and globally.

**Mr. Stephan:** Given that Ottawa's carbon tax punishes Alberta businesses and makes them less competitive and given that Alberta families and individuals' livelihoods will suffer from skyrocketing carbon taxes, to the minister: what will the government do to address

the destruction of this carbon tax and protect the competitiveness of our natural resource businesses?

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

**Mr. Toews:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker and again to the member for the question. As I've stated many times in the past, in fact, just in my previous statement, our goal is to create the most competitive business environment possible. I call it a special economic zone and refer to that as Alberta. Adhering to the fiscal anchors we've outlined in Budget 2021 will allow us to maintain the overall lowest tax burden in the country. By aligning our spending with that of comparator provinces and keeping our net debt to GDP ratio below 30 per cent, Albertans can be assured that we are doing everything in our power to offset this federal tax burden.

### Affordable Housing Funding

**Ms Sigurdson:** In the federal government's budget there is even more funding allocated to affordable housing. Clearly, there is federal money on the table for provinces to use. Tragically, Alberta does not have a government willing to use it. The city of Edmonton has made repeated requests for \$6 million to help the most vulnerable have a safe place to call home. To the Minister of Seniors and Housing: will she commit to this funding, and if not, why not?

**The Speaker:** The hon. the Minister of Seniors and Housing.

**Ms Pon:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are continuously working very closely with the three levels of government, the federal level and municipalities. Currently for the capital grant we are investing \$238 million for three years and continue to build affordable housing. We have completed 1,200 units within the last two years, and we continue to build 1,800 units for this entire year. Of course, we are going to create 1,700 jobs, which is in the recovery plan.

Thank you.

**Ms Sigurdson:** The federal budget has provided multiple options to assist provinces with affordable housing and has previously offered millions for the Canada housing benefit. Given that mayors and councils in Alberta have made it unequivocally clear that they want to work with both the federal and provincial governments to increase housing, to the Minister of Seniors and Housing: when will she provide matching dollars for the federal rental supplement program, that almost all other provinces have already signed on to? Why is she denying Albertans this support during a pandemic, when they need it most?

2:30

**The Speaker:** The hon. the Minister of Seniors and Housing.

**Ms Pon:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will welcome the private members to read our strategy plans. We are already matching our federal government dollars by \$561 million. We are maximumly using every single dollar so we can match and continue to build affordable housing for the Albertans who are most in need.

Thank you.

**Ms Sigurdson:** Given that to eliminate poverty, all levels of government need to work together – the federal and municipal want to act, but the UCP continues to sit on their hands. To the Minister of Seniors and Housing: how many people need to sleep cold at night, how many people need to contract COVID because they do not have an adequate place to call home, how many need to lose their homes and be pushed onto the streets because the government

is refusing to act? Does the UCP's mantra of protecting lives and livelihoods stop when it comes to Albertans on low income?

**The Speaker:** The hon. the Minister of Seniors and Housing.

**Ms Pon:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me repeat it, and let me make it clear: we are continuing to build affordable housing. We have completed 1,200 affordable housing units, which is way more than the previous government did in their four years. We are continuing to build 1,800 affordable housing and create 1,700 jobs and work with the federal government. In fact, on Monday I will have a call with the minister of Canada works and housing, looking for a partnership and getting more funding from the federal government.

#### Kindergarten to Grade 6 Draft Curriculum

**Mr. Schmidt:** The Premier says that representing your constituents is the primary role of an MLA; however, this is a lesson that many on the other side seem to have either forgotten or chosen to ignore. The Member for Sherwood Park and the Minister of Service Alberta are still defending the government's curriculum, which is being rejected by Albertans, from parents to teachers to school boards. Most notably, the residents of Sherwood Park have soundly given the curriculum a failing grade. Why is the Minister of Service Alberta refusing to listen to his own constituents? Does he need to do some learning himself on what it means to be an MLA?

**Mr. Glubish:** The notion that I or my colleague from Sherwood Park are not listening to our constituents is laughable. The member is alleging that we're not listening to our constituents. We do. Now, Mr. Speaker, you and I both know that you can't make everybody happy all the time. Not everyone in Alberta agrees on everything, and that's fine. That's normal, that's healthy, that's democracy. Now, we are supporting the Minister of Education as she's been working on the K to 6 curriculum, and we believe that as we move towards piloting this curriculum, that's the best way for us to get feedback from all Albertans, including teachers, parents, and the folks who've been writing to my office.

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

**Mr. Schmidt:** Thank you. Given that Danielle Till, a parent of three in Sherwood Park, said that, quote, it's frustrating to write to your MLA with specific concerns and then get a stock copy-paste response that makes it clear that your letter wasn't read or considered, end quote, and given that the Minister of Service Alberta stated that the consultation on this curriculum was open and transparent but given that he would be hard-pressed to find either a school board or someone not on the UCP payroll to endorse this curriculum, who is the minister talking to that supports this curriculum? It's clearly not his constituents.

**Mr. Glubish:** Mr. Speaker, look, as I've said, the Minister of Education is working hard on this curriculum, and now we are at the natural stage where it's time to pilot it. It's time to trial it and show what it can do in practice. This is the best opportunity for all Albertans, including parents and teachers, administrators, everyone in Alberta, to see the curriculum in action. It's been over 30 years without an update for a lot of this curriculum. It's long overdue, so we need to trial it, we need to show what it can do, and then if there are changes that need to be made, we will have plenty of opportunity to take that feedback. I invite all my constituents to continue to be involved in the consultation.

**Mr. Schmidt:** Given that some of the words used by the Minister of Service Alberta's constituents to describe this curriculum include discriminatory, divisive, exclusionary, age inappropriate, and, quote, not a curriculum anyone wants to teach, end quote, and given that before anyone on the UCP describes these voices as belonging to special interests, I would remind the minister that these are his constituents and, importantly, Albertans that he's failing to listen to, will the minister listen to the people who've sent him here and use his position in cabinet to have this disaster of a curriculum pulled, or does he value his seat around the cabinet table more than representing his constituents?

**Mr. McIver:** Point of order.

**The Speaker:** A point of order is noted at 2:35.

**Mr. Glubish:** Mr. Speaker, as I've said before, I listen to my constituents, and the best way for us to listen to all of our constituents with the subject of the curriculum is to continue the process. The Minister of Education has a process. We're sticking to the process, and the next stage of that process now is to trial that curriculum and give all Albertans, including parents and teachers, the opportunity to weigh in and say: now that we've seen it in practice, here's what we like; here's what we don't like. I invite all of my constituents to participate in that process, to continue with the online consultation, and to watch as we trial this curriculum to see how well it can work in practice.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Livingstone-Macleod is next.

#### Financial Literacy Education Grant Program

**Mr. Reid:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We all know, especially during this difficult time, that understanding how money works is extremely important and necessary. From savings to investing to managing credit and debt, we need these practical skills to succeed. Yesterday the Minister of Education and the Minister of Finance announced a call for grant proposals for organizations to teach financial literacy to Alberta students. To the Minister of Education: can you tell us the amount available in these grants and how this will impact Alberta students?

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

**Member LaGrange:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was so pleased to announce yesterday that Alberta's government is releasing a call for grant proposals for \$1 million for an organization or groups of organizations to work with schools across Alberta to deliver financial literacy training to junior and senior high students, starting this fall. As part of this grant students will study important concepts such as cost, interest, debt, investing, insurance, and how the economy affects their lives. These are very important lessons that can be taught and learned from a very young age. We owe it to our students to give them a comprehensive understanding of real-world problems and how to solve them.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Livingstone-Macleod.

**Mr. Reid:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister for her answer. Given that I was excited to see that Alberta's new draft K to 6 curriculum will teach students financial literacy starting as early as kindergarten and given that by learning financial literacy at a younger age, students will have a better understanding of how to manage their money once they get older, can the minister please

explain why this call for grant proposals is necessary given that the curriculum is being updated and will include this content?

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

**Member LaGrange:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the question. Including financial literacy in the new draft curriculum was an important promise that we made to Albertans, and I'm happy to say that this is a promise we are keeping. As the member mentioned, in the new draft K to 6 curriculum financial literacy will be taught in every single grade, starting in kindergarten. As we draft the grade 7 to 12 curriculum, financial literacy will continue to be embedded. This call for grant proposals is designed for students in older grades, and the program will be implemented for the next school year, the '21-22 school year. Financial literacy is too important to wait. Our students need these skills and knowledge.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Livingstone-Macleod.

**Mr. Reid:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that this call for grant proposals builds on other successful current financial literacy programs, including those offered by Enriched Academy and Junior Achievement in the 2020-2021 school year, and given that many Albertans may not know about these programs and the benefits that they bring to the students, can the minister please explain what the results of these programs were and how many students were able to benefit from them?

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

**Member LaGrange:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Last summer we announced that we would begin enhancing financial literacy in classrooms through grant partnerships with Enriched Academy and Junior Achievement. These organizations have been working with 39,000 students in grades 4 to 12 in urban, rural, and indigenous communities across Alberta. These programs were extremely well received by students and teachers, and I would like to read a quote from Ellen, a student participant in the Junior Achievement program.

I've also learned all about making decisions that financially benefit a business or individual – break-even points, budgeting, investing, financial management and so many more financial skills. This program has made a change in my life for the better.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Spruce Grove-Stony Plain.

#### Stollery Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

**Mr. Turton:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Stollery children's hospital in Edmonton is a world-class facility that provides care to the most vulnerable, our province's children. It's impossible to imagine the anguish felt by families whose children are in intensive care, and this year thousands of Albertans have been unable to visit sick and dying members in the hospital because of a rigorous COVID-19 protocol. Can the Minister of Infrastructure please tell this House about the good news announced yesterday for the Stollery and how it will ease the struggles of families facing the burden of a sick child?

2:40

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Transportation and Municipal Affairs.

**Mr. McIver:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. Indeed, yesterday's announcement is excellent news for those Albertans facing the most awful circumstances. With these new renovations at the Stollery NICU, each bed is equipped with

fridges for breast milk storage, recliners and sleeping sofas for parents as well as NICView cameras so loved ones outside the hospital can check on their baby virtually any time. There are also sleep rooms and a laundry room for families as well as a family lounge space. I extend my deepest thanks to the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation and all the medical staff and families who advocated for this important project.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Spruce Grove-Stony Plain.

**Mr. Turton:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister for his answer. Given that the COVID-19 pandemic forced construction to be halted on the Stollery NICU in order to protect ongoing patient care at the facility and given that the Stollery NICU was the last phase of a three-phase project and given that patients were being moved yesterday into the newly renovated unit, can the Minister of Infrastructure please tell the Assembly about any delays faced by this project?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Transportation and Municipal Affairs.

**Mr. McIver:** I'm not sure what you said. Sorry, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member, however, is right. We did have to halt construction in the early phases of the pandemic in order to ensure that the hospital could continue operating safely. Projects in health facilities that are delivering patient care are always challenging and complex. The Stollery is no exception. I'm pleased to report that this project came in significantly under budget, and after funding was committed several years ago, it is now complete. As much as we hope that no Albertan has to use the facility, we know that many will, and a few extra comforts they deal with during these trying times will be helpful.

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

**Mr. Turton:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given the challenges that families whose children are in pediatric intensive care are facing and given the very personal grief and emotion felt by family members at these moments and given that between 450 to 500 babies each and every year are cared for at the Stollery neonatal intensive care unit, can the Minister of Infrastructure tell this House more about the private rooms in this new facility?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Transportation and Municipal Affairs.

**Mr. McIver:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The redevelopment includes 18 beds in single- or double-patient rooms, offering more privacy and space for patients and family members who stay overnight as their newborns undergo and recover from surgery. The Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation is also providing an additional \$1.2 million to fund comfort items for families using the NICU. Families were involved in every step of the planning and design of the new unit, helping to build an intensive care space that will improve the journey of health care for patients and families. It's a wonderful project. I want to thank all the doctors, nurses, and staff as well as the families that contributed to this cause.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, this concludes the time allotted for Oral Question Period. In 30 seconds or less we will return to the remainder of the daily Routine.

#### Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees

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

**Mr. Guthrie:** Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As deputy chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts I wish to table on behalf of the committee the appropriate number of copies of the 2019 Annual Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts. Additionally, I'd like to table the 2020 annual report from the same committee. Just please note that both of these reports will be available shortly on the Legislative Assembly website.

**The Speaker:** The hon. the deputy chair of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills.

**Mr. Schow:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As deputy chair of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills I am pleased to table the committee's final report on Bill 215, Seniors Advocate Act, sponsored by the hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview. The bill was referred to the committee on April 15, 2021. The report recommends that Bill 215 proceed. I request concurrence of the Assembly in the final report on Bill 215.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, the motion for concurrence in the report on Bill 215, Seniors Advocate Act, is debatable pursuant to Standing Order 18(1)(b). Are there any members who wish to speak to the motion for concurrence? Given that members do wish to speak to the motion for concurrence in the report, that debate will take place on the next available Monday under the item of business Motions for Concurrence in Committee Reports on Public Bills Other than Government Bills.

### Introduction of Bills

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Fish Creek.

#### Bill 70 COVID-19 Related Measures Act

**Mr. Gotfried:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm honoured to rise and request leave to introduce Bill 70, the COVID-19 Related Measures Act, which I have a copy of here.

This bill addresses emerging challenges and COVID-19 civil liability protection for health services in Alberta, including continuing care. The COVID-19 pandemic has put an unprecedented strain on our entire health system, which continues to deliver quality health services to thousands of Albertans every day. While general provisions for liability protection exist in the Public Health Act, they do not specifically address civil liability protection or the unique context in the event of transmission or potential transmission of COVID-19.

The legislation would apply to those who deliver health services to Albertans and who have followed and continue to follow the public health orders and guidelines throughout the pandemic. Those who are grossly negligent can and should be held accountable for their actions. The protection would not extend to those deemed grossly negligent.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I move first reading of the COVID-19 Related Measures Act.

Thank you.

[Motion carried; Bill 70 read a first time]

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

**Mr. McIver:** Mr. Speaker, I move that pursuant to Standing Order 75 Bill 70, the COVID-19 Related Measures Act, be moved onto the Order Paper under Government Bills and Orders.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, Standing Order 75 is a motion of the Assembly. However, it is not debatable, so I will call the question.

[Motion carried]

### Tabling Returns and Reports

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Cardston-Siksika.

