Legislative Assembly of Alberta
The 30th Legislature
Second Session
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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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Deol, Jasvir, Edmonton-Meadows (NDP)
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Dempster, Tracey, Edmonton-Centre (NDP)
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Doolittle, Loz, Edmonton-South West (NDP)
Douglas, Jeff, Highwood (UC)
Duc, Jason, Edmonton-South (NDP)
Eggen, David, Edmonton-North West (NDP)
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Glasgo, Michaela L., Brooks-Medicine Hat (UC)
Glubish, Hon. Nate, Strathcona-Sherwood Park (UC)
Goehring, Nicole, Edmonton-Castle Downs (NDP)
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Gottfried, Richard, Calgary-Fish Creek (UC)
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Hanson, David B., Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul (UC)
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Lovely, Jacqueline, Camrose (UC)
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McIver, Hon. Ric, Calgary-Hays (UC), Deputy Government House Leader
Nally, Hon. Dale, Morinville-St. Albert (UC), Deputy Government House Leader
Neudorf, Nathan T., Lethbridge-East (UC)
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Nixon, Hon. Jason, Rimrock House-Sundre (UC), Government House Leader
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Pancholi, Rakhi, Edmonton-Whitemud (NDP)
Panda, Hon. Prasad, Calgary-Edgemont (UC)
Phillips, Shannon, Lethbridge-West (NDP)
Pon, Hon. Josephine, Calgary-Beddington (UC)
Rehn, Pat, Lesser Slave Lake (Ind)
Reid, Roger W., Livingstone-Macleod (UC)
Renaud, Marie F., St. Albert (NDP)
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Rowswell, Garth, Vermilion-Lloydminster-Wainwright (UC)
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Toor, Devinder, Calgary-Falconridge (UC)
Turton, Searle, Spruce Grove-Stony Plain (UC)
van Diemen, Glenn, Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock (UC)
Walker, Jordan, Sherwood Park (UC)
Williams, Dan D.A., Peace River (UC)
Wilson, Hon. Rick D., Maskwacis-Central Alberta (UC)
Yao, Tany, Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo (UC)
Yaseen, Muhammad, Calgary-North (UC)

Party standings:
United Conservative: 60
New Democrat: 24
Independent: 3

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<td>Jason Kenney</td>
<td>Premier, President of Executive Council, Minister of Intergovernmental Relations</td>
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<td>Leela Aheer</td>
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<td>Jason Copping</td>
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<td>Devin Dreeshen</td>
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<td>Tyler Shandro</td>
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<td>Travis Toews</td>
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<td>Rick Wilson</td>
<td>Minister of Indigenous Relations</td>
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<td>Laila Goodridge</td>
<td>Parliamentary Secretary Responsible for Alberta’s Francophonie</td>
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<td>Martin Long</td>
<td>Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business and Tourism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muhammad Yaseen</td>
<td>Parliamentary Secretary of Immigration</td>
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Singh
Turton
Yaseen
Legislative Assembly of Alberta

1:30 p.m. Thursday, June 10, 2021

[The Speaker in the chair]

The Speaker: 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: Hon. members, please be seated.

Introduction of Guests

The Speaker: Hon. members, we have a number of guests joining us today. First and foremost, we have the mother of the hon. Member for Calgary-Peigan, Ms Josie Fir. We also have in the Speaker’s gallery Samantha Peck; in the members’ gallery, I believe, a guest of the hon. Member for Central Peace-Notley, Samantha Steinke; and perhaps most importantly we have the Speaker’s mom, my mom, Ms Mary Cooper. Please rise and receive the warm welcome of the Assembly.

Members’ Statements

Executive Council

Member Irwin: Albertans got a good look at the decision-makers of their government last week, and they got a good look at who their Premier really is, a far cry from the everyday Albertan image he tried to convey, sleeves rolled up in his blue pickup truck. Instead, Albertans saw him and three of his liquor cabinet buddies sipping whisky and multiple bottles of wine, surrounded by white linen but not a thought or care about the rules they insist others follow.

So who is the liquor cabinet? It seems only appropriate to me that we take the time to meet this cast of characters. First, we have the Premier, who thought that this critical government meeting could only be improved with the addition of a forty of Jameson, the Premier who lectures Albertans about the importance of following the rules only to watch his MLAs and staff travel abroad, throw a boozy patio party with no distancing, and who knows what else.

Then there is the Health minister, who on a Thursday yells in this Chamber about how there were no rules broken only to feign an apology on a Monday, the Health minister who fought doctors during a pandemic, who thinks that our health system has 11,000 too many heroes working in it, all of whom he plans to fire when the pandemic is over, by the way.

Next the environment minister, who shuts down this House to let the Premier escape his caucus troubles, the environment minister who thinks we’ve got a couple too many gorgeous mountains in the eastern slopes and not nearly enough coal mines, the environment minister who tried to sell off our parks without asking us. Now to make up for his mistake, he’s adding on fees just to make parks less accessible for us all.

Last but not least, the Finance minister. Currently on a sixth credit downgrade he lost billions on a failed pipeline, couldn’t find billions in his last Auditor General report, and continues to side with profitable insurance companies over the people he’s supposed to serve.

This, my friends, is the heart and soul of this government, the dream team of this Premier, the best the UCP has to offer. While this team of patio-partying politicians is the best the UCP can do, I know that Alberta deserves better, and come the next election, Alberta will have better.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Calgary-Peigan.

Provincial Reopening Plan Stage 2

Ms Fir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today Alberta has moved to stage 2 of the three-stage open for summer plan. Alberta is taking a significant step towards safely returning to normal as fitness centres, libraries, and movie theatres reopen, large outdoor gatherings resume, all with public health restrictions in place. In addition, outdoor social gatherings, weddings, and funeral services can now increase to 20 people. Retail services and places of worship are permitted to have one-third of fire code occupancy.