**Mr. Schow:** Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. In accordance with section 22 of the Auditor General Act as chair of the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices I am pleased to table the appropriate number of copies of the report Alberta Health Services Use of Publicly Funded CT and MRI Services. All members will receive an electronic copy of this report.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, points of order. There were three points of order called today. At 2:03 the hon. Member for Cardston-Siksika rose on a point of order.

### Point of Order

#### Allegations against Members

**Mr. Schow:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise on a point of order under 23(j), which reads: "uses abusive or insulting language of a nature likely to create disorder." When I called the point of order, the Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods was speaking in response to a very brief answer given by the hon. Premier, and while the answer was given, I believe members on this side of the House had said, "Take yes for an answer," which was very clearly and succinctly the Premier's answer. In response to that, the Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods said: "I'm going to keep it very simple and ignore the heckling from the government about dead workers."

Mr. Speaker, it is deplorable and disgusting to suggest that members of this side of the Chamber would ever heckle or even insinuate or celebrate the tragic death of workers, especially during this terrible time of a pandemic. There is no sympathy from members on that side of the House, and I encourage that member to apologize for those remarks and retract them and please raise the level of decorum in this Chamber. Albertans deserve better.

2:50

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

**Ms Gray:** Mr. Speaker, during this exchange I was asking about Albertans who have died because of COVID-19. I stated the subject of my question when I made that statement. I did not refer to those specific members, but everybody in this room, every single person, has been here at least two years and must know how tactless and cruel, especially to viewers at home, it can sound when they start heckling when we are talking about such serious subject matter. This was incredibly bad judgment on their part. If the government caucus doesn't want to be accused of heckling during questions about the loss of Albertans' lives during COVID-19, then I suggest they raise the bar and don't heckle during questions about the lives lost during COVID-19.

I submit to you, Mr. Speaker, that this is not a point of order and that the government should raise the bar and think about what the question is before they start yelling.

**The Speaker:** Are there others?

I am prepared to rule on the point of order. The irony is not lost on me that the members of the opposition might be concerned with one of the few times that I've heard heckles from the government side. I don't think that there's a point of order here. Largely speaking, it's a matter of debate. There are two sides of every issue, and the



hon. Opposition House Leader was passionately describing hers and her concern around it. Like I say, the irony is not lost on me with respect to the comments around heckling and not heckling, but perhaps I'll leave that for another day. This is not a point of order. I consider the matter dealt with and concluded.

At 2:20 the Official Opposition House Leader raised a point of order.

#### **Point of Order Imputing Motives**

**Ms Gray:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. This point of order is very straightforward. During a question and answer on, again, another serious topic, the Minister of Justice said that the Member for Calgary-McCall seeks to undermine, and he continued on, but it was a very direct statement accusing a member of motives that he did not have. In asking questions, the Official Opposition does not seek to undermine the justice system, does not seek to undermine public health orders when we're asking very serious questions. I believe this direct statement falls under 23(h), (i), and (j) and would be a point of order.

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

**Mr. McIver:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I've heard you say in this House many times, context is important. The context here: it was two lawyers, one on each side, making this argument. While I never went to law school, I'm pretty sure that both those lawyers know that the government can't direct police and can't direct the justice system. Actually, when our hon. Justice minister said that, he was actually saying something the other member ought to know if he remembered anything about law school.

This is a matter of debate, Mr. Speaker, and I think the Justice minister was rightly pointing out that the member from the other side was ignoring what he ought to have learned in law school, and I think that was probably a legitimate piece of debate at any time but especially from one lawyer to another in the circumstance.

**The Speaker:** I am prepared to rule on point of order 2. I do have the benefit of the Blues. The hon. Minister of Justice said, "Mr. Speaker, it is disappointing but not surprising that the Member for Calgary-McCall would seek to undermine the hard work of men and women of law enforcement," and a point of order was raised.

I think there were a wide range of times, in just this week, where individuals have been identified individually and opinions that they may or may not hold that vary on both sides of the House. I certainly don't think that there was anything unparliamentary about what the hon. Minister of Justice said. I can imagine that the Member for Calgary-McCall would disagree, but that is what we do here. We debate facts, and there are often two sides to both of those facts. This is not a point of order; it's a matter of debate. I consider the matter dealt with and concluded.

The last point of order was called by the hon. the Deputy Government House Leader, the Minister of Transportation, at 2:35.

**Mr. Schow:** Mr. Speaker, I'll be taking this point of order if it pleases the Assembly.

**The Speaker:** Please.

#### **Point of Order Imputing Motives**

**Mr. Schow:** I rise under 23(h), (i), and (j), in particular (i), "imputes false or unavowed motives to another Member." This is in response

to the Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar when asking a question that was ultimately answered by the hon. Minister of Service Alberta. The Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, who is no stranger to the point of order penalty box, said that he values his seat around the cabinet table more than the input from his constituents. Now, what I would insinuate from that is that he thinks that the hon. minister values the paycheque and what he would consider influence more than the input from his constituents. That is disgusting and deplorable given that our job in this Chamber is to represent our constituents. We all – I believe I speak for all members – take that input very seriously. I encourage you to rule in favour of this point of order and ask that member to apologize and retract his comments.

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

**Ms Gray:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will say that in this case I'm surprised that we are debating this point of order on the letters to the editor in Sherwood Park because I would have thought that the MLA for Sherwood Park would want less discussion about constituents writing to newspapers about getting terrible responses, about not getting heard and feeling like they do not have good representation in this Chamber. Now, in this particular case, I believe the member was drawing conclusions from the letters that had been published in the newspaper, which express extreme disappointment by voters in Sherwood Park with the unavailability of their members. I would suggest that this is a matter of debate on something that is part of the public record.

**The Speaker:** I am prepared to rule on the third point of order today. I do find that this isn't a point of order and is a matter of debate.

What I will say is that I was a bit surprised by the question. We all know from *House of Commons Procedure and Practice*, third edition, chapter 11, page 509, that the parameters in which we ask questions during question period is that we "ask a question that is within the administrative responsibility of the government or of the individual Minister addressed." The Minister of Service Alberta is not responsible for the Education ministry, and certainly I'm not sure that his opinion about the curriculum was government business. It seems to be a question that was significantly more constituency related than government business related. Nonetheless, this is still not a point of order, just a friendly reminder to members of the opposition to ensure that their questions are about government business and not the individual opinion of a certain minister on any topic. I consider this matter dealt with and concluded, and it is not a point of order.

Hon. members, we will now proceed to Royal Assent. At this time I would ask that you please put away any laptops, computers, electronic devices of any nature as we will have a guest joining us in the Chamber momentarily.

The hon. the Premier.

3:00

#### **Royal Assent**

**Mr. Kenney:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Her Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor will now attend upon the Assembly.

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

[The Mace was draped]

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

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

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

[Preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms, Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Salma Lakhani, AOE, BSc, and the Premier entered the Chamber. Her Honour took her place upon the throne]

**Her Honour:** Please be seated.

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

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

- 54 Irrigation Districts Amendment Act, 2021
- 55 College of Alberta School Superintendents Act
- 61 Vital Statistics Amendment Act, 2021
- 71 Employment Standards (COVID-19 Vaccination Leave) Amendment Act, 2021
- 211 Municipal Government Firearms Amendment Act, 2020

[The Lieutenant Governor indicated her assent]

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

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

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

[The Mace was uncovered]

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, Ordres du jour. Please be seated.

### Orders of the Day Government Motions

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

#### Morning Sittings

76. Mr. McIver moved:  
Be it resolved that pursuant to Standing Order 4(1) for the duration of the 2021 spring sitting of the Second Session of the 30th Legislature the Assembly must sit on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings for consideration of government business unless under Notices of Motions or at any time before the Assembly adjourns on a sitting day the Government House Leader or a member of the Executive Council on the Government House Leader's behalf advises the Assembly of the morning sittings that are no longer required.

**Mr. McIver:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to rise today and move Government Motion 76 on the Order Paper. I hope the addition of morning sittings for the remainder of the spring sitting will assist with the time members need to debate government legislation. I know this presents some logistical challenges for members, with lots of meetings being scheduled in the morning, but I'm sure we can work to overcome that. I hope all sides are prepared to do what is necessary to allow proper time for debate in this Chamber.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, Government Motion 76 is not debatable pursuant to Standing Order 4(1).

[Government Motion 76 carried]

### Government Bills and Orders Second Reading Bill 68 Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021

**The Speaker:** The Minister of Justice and the Solicitor General.

**Mr. Madu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my pleasure to rise to speak to second reading of Bill 68, Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021. As every single person in this Chamber knows, the people's voice is a cornerstone of our democracy, and as elected officials who represent the voices of our constituents, we must do what we can to ensure their voices are heard. One way to do this is through referendums, which is direct democracy in action. Referendums strengthen democracy in our province.

This is why last year we amended the Referendum Act to allow referendums on government-led initiatives or matters of public interest before they are implemented. Prior to that, Mr. Speaker, referendums were limited to constitutional matters. However, this government was elected on a promise to deliver substantial democratic reform, and that's what we have done through bills 51 and 52. Another promise made and another promise kept.

[Mr. Milliken in the chair]

Today we are taking another step to strengthen democracy in our province by ensuring that Albertans can hear all viewpoints during a referendum. Bill 68, Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021, makes it clear that all MLAs, including ministers in their roles as MLAs, can express their own views on topics of referendums. As a diverse province, with a wide spectrum of opinions, it is important that the people that Albertans elect to represent them can participate in robust, public, healthy debate about issues impacting the future of the province and its citizens. This will help Albertans in deciding which path we should take to best meet their current and future needs. This amendment is simple but important, and I urge all members to support this change.

Mr. Speaker, this bill would also update the Education Act to allow for the expansion of eligibility criteria for trustees in francophone regional school authorities. This change is necessary as it addresses inadvertently restrictive eligibility criteria for potential trustee candidates. This includes prohibiting those without school-age children to run for trustee positions in local Francophonie elections. If passed, this new criteria will be in place in time for the October elections. This proposed amendment follows consultations and conversations with stakeholders, who support this amendment to the Education Act. Our commitment to the Francophonie school community does not end there. We will continue to engage Francophonie school board trustees, parents, and other impacted stakeholders on future eligibility criteria to make sure we've got the right criteria in place.

3:10

With that, Mr. Speaker, I move second reading of Bill 68. With that, I also move to adjourn debate on Bill 68.

[Motion to adjourn debate carried]

**Bill 65**  
**Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021**

Ms Hoffman moved that the motion for second reading of Bill 65, Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021, be amended by deleting all of the words after “that” and substituting the following:

Bill 65, Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021, be not now read a second time but that the subject matter be referred to the Standing Committee on Families and Communities in accordance with Standing Order 74.2.

[Adjourned debate on the amendment April 21: Mr. Ellis]

**The Acting Speaker:** Thank you, hon. members. We are, I believe, on referral amendment 1, or REF1, for everybody’s benefit. I see the hon. Member for Edmonton-City Centre has risen to debate.

**Mr. Shepherd:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the opportunity to rise and speak to Bill 65, the Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021. Once again we have a number of pieces of health legislation in front of us in this session. It certainly keeps me busy as the Official Opposition critic for Health, but I’m pleased to say that in general this bill does not follow the pattern of previous legislation by this government, that being the pattern of continuing to undermine our public health care system and put it at risk in the name of their own political ideology and seeming fixation on pushing more and more private profit in the midst of our public health care system. This bill, however, does not continue on that pattern, which is a refreshing change for Albertans.

What we see in this bill today are a few basic changes to a few different pieces of health care legislation and then one piece which seems odd that it’s included here and which I may speak on, likely will speak on, at more length as I think it is largely the reason why I would be supporting this motion for referral.

Now, what we have in this legislation are some changes to the Alberta Evidence Act that are to provide judges at fatality inquiries with access to information from the health system’s quality assurance committees to help support more comprehensive reviews and better recommendations. I see no reason to object to that, Mr. Speaker. That seems reasonable to me. Indeed, if judges are conducting a fatality inquiry, we want them to have access to all of the most important information that they need to be able to make a fair ruling. I understand that this amendment was, in fact, based on a recommendation from two judges from previous inquiries. According to our health officials it, in fact, does bring Alberta in line with the other major provinces. Looking at this particular provision, I don’t see a particular reason for concern here.

In regard to the changes to the Health Professions Act we do see some changes involving pharmacists and pharmacy technicians and their ability to treat herd animals. I do know a little bit about veterinary medicine, not because I personally practise but because I do have a brother-in-law who is a very capable veterinarian and who is a very capable businessman, who runs the Vermilion Veterinary Clinic and has run that for a number of years as well as has run some satellite clinics in that area. Certainly, I appreciate the good work that he does there. Frequently I’ve had the opportunity to chat with him about some of that work. Certainly, it is back-breaking and demanding work, and I mean that quite literally. My brother-in-law indeed does have back issues from some of the work having to do with preg checking and some of that work on cows. Very physical work, Mr. Speaker, but I admire and respect the work that he is doing and so many other veterinarians across the province.

In this particular situation what we have are pharmacists being allowed to supplement the work that is done by veterinarians across our province. What we have appears to be, basically, a legislative

fix. This is required when another act was previously amended. Back in 2018 we had federal legislation under the Food and Drugs Act which was amended and, unfortunately, disallowed pharmacy services from being able to provide the support for farmers that have herd animals unless they’re expressly allowed to do so under provincial legislation. This piece here in Bill 65 is essentially just enabling that piece.

Basically, when this legislation passes, we’ll return to the status quo that was in place under our government, that was just sort of shifted by this change in the federal legislation, and bring things back around so that pharmacists and pharmacy technicians can work hand in hand with farmers, ranchers, and indeed with our veterinarians to make sure that everybody is able to provide the best services. My understanding is that the Alberta College of Pharmacy is supportive and that indeed the Alberta college of veterinarians has also expressed their support, so I see no reason to object to this portion of Bill 65.

We have some additional changes in regard to pharmacies under the Pharmacy and Drug Act, some modernization of the way the Alberta College of Pharmacy oversees pharmacy operations and practices. Now, it’s my understanding, after my briefing with officials and having had a chance to look at the legislation, that the situation we have is that there simply are ways that, I guess, pharmacies are set up, different corporate arrangements, different ownership structures for pharmacies, and right now some of those are not in fact named or covered within legislation. So the amendments that have come forward: I understand that these amendments have the support of the College of Pharmacy – indeed, the government has quoted the president of the Alberta College of Pharmacy in the news release – simply move these pieces out of regulation into standards that are set by the college, which therefore makes it easier for them to accommodate different ownership models and different approaches than individuals may take in how they set up their pharmacies and allow them to be represented, then, in the law and just reflect what is basically already happening in practice.

I would join with the Health minister, who spoke earlier today, in praising our pharmacists and recognizing the contributions they are making in our vaccination process. I had the opportunity to go and get my own jab in the arm this past Tuesday at my local Loblaws pharmacy, who had a walk-in clinic. It’s been wonderful to see the pictures coming in from colleagues on both sides of the aisle who themselves have been taking this opportunity to go out and get their injection. And to the perhaps tens of Albertans that are tuned in this afternoon, I would encourage them, if they’re eligible, to also go out and get their vaccination. Albertans 40 years of age and up, of course, are eligible now to get the AstraZeneca vaccine, which we know is scientifically safe and proven and not really a subject of research as has been opined by at least one member of this Assembly.

That said, I see no reason to object to this particular piece of Bill 65, so that would have my support.

Moving on, we have some changes to the Crown’s Right of Recovery Act. These are sort of the two, I think, most consequential amendments to this act. First of all, we have a provision added so that when the government joins in an injured claimant’s lawsuit that ultimately ends up being unsuccessful, the government of Alberta is only responsible to pay the additional reasonable costs that are related directly to recovering the cost of health services that are provided to the injured claimant. My understanding is that this is a standard that’s already currently in place in both Ontario and British Columbia, so it does not seem objectionable there.

But the second piece is one that did raise some questions as I was looking through this bill and sort of noting that this was here and

particularly as it seems to relate to Treasury Board and Finance yet is present in this piece of health care legislation. This is the section here that removes an automatic fine that's in place for automobile insurers who fail to submit their annual premiums report to Treasury Board and Finance. This would basically empower the Minister of Finance to have discretion on whether or not to apply that fine.

This amendment strikes me as a solution in search of a problem. When we had the chance to speak with ministry officials about this particular piece, there did not seem to be that this was at any point a significant problem within the province of Alberta or that there had been any significant impediment to having an automatic fine in place. I don't recall that they were able to offer a particular situation where that provided a significant problem for either the government or an insurance company. The example that was given – and they offered this as a hypothetical – was: well, what would happen if the chief financial officer of an insurance company unexpectedly died right before the filing deadline? But, to my knowledge, this has not, in fact, actually occurred.

Now, this apparently is in the health statutes bill because the amount of premiums that are collected and reported to Treasury Board and Finance is then used by the Ministry of Health to determine health premiums that are charged on auto insurance packages. A little bit convoluted, but fair enough. That's why it's present in this piece of legislation. But I think there are fair questions to ask. How does this change, in fact, actually benefit Albertans?

3:20

We've seen under this government, you know, that, unfortunately, they rolled over quite quickly in terms of allowing auto insurers in the province of Alberta to drastically hike auto insurance rates for Albertans. I think every one of us in this House has probably heard from our constituents about the significant increase they have seen in their auto insurance over the last couple of years. Now, of course, this is on top of all the other ways in which this government has made life much more expensive for Albertans, from going back on their promise that they would not charge Albertans more income tax and indeed allowing that to happen through bracket creep, something the Premier himself once vehemently decried but is now more than happy to allow to happen under his leadership in the province of Alberta. He spoke at length the other day about how proud he was to bring forward a bill that he had first proposed when he was the head of the Taxpayers Association here in the province of Alberta. While in that same position he decried bracket creep, and now he's the one that has brought it into the province of Alberta.

So alongside the increase in auto insurance rates – that's just one of many ways this government has made life much more expensive for Albertans. Now they're making it a priority in this health care bill in the midst of a global pandemic to provide yet another way for them to let auto insurance companies off the hook. Now, whatever arguments they might have for doing so, I've got to say that at least optically this is not something that looks good to average Albertans, and if there is any reason why I am supporting this referral, I think it is because of this particular piece in this particular clause.

We have a piece of omnibus health care legislation, which, I outlined, is generally quite innocuous, reasonable steps making reasonable changes in consultation with Albertans and those involved, but then we come across this one piece in the midst of this which is tangentially connected to health care but really is not providing any benefit to Albertans in terms of their health. It's certainly not providing anything helpful to them. Indeed, it seems to be another way that this government is perhaps doing favours for corporate Alberta, which again has been its wont, from its \$4.7 billion corporate giveaway to its continued sweetheart deals that it

continues to offer, using Albertans' tax dollars. Even while in the midst of this global pandemic they nickel and dime and continue to be the government that acts last and acts least in terms of actually providing support to individual Albertans and Alberta businesses, yet they make it a priority in the midst of this health care bill in the midst of a global pandemic to provide this little favour to auto insurers in the province of Alberta. I can't help but think that this is just indicative, again, of how this government is prioritizing its corporate interests, its political interests, its friends and insiders over average Albertans.

This, again, is also a situation where we have the UCP government giving new powers to their ministers. We've seen that time and again. Of course, another bill that is before this House currently is Bill 66, which is rescinding the largest power grab that we have seen from a government in the province of Alberta, and I'll speak much more about that when we arrive on Bill 66, but I reference it to note that that is the habit and the wont of this government, to provide more and more power to their ministers to do things behind closed doors, out of sight of Albertans, without consultation. Indeed, that's becoming a dominant theme, I think, of question period in this House as we talk about things like coal consultation, we talk about environment, we talk about the Metis Settlements Act.

We talk about so many things which this government does where it is ducking accountability and transparency with Albertans, where it is not coming clean, where it is not being straight with Albertans about their intents, and it comes at great cost, then, to Albertans, as I outlined and I talked about. Certainly, there has been the financial impact of this government's decisions, whether it comes with the cancellation of the child care program, their decisions now to leave so many federal dollars on the table, whether it's for agricultural subsidies, whether it's for supportive housing, potentially now on a child care program, because they're more interested in their political interests and their grudge match with Ottawa than they are about actually doing things to benefit the people of Alberta, which again is why I have no objection to the majority of what we see in this bill.

This particular piece is good enough reason for me to say that we should be referring this to committee, where we can sit down and do some of that consultation to which this government is so seemingly allergic. We would have an opportunity to actually talk to the stakeholders involved and actually get a better sense of why they are making this particular move when there seems to be no justification, indeed a solution in search of a problem.

Now, this government is certainly fond of using committees to hide and obfuscate, starting from the MacKinnon panel all the way at the beginning, going through now to their sham of a coal consultation, which barely allows anyone to discuss any of the issues that they are actually concerned about with the removal of the coal policy. This government likes to give the appearance of consultation, much as we have them defending today the fact that, well, if Albertans don't like the absolutely terrible curriculum that's been designed . . .

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

Standing Order 29(2)(a) is available. I see the hon. Minister of Justice and Solicitor General has risen.

**Mr. Madu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, I wanted to very quickly respond to the comments made by the Member for Edmonton-City Centre. I do want to thank him because he acknowledged that this is a good bill, that the majority of the content of this bill is good and stuff that he can support. I thank him for that because that is the right thing to do. This is a good bill. But then his last comment on this particular bill had to do with the

Crown's Right of Recovery Act amendment that is included in Bill 65. The reason why he feels – he concluded that because of that, he would support the referral amendment.

Now, to be clear, Mr. Speaker, the amendment that's been made to the Crown's right of recovery – you know, you could sum that up in two ways, the things he's worrying about. It limits government cost exposure to a reasonable amount directly related to its right to recover health care costs when it participates in an injured claimant's ultimately – ultimately – unsuccessful lawsuit. I know that sometimes legal jargon and the complexities of legal proceedings can be difficult to follow, but it is very important that we keep in context what is at the heart of the amendment that hon. Member for Edmonton-City Centre is objecting to: when an injured claimant's ultimately unsuccessful lawsuit.

Second piece. It reduces red tape and allows government to waive late filing penalties for auto insurers in extraordinary circumstances such as natural disasters – again, keep it in context – that prevent them from meeting deadlines to file reports. This is something that we see in many legislations that are similar to what we are dealing with here. I just want to read for the record, you know, the section that has been substituted, and that is section 2(3).

If an automobile insurer fails to file a report for a calendar year as required by this section, the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance may assess against the automobile insurer a penalty calculated in accordance with the regulations.

Right there is the enabling power.

Then because of these extraordinary circumstances, things that may not be in the control of the insurer or the government, there is a standard requirement that exists in many legislations that I am aware of as a lawyer, a waiver of penalty or interest. "Notwithstanding the Financial Administration Act, the President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance may waive or cancel all or any portion of any penalty or interest payable under this Division" and so on and so forth. But listening to the Member for Edmonton-City Centre you would think that the President of Treasury Board and the government is out to get the insured, that we are out to get Albertans. To the contrary, the opposite is the case. This amendment has nothing to do with all that you've heard from the Member for Edmonton-City Centre, and I think it's important that we keep that in perspective.

3:30

Mr. Speaker, oftentimes we focus on politics – and I get that – rather than the substance of the issues before this Assembly. I hope that the Member for Edmonton-City Centre as Official Opposition Health critic, you know, would look at this particular bill, the totality of it, for what it is – this is a good bill – and not allow something that perhaps he hasn't had the opportunity to think through the consequences of to colour or to blur his sense of the good that this bill is meant to do. There is nothing in Bill 65 that creates a problem for Albertans.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Are there any members looking to join debate on the amendment? I see the hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning has risen.

**Ms Sweet:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I'm going to have to yell a little bit on this with my big mask on, but thank you for letting me rise and speak to the referral amendment.

I appreciate the Justice minister's comments, and I believe that my hon. colleague from Edmonton-City Centre hadn't actually gotten to the concerns around the referral amendment and, instead, was trying to give some positive comments to the government in regard to the work that was being done in the bill. Again, I think that the concerns that my colleague was going to get to and was

going to bring up are around pieces where, with this Health Statutes Amendment Act, because it was amending pieces of legislation, there were some gaps that were missing out of the bill that we would have liked to have seen added to this piece. That was where my hon. colleague was trying to get to.

To be honest, I am actually trying to pull up my notes right as we speak. It's not totally working. There we go.

Some of that was that we had had a bill that was introduced into the Legislature around the Mental Health Amendment Act I believe last sitting or the sitting before, where there were conversations that were happening around an individual that had been provided care in Calgary. Part of that piece of legislation, which is being amended again within this Health Statutes Amendment Act, was that there had been some concerns that had been brought up in regard to pieces that were missing out of that. We'd heard from the community that they would have liked to have seen a little bit more teeth, I guess, to the Mental Health Act in that sense. So when we see the fact that under the Health Statutes Amendment Act there was potential that it could have been reopened underneath this piece and that Judge Dixon had actually recommended the modification of the Mental Health Act and the Health Information Act because of what had happened, I just wanted to maybe make some comments about that.

What we have here is that there was a judicial recommendation that was made in regard to the fatality inquiry led by Judge Dixon. One of the recommendations from the fatality inquiry that was recommended around the legislation was additional recommendations related to the tragic story of Ms Lewis, who suffered from homelessness and mental health issues. Ms Lewis was admitted to the hospital under the Mental Health Act, and through a series of tragic events and mismanagement it was determined that some policy and legislation needed to be changed. Judge Dixon had actually made some recommendations to modify the Mental Health Act and the Health Information Act so that the tragic story of Ms Lewis would never happen again.

Unfortunately, what has happened, though, and part of the reason why we had suggested that this piece of legislation not be read for the next six months and, in fact, go back, was because the recommendations that were made by Judge Dixon were actually not put into this Health Statutes Amendment Act. So given the fact that the government chose to reopen the Health Statutes Amendment Act, it would have been beneficial to see that we have some jurisdictional rulings that are giving recommendations to the government, that those recommendations would have been included in the Health Statutes Amendment Act.

We would like to see that happen. I mean, that is specifically around the Mental Health Act and, of course, the Health Information Act. As we've heard from the government on numerous occasions, you know, mental health is a focus of this government and something that they take very seriously.

Because of that and because of the fact that they take mental health so seriously and, you know, they speak often about the work that they are putting forward, you would hope and we would like to give that opportunity to the government to take Judge Dixon's recommendations, to look at them and, while this Health Statutes Amendment Act is open and while there's opportunity to make those amendments, instead of passing it today, to have it read in six months, after the recommendations are analyzed – or maybe they already have been by this government; I mean, I'm open to hearing from the minister about that – and be implemented at the same time that the rest of this act is being implemented.

If we're going to make amendments to health statutes – and very clearly there have been some recommendations made to address those health statutes – we would encourage the government to open

that up and to look at that so that we can move forward with those recommendations and it fits with what's happening with the government. I would hope that, again, in the next fall sitting, after potentially this act is dealt with, however that outcome is – I will not presuppose the House on the outcome – we're not reopening these health statutes acts again because this piece that we are identifying here today couldn't have been dealt with now.

Again, if the government decides that not having this referral completed for the next six months is not something they want to do, maybe the minister or the government would like to stand up and say: "You know what? We could actually look at amending this in Committee of the Whole to address that concern." I think that I would be open to looking at what that would look like and to have those conversations. I think that this is an important recommendation that is being made by our judicial system, and I do believe that, you know, the unfortunate situation that happened with Ms Lewis is something that does at some point need to be looked at and addressed. If that's something that the government is willing to do and is willing to say, "Well, let's have a conversation offline and see what we can do in Committee of the Whole to address the health statutes," that's reasonable, I think.

But if the government is going to say, "Well, actually, we're not willing to do that today," then I think that it does need to be read in six months so that these pieces are being dealt with. We don't want to see something where either we're reopening the health statutes in the fall or next spring, let's say, so that we're reopening it all again, when it can be dealt with now or that this gets forgotten and somehow it gets missed and the recommendations being made by Judge Dixon are not implemented.

If there are concerns by the government about why they can't be implemented or what the concerns are, I think, you know, there's fairness in that conversation as well, but there's also an acknowledgement that we don't want to see a tragedy like this happen again. Given the fact that the fatality inquiry did happen and that that whole process was walked through, as it should be, and that recommendations were made, I think that it's something that's reasonable to have a discussion about.