We’ve said that vaccines are our ticket out of this pandemic. Albertans have embraced the vaccine, and the evidence clearly shows they work and are safe. Today 67.2 per cent of all Albertans over the age of 12 have had their first dose. I encourage Albertans who have yet to get their first dose to consider it as it will bring Alberta to stage 3 of our open for summer plan. Today we are one step further to returning to normal. Stage 3 is expected to begin in late June or early July. Requirements for stage 3 are two weeks after 70 per cent of Albertans aged 12 years or older, born in 2009 or earlier, have received at least one dose. This entirely depends on all Albertans continuing to get vaccinated and following the public health measures in place.

The province’s dedicated residents have stepped up, following public health measures and getting vaccinated in record numbers. Let’s continue this path to ensure that the worst is definitely behind us, and we can have one of the best and the most anticipated Alberta summers. Brighter days are truly ahead.

Thank you.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Calgary-Falconstonridge.

Stoney Trail Flyovers in Calgary

Mr. Toor: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recently the city of Calgary released their stakeholder report on flyovers at 64th Avenue NE and 80th Avenue NE. After reading the report, I am deeply concerned. First off, the first page indicates that the 64th Avenue NE flyover was not even considered in the original area structure plan, yet through the lobbying efforts of special interests, council decided that traffic could not be accommodated sufficiently by one flyover at 80th Avenue NE.

Why would council push for such a short-sighted project that would have numerous ramifications for surrounding communities in northeast Calgary? That is a question I continue to ask myself as I read the report because it shows gross indifference to the residents and a lack of common sense. Does council not realize that communities already have access to Stoney Trail at 96th Avenue and McKnight Boulevard NE, both of which are within less than a couple kilometers from each other and already offer access to Stoney Trail within minutes of leaving their communities?

But this is not the only concern I have. The city conducted a survey to receive feedback from those who are concerned. If you look at the survey results, the question was skewed. In question 3 the survey asks: what are the benefits you see from this future connection? This is clearly a biased question as it assumes the
benefits are undisputed. Despite that bias, however, the overwhelming response was that the 64th Avenue NE flyover is a waste of taxpayer money as two flyovers already exist at 96th and McKnight Boulevard NE.

Mr. Speaker, the residents of northeast Calgary do not want a 64th Avenue NE flyover. They want to keep the integrity of Manmeet Bhullar park, and I will continue to fight for my constituents. They desire to enjoy their communities peacefully.

Thank you.

Rural Sustainability

Mr. Bilous: Yesterday through albertasfuture.ca we held a consultation on sustainability and the economic future of rural Alberta. We had participants from all across the province identifying multiple issues facing rural Albertans and sharing their ideas on how we can help rural communities become more sustainable for generations to come.

One example is Cathy, who shared her struggle with reliable transportation. She needs to travel long distances for treatment and to access other essential services. With the cuts to rural transportation it takes her a full day to travel to and from her treatment. Cathy is considering moving out of her hometown to live somewhere closer to the services she needs, and she is not alone. Many Albertans have made the tough decision to move. It’s heartbreaking that Albertans are forced out of their homes and the communities they grew up in just because they don’t have safe and reliable transportation to the services they need.

Another participant, Jake, highlighted how investing in diversification projects will benefit rural communities. He shared his ideas on how rural Alberta can benefit from geothermal and lithium development and how those projects will bring great-paying, long-lasting jobs to his community.

Brad pointed out that main streets across Alberta are under threat of losing numerous small businesses within the next five to 10 years. Currently the majority of small businesses in rural Alberta are owned by boomers who are soon to retire. With decreasing revenues not enough Albertans are willing to take the risk to buy the businesses. We will be seeing more shops closing for good, and when these businesses close, these jobs are gone as well.

It’s clear that rural Albertans not only know the issues they are facing but also the solutions that’ll help us all get through this economic recession.

Please visit albertasfuture.ca to let us know what you think about rural Alberta. I can promise you that should we form government in 2023 or sooner, we’ll continue to work with rural Albertans to build a better path forward for our province to build a future where we can all benefit.

Thank you.

1:40

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Calgary-North.

Provincial Reopening Plan and Economic Recovery

Mr. Yaseen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to thank Albertans for doing their part in bending the curve and slowing the spread of COVID-19. Doctors, nurses, clinical staff, police, firefighters, teachers, grocery and retail workers, skilled trades workers and professionals, restaurant owners, wellness service workers, and, of course, entrepreneurs have felt the impact of the public health orders but have persevered. Their hard work and commitment has helped us carry through these past 15 months, and I could not be more grateful.

Small businesses are the heart of our communities, and supporting them by shopping local is so important. This summer I encourage all of you to visit your local farmers’ market, food trucks, and local artisans. Our government recognizes the importance of supporting Alberta businesses and every working Albertan. That’s why we have created the jobs now program, which will invest up to $370 million to encourage employers to hire and train new employees.

It has become clear that vaccinations are our key to getting back to normal. I myself received the jab in May. I’m eagerly looking forward to my second dose.

Today we move into step 2 of our open for business plan, and we see things like outdoor gathering limits increasing, restaurants open for six people per table, indoor recreations open, and youth activities take place. I am proud of and humbled by the efforts made by neighbours, friends, and colleagues. Thanks to your sacrifice, we will enjoy a truly great summer. I feel lucky to be a member of this Legislature and a representative of such selfless and tenacious people who truly represent the can-do Alberta spirit.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Brain Injury

Ms Renaud: He was a newlywed. He’d been a professional boxer, but a blow to the head changed his life. She was a new university graduate, a lover of nature, and a much-loved daughter. When her vehicle was struck from behind, her life changed immediately. He’d had a difficult life battling substance abuse and a lifetime of pain. He tried to end that with a gunshot to his head, and he survived.

She’d been happily married for years, and together she and her husband operated a successful plumbing company, but a stroke changed that.