Again, I appreciate what the minister was saying around, you know: is this being introduced just for the sake of stalling a bill out? No, that's not the case. In fact, as the hon. Member for Edmonton-City Centre was saying, there are many good things that are being changed. Like, there's no question. I think that if we look at Bill 65, there are good pieces here, but this piece is missing. If the government would want to go offline and maybe have some offline conversations about why the fatality inquiry recommendations can't be dealt with today or within these statute changes, I think that that's a fair conversation to have, but as the opposition I think our responsibility is just to flag that this hasn't happened yet.

If it could happen under this, that would be great. If it's a matter of doing it through amendments in Committee of the Whole, fair. If it's a matter of, "We need more time," then maybe we shouldn't pass this and should wait six months so that it can be done so that we're not reopening a whole bunch of health statutes again in six months or in, you know, this fall sitting or the spring sitting.

**3:40**

I think that, ideally, we're not reopening the same pieces of legislation over and over and over again and that, in fact, if there's, in the words of the government, red tape that needs to be changed, we do it all at once instead of having to reopen pieces of legislation and change one piece here and then realize three months from now, "Oh, there's another piece that should be changed" or "What we have changed actually isn't working the way we thought it was, and now we have to go back and change it again." We all know that

sometimes, if we change one piece through legislation, it creates a waterfall of changes in other areas that are not necessarily intended. That's just because, as we see here, one piece of legislation can actually touch on a whole bunch of other pieces. That's in regard to, I think, the minister's questions when it comes to why we're asking that this not be read for six months.

While I'm standing here and we are speaking about this, I do want to acknowledge the work that's being done with the Veterinary Medical Association and the pharmacists. Again, we've heard in this House that there is a significant demand for veterinary services not only in Alberta and not only with mixed animals; it's a national issue, it's an international issue, and it's not just specific to Alberta. Seeing that the pharmacists and the veterinarians are going to be able to work together in collaboration to provide services to mixed livestock or mixed animals but also to companion animals, I think that is a positive move.

I have a story, actually, from someone that I was speaking to about this who gave, you know, one example of this for those of us that just have our furry friends and don't necessarily work with livestock and have to deal with those complexities. You might have someone who decides to go on a trip with their furry friend and take them with them and then realizes that they haven't brought their seizure medication, because some animals are on seizure medications. This is an opportunity where you can call your vet and say, "I forgot Fido's seizure medication for the weekend that we're going to be away," and they can get that prescription filled at the local pharmacist for the weekend hike.

I mean, that was, like, the simplest explanation that was given to me. That totally made sense to me. Obviously, there's far more complexity around some of the supports that are going to be provided in conjunction with veterinary services and our pharmacists specifically around microbiological services and a whole bunch of complex services that are happening in our rural communities with our agriculture sector.

I've heard that this is a very positive step and, in fact, was happening. This collaboration existed prior to the creation of the Health Professions Act, and then when the Health Professions Act came into place, it was one of those things where we started – again, when we go back to how some pieces of legislation touch each other and, because of that, create confusion, this was one of those things. There was a relationship with the Veterinary Medical Association and the Pharmacists' Association. Then the Health Professions Act came in and became very prescriptive around roles and responsibilities, and one of these pieces was that this part was missed.

The change that is being made here is, again, very beneficial to both professions in understanding their roles and in being able to work more collaboratively with each other. Of course, it still provides enough guidance and guidelines around the role of a vet and the role of a pharmacist but also how they can work in collaboration, so there is a positive piece to that. I mean, when we look at that piece, there is some work that is already being done outside of how vets and the pharmacists are working together, but this just makes it more concrete. That is a benefit.

I'm sure the minister will stand up and say: well, Member, if this isn't read for six months, then what's going to happen? They are very aware, and they have been, obviously, managing this dynamic since the health statutes act and the Health Professions Act came into place. I recognize this as housekeeping, and I'm very aware that the minister would stand and say that piece; however, as the government is probably aware, this is a housekeeping measure. There have been policies put in place around this already. This is now just legislating those changes, so it's not something that would prevent the pharmacists and the veterinarians from being able to do this.

I quite enjoy being down on the lower floor now and across from the ministers because we can actually, through our silent communication, communicate with each other.

You know, I will sit down and cede the rest of my time. I would be interested to hear from the minister, though, if looking at the fatality review and those pieces would be something that we could discuss offline. [Ms Sweet's speaking time expired] Oh, I didn't have that much time.

**The Acting Speaker:** On 29(2)(a) I see the hon. Minister of Justice and Solicitor General has risen.

**Mr. Madu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I do want to thank the hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning for her comments, but again, if we carefully listen to the submissions of the hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning, you would agree that there is no reason whatsoever why that referral amendment should have been made. She essentially agreed with this bill. There are things she would like to see in the bill, but there is nothing in this particular bill that she disagrees with other than one or two things she would like to see.

You know, with respect to the changes that have been made to the Evidence Act, it's something that I know too well, that I'm responsible for, except for that particular subsection 9(2), that the Minister of Health is responsible for. That amendment, again contrary to the views expressed by the hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning, is being made because it was a recommendation of the two justices of the Court of Queen's Bench who presided over a fatality inquiry. Here we have actually put in place in the legislation the recommendations of two justices of the Court of Queen's Bench, supported by the profession, supported by the CPSA. I can inform the Assembly that I took the extra step to actually contact the CPSA to confirm for me that this indeed is acceptable to them, and they said yes.

I mean, you can see that there is no reason whatsoever for that referral amendment. There is no aspect of this particular bill that should be a concern. That sometimes is what concerns me about our friends on the opposite side. If something does not fit a hundred per cent – and with all due respect to them – into their philosophical world view, their first instinct is to object: no, we're not going to agree. There are times when compromise is not a bad thing. There are times when you let go, you know, for the sake of the greater good, and this bill represents the greater good for Albertans. That's what this bill is meant to do, amend six pieces of legislation. As you listen to the Member for Edmonton-City Centre and now the Member for Edmonton-Manning, you ask yourself: why the referral amendment?

To be clear, the amendment that is made to the Pharmacy and Drug Act will clarify the accountability requirement of all pharmacy ownership models to increase compliance with pharmacy legislation, regulations, and licensing, helping to ensure the pharmacy system continues to operate safely, amongst other good stuff, good things in there.

The health professions amendment act, as the hon. member rightly noted, enables pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to continue offering professional pharmacy services supporting animal health. That's a good thing.

3:50

I've further spoken to the amendments to the Alberta Evidence Act and the Crown's Right of Recovery Act. The Mental Health Act, essentially minor housekeeping changes, makes minor housekeeping amendments to correct section references, revises overly broad wording regarding retention forms to be more specific to what Alberta Health Services can report on, deletes unproclaimed

sections of the Mental Health Act. Those are the changes here; nothing controversial.

It is my expectation that the friends on the opposite side would see the greater good in this particular Bill 65 and vote, you know, accordingly. Mr. Speaker, again, I mean, the Member for Edmonton-City Centre is the Health critic. He knows too well that if we are to be blunt and honest with ourselves, there's nothing to fight over in this particular bill. Let's simply accept that and move on.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Acting Speaker:** Thank you. With about eight seconds left on 29(2)(a).

Seeing none, are there any members looking to join debate? I see the hon. Member for Calgary-East.

**Mr. Singh:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to oppose the amendment to Bill 65 as proposed. Bill 65 is a critical bill that will ensure modernization, efficiency is maintained in our health care system. If we choose to delay this important legislation now, then Albertans will be the ones facing unnecessary challenges. Bill 65 is meant to help support the health professionals and ensure that Albertans are being effectively supported. This, in turn, will benefit many of our working professionals to ensure Albertans are being effectively taken care of. I am pleased that the Ministry of Health is tabling six important pieces of legislation under Bill 65, the Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021.

Before going further, let me thank the Minister of Health and the thousands of front-line health care workers for supporting and protecting Albertans who are faced by the challenges of this pandemic. I would like to further extend my appreciation to the Premier and Health minister for working hard. I appreciate the efforts that have been contributed to keep Albertans safe. I sincerely appreciate this government's willingness to help, for the effort and extra time contributed again. Thank you for the confidence and support. I am grateful for our health care system and all professionals for being resilient during these unprecedented times.

A comprehensive review of Alberta Health Services, AHS, was conducted in 2019 by independent contractors Ernst & Young, EY. AHS is the provincial health authority responsible for planning and delivering health care to more than 4 million Albertans. AHS provides the best possible care at every facility, and Albertans receive good value for their money. An overwhelming 90 per cent of AHS staff survey respondents agreed that protecting and strengthening the sustainability of Alberta's health system should be a key AHS priority.

The review is part of our larger commitment to improve access and make the health system work better for patients. This involves finding savings and reinvesting them back into the system so that we can make Alberta's health system one of the best in the world.

Mr. Speaker, the proposed amendments will be making effective amendments to ensure that all Albertans are being protected and supported by our health care system. I'm pleased that Alberta's government is increasing the Health budget by over \$900 million to \$23 billion, excluding the impact of COVID-19: \$5.4 billion for physician compensation and development; \$3.5 billion for community care, continuing care, home care programs; \$1.9 billion for drugs, supplements, health benefits; \$34 million for supports to expand mental health and rehabilitation services for children and youth; and \$140 million over four years for mental health and addictions services.

Mr. Speaker, Albertans continue to fight against COVID-19, and Budget 2021 invests and continues to support Albertans as we enter the second year of the pandemic. An additional \$1.25 billion has been made to address health care costs for responding to the

pandemic, including surgical wait times and backlogs. As we all know, the cases of COVID-19 have risen drastically in the past few weeks, and as a result we need to focus on ensuring we're able to bend the curve and slow the spread of the virus.

We have the best vaccine program in Canada. With more than 734,000 doses administered by mid-April, we expect to have 22 per cent of Albertans protected from COVID-19 by the end of May; by the end of June it's 64 per cent. Mr. Speaker, I'm glad that over 1 million Albertans have now received at least one dose of vaccine, helping protect them from severe outcomes and reduce the spread of COVID-19. We are expecting to see a decrease in the number of cases. As we have vaccinations roll out, we can slowly move past step 1 of the COVID-19 path forward plan.

Mr. Speaker, pharmacists have historically provided pharmacy services to support animal health and were previously enabled under the Food and Drugs Act until changes were made by the budget of the federal government. The health professions amendment act will be introducing amendments to the profession of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians of the Health Professions Act and would enable access to pharmacy services for herd animals and clarify that pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are able to provide pharmacy services to companion animals. This provides Albertans who raise animals with options to be able to access prescription drugs for their animals. This will once again allow pharmacists to provide services that were previously enabled under the Food and Drugs Act prior to changes made by the federal government. This is an important change for Albertans and will provide greater choice when seeking to access professional pharmacy services to support animal health.

The pharmacy and drug amendment act will provide Albertans with more accountable, more modern pharmacy services that offer greater protection for patients while also reducing red tape for the pharmacy system, enhancing pharmacy owner responsibility and accountability for legislative, regulatory, and licensing requirements to ensure that all pharmacy owners, regardless of the ownership model, are accountable for the care the pharmacy provides to Albertans. This would enable the pharmacy system to continue to operate safely, efficiently, enhance responsibility, accountability for pharmacy legislation, regulations, and licences, ensuring pharmacy owners are accountable for the care the pharmacy provides and enabling the pharmacy system to continue to operate safely and efficiently.

Mr. Speaker, certain operational necessities from regulations will be the standard of practice instead of regulations. This will be the first step as amendments to the pharmacy and drug regulations are required to enable these operational changes and will require physical facilities, pharmacy areas, to follow standards of practice. Albertans want to create an even safer, more efficient, and accountable pharmacy system that is responsive to rapidly evolving pharmacy practice, and these changes will highly benefit our health care system.

Mr. Speaker, as we know, fatality inquiries in Alberta are ordered by the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General and allow the recommendations from the Fatality Review Board, and then the board reviews the conclusion of an investigation by Alberta's office of the Chief Medical Examiner. In some cases there can be reluctance among medical professionals to critically review each other's work in the aftermath of an adverse event in care if the review is not done in a confidential manner. In order to encourage health professionals to report adverse events or issues that need improvement, governments and boards have developed privileges to protect the admissibility of information and options developed in the peer review process. These privileges are authorized in the Alberta Evidence Act.

4:00

The Alberta Evidence Act amendment will as well improve transparency and ensure that judges at fatality inquiries have better access to the facts and recommendations from internal reviews undertaken in health care settings. The amendments will reflect and allow for the following to be released to fatality inquiries: logistical and factual information about the quality assurance committee, information that was already disclosed to the patients' close family and other facts relating to the incident being investigated. No options or individually identifying information other than information that identifies the deceased can be shared.

Mr. Speaker, under the Crown's Right of Recovery Act amendment the Alberta government will have the right to recover health care costs experienced when Albertans are injured due to someone else's wrongdoing without facing the risk of full court and legal costs from unsuccessful lawsuits. Additional provisions will allow the government to join an injured claimant's lawsuit but will only be responsible to pay the reasonable costs related directly to the health services provided to the injured claimant.

Mr. Speaker, as we know, this past year has been difficult for everyone. Faced with increased isolation and lack of community support, many Albertans have found that their mental health has been negatively impacted. Albertans have been forced to adjust to a new normal. For many it means setting up an office at home, attending online school, or meeting with loved ones virtually. This has been our new normal, but that doesn't mean it is ideal. While we look forward to the gradual return to how things were before, we need to acknowledge the challenges that Albertans currently face, particularly in maintaining their mental health.

The Mental Health Act will continue to ensure that the rights of mental health patients are respected and that Albertans receive responsive, accessible care. These changes will allow the reduction of red tape and will improve the efficiency and supports in the mental health care system. The proposed administrative amendments to the Mental Health Act will correct section references, revise overly broad wording regarding retention forms, and will continue to ensure the rights of mental health patients are respected and that Albertans receive responsive, accessible care.

Lastly, the Alberta government is making minor housekeeping amendments to the Health Facilities Act to remove outdated references. The government is removing references to local welfare officers since such positions no longer exist. Changes will also ensure the government continues to have the appropriate authority to enforce rights under the Crown's Right of Recovery Act. This legislation will benefit everyone affected that is targeted and will create awareness and support for families and patients.

Mr. Speaker, once again, today I encourage everyone in this Chamber to support the bill and support all Albertans in our outdated health care system. This will timely help our hard-working health care professionals and Albertans to receive the benefits they deserve. Again, Bill 65, the Health Statutes Amendment Act, will create a more responsive health system that can better meet the needs of patients. I applaud all Albertans, the Premier, ministers, and the team members that have been involved in the making of these changes and all the efforts that will ensure that the efficacy and safety in our communities, families, and patients are always maintained.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Standing Order 29(2)(a) is available for quick questions or comments.

Seeing none, are there any members looking to join debate? I see the hon. Member for Edmonton-West Henday has risen.



**Mr. Carson:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour to rise this afternoon to speak to what is before us. Of course, just to remind you, the Member for Edmonton-Glenora has moved that second reading of Bill 65, Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021, be amended by deleting all of the words after "that" and substituting the following:

Bill 65, Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021, be not now read a second time but that the subject matter of the bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Families and Communities in accordance with Standing Order 74.2.

I agree with my colleagues that this is an important step to take. While there are several pieces within Bill 65 that I can see myself supporting and many members of the opposition have spoken to the importance of moving those concerns and those amendments forward, Mr. Speaker, the fact is that what we have before us, in some respects, are amendments that are being done to a piece of legislation that we saw not that long ago before this House, in some instances concerning or in reference to changes regarding judicial recommendations from the fatality inquiry led by Judge Dixon. These were things that we were calling for when that piece of legislation came before the House earlier in this session, and, unfortunately, at that time the UCP government, the Premier, the Health minister did not want to listen to our recommendations though they are very important ones.

While I reflect on what we're seeing in this legislation specifically around those judicial recommendations, I'm supportive that we see parts of that implemented through these amendments, but unfortunately only one of those recommendations from that fatality inquiry has actually made it into this legislation. Of course, as you may remember, Mr. Speaker, Judge Dixon's fatality inquiry made a few other recommendations related to the tragic story of Ms Lewis, who suffered from homelessness and mental health issues. Our system failed that person, and unfortunately all of those recommendations that were put forward are not being implemented in here. Once again, while I can appreciate that we're seeing in part some of that work moving forward, as we called for when health care changes were initially brought forward to strengthen the system, unfortunately not all of them are included in this.

I question, just like many members in the opposition have up to this point, whether we are going to find ourselves back in here trying to implement these other recommendations in the future and why we aren't taking the time to properly address those issues and ensure that those amendments are done properly the first time through. Of course, we've seen this, Mr. Speaker, on other pieces of legislation. Even before the House right now we see changes to prompt payment legislation. We see changes to the administration and bylaws of real estate councils in our province. Unfortunately, those pieces that came before the House a very short while ago are now before the House again.

I would encourage, I suppose, while I do not support the position of the associate minister by any means, if this government is going to be spending tens of millions of dollars on an associate minister of red tape, that maybe that minister do a better job of consulting with his colleagues and ensuring that they are reducing the red tape that they are themselves creating in this Assembly and the cost of that.

Now, once again, as I reflect on the amendments that we see here and support some of these changes, the fact is, Mr. Speaker, that Albertans are looking for answers on the election campaign commitments that this government made, specifically around getting those Albertans back to work who continue to struggle through this third wave of the pandemic. They've been waiting for, at this point, years for this government to put forward anything substantial that

would support those members of the public to get back to work. Unfortunately, we are not seeing any reasonable timelines to address those issues, and of course we do not see that within this legislation either.

Instead, what we've seen from this Health minister and this government is an unwillingness to work with doctors, to the point of actually fighting in public with physicians across this province, both in major municipalities and in rural communities. In many instances we are actually seeing those rural physicians making the decision, because of the unwillingness from this government to work together, actually making the unprecedented move to leave our jurisdictions entirely, and they are putting it flat at the feet of this UCP government in those letters that they're putting out to their patients and to their constituents while they're planning to leave the province. While I hear the government moaning and groaning about the fact that this is happening across our province, the fact is the fact, Mr. Speaker: this is happening, and we are seeing those letters week after week coming forward. It's unfortunate, for a government that has many members representing those rural communities, that it has been virtually silent on those issues.

#### 4:10

Now, we've seen in previous pieces of health care legislation this government moving forward to implement American-style health care, increasing the cost of doing business in the province, and in many instances actually reducing the amount of funds that physicians are able to take in for the very important work that they do, especially in the midst of a pandemic, where the health and well-being of their constituents are most important. But, Mr. Speaker, the fact is that there are many other issues within this piece of legislation, which is why it's so important that this is referred to committee, one of which is the fact that there are some major changes to how insurance fines are going to be levied.

We see that the Minister of Finance is going to have the discretion of eliminating late filing penalties for these auto insurance companies. The fact is, once again, Mr. Speaker, that we see time and time again from this government that when it comes to supporting the interests of these multinational, in many instances, corporations – I would reflect on the fact that in quarter 3 of 2020 CIBC came out with Intact Insurance's quarterly report, saying: could it get any better than this? That was the title of the report, reflecting on the skyrocketing profitability of these companies at the same time as Albertans were begging and pleading for this government to do anything to support them through this pandemic when it came to auto insurance fees.

Unfortunately, instead of any real support to those Albertans, we saw this government remove the cap on insurance premiums, which is absolutely horrendous, in my opinion, Mr. Speaker. We have continued to see no real support on that front, and the same goes when we look at utility fees. This government made the decision to give interest-free loans to these utility companies at the same time Albertans were asking for support, and the only thing they got was a short-term deferral of those utility costs. Of course, Albertans are expecting more from this government. Unfortunately, they are not getting that in this legislation, which is why I will be supporting the referral to committee, once again, as put forward by the Member for Edmonton-Glenora.

With that, I'll keep my comments short. I appreciate the opportunity to rise, but at the end of the day, there are major issues within this legislation that should be referred to committee so that we can properly make sure that the amendments are the right ones moving forward.

Thank you.

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

We are on REF1, just to remind everybody. We are also at a 29(2)(a) should there be any questions or comments.

Seeing none, are there any members wishing to join debate on REF1?

Seeing none, I am prepared to ask the question.

[Motion on amendment REF1 lost]

**The Acting Speaker:** We are back onto the bill, Bill 65, Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021. Are there any members looking to join debate? I see the hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview has risen.

**Mr. Bilous:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'll endeavour to remove one of these to make myself a little more audible. It's my pleasure to rise and speak to Bill 65, the Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021. I think that many of my comments echo my colleagues who have spoken before me, so I won't belabour any of the points but just want to get on the record for this bill. This is my first opportunity to speak to it. I do think that there are some important changes in this bill, and then there are a couple of flags that I have or concerns that I hope the minister will address and possibly even put forward an amendment. If not, I'm sure it'll be coming from our side of the House. I would love to look at how we can improve this bill a little bit further.

To start off, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the fact that this bill amends several different pieces of legislation. The fact of the matter is that one of the areas that I think was really good collaboration, quite frankly, between our pharmacy professionals and as well with our veterinarians was, again, the ability for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to treat companion animals. I think this change will be celebrated mostly, quite frankly, in rural and remote parts of the province, where now we're expanding the ability of pharmacists to take care of our little furry friends. And I appreciate – at least my understanding, anyway, is that the veterinary association of Alberta is also on board with this change. That's one positive change, Mr. Speaker.

As far as modernizing the way the Alberta College of Pharmacy oversees pharmacy operations and practices, we know that these changes are supported by the College of Pharmacy. I do appreciate that, you know, this is clearly an example where the government did in fact consult with them and take these proposed changes to them, which is greatly appreciated. I recognize the fact that the government will claim that they do that in all situations and circumstances, but – rest assured – the opposition is always here to do our job, to hold the government to account, and also to engage with the very same stakeholders, because sometimes I think the government might be a little overzealous with what they think is positive feedback when, in fact, it's not. A great example of that is the curriculum rewrite, where I've yet to find a single constituent who is celebrating that, Mr. Speaker. But at least here they have discussed or consulted with the college, so that's good.

I mean, there are a number of other minor changes, which I have no concerns with, Mr. Speaker.

The only concern I have – and my colleagues have brought this up – is the fact that late filing penalties for insurers are included in this bill. Now, I do find it interesting that that's thrown in there. I think it's a bit of a stretch. I mean, this bill is now a borderline – now I'm blank on the term.

**Mr. Sabir:** Omnibus.

**Mr. Bilous:** Omnibus bill. Thank you to my colleagues.

But I did want to say – now, I appreciate that the Minister of Justice, who's been very eager to participate in this debate today, which is always appreciated, has spoken to an example of when insurers may file late; for example, a natural disaster. Now, I can appreciate that. That absolutely makes sense to me.

My question and concern is: how are Albertans and we as legislators assured that this power will not be abused, that it will not be used more often than in those extraneous circumstances? Currently, as the bill is written, that's not collared. That's not specifically written, "under these circumstances" – and let's list them – when they can in fact file late. I think that would provide Albertans with more certainty, knowing under what circumstances those filings can be late. Mr. Speaker, the Official Opposition was elected to do our job, which is to ensure that there is oversight over what the government is proposing but also that there are checks and balances. I will put it out there that I would love for the government to look at how they can close this and address it because I think it is a valid concern.

Any time pieces of legislation give ministers broad, sweeping powers, there is cause for concern. I know for a fact that the members of government who were in the benches when they were opposition and we were government brought up and raised the exact same concerns. Whenever there were broad, sweeping powers granted to a minister through legislation, they would say: let's put a collar on this; there's a concern. I know in my first term, between 2012 and 2015, a number of occasions where I had raised that exact same concern when broad, sweeping powers were granted.

4:20

With that, Mr. Speaker, I think I'm going to close my comments. I know that we have more robust debate coming in Committee of the Whole as well as, hopefully, an amendment that may address this, the specific circumstances where they may be able to file late, again recognizing that there are times and circumstances which may warrant that but not providing a pathway to allow those that may wish to try to abuse these extraordinary circumstances to become a regular habit, which, of course, would not be good, I think, for transparency and also for, you know, ensuring that Albertans or these companies are complying with rules that they should.

My final comment, Mr. Speaker, is that earlier the Minister of Justice had referred to this as red tape. Filing a report I don't believe is red tape; I believe that's accountability. The insurance companies having to file their reports to the government and directly to the Minister of Finance is part of their responsibility, the same way that companies file reports to their shareholders because they're ultimately beholden to their shareholders. This isn't red tape; this is a matter of oversight. Now, again, there are certain situations that may warrant a delay or an extension to be able to do this, like natural disasters, which is completely understandable. Then I'm hoping that we will be able to amend this to specifically state under what circumstances those may be.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and with that, I'll take my seat.

**The Acting Speaker:** Standing Order 29(2)(a) is available should anybody have any questions or comments.

Seeing none, are there any members looking to join debate? I see the hon. Member for Edmonton-North West has risen.

**Mr. Eggen:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thanks for the opportunity just to say a couple of words this afternoon in regard to Bill 65, the Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021. You know, I can see generally that this is pretty straightforward legislation that

both has some utility and helps to perhaps deliver health care in the best way possible here in the province. One thing I – actually, a couple of things I just wanted to point out, though.

First of all, in regard to trying to characterize reforms or adjustments that we've learned from the field and generally around health care or any other subject, really, and then talking about this as being red tape somehow – right? – this is a mischaracterization of the statutes that we see being changed here. I think it's a mischaracterization of the work we do in the Legislature generally, because we are here to make sure that we're providing regulation and to ensure the health and the safety and the prosperity of Albertans. In fact, the definition of building law and changing it and having it as an evolving process is the cornerstone of what makes the legislative process work.

You know, certainly, I don't think anyone on the opposite side would suggest that any of these adjustments to the at least five different pieces of legislation or even more would be considered to be making life more difficult or onerous for Albertans, but it is making regulation to make sure that they have a modern and a utilitarian way to approach different problems. Always I hear from this government, from the beginning, that red tape reduction – they even have an associate ministry for this, spending \$10 million or 10 and a half million dollars for that. It's a normal process that takes place in the Legislature. I know that it's a temptation to use this word because it's an easy way to move a political agenda along from the UCP, but let's remind ourselves – right? – in a sober and reasonable way that making legislation such as this is a normal process that we engage in, and quite frankly it's our job. The idea of making life more difficult by creating legislation is a misrepresentation of what we do here in the Legislature.

The one area that – again, it's always a temptation: by having so many different amendments in one piece of legislation, it can grow beyond the size and the scope of what it should be talking about. The one area that I think we do need to perhaps pursue more in depth with the minister and for the government to explain is why and how we are including auto insurance in this bill. Now, maybe

this auto insurance issue needs to be dealt with in some shape or form, but, you know, whenever I see legislation and something is tagged on to the end, almost like an appendage to the legislation – there's a certain unity of theme in Bill 65 except for this one area around auto insurance.

You know, I think that we would like to pursue that in a constructively critical way through the Committee of the Whole process and find maybe that there is a reasonable explanation why it should happen, number one, and a reasonable explanation why it should happen inside of this bill at the same time. Mr. Speaker, sometimes you can create amendments, and you add so many amendments into something, and you have, let's say, five or six or seven things that really need to get done, and then suddenly the pot gets poisoned by having one thing that just doesn't make sense on the end, right? That's why we have the amendment process. We'll work through Committee of the Whole, and I think that we have a way to constructively move forward on Bill 65.

Thank you for my opportunity to say a few words. I will cede the floor to anybody else.

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

Standing Order 29(2)(a) is available.

Seeing none, are there any members looking to join in debate?

[Motion carried; Bill 65 read a second time]

**The Acting Speaker:** I see the hon. Minister of Justice and Solicitor General has risen.

**Mr. Madu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do want to thank all members of the Assembly for the spirited debate that we've had today on several pieces of legislation. With that, I do want to move that the Assembly adjourn until 1:30 p.m. on Monday, May 3, 2021.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 4:28 p.m. to Monday, May 3, at 1:30 p.m.]