These Albertans have one thing in common: they are survivors of traumatic brain injury. In Canada one person sustains a traumatic brain injury every three minutes. According to available statistics traumatic brain injuries are now the leading cause of disability world-wide. Brain injuries are acquired after falls, blows, motor vehicle accidents, assaults, sports injuries, tumors, strokes, and firearms.

It’s estimated that 50 per cent of Canadians who are houseless or in unstable housing have a brain injury. Ninety-two per cent of intimate-partner violence incidents include blows to the head, face, and strangulation, causes of traumatic brain injury. Brain injury survivors describe themselves as having invisible disabilities. It’s almost impossible to understand the extent of relearning and rehabilitation that must happen for survivors to be able to recover even the most basic motor skills. Memory, cognition, and the regulation of emotions are lifelong challenges coupled with new realities like depression, chronic pain, confusion, and fatigue, not to mention unemployment, loss of relationships, and poverty.

This UCP government has continued to systematically reduce supports for survivors who rely on income support, homeless supports, and rehab. Programs all over Alberta that support survivors are unable to meet the demand due to insufficient funding.

June is Brain Injury Awareness Month. Awareness is important. Appropriate supports are vital. Lives depend on it.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Calgary-Klein.

Science Fairs

Mr. Jeremy Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For 60 years spring meant that gymnasiums would be buzzing with science fair activity. The pandemic cancelled most of the fairs in 2020, but this year
science fairs in Alberta were prepared, and they moved online. It was a challenge for these volunteer-run events to adapt to online platforms, to accept registrations, conduct judging, recognize the winners, but Alberta ingenuity ruled. Alberta’s regional science fairs have wrapped up, and I would like to congratulate the students and organizers for making these virtual events possible. In Calgary there are normally a thousand students from grades 5 through 12 from hundreds of different schools participating on 700 projects. This year there were 363 projects, and they were available online for you to view.

The not-for-profit research organization Genome Alberta has been a sponsor of the fairs for 15 years and maintained financial support throughout the pandemic. They extended support to the fairs that had to be cancelled last year to ensure that they had the funds to be able to move online this year.

Developing a science fair project makes young people producers of knowledge. Students who take on a science fair project are in charge of their own learning and research, real-world problems such as what impact climate change will have on the lentil production, which was an award winner at the Lethbridge Regional Science Fair, or Gene Editing: Is it the Future? which earned the Genome Alberta Intermediate award for Mohith Krishna Shekar from Fairview school. We should mention the creatively titled Why Do We Hic-hic-hiccup? which won a best life sciences award for twin sisters Myelle and Reese Gallant, who attend Ridgeview Central school in La Crête.

Forty-two projects went on to the Canada-Wide Science Fair, which ran online from May 17 to the 21st. One project from Calgary and one from Edmonton won gold at the national event, and 17 received silver and bronze medals. I would like to offer my thanks to all the students, parents, teachers, and volunteers who make science fairs possible.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Drayton Valley-Devon has a statement.

Oil and Gas Well Site Reclamation

Mr. Smith: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of the things that comes with being a province abundant in energy, particularly oil, is the need to make sure that the environment is protected. This is necessary not only during the extraction process, but we must also ensure that the land is rehabilitated when we are finished.

As a province we’ve relied on companies that have done the extracting to fulfill this obligation, especially when it comes to cleaning up afterwards. This has been done effectively much of the time, and we’ve been rewarded with some of the best land reclamation innovation in the world. However, some bad actors have left a need for us to modify the programs in place that govern reclamation.

Just recently the Alberta Energy Regulator spent several months drafting a new liability management framework and have now placed it on their website. They are now inviting stakeholders to provide feedback over the coming month. Under this framework industry is required to spend a certain amount every year on reclamation efforts, with specific lists of what is and is not eligible towards the spending targets. This amount will increase proportionately every year.

What is proposed is mandatory closure payment regimes that will ensure companies allocate money towards well closures. Next year, in 2022, industry will be required to spend $422 million on efforts that include remediation work on inactive sites, reclamation site work, equipment removal on inactive sites, facility abandonment work, and more. Targets for the coming year will be available by July 31 of every year, and individual licensees are encouraged to spend more on reclamation if they are able to.

Final details will be released this fall, once industry feedback has been received and the draft is finalized. I’m proud that the Minister of Energy is working to revise the regulations that govern well reclamation here in Alberta.

Members of the Legislative Assembly’s Role

Mr. Barnes: I rise to ask a simple favour of my friends and colleagues assembled today. Please join me in taking a quick look around us: the Mace, the stained glass, the columns, even the galleries. This is a special place, Mr. Speaker. This is the beating heart of our living democracy. The voice of history echoes in these halls, yet in the name of desperate politics we have too often taken this place for granted. Increasingly, this Chamber has been transformed into a stage, with actors repeating their lines to appease a director barking orders in the background.

This is my first member’s statement as an independent MLA, and I wanted to take this opportunity to speak about why we are here. We are here to represent the interests of the families and communities in our constituencies. We are also here to pursue their vision for our province. When we stray too far from either of these priorities, I believe we are negligent in our duties.

Here’s a vision I think most of us can get behind: an Alberta strong and free, where hard work and dedication bring new hope and new opportunity. Let us work to make our province the most prosperous and free jurisdiction in North America, strengthened by free choice and competition, where government trusts you to make the right choices for yourself, your family, and your community. Let us build a province that puts Albertans first. Let us work towards lessening the tax and regulatory burden on all members of this great province. Let us renew our sense of purpose so that we can craft a future of our own making.

Folks, two years ago Albertans thought they elected a government dedicated to such ideals. That was before the scandals, before the arrogance. That was before the entitlement. We have a duty to those who elected us to give them the government they voted for, to pursue freedom, equity, and opportunity for all Albertans.

Oral Question Period

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora has the call.