## **Bill Status Report for the 30th Legislature - 2nd Session (2020-2021)**

**Activity to Thursday, April 22, 2021**

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 — Critical Infrastructure Defence Act (Kenney)**

First Reading — 4 (*Feb. 25, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 12-18 (*Feb. 26, 2020 morn.*), 96-98 (*Mar. 2, 2020 aft.*), 791-98 (*May 27, 2020 morn., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 859-91 (*May 28, 2020 morn., passed*)  
Third Reading — 861-69 (*May 28, 2020 morn., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 17, 2020; SA 2020 cC-32.7 ]

### **Bill 2\* — Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Amendment Act, 2020 (Hunter)**

First Reading — 30 (*Feb. 26, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 857-58 (*May 28, 2020 morn.*), 1004-09 (*Jun. 2, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 1238-44 (*Jun. 9, 2020 eve., passed with amendments*)  
Third Reading — 1364-70 (*Jun. 15, 2020 eve., passed*)  
Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 17, 2020; SA 2020 c9 ]

### **Bill 3 — Mobile Home Sites Tenancies Amendment Act, 2020 (Glubish)**

First Reading — 30 (*Feb. 26, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 431-46 (*Apr. 7, 2020 morn.*), 458-65 (*Apr. 7, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 465-76 (*Apr. 7, 2020 aft.*), 477-507 (*Apr. 7, 2020 eve.*), 572-83 (*Apr. 8, 2020 eve.*), 659-66 (*May 6, 2020 morn., passed*)  
Third Reading — 703-09 (*May 7, 2020 morn., passed*)  
Royal Assent — (*May 12, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2020 c8 ]

### **Bill 4 — Fiscal Planning and Transparency (Fixed Budget Period) Amendment Act, 2020 (Toews)**

First Reading — 62 (*Feb. 27, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 858 (*May 28, 2020 morn.*), 869-75 (*May 28, 2020 morn.*), 933-35 (*Jun. 1, 2020 aft.*), 970-72 (*Jun. 1, 2020 eve.*), 1040-43 (*Jun. 2, 2020 eve.*), 1077 (*Jun. 3, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 1257-66 (*Jun. 10, 2020 aft.*), 1311-16 (*Jun. 11, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 1442 (*Jun. 17, 2020 aft.*), 1452-55 (*Jun. 17, 2020 aft., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — (*Jun. 26, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 26, 2020; SA 2020 c14 ]

### **Bill 5 — Fiscal Measures and Taxation Act, 2020 (Toews)**

First Reading — 110 (*Mar. 3, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 224-32 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft., passed on division*), 222-23 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft.*)  
Committee of the Whole — 232-33 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft.*), 234-41 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 241 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft.*), 242-48 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Royal Assent — (*Mar. 20, 2020 outside of House Sitting*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2020 c3 ]

**Bill 6 — Appropriation Act, 2020 (S) (Toews)**

First Reading — 215 (Mar. 17, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 216-22 (Mar. 17, 2020 aft., passed on division)

Committee of the Whole — 222 (Mar. 17, 2020 aft., deemed passed on division)

Third Reading — 222 (Mar. 17, 2020 aft., deemed passed on division)

Royal Assent — (Mar. 20, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force March 20, 2020; SA 2020 c1 ]

**Bill 7 — Responsible Energy Development Amendment Act, 2020 (Savage)**

First Reading — 827 (May 27, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 858-59 (May 28, 2020 morn.), 891-99 (May 28, 2020 aft.), 972-76 (Jun. 1, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 1266-72 (Jun. 10, 2020 aft.), 1370-75 (Jun. 15, 2020 eve.), 1406-11 (Jun. 16, 2020 aft.), 1413 (Jun. 16, 2020 eve.), 1479-81 (Jun. 17, 2020 eve.), 1539-40 (Jun. 22, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 1636-37 (Jun. 24, 2020 aft., adjourned), 1678-79 (Jun. 25, 2020 aft., passed)

Royal Assent — (Jun. 26, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 26, 2020; SA 2020 c16 ]

**Bill 8\* — Protecting Survivors of Human Trafficking Act (Schweitzer)**

First Reading — 431 (Apr. 7, 2020 morn., passed)

Second Reading — 509-21 (Apr. 8, 2020 morn.), 551-58 (Apr. 8, 2020 aft.), 559-72 (Apr. 8, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 593-618 (Apr. 8, 2020 eve.), 671-73 (May 6, 2020 morn., passed with amendments)

Third Reading — 709-12 (May 7, 2020 morn., passed)

Royal Assent — (May 12, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force May 12, 2020, except Part 2, which comes into force on July 1, 2020; SA 2020 cP-26.87 ]

**Bill 9 — Emergency Management Amendment Act, 2020 (Madu)**

First Reading — 276 (Mar. 20, 2020 morn., passed)

Second Reading — 277-80 (Mar. 20, 2020 morn., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 280-82 (Mar. 20, 2020 morn., passed)

Third Reading — 282-83 (Mar. 20, 2020 morn., passed)

Royal Assent — (Mar. 20, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force March 20, 2020; SA 2020 c2 ]

**Bill 10 — Public Health (Emergency Powers) Amendment Act, 2020 (Shandro)**

First Reading — 296-97 (Mar. 31, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 307-20 (Apr. 1, 2020 morn.), 337-44 (Apr. 1, 2020 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 354-57 (Apr. 1, 2020 aft.), 407-09 (Apr. 2, 2020 morn.), 426-28 (Apr. 2, 2020 aft., passed)

Third Reading — 428-29 (Apr. 2, 2020 aft., passed on division)

Royal Assent — (Apr. 2, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force April 2, 2020; certain sections took effect on earlier dates; SA 2020 c5 ]

**Bill 11 — Tenancies Statutes (Emergency Provisions) Amendment Act, 2020 (Glubish)**

First Reading — 297 (Mar. 31, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 298-301 (Mar. 31, 2020 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 301-03 (Mar. 31, 2020 aft., passed)

Third Reading — 303-05 (Mar. 31, 2020 aft., passed)

Royal Assent — (Apr. 2, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2020 c6 ]

**Bill 12 — Liabilities Management Statutes Amendment Act, 2020 (Savage)**

First Reading — 297 (Mar. 31, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 320-25 (Apr. 1, 2020 morn.), 344-49 (Apr. 1, 2020 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 350-54 (Apr. 1, 2020 aft.), 401-05 (Apr. 2, 2020 morn., passed)

Third Reading — 406 (Apr. 2, 2020 morn., passed)

Royal Assent — (Apr. 2, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2020 c4 ]

**Bill 13 — Emergency Management Amendment Act, 2020 (No. 2) (Madu)**

First Reading — 431 (Apr. 7, 2020 morn., passed)

Second Reading — 521-26 (Apr. 8, 2020 morn.), 537-51 (Apr. 8, 2020 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 583-93 (Apr. 8, 2020 eve.), 619-35 (Apr. 9, 2020 morn.), 648-57 (Apr. 9, 2020 aft.), 673-74 (May 6, 2020 morn.), 688-99 (May 6, 2020 aft., passed)

Third Reading — 699-701 (May 6, 2020 aft., passed)

Royal Assent — (May 12, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force May 12, 2020, with exceptions; SA 2020 c7 ]

**Bill 14 — Utility Payment Deferral Program Act (Nally)**

First Reading — 687 (May 6, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 724-45 (May 7, 2020 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 758-86 (May 8, 2020 morn., passed)

Third Reading — 786-90 (May 8, 2020 morn., passed on division)

Royal Assent — (May 12, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force May 12, 2020, with certain provisions having effect as of March 18, 2020; SA 2020 cU-4 ]

**Bill 15 — Choice in Education Act, 2020 (LaGrange)**

First Reading — 887-88 (May 28, 2020 aft, passed)

Second Reading — 937-54 (Jun. 1, 2020 eve.), 1011-40 (Jun. 2, 2020 eve.), 1058-67 (Jun. 3, 2020 aft.), 1228-38 (Jun. 9, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 1375-78 (Jun. 15, 2020 eve.), 1470-79 (Jun. 17, 2020 eve.), 1541-51 (Jun. 22, 2020 eve.), 1575-88 (Jun. 23, 2020 aft.), 1620-25 (Jun. 24, 2020 aft.), 1639-47 (Jun. 24, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 1657-59 (Jun. 24, 2020 eve., passed on division)

Royal Assent — (Jun. 26, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force September 1, 2020; SA 2020 c11 ]

**Bill 16 — Victims of Crime (Strengthening Public Safety) Amendment Act, 2020 (Schweitzer)**

First Reading — 888 (May 28, 2020 aft, passed)

Second Reading — 954-70 (Jun. 1, 2020 eve.), 1109-12 (Jun. 3, 2020 eve.), 1127-35 (Jun. 4, 2020 aft.), 1179-81 (Jun. 8, 2020 eve.), 1209-22 (Jun. 9, 2020 aft.), 1285-96 (Jun. 10, 2020 eve., passed on division)

Committee of the Whole — 1428-29 (Jun. 16, 2020 eve.), 1455-59 (Jun. 17, 2020 aft.), 1551-55 (Jun. 22, 2020 eve.), 1588-90 (Jun. 23, 2020 aft.), 1647-50 (Jun. 24, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 1676-78 (Jun. 25, 2020 aft., passed on division)

Royal Assent — (Jun. 26, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 26, 2020, with exceptions; SA 2020 c18 ]

**Bill 17 — Mental Health Amendment Act, 2020 (Shandro)**

First Reading — 1125 (Jun. 4, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 1203-09 (Jun. 9, 2020 aft.), 1272-74 (Jun. 10, 2020 aft.), 1316-23 (Jun. 11, 2020 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 1396-1406 (Jun. 16, 2020 aft.), 1413 (Jun. 16, 2020 eve.), 1461-70 (Jun. 17, 2020 eve.), 1605-08 (Jun. 23, 2020 eve.), 1630-36 (Jun. 24, 2020 aft.), 1650-54 (Jun. 24, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 1675-76 (Jun. 25, 2020 aft., passed)

Royal Assent — (Jun. 26, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation, with exceptions; certain sections come into force on June 26, 2020; SA 2020 c15 ]

**Bill 18 — Corrections (Alberta Parole Board) Amendment Act, 2020 (Schweitzer)**

First Reading — 912 (Jun. 1, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 989-1004 (Jun. 2, 2020 aft.), 1011 (Jun. 2, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 1413-24 (Jun. 16, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 1655 (Jun. 24, 2020 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Jun. 26, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2020 c12 ]

**Bill 19 — Tobacco and Smoking Reduction Amendment Act, 2020 (Shandro)**

First Reading — 989 (Jun. 2, 2020 aft, passed)

Second Reading — 1079-98 (Jun. 3, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 1424-28 (Jun. 16, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 1495-97 (Jun. 18, 2020 aft.), 1555-56 (Jun. 22, 2020 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Jun. 26, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2020 c17 ]

**Bill 20 — Real Estate Amendment Act, 2020 (Glubish)**

First Reading — 1057 (Jun. 3, 2020 aft, passed)

Second Reading — 1125-27 (Jun. 4, 2020 aft.), 1169-79 (Jun. 8, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 1185-90 (Jun. 8, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 1279-85 (Jun. 10, 2020 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Jun. 17, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2020 c10 ]

**Bill 21\* — Provincial Administrative Penalties Act (Schweitzer)**

First Reading — 1125 (*Jun. 4, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1181-85 (*Jun. 8, 2020 eve.*), 1296-97 (*Jun. 10, 2020 eve.*), 1355-57 (*Jun. 15, 2020 aft.*), 1442-52 (*Jun. 17, 2020 aft.*), 1819-22 (*Jul. 8, 2020 morn., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1983-99 (*Jul. 14, 2020 aft.*), 2071-74 (*Jul. 15, 2020 eve., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 2264-68 (*Jul. 21, 2020 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force on proclamation, with exceptions; SA 2020 cP-30.8 ]

**Bill 22 — Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2020 (Hunter)**

First Reading — 1301-02 (*Jun. 11, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1591-95 (*Jun. 23, 2020 eve.*), 1655-57 (*Jun. 24, 2020 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1798-1804 (*Jul. 7, 2020 eve.*), 1879 (*Jul. 8, 2020 eve.*), 1939-57 (*Jul. 13, 2020 eve.*), 1965-66 (*Jul. 13, 2020 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 2050-51 (*Jul. 15, 2020 aft.*), 2053-59 (*Jul. 15, 2020 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2020 c25 ]

**Bill 23\* — Commercial Tenancies Protection Act (Fir)**

First Reading — 1392 (*Jun. 16, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1529-35 (*Jun. 22, 2020 aft.*), 1601-05 (*Jun. 23, 2020 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1879-80 (*Jul. 8, 2020 eve., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 2181-83 (*Jul. 20, 2020 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force July 23, 2020, with certain sections taking effect March 17, 2020; SA 2020 cC-19.5 ]

**Bill 24 — COVID-19 Pandemic Response Statutes Amendment Act, 2020 (Shandro)**

First Reading — 1494 (*Jun. 18, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1537-39 (*Jun. 22, 2020 eve.*), 1569-75 (*Jun. 23, 2020 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1625-30 (*Jun. 24, 2020 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 1679-81 (*Jun. 25, 2020 aft., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 26, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 26, 2020, with certain sections taking effect on earlier dates; SA 2020 c13 ]

**Bill 25 — Protecting Alberta Industry From Theft Act, 2020 (Schweitzer)**

First Reading — 1494 (*Jun. 18, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1719-35 (*Jul. 6, 2020 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1804-05 (*Jul. 7, 2020 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 1904-05 (*Jul. 9, 2020 aft.*), 2031-32 (*Jul. 14, 2020 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2020 c24 ]

**Bill 26 — Constitutional Referendum Amendment Act, 2020 (Schweitzer)**

First Reading — 1568 (*Jun. 23, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1735-41 (*Jul. 6, 2020 eve.*), 1764-72 (*Jul. 7, 2020 aft.*), 1845-56 (*Jul. 8, 2020 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1964-65 (*Jul. 13, 2020 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 2081-86 (*Jul. 15, 2020 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force July 23, 2020; SA 2020 c20 ]

**Bill 27 — Alberta Senate Election Amendment Act, 2020 (Schweitzer)**

First Reading — 1568 (*Jun. 23, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1741-47 (*Jul. 6, 2020 eve.*), 1772-79 (*Jul. 7, 2020 aft.*), 1822-27 (*Jul. 8, 2020 morn.*), 1899-1904 (*Jul. 9, 2020 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1999-2001 (*Jul. 14, 2020 aft.*), 2074-76 (*Jul. 15, 2020 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 2076-81 (*Jul. 15, 2020 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force July 23, 2020; SA 2020 c19 ]

**Bill 28 — Vital Statistics (Protecting Albertans from Convicted Sex Offenders) Amendment Act, 2020 (Glubish)**

First Reading — 1619 (*Jun. 24, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1704-17 (*Jul. 6, 2020 aft.*), 1779-82 (*Jul. 7, 2020 aft.*), 1856-60 (*Jul. 8, 2020 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1880-82 (*Jul. 8, 2020 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 1896-99 (*Jul. 9, 2020 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force July 23, 2020; SA 2020 c26 ]