UCP Members’ Compliance with COVID-19 Restrictions

Ms Hoffman: “Albertans have every right to expect that people in positions of public trust be held to a higher standard of conduct during COVID-19.” Those were the Premier’s words. During this pandemic it is essential that leaders follow the rules. Sadly, the Premier and his liquor cabinet dined illegally on the patio of the sky palace. That was one time that the Premier was caught breaking the rules, during COVID-19.” Those were the Premier’s words. During this pandemic it is essential that leaders follow the rules. Sadly, the Premier and his liquor cabinet dined illegally on the patio of the sky palace. That was one time that the Premier was caught breaking the rules, and Albertans were rightfully outraged. Can the Premier stand and state categorically that no one from his staff, cabinet, caucus, not his House leader ate indoors at a restaurant when it was illegal to do so during the pandemic?

Mr. Jason Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I can certainly be clear that I have not eaten in a restaurant when it was illegal to do so during the pandemic, and the Premier has addressed unfortunate recent untrue rumours that have been spread about him just recently. I’ll let those comments stand.
But what you’re seeing: the opening question in question period today from the Official Opposition about that just proves the point. Nothing to do with government business. Why is that? They want to avoid the fact that today is a great day in Alberta as we move to phase 2 to get our province open. Instead, what I’d rather say through you to Albertans: thank you for getting us here; let’s get going.

**Ms Hoffman:** Entitlement and integrity are absolutely what the government should be known for, not breaking the rules. We don’t know what happened, but we do know that Albertans don’t trust this Premier. When asked about breaking the public health measures by having multiple people from multiple households drinking litres of wine and a forty of Jameson on the sky palace patio, the Premier tried to brush it off. He said: “We had a meeting planned for government planning purposes. I decided to do it more safely outdoors.” He later admitted that he broke the rules when he faced major backlash from Albertans and his own caucus. Will the Premier now tell this House how many illegal dinners he’s had in the sky palace or anywhere else?

**Mr. Shandro:** Mr. Speaker, this is the NDP trying to – they’ve obviously been spending too much of their time and their resources and their attention reading alt-right blogs rather than spending time on Albertans and focusing on lives and livelihoods, as we are. Now, we have answered the question. There was an outdoor social gathering, and unfortunately not at all times during that time did we keep two metres apart, something that we have apologized for, that we continue to apologize for, and we will continue to hold ourselves to a higher account in trying to show a better example to Albertans.

**Ms Hoffman:** The Premier told Albertans not to believe the photos that they saw of his liquor cabinet meeting and mocked those upset by his inner circle breaking the rules. Now Albertans are tired of this Premier gaslighting and his insincere apologies. Will the Premier commit that if anyone in his cabinet, caucus, or staff is caught violating the rules – for example, dining at a restaurant while restaurants are closed – he will not hesitate, that he will fire them immediately?

**Mr. Shandro:** Mr. Speaker, that hasn’t happened. This is, again, the NDP spending their attention, spending their time on alt-right blogs and lies that have been told about the Premier, that he’s already responded to, and, by the way, blogs that have also inspired and encouraged attacks on our public health inspectors that have tried to protect Albertans throughout the pandemic. The NDP are giving more attention to websites like that, more attention to the people who would attack the people that we should be congratulating and thanking instead.

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

**Keystone XL Pipeline Provincial Equity**

**Member Ceci:** In the last election this government made big promises of jobs, economy, and pipelines. It was splashed across every podium the Premier stood behind for a year, but to date they have not delivered on a single promise. Just yesterday TC Energy announced that they were formally cancelling the Keystone XL project. Despite the Premier’s promise that Albertans’ money was safe, that clearly isn’t true. Albertans are now on the hook for $1.3 billion. Why did the Premier tell Albertans that they wouldn’t be on the hook for any money when they are now stuck with a $1.3 billion bill and nothing to show for it?

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

**Mr. Toews:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. We did commit to delivering on pipelines, and we made a calculated decision around investing in the KXL pipeline, a pipeline that would have provided $30 billion of wealth creation for Albertans over the next 20 years. We’ve been transparent with the process since the President cancelled the permit. We’ve stated that our exposure was not materially more than $1.3 billion. That remains so today.

**Member Ceci:** The UCP gambled wrong. TMX is going through, Mr. Speaker; KXL is cancelled. Yesterday’s loss is another example of how this Premier has failed our energy sector. From their embarrassing war room to their overdue and overbudget inquiry and their massive failure to create jobs, now this mismanagement with the KXL file has cost the people of Alberta $1.3 billion. The Premier promised new pipelines. That hasn’t happened. The Premier promised no money was at risk. That’s not true. The Premier promised jobs from his failed energy strategy. That’s definitely not true. Does the Premier understand that given all those failures, well, Albertans no longer trust him and no longer trust his government’s . . .

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

**Mrs. Savage:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish – I really wish – that the NDP would spend as much time defending the energy sector and the men and women who work in it as they spend attacking everyone, anyone, and anything that stands up for the energy sector. On this side of the House our entire caucus every day – every day – supports the energy sector, and we’re proud of it. We’re seeing progress on pipelines from TMX. We saw Pembina Pipeline announce yesterday that they want to work with the Western Indigenous Pipeline Group to purchase that pipeline.

**Mr. Ceci:** We committed to 50,000 barrels a day on KXL, Mr. Speaker. After the Premier announced he had committed billions of dollars of Albertans’ money, we asked for the details of the KXL deal to be released. Unfortunately, he refused to shed any light on that deal. For months he hid behind confidentiality. He said that the deal was in place, but the details couldn’t be released due to commercial sensitivity. But now the deal is over, and the government has reached an exit strategy. Will the Premier release all of the documents related to the deal? If he really stands behind this deal, he should have nothing to hide. Release the documents today, Premier. What are you hiding?

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

**Mrs. Savage:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is full transparency. We’ve said right from the very beginning that there is full transparency on this deal. In this province we produce about 1.3 billion barrels a day of oil from the oil sands alone. If prices go down because we don’t have enough pipeline capacity, we can lose hundreds of millions of dollars in provincial revenue and hundreds of thousands of jobs across the country. The reality is that we supported this pipeline because we believed it would have brought higher prices for Alberta oil, increased oil sands production, and brought us $30 billion a year in royalties.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview.
Bitumen Upgrading

Mr. Bilous: Today in Calgary our leader presented ideas to advance opportunities in bitumen beyond combustion. These ideas will create more value-added products without downstream emissions. Our government put Alberta on a good path by starting a program at Alberta Innovates and setting up the partial upgrading program. We know that setting up our industry for success could help make Alberta a leader in several multibillion-dollar markets. Unfortunately, this is not even mentioned in the government’s so-called recovery plan, and the government is doing nothing on this file. Why is the government ignoring this big opportunity for our energy industry?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Energy has risen.

Mrs. Savage: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can say very confidently that we have confidence, and we’re very optimistic about the future of the oil sands. That’s because the fundamentals are solid. There are markets for it. The oil sands have committed to becoming net zero. That means they’re going to be low carbon as well as low cost and low risk. In addition, we know that there are many uses for heavy oil, including solidified bitumen, things like BitCrude. We know that bitumen beyond combustion gives a use for the product. I’m very optimistic about the future of the oil sands.

Mr. Bilous: Then why isn’t it mentioned in your plan?

We’ve heard from several experts that partial upgrading is key to enabling these new products. When coming to office, the government cancelled the program, saying that it was too risky. “Too risky” from this government? Didn’t they just cost Albertans $1.3 billion on a bet that Donald Trump would win the White House? Partial upgrading is critical to our future. Failed bids on pipelines to nowhere is not. Will anyone on the other side do the right thing, stand up, apologize to Albertans for wasting their money, and then reinstate a partial upgrading program that will actually create jobs?

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Energy.

Mrs. Savage: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. We’re very proud of the work and the expansions, the growth in our oil and gas sector. Since the pandemic hit last year, with a price collapse in the midst of the largest pandemic, we understand that production has fully recovered. Price is sitting a $70 a barrel. The fundamentals are very strong. Of course we support upgrading in Alberta, market-based upgrading, but there’s got to be a competitive reason for it. We need to see the private sector move forward. We’re very optimistic about the oil and gas sector.

Mr. Bilous: Warren Chung, president of Well Resources, joined us today to push for more government support in partial upgrading and noncombustion bitumen production. Warren said, “Albertans have the knowledge, the willpower, and, given the right legislative framework, there will be tremendous incentive to meet our climate action targets.” The evidence is clear that we can support areas like this to draw billions in investment and create tens of thousands of jobs. Can the Premier commit today to closing his bogus war room, ending his embarrassing inquiry, and developing a real strategy for energy to transform Alberta? Premier, your once-touted fight-back strategy is an absolute joke, and Albertans . . .

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Energy.

Mrs. Savage: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, as I said in a previous comment, I wish the NDP would spend as much time supporting our energy sector as they do attacking those who are standing up for it. Let me talk about the history of pipelines, where we’re in a situation where for five years, starting in 2015 to about 2019, every single pipeline project that was proceeding either got vetoed or got cancelled by the project proponent for lack of government support, including lack of government support from the NDP government. It was a total, catastrophic failure in supporting pipelines from that government.

Drug Overdose Prevention

Ms Sigurdson: The illegal drugs circulating in Alberta right now are incredibly toxic, and they are killing more than four Albertans every single day. The province has reported the deadliest January, the deadliest February, and the deadliest March on record. We know things are only getting worse. This government’s response has been utterly inadequate. Yesterday they announced two small expansions to existing programs that only operate in Edmonton. To the Premier: why are you doing so little when this crisis is killing so many Albertans?

Mr. Shandro: Well, nothing could be further from the truth, Mr. Speaker. In fact, while we continue to provide harm reduction services like supervised consumption sites in both Edmonton and Calgary as well as throughout the province, what we’re doing is also adding a focused recovery and integrating consumption service sites with the health system so that those who are in need of help, those who are suffering from addiction can get tied in to the opportunities for recovery, tied in to other opportunities in the health care system that they need and that they deserve.

Ms Sigurdson: The Premier’s response will be judged by lives lost, not by dollars spent. He is failing Albertans. There are proven methods that have saved lives in Alberta, across Canada, and around the world, which the Premier opposes, and the government’s own advisers are telling the minister that supervised consumption services save lives. Will the Premier put his prejudice aside and immediately, urgently expand access to supervised consumption in communities across Alberta?

Mr. Shandro: That’s why, Mr. Speaker, we expanded services in Calgary. Not only that; we’re also having and passing quality standards so that we can have quality standards – and it’s really weird, quite frankly, to hear the NDP opposing quality standards for consumption services, that they would oppose the opportunities that we could have to integrate consumption services and have the quality standards but also to integrate them with the health care system to make sure that not only do we have consumption services in places throughout the province but also integrate it with the health care system to make sure that people suffering from addiction get the care that they need.

Ms Sigurdson: Other Canadian provinces have saved lives by replacing illegal and toxic street drugs with legal and regulated pharmaceutical medication. Like most jurisdictions, Alberta has been doing some of this for many years by offering methadone through the opioid dependency program. Since the Premier and his liquor cabinet have access to a safe and legal supply of the drug of their choice, will the Premier commit to a safe supply program to save Albertans’ lives from the toxic illegal drug supply?

Mr. Shandro: Well, Mr. Speaker, while I have an opportunity, I’d also like to point out that while throughout the world during COVID – it unfortunately did make the opioid crisis more difficult for every jurisdiction to deal with, but we have seen the benefits of our
approach to not just having harm reduction services, but also adding a focus to recovery and the opportunities for recovery has helped us, even more than other provinces have, bring down the severe outcomes that are related to the opioid crisis. It’s showing in the numbers that this added focused recovery is working here in Alberta. [interjections]

The Speaker: Order.
The hon. Member for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville has the call.