**Bill 29 — Local Authorities Election Amendment Act, 2020 (Madu)**

First Reading — 1619-20 (*Jun. 24, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 1784-97 (*Jul. 7, 2020 eve.*), 1962-63 (*Jul. 13, 2020 eve., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 2163-81 (*Jul. 20, 2020 eve., passed*)  
Third Reading — 2239-64 (*Jul. 21, 2020 eve., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force September 1, 2020; SA 2020 c22 ]

**Bill 30\* — Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2020 (Shandro)**

First Reading — 1695 (*Jul. 6, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 1783-84 (*Jul. 7, 2020 eve.*), 2032-37 (*Jul. 14, 2020 eve.*), 2086-2103 (*Jul. 15, 2020 eve.*), 2189-97 (*Jul. 20, 2020 eve.*), 2210-27 (*Jul. 21, 2020 aft.*), 2289-96 (*Jul. 22, 2020 aft.*), 2313-28 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve.*), 2360-61 (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft., passed on division*)  
Committee of the Whole — 2432-475 (*Jul. 27, 2020 eve.*), 2512-20 (*Jul. 28, 2020 aft.*), 2523-31 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve., passed with amendments*)  
Third Reading — 2539-61 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve.*), 2562-69 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — (*Jul. 29, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force July 29, 2020, with exceptions; SA 2020 c27 ]

**Bill 31 — Environmental Protection Statutes Amendment Act, 2020 (Nixon, JJ)**

First Reading — 1760 (*Jul. 7, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 1878 (*Jul. 8, 2020 eve.*), 2023-31 (*Jul. 14, 2020 eve., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 2233-39 (*Jul. 21, 2020 eve., passed*)  
Third Reading — 2309-12 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve., passed*)  
Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force July 23, 2020; SA 2020 c21 ]

**Bill 32 — Restoring Balance in Alberta's Workplaces Act, 2020 (Copping)**

First Reading — 1760 (*Jul. 7, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 1861-63 (*Jul. 8, 2020 eve.*), 2003-23 (*Jul. 14, 2020 eve.*), 2051-53 (*Jul. 15, 2020 aft.*), 2059-69 (*Jul. 15, 2020 aft.*), 2147-62 (*Jul. 20, 2020 aft.*), 2268-73 (*Jul. 21, 2020 eve.*), 2296-307 (*Jul. 22, 2020 aft.*), 2328-40 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve.*), 2361-63 (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft., passed on division*)  
Committee of the Whole — 2404-32 (*Jul. 27, 2020 eve.*), 2475-85 (*Jul. 27, 2020 eve.*), 2502-12 (*Jul. 28, 2020 aft.*), 2531-39 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve., passed*)  
Third Reading — 2569-78 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve.*), 2579-86 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — (*Jul. 29, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2020 c28 ]

**Bill 33\* — Alberta Investment Attraction Act (Fir)**

First Reading — 1760-61 (*Jul. 7, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 1807-19 (*Jul. 8, 2020 morn.*), 1927-37 (*Jul. 13, 2020 aft.*), 2117-27 (*Jul. 16, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 2227-31 (*Jul. 21, 2020 aft.*), 2233 (*Jul. 21, 2020 eve.*), 2340-44 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve.*), 2312-13 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve.*), 2363-65 (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft., passed with amendments*)  
Third Reading — 2401-04 (*Jul. 27, 2020 eve.*), 2485-88 (*Jul. 27, 2020 eve., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — (*Jul. 29, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2020 cA-26.4 ]

**Bill 34 — Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2020 (Nixon, JJ)**

First Reading — 1839 (*Jul. 8, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 1966-69 (*Jul. 13, 2020 eve.*), 2116-17 (*Jul. 16, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 2117 (*Jul. 16, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 2312 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve., passed*)  
Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2020 c23 ]

**Bill 35 — Tax Statutes (Creating Jobs and Driving Innovation) Amendment Act, 2020 (Toews)**

First Reading — 2616 (*Oct. 20, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 2666-81 (*Oct. 21, 2020 aft.*), 2741-55 (*Oct. 26, 2020 eve.*), 2803-15 (*Oct. 27, 2020 eve.*), 2841-47 (*Oct. 28, 2020 aft.*), 2860-69 (*Oct. 28, 2020 eve.*), 2940-43 (*Nov. 2, 2020 eve.*), 2986-94 (*Nov. 3, 2020 eve.*), 3072-83 (*Nov. 5, 2020 aft.*), 3126-36 (*Nov. 16, 2020 eve.*), 3208-12 (*Nov. 17, 2020 eve.*), 3265-72 (*Nov. 18, 2020 eve.*), 3361-65 (*Nov. 23, 2020 eve., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 3834 (*Dec. 7, 2020 eve.*), 3886-92 (*Dec. 8, 2020 eve., passed on division*)  
Third Reading — 3900 (*Dec. 8, 2020 eve.*), 3903-09 (*Dec. 8, 2020 eve., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — (*Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force December 9, 2020, with certain sections having effect on various dates; SA 2020 c40 ]

**Bill 36 — Geothermal Resource Development Act (Savage)**

First Reading — 2616 (Oct. 20, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 2696-2706 (Oct. 22, 2020 aft.), 2755-60 (Oct. 26, 2020 eve.), 2925-29 (Nov. 2, 2020 eve.), 2974-78 (Nov. 3, 2020 aft.), 3121-24 (Nov. 16, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3224-32 (Nov. 18, 2020 aft.), 3292-94 (Nov. 19, 2020 aft., passed)

Third Reading — 3336-42 (Nov. 23, 2020 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2020 cG-5.5 ]

**Bill 37\* — Builders' Lien (Prompt Payment) Amendment Act, 2020 (Glubish)**

First Reading — 2665 (Oct. 21, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 2774-84 (Oct. 27, 2020 aft.), 2828-38 (Oct. 28, 2020 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3024-29 (Nov. 4, 2020 aft.), 3031-48 (Nov. 4, 2020 eve.), (Nov. 24, 2020 ), 3398-3401 (Nov. 24, 2020 aft., passed with amendments)

Third Reading — 3529-30 (Nov. 25, 2020 eve.), 3544-45 (Nov. 26, 2020 aft., passed)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2020 c30 ]

**Bill 38 — Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2020 (Madu)**

First Reading — 2665-66 (Oct. 21, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 2795-2800 (Oct. 27, 2020 eve.), 2838-41 (Oct. 28, 2020 aft.), 2884-93 (Oct. 29, 2020 aft.), 2960-65 (Nov. 3, 2020 aft.), 3124-26 (Nov. 16, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3232-36 (Nov. 18, 2020 aft.), 3419-24 (Nov. 24, 2020 eve.), 3503-13 (Nov. 25, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 3611-14 (Nov. 30, 2020 eve., passed on division)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force December 9, 2020, with exceptions, and with section 6 taking effect January 1, 2021; SA 2020 c37 ]

**Bill 39\* — Child Care Licensing (Early Learning and Child Care) Amendment Act, 2020 (Schulz)**

First Reading — 2827 (Oct. 28, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 2883-84 (Oct. 29, 2020 aft.), 2929-40 (Nov. 2, 2020 eve.), 2979-86 (Nov. 3, 2020 eve.), 3206-08 (Nov. 17, 2020 eve.), 3272-76 (Nov. 18, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3357-61 (Nov. 23, 2020 eve.), 3401-09 (Nov. 24, 2020 aft.), 3411-19 (Nov. 24, 2020 eve.), 3513-25 (Nov. 25, 2020 eve., passed with amendments)

Third Reading — 3685 (Dec. 1, 2020 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force February 1, 2021; SA 2020 c31 ]

**Bill 40 — Forests (Growing Alberta's Forest Sector) Amendment Act, 2020 (Dreeshen)**

First Reading — 2696 (Oct. 22, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 2784-93 (Oct. 27, 2020 aft.), 2800-03 (Oct. 27, 2020 eve.), 2849-59 (Oct. 28, 2020 eve.), 2965-74 (Nov. 3, 2020 aft.), 3136-38 (Nov. 16, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3424-27 (Nov. 24, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 3606-11 (Nov. 30, 2020 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force May 1, 2021, with exceptions; SA 2020 c34 ]

**Bill 41 — Insurance (Enhancing Driver Affordability and Care) Amendment Act, 2020 (Toews)**

First Reading — 2882 (Oct. 29, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 2915-24 (Nov. 2, 2020 eve.), 3011-23 (Nov. 4, 2020 aft.), 3051-58 (Nov. 4, 2020 eve.), 3164-73 (Nov. 17, 2020 aft.), 3255-65 (Nov. 18, 2020 eve.), 3276 (Nov. 18, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3679-85 (Dec. 1, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 3700-07 (Dec. 2, 2020 morn.), 3753-58 (Dec. 2, 2020 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force December 9, 2020, except part of section 3, which has effect January 1, 2022; SA 2020 c36 ]

**Bill 42 — North Saskatchewan River Basin Water Authorization Act (Nixon, JJ)**

First Reading — 2907 (Nov. 2, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 3009-11 (Nov. 4, 2020 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3048-51 (Nov. 4, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 3072 (Nov. 5, 2020 aft., passed)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force December 9, 2020; SA 2020 cN-3.6 ]

**Bill 43 — Financing Alberta’s Strategic Transportation Act (McIver)**

First Reading — 2956 (Nov. 3, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 3150-64 (Nov. 17, 2020 aft.), 3276-80 (Nov. 18, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3594-3605 (Nov. 30, 2020 eve.), 3687-3700 (Dec. 2, 2020 morn.), 3721-33 (Dec. 2, 2020 aft.), 3751-53 (Dec. 2, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 3784-88 (Dec. 3, 2020 aft., passed on division)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force December 9, 2020; SA 2020 cF-13.5 ]

**Bill 44 — Financial Statutes Amendment Act, 2020 (Toews)**

First Reading — 2956 (Nov. 3, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 3115-21 (Nov. 16, 2020 eve.), 3354-57 (Nov. 23, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3591-93 (Nov. 30, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 3685 (Dec. 1, 2020 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force December 9, 2020; SA 2020 c33 ]

**Bill 45 — Local Authorities Election Amendment Act, 2020 (No. 2) (Allard)**

First Reading — 3006 (Nov. 4, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 3175-79 (Nov. 17, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3525-29 (Nov. 25, 2020 eve.), 3654-65 (Dec. 1, 2020 aft., passed)

Third Reading — 3685 (Dec. 1, 2020 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force January 1, 2021; SA 2020 c38 ]

**Bill 46 — Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2020 (No. 2) (Shandro)**

First Reading — 3071 (Nov. 5, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 3176-92 (Nov. 17, 2020 eve.), 3342-54 (Nov. 23, 2020 eve.), 3459-65 (Nov. 25, 2020 morn.), 3614-22 (Nov. 30, 2020 eve.), 3675-76 (Dec. 1, 2020 aft.), 3788-93 (Dec. 3, 2020 aft., passed on division)

Committee of the Whole — 3823-34 (Dec. 7, 2020 eve.), 3853-60 (Dec. 8, 2020 aft., passed)

Third Reading — 3869 (Dec. 8, 2020 eve.), 3872-79 (Dec. 8, 2020 eve., passed on division)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force December 9, 2020, with exceptions; SA 2020 c35 ]

**Bill 47 — Ensuring Safety and Cutting Red Tape Act, 2020 (\$) (Copping)**

First Reading — 3070-71 (Nov. 5, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 3192-206 (Nov. 17, 2020 eve.), 3236-45 (Nov. 18, 2020 aft.), 3367-73 (Nov. 24, 2020 morn.), 3427-41 (Nov. 24, 2020 eve.), 3445-59 (Nov. 25, 2020 morn.), 3622-28 (Nov. 30, 2020 eve.), 3630-42 (Dec. 1, 2020 morn.), 3743-51 (Dec. 2, 2020 eve., passed on division)

Committee of the Whole — 3763-70 (Dec. 3, 2020 morn.), 3893-3900 (Dec. 8, 2020 eve., passed on division)

Third Reading — 3901-02 (Dec. 8, 2020 eve.), 3910-16 (Dec. 8, 2020 eve., passed on division)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation, with exceptions; SA 2020 c32 ]

**Bill 48\* — Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2020 (No. 2) (Hunter)**

First Reading — 3096 (Nov. 16, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 3247-55 (Nov. 18, 2020 eve.), 3387-98 (Nov. 24, 2020 aft.), 3441-43 (Nov. 24, 2020 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3665-75 (Dec. 1, 2020 aft.), 3733-40 (Dec. 2, 2020 aft.), 3759-62 (Dec. 2, 2020 eve.), 3834-36 (Dec. 7, 2020 eve.), 3861-68 (Dec. 8, 2020 aft., passed on division)

Third Reading — 3869-70 (Dec. 8, 2020 eve.), 3879-86 (Dec. 8, 2020 eve., passed on division)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on December 9, 2020, with exceptions; SA 2020 c39 ]

**Bill 50 — Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2020 (\$) (Toews)**

First Reading — 3502 (Nov. 25, 2020 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 3545-52 (Nov. 26, 2020 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3587-91 (Nov. 30, 2020 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 3677-79 (Dec. 1, 2020 eve.), 3685 (Dec. 1, 2020 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force December 9, 2020; SA 2020 c29 ]

**Bill 51 — Citizen Initiative Act (Madu)**

First Reading — 4058 (Mar. 16, 2021 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 4340-41 (Apr. 7, 2021 aft.), 4567-73 (Apr. 14, 2021 eve.), 4690-97 (Apr. 20, 2021 aft., passed on division)

**Bill 52 — Recall Act (Madu)**

First Reading — 4028-29 (Mar. 15, 2021 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 4633-42 (Apr. 19, 2021 eve., adjourned)

**Bill 53 — Service Alberta Statutes (Virtual Meetings) Amendment Act, 2021 (Glubish)**

First Reading — 3971 (Mar. 9, 2021 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 4043-44 (Mar. 15, 2021 aft.), 4129-30 (Mar. 18, 2021 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 4245-49 (Mar. 24, 2021 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 4252-53 (Mar. 24, 2021 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Mar. 26, 2021 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force August 15, 2020, except for section 5, which comes into force March 26, 2021; SA 2021 c3 ]