Hydrogen Industry Development

Ms Armstrong-Homeniuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday the Premier was part of an announcement with one of the largest hydrogen producers in the world. This project is in the Industrial Heartland and will be of benefit to my constituents of Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville. Air Products is building a new hydrogen facility, and it will produce 30 tonnes per day of liquid hydrogen in a 1.2-million-tonne per year carbon capture facility. What can the Minister of Finance tell us about this project, and how many jobs will the facility create?

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. The Air Products announcement is very exciting for our province, representing $1.3 billion in investment. This project, which will be operational in 2024, will use Alberta natural gas, support our upstream energy industry, further strengthen our ESG narrative, and create 2,500 jobs.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville.

Ms Armstrong-Homeniuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Minister. Hydrogen has an exciting future in my riding and in this province. Alberta’s Industrial Heartland is a true economic engine for Alberta and Canada, representing thousands of jobs. Projects like Air Products are cutting-edge global energy facilities that are leading the way to new technologies and emissions reduction. Can the Minister of Finance tell the House what new technologies are involved in this project?

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

Mr. Toews: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. The 30-tonne-per-day hydrogen liquefaction facility is the first of such liquid hydrogen operations around the world and a power generation facility fuelled one hundred per cent by hydrogen. The Air Products facility will be a net zero complex that will utilize carbon capture operations capable of achieving 95 per cent removal of CO2 from the complex. The CO2 will be permanently sequestered by leveraging the Wolf Carbon Solutions Alberta carbon trunk line.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville.

Ms Armstrong-Homeniuk: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Minister. This is one of many new investments in the province that was assisted by Invest Alberta Corporation, a new Crown agency that our government established to attract high-value investment in Alberta. We’ve seen investments in technology, artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and now hydrogen. Can the Minister of Finance tell the House what the total job impact of investments was from Invest Alberta?

The Speaker: The minister.

Mr. Toews: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and again thank you to the member for the question. Invest Alberta has been instrumental in attracting a number of high-value investments since they were created last summer. We’ve seen mCloud, which will create 200 jobs; Infosys, which will create 500 jobs and potentially as many as 2,500; Mphasis, which will create up to 1,000 jobs, and now Air Products, which will create 2,500 jobs. I also want to note that the president of Air Products stated that the project came to the region and province due to the relentless advocacy of the Premier of this province. I’d like to thank the Premier for his relentless advocacy.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-North West.

Campus Saint-Jean Funding

Mr. Eggen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The federal government announced $121 million for postsecondary francophone institutions in a minority setting. This money would go a long way to help Alberta’s Campus Saint-Jean, which cut nearly a quarter of its courses last year because of consistent underfunding from this UCP government. The future of Campus Saint-Jean is in question as a result. In order to access this federal money, the provincial government must match the investment from the federal government. I would ask the minister to explain to Alberta’s francophone community here and now whether he will match the federal funding.

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Advanced Education.

Mr. Nicolaides: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Happy to provide some explanation, I’m sure. As the member opposite knows, the government of Alberta does not provide funding directly to the campus. The government of Alberta provides funding to the University of Alberta. We respect board autonomy and independence in decision-making, and we entrust the leadership at the University of Alberta to make appropriate decisions with their resources and will continue to allow them to do that. I know the members opposite preferred to meddle and micromanage in the affairs of our postsecondary institutions, but we believe that their autonomy and independence . . .

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-North West.

Mr. Eggen: Well, Mr. Speaker, given that we’ve learned that the dollars that Campus Saint-Jean could receive from the federal investment would be about $4 million, which would help to cover their operational costs for quite a long time, and given that this UCP government has a very bad habit of leaving federal money on the table for reasons that they can only explain themselves, I suppose, I think that we need this minister now to explain why he continues to ruin postsecondary schools, including Campus Saint-Jean, at the time that we need them the most.

The Speaker: 2:10

Mr. Nicolaides: Well, naturally, I agree with probably 99.9 per cent of everything that was just said, Mr. Speaker. Just to point out and provide some additional information for members, according to figures from 2017-18 from Stats Canada the University of Alberta received $18,000 per student in operating funding. The national average for the U15 is $11,700. Furthermore, we have just finalized Alberta 2030, which, for the first time in 15 years, is a strategic plan to strengthen and grow our postsecondaries.
Mr. Eggen: Well, Mr. Speaker, given that Alberta’s French-speaking population is growing—we have more than 6,500 students directly in French education—and given that rather than investing in the students and their future, this UCP government decided to blow $1.3 billion on a failed bet on Donald Trump, will the minister explain why his government is so bad at making investment decisions? He sits on a cabinet that continues to double down on the Premier’s failed economic strategy. It’s not working. Put the money forward. We need it for francophone education.

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

Mr. Nicolaides: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. We’re making very strategic investments in areas to maximize return. We’ve provided $6 million in funding to Careers: the Next Generation to quadruple the number of high school students that are involved in apprenticeship programming. We’ve provided $10 million over four years to Women Building Futures to help more women pursue successful careers in the trades. We’ve created new scholarships to help women enter STEM-related fields as well as to encourage more individuals to pursue careers in trades and apprenticeship education, and there’s more to say. As I mentioned, we just unveiled a 10-year strategy that will guide our efforts in the future.

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

Calgary Storm Damage Recovery Funding

Mr. Sabir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Next week marks the one-year anniversary of the hailstorm that hit northeast Calgary. It was one of the costliest natural disasters in Canadian history, but a year later many residents in northeast Calgary still don’t have their homes repaired. They went through an entire winter with boarded-up windows, holes in their siding and roofs while also struggling through the COVID-19 pandemic. Simple question: when will this government finally act to help these residents?

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

Mr. Toews: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. In this province we get bad hailstorms, and that was a particularly tough hailstorm last year in northeast Calgary. I’ve reached out to the insurance industry, to insurance companies, to ensure that they’re adjudicating claims on a timely basis and in the most appropriate way possible. We’ve had Calgary MLAs work with their constituents working through claims. I can say that the vast, vast majority of those claims have been settled. We know there are a few outstanding. We’ll continue to advocate.

Mr. Sabir: Given that a year has gone by without any help from this UCP government despite the Premier saying that he would make some calls and apply some pressure on the insurance companies and given that he also said, and I quote, that we will read the riot act to those companies, end quote, did the Premier call those companies? If so, why didn’t they listen and move faster? I heard the Premier had friends in the insurance industry. He sure does them a lot of favours.

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Toews: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, the hailstorm in northeast Calgary was a very, very significant storm. There was material loss experienced by many residents. That’s why we’ve been reaching out to the insurance industry, again, to ensure that they’re adjudicating claims expeditiously and fairly. Again, Calgary MLAs, I expect, on both sides of the House are continuing to work with their constituents, ensuring that they can get through the claims process. We hope we’re going to get there very soon.

Mr. Sabir: Given that the UCP government gave $147 million from the disaster recovery program to Fort McMurray for May 2020 flood damages, an insurable event covered by 13 insurers in Alberta, which was the right thing to do, and given that the UCP gave zero dollars to northeast Calgary for the June 13 hailstorm damages, insisting that the disaster recovery program is not for insurable events, will the Premier apologize for ignoring northeast Calgary and for this differential treatment of northeast Calgary and do something to support them and protect them from the next hailstorm?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Mr. Toews: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, in the province of Alberta we have very damaging hailstorms every year, and Albertans typically take insurance to protect from losses of those hailstorms. On insurable losses, property owners need to go to their insurance agents. That’s why we’ve reached out to insurance companies to press them to ensure that they’re adjudicating claims expeditiously, appropriately. We’ll continue to do that.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Central Peace-Notley.

UCP Members’ Compliance with COVID-19 Restrictions

Rural Physician Recruitment and Retention

Mr. Loewen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Premier, it’s been a difficult time for Albertans. After the patio gathering at the Federal Building Albertans’ trust in this government is at an all-time low. That makes yesterday’s story detailing the Premier as well as several key ministers and inner-circle advisers allegedly having repeatedly taken part in secret dinners during lockdown easier to believe. Albertans are concerned, and their concerns need to be addressed. To the Premier. I urge you to rise and set the record straight here and now. Have you broken the government COVID-19 lockdown policies by gathering at restaurants or bars during any periods of time in which your government put a ban on dine-in service?

Mr. Shandro: Mr. Speaker, I think I made it clear earlier this afternoon that that rumour is a complete lie, and the Premier has made it clear publicly that he will be taking legal action against the alt-right blog that has published that incorrect information, that false information. Look, we’re going to continue to make sure that we hold ourselves to a higher account, that we show a good example to Albertans as we have a few weeks remaining in these measures before we get to stage 3 of the open for summer plan.

Mr. Loewen: Given that in the past you’ve denied violating any pandemic restrictions despite clear photographic evidence of an incident occurring with your Health minister, Finance minister, minister of environment, and your chief of staff and given that this government has continued to justify pursuing legal action against Alberta restaurant owners for violating health restrictions and given that Albertans need reassurance that this government is being more forthright this time, to the Premier: how many times since December 8, 2020, have you taken part in private indoor gatherings and fundraising events that violate your government’s ban on indoor social gathering?
Mr. Shandro: Well, I haven’t, Mr. Speaker, and I think the Premier has made it very clear in his public comments yesterday that what was published yesterday in that alt-right blog is a lie. There’s nothing else to be said about this.

Mr. Loewen: Given this Premier’s election time promise of humble servant leadership and given that the Premier’s P Atkins denial, then apology, has become a distraction and a liability for government business and given that this is the second time in two weeks that I’m rising to make the government aware of the temporary emergency department closure at Fairview hospital due to physician vacancies as it has now happened again without a response from the minister, when will your government get back to the business of government business and provide my constituents with a timeline for when they can expect to be served by the appropriate number of health professionals?

Mr. Shandro: Well, as the member knows, Mr. Speaker, we have increased the amount that we spend on physician recruitment and retention to $90 million. We work with organizations like RPAP. We also work with the health advisory councils and many of the independent recruitment and retention committees throughout the province to be able to help make sure that physicians and other health professionals are recruited to our rural communities as well as working with many different organizations and the AMA in resource planning for us to be able to work together and build on momentum that we’ve had with the AMA recently to be able to build that momentum and resource planning to make sure that our rural communities are served.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-City Centre has risen.

COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout

Mr. Shepherd: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We all want to move as fast as possible to get Albertans protected with vaccinations and open the economy safely, and Alberta has the vaccines, willing health professionals, and partnering pharmacies to do it. But six months in the rollout has still largely relied on making Albertans go vaccine hunting, booking and cancelling multiple appointments or finding their way to big box clinics at inconvenient times. For Albertans in communities like Airdrie, High Prairie, or northeast Calgary this clearly isn’t working, so to the Minister of Health: with uptake slowing, when will we see a significant investment in pop-up clinics and other creative approaches that actually will we see real action to work with these health providers and use these temporary clinics and other creative approaches that actually get shots in the arms of all Albertans?

Mr. Shandro: We have, Mr. Speaker. We’ve worked with community groups that have reached out to us, proposed to us what we could do to have AHS work with them. In fact, the caucus opposite was actually very helpful. All of them signed a letter to me, and within 24 hours I had spoken to AHS about a group that they wanted us to be able to reach out to here in Edmonton. We were very happy. It was a great suggestion from those opposite, for us to be able to work with that organization to be able to set up a temporary clinic; a great example of how we in the Ministry of Health as well as in AHS have been able to work with community partners to provide those temporary clinics.

The Speaker: The hon. member.

Mr. Shepherd: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, given that one of the most effective ways for Albertans to be able to book vaccine appointments should be online and given that jurisdictions across Canada and around the globe are using creative integrated online platforms for vaccines and AHS has an IT budget over $20 million to do the same here and given that for months the minister attacked the federal government, saying that he was prepped and ready if only he had the vaccines to get them into Albertans’ arms, to the Minister of Health: why has your department now failed on your commitment to deliver an integrated digital vaccine portal this month, and how much money has been spent on a system that is not effective to date?