**Bill 54 — Irrigation Districts Amendment Act, 2021 (Dreeshen)**

First Reading — 3992 (Mar. 10, 2021 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 4212-14 (Mar. 24, 2021 aft.), 4291-4302 (Apr. 6, 2021 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 4361-66 (Apr. 7, 2021 eve., passed)

Third Reading — 4396-99 (Apr. 8, 2021 aft., passed)

Royal Assent — (Apr. 22, 2021 aft.) [Comes into force April 22, 2021; SA 2021 c5 ]

**Bill 55 — College of Alberta School Superintendents Act (LaGrange)**

First Reading — 3979 (Mar. 9, 2021 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 4044-45 (Mar. 15, 2021 aft.), 4107-10 (Mar. 17, 2021 aft.), 4302-08 (Apr. 6, 2021 aft.), 4453-56 (Apr. 12, 2021 eve., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 4594-601 (Apr. 15, 2021 aft., passed)

Third Reading — 4788-93 (Apr. 21, 2021 eve., passed)

Royal Assent — (Apr. 22, 2021 aft.) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2021 cC-18.8 ]

**Bill 56 — Local Measures Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (McIver)**

First Reading — 4005 (Mar. 11, 2021 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 4045 (Mar. 15, 2021 aft.), 4309-17 (Apr. 6, 2021 aft.), 4342-60 (Apr. 7, 2021 aft.), 4367-82 (Apr. 7, 2021 eve.), 4400-04 (Apr. 8, 2021 aft.), 4435-53 (Apr. 12, 2021 eve.), 4657-63 (Apr. 19, 2021 eve., passed)

**Bill 57 — Metis Settlements Amendment Act, 2021 (Wilson)**

First Reading — 4005 (Mar. 11, 2021 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 4045-46 (Mar. 15, 2021 aft.), 4501-12 (Apr. 13, 2021 eve.), 4573-80 (Apr. 14, 2021 eve., passed on division)

Committee of the Whole — 4743-52 (Apr. 21, 2021 aft., adjourned on amendment)

**Bill 58 — Freedom to Care Act (Aheer)**

First Reading — 4180 (Mar. 23, 2021 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 4214-15 (Mar. 24, 2021 aft.), 4456 (Apr. 12, 2021 eve.), 4560-67 (Apr. 14, 2021 eve.), 4682-90 (Apr. 20, 2021 aft.), 4726-27 (Apr. 20, 2021 eve., passed)

**Bill 59 — Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2021 (S) (Toews)**

First Reading — 4083 (Mar. 16, 2021 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 4099-4102 (Mar. 17, 2021 aft.), 4110-15 (Mar. 17, 2021 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 4130-38 (Mar. 18, 2021 aft., passed)

Third Reading — 4215-20 (Mar. 24, 2021 aft., passed)

Royal Assent — (Mar. 26, 2021 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force March 26, 2021; SA 2021 c2 ]

**Bill 60 — Appropriation Act, 2021 (\$) (Toews)**

First Reading — 4099 (*Mar. 17, 2021 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 4180-99 (*Mar. 23, 2021 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 4220-33 (*Mar. 24, 2021 aft.*), 4249-52 (*Mar. 24, 2021 eve., passed*)  
Third Reading — 4268-76 (*Mar. 25, 2021 aft., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — (*Mar. 26, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force March 26, 2021; SA 2021 c1 ]

**Bill 61 — Vital Statistics Amendment Act, 2021 (Glubish)**

First Reading — 4150 (*Mar. 22, 2021 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 4341-42 (*Apr. 7, 2021 aft.*), 4512-13 (*Apr. 13, 2021 eve., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 4752-59 (*Apr. 21, 2021 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 4793-94 (*Apr. 21, 2021 eve., passed*)  
Royal Assent — (*Apr. 22, 2021 aft.*) [Comes into force April 22, 2021, with sections 2(a), 5, 9 and 10 coming into force on proclamation; SA 2021 c7 ]

**Bill 62 — Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2021 (Hunter)**

First Reading — 4393-94 (*Apr. 8, 2021 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 4675-82 (*Apr. 20, 2021 aft.*), 4760-61 (*Apr. 21, 2021 aft.*), 4759 (*Apr. 21, 2021 aft., adjourned*)

**Bill 63 — Police (Street Checks and Carding) Amendment Act, 2021 (Madu)**

First Reading — 4340 (*Apr. 7, 2021 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 4699-704 (*Apr. 20, 2021 eve., passed*)

**Bill 64 — Public Lands Amendment Act, 2021 (Nixon, JJ)**

First Reading — 4416 (*Apr. 12, 2021 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 4475-87 (*Apr. 13, 2021 aft.*), 4547-60 (*Apr. 14, 2021 eve.*), 4642-57 (*Apr. 19, 2021 eve., adjourned on amendment*)

**Bill 65 — Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (Shandro)**

First Reading — 4394 (*Apr. 8, 2021 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 4526-35 (*Apr. 14, 2021 aft.*), 4759-60 (*Apr. 21, 2021 aft.*), 4766-79 (*Apr. 21, 2021 eve.*), 4809-17 (*Apr. 22, 2021 aft., passed*)

**Bill 66 — Public Health Amendment Act, 2021 (Shandro)**

First Reading — 4416 (*Apr. 12, 2021 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 4487-88 (*Apr. 13, 2021 aft.*), 4489-501 (*Apr. 13, 2021 eve.*), 4535-46 (*Apr. 14, 2021 aft.*), 4704-19 (*Apr. 20, 2021 eve.*), 4779-88 (*Apr. 21, 2021 eve., adjourned on amendment*)

**Bill 67 — Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act (Nicolaidis)**

First Reading — 4468 (*Apr. 13, 2021 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 4593-94 (*Apr. 15, 2021 aft.*), 4719-26 (*Apr. 20, 2021 eve., adjourned*)

**Bill 68 — Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (Madu)**

First Reading — 4614 (*Apr. 19, 2021 aft., passed*)  
Second Reading — 4808 (*Apr. 22, 2021 aft., adjourned*)

**Bill 69 — Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (Nixon, JJ)**

First Reading — 4592 (*Apr. 15, 2021 aft., passed*)

**Bill 70 — COVID-19 Related Measures Act (Gotfried)**

First Reading — 4806 (*Apr. 22, 2021 aft., passed*)

**Bill 71 — Employment Standards (COVID-19 Vaccination Leave) Amendment Act, 2021 (Copping)**

First Reading — 4763 (*Apr. 21, 2021 eve., passed*)  
Second Reading — 4763-64 (*Apr. 21, 2021 eve., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 4764-65 (*Apr. 21, 2021 eve., passed*)  
Third Reading — 4766 (*Apr. 21, 2021 eve., passed*)  
Royal Assent — (*Apr. 22, 2021 aft.*) [Comes into force April 21, 2021; SA 2021 c4 ]

**Bill 201 — Strategic Aviation Advisory Council Act (Gotfried)**

First Reading — 62 (*Feb. 27, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), 136 (*Mar. 5, 2020 aft., reported to Assembly*)  
Second Reading — 914-26 (*Jun. 1, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 1156-61 (*Jun. 8, 2020 aft.*), 1337-47 (*Jun. 15, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 1514-22 (*Jun. 22, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Royal Assent — (*Jun. 26, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force December 31, 2020; SA 2020 cS-19.8 ]

**Bill 202 — Conflicts of Interest (Protecting the Rule of Law) Amendment Act, 2020 (Ganley)**

First Reading — 136 (*Mar. 5, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), 1149-56 (*Jun. 2, 2020 aft., reported to Assembly;*), 1156 (*Jun. 8, 2020 aft., not proceeded with on division*)

**Bill 203 — Pension Protection Act (Gray)**

First Reading — 1148 (*Jun. 8, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), 1839 (*Jul. 8, 2020 aft., reported to Assembly; not proceeded with*)

**Bill 204 — Voluntary Blood Donations Repeal Act (Yao)**

First Reading — 1839 (*Jul. 8, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), 2288 (*Jul. 22, 2020 aft., reported to Assembly*)  
Second Reading — 2379-93 (*Jul. 27, 2020 aft., passed on division*)  
Committee of the Whole — 2720-33 (*Oct. 26, 2020 aft.*), 2908-09 (*Nov. 2, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Third Reading — 3096-3103 (*Nov. 16, 2020 aft., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — (*Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force December 9, 2020; SA 2020 c41 ]

**Bill 205\* — Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month Act (Singh)**

First Reading — 2718 (*Oct. 26, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), 3070 (*Nov. 5, 2020 aft., reported to Assembly*)  
Second Reading — 3103-08 (*Nov. 16, 2020 aft.*), 3307-14 (*Nov. 23, 2020 aft., passed*)  
Committee of the Whole — 3813-14 (*Dec. 7, 2020 aft.*), 3948-59 (*Mar. 8, 2021 aft.*), 4036-37 (*Mar. 15, 2021 aft., passed with amendments*)  
Third Reading — 4158-64 (*Mar. 22, 2021 aft., passed on division*)  
Royal Assent — (*Mar. 26, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force January 1, 2021; SA 2021 cG-5.4 ]

**Bill 206 — Property Rights Statutes Amendment Act, 2020 (Glasgo)**

First Reading — 2827 (*Oct. 28, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), 3223-24 (*Nov. 18, 2020 aft., reported to Assembly*)  
Second Reading — 3314-21 (*Nov. 23, 2020 aft.*), 4037-42 (*Mar. 15, 2021 aft.*), 4417-19 (*Apr. 12, 2021 aft., passed on division*), 4419 (*Apr. 12, 2021 aft., referred to Select Special Committee on Real Property Rights*)

**Bill 207 — Reservists' Recognition Day Act (Rutherford)**

First Reading — 3224 (*Nov. 18, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), 3719 (*Dec. 2, 2020 aft., reported to Assembly*)  
Second Reading — 4419-29 (*Apr. 12, 2021 aft.*), 4616-20 (*Apr. 19, 2021 aft., passed on division*)

**Bill 208 — Alberta Investment Management Corporation Amendment Act, 2020 (Phillips)**

First Reading — 3782 (*Dec. 3, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), 4005 (*Mar. 11, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly; debate on concurrence motion to take place Monday, March 15, 2021*), 4029-36 (*Mar. 15, 2021 aft., not proceeded with on division*)

**Bill 209 — Cost of Public Services Transparency Act (Stephan)**

First Reading — 3806-07 (*Dec. 7, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), 4005 (*Mar. 11, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly*)  
Second Reading — 4620 (*Apr. 19, 2021 aft., adjourned*)

**Bill 211\* — Municipal Government (Firearms) Amendment Act, 2020 (Glasgo)**

First Reading — 3849 (*Dec. 8, 2020 aft., passed*), 3930 (*Feb. 25, 2021 aft., moved to Government Bills and Orders*)

Second Reading — 4006-15 (*Mar. 11, 2021 aft.*), 4102-07 (*Mar. 17, 2021 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 4326-28 (*Apr. 6, 2021 aft., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 4399-4400 (*Apr. 8, 2021 aft., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Apr. 22, 2021 aft.*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2021 c6 ]

**Bill 212 — Official Sport of Alberta Act (Yaseen)**

First Reading — 3849 (*Dec. 8, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), 4088 (*Mar. 17, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly*); 4151-58 (*Mar. 22, 2021 aft., proceeded with on division*)

**Bill 213 — Traffic Safety (Maximum Speed Limit for Provincial Freeways) Amendment Act, 2021 (Turton)**

First Reading — 3992 (*Mar. 10, 2021 aft., passed*), 4179 (*Mar. 23, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly*)

**Bill 214 — Eastern Slopes Protection Act (Notley)**

First Reading — 4340 (*Apr. 7, 2021 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Public Members' Private Bills*), (*Apr. 20, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly; debate on concurrence motion to take place Monday, May 3, 2021*)

**Bill 215 — Seniors Advocate Act (Sigurdson, L)**

First Reading — 4592 (*Apr. 15, 2021 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Public Members' Private Bills*), (*Apr. 22, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly; debate on concurrence motion to take place Monday, May 3, 2021*)

**Bill 216 — Fire Prevention and Fire Services Recognition Act (Lovely)**

First Reading — 4592 (*Apr. 15, 2021 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Public Members' Private Bills*)

**Bill Pr1 — The Sisters of the Precious Blood of Edmonton Repeal Act (Williams)**

First Reading — 1125 (*Jun. 4, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), 3292 (*Nov. 19, 2020 aft., reported to Assembly*)

Second Reading — 3629-30 (*Dec. 1, 2020 morn., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 3740 (*Dec. 2, 2020 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 3740-41 (*Dec. 2, 2020 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force December 9, 2020; SA 2020 c42 ]

**Bill Pr2 — The United Church of Canada Amendment Act, 2021 (Phillips)**

First Reading — 4416-17 (*Apr. 12, 2021 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*)









## Table of Contents

Prayers .....	4795
Members' Statements	
Premier's Leadership .....	4795
Rural Health Care .....	4795
R-star Oil and Gas Site Reclamation Incentive .....	4795
Environmental and Land-use Policies .....	4796
Industrial Heartland and Petrochemicals Industry .....	4796
Child Care .....	4796
COVID-19 Related Border Closures .....	4797
COVID-19 Related Restrictions and Deaths .....	4797
Truth .....	4797
Oral Question Period	
COVID-19 Response .....	4797
Coal Development Policies .....	4798
AgriStability Program .....	4798
COVID-19 Outbreak Reviews and Liability .....	4799
COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout and Paid Leave for Employees .....	4799
Energy Company Liabilities .....	4800
Support for Youth Transitioning out of Care .....	4800
Affordable Housing in Lesser Slave Lake .....	4801
COVID-19 Related Public Health Order Enforcement .....	4801
COVID-19 Vaccine Availability in Racialized Communities .....	4802
Federal Carbon Tax .....	4803
Affordable Housing Funding .....	4803
Kindergarten to Grade 6 Draft Curriculum .....	4804
Financial Literacy Education Grant Program .....	4804
Stollery Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit .....	4805
Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees .....	4805
Introduction of Bills	
Bill 70 COVID-19 Related Measures Act .....	4806
Tabling Returns and Reports .....	4806
Royal Assent .....	4807
Orders of the Day .....	4808
Government Motions	
Morning Sittings .....	4808
Government Bills and Orders	
Second Reading	
Bill 68 Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 .....	4808
Bill 65 Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 .....	4809

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