Mr. Shandro: Mr. Speaker, this is a gigantic shame. Our vaccine rollout in Alberta has been a leader nationally. If we look at the percentage of vaccines that have been deployed, we are around 95 per cent deployed, when other provinces are in the 80s. Everybody is working – our public health officials and our pharmacies, our physicians, our community groups have worked so hard to work together to have the greatest rollout of vaccines in the country. This should be lauded. It should not be defamed by the NDP.

Women’s Workforce Participation and Child Care

Member Irwin: The University of Calgary School of Public Policy has just released their findings on the impacts of COVID-19 on the labour market. As we know, early on in the pandemic women bore the brunt of those job losses. Well, the results of the study indicate that those losses have almost recovered. Pre-pandemic we know that women were already working fewer hours and being paid 40 per cent less than their male counterparts. This is a problem, and it needs to be addressed. To the minister for status of women: what steps are being taken right now to increase women’s participation in the economy? Please, we need you to be specific.

Mrs. Aheer: Thank you very much for the question. As you know, in Alberta per capita we have more entrepreneurial women here than we do anywhere in the country. In Canada for every 100 men we have 67 women in the entrepreneurial space. In Alberta it’s 81. So you can imagine that as we go forward – and the work that has
been done up until this point is supporting women in this sector, especially in small business. I know that small business is important to all of us, and I would like to thank everyone who has come together to make sure that those dollars are being put back into the sector for small business.

Member Irwin: Given that women are overrepresented in minimum wage jobs in Alberta despite having higher levels of education than men, it’s clear that economic security is a serious issue, yet this government’s website for women’s economic security hasn’t been updated for more than two years, and it has a list of initiatives from the former NDP government, to that same minister: she can’t take credit for a child care project that was cancelled by her government, she can’t take credit for anything that’s listed on her website, so what exactly is her government doing to improve economic security for women in Alberta?

Mrs. Aheer: Well, thank you so much for the question. I would like to start, first of all, with the STEM projects that have been coming out between the Ministry of Advanced Education and the ministry of status of women. This particular project is specifically directed at making sure that women, as they’re going into the workforce, especially young girls, are being attracted into really excellent-paying jobs. Also, you’ve heard that Mphasis is here. Canada is also very much promoting with young girls right now in the area of coding. Canada coding is coming into the schools. You’ve seen the amount of work that is happening in the tech industry right now in Alberta.

Member Irwin: Given that the same study finds that parents, both men and women, of young children who depend on a child care system that meets their needs are facing some of the largest job losses and given that under the UCP child care fees are increasing in the middle of a pandemic, exacerbating the problem as a lack of options is causing parents to leave the workforce and reduce their hours, let’s try the Minister of Children’s Services. Now that there’s proof that the lack of access to child care through the pandemic is impacting men, too, will she reach out to her liquor cabinet buddies and finally advocate for universal, affordable child care?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Children’s Services.

Ms Schulz: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. You know, what I want to clarify for the members opposite is that while we wound down the $25-a-day pilot, it was based on the feedback we got in that pilot that it left out thousands of hard-working Alberta families and left out thousands of child care operators right across the province. What we’re doing is directing supports to those most in need. Now families can access child care in the centre of their choice for as low as $13 a day, not $25. That’s $13. We will continue to make investments in this area because it’s important for Alberta’s economic recovery.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Calgary-Peigan.

Deerfoot Trail Capital Plan

Ms Fir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Deerfoot Trail is Alberta’s busiest road, where accidents and traffic jams are all too common. In addition to Deerfoot Trail being part of the daily commute for many of my constituents in Calgary-Peigan, it is also a major transportation line for essential goods and services. The update to Alberta’s public-private partnership, P3, model allows for greater flexibility in building infrastructure. To the minister: what kinds of improvements can we expect to see to reduce congestion on Deerfoot Trail?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Infrastructure has the call.

Mr. Panda: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our government understands that Deerfoot Trail is an essential artery to the city, which is becoming increasingly congested. Improvements are needed. That’s why we have committed $210 million as part of the P3 model, and we expect almost $200 million in additional private funding. The taxpayers’ investment will help Calgarians to get to their destinations safely, quickly, and efficiently. Some of our top priorities include lane widening, interchange improvements, new ramps, eliminating...
The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Health.

Mr. Shandro: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I’m very pleased to stand for our colleague the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General. As the member knows, as the amendments come forward, we’re always a little bit more able to respond to the amendments when we get those amendments in a timely way, with lots of warning, so that we can have robust discussion in Committee of the Whole. The Assembly made their decisions on those amendments, and I will leave it for the Assembly to vote on the amendments that come forward from the NDP.

Mr. Sabir: Given that as the Premier rules from the rooftop patio of the sky palace, Albertans down below are outraged at broken promises and his mismanagement and given that so many Albertans have written to us wanting an avenue to hold this Premier accountable but the Premier won’t even commit to his leadership review for more than a year or bring in real recall legislation, will the Premier or the minister explain why they are so scared of their constituents and Albertans?

Mr. Shandro: Mr. Speaker, nothing could be further from the truth. The fact is that this piece of legislation is modelled after the successful legislation in British Columbia, and that’s why we are proceeding, because there is already a template that’s provided in another province. This is an opportunity for us to be able to provide this power to Albertans, for them to be able to have a say. We’re very proud as a caucus and as a government to be able to help Albertans have that power provided to them.

Mr. Sabir: Given that the government is refusing to indicate a date for which the fake recall bill would come into force and given that many suspect that that’s deliberate because they are trying to see if they can improve this Premier’s approval rating first, to the minister a simple question: when will this bill come into force? No more ducking and dodging my question. Just give Albertans a real date when this recall legislation will come into force.

Mr. Shandro: Well, Mr. Speaker, we all know that the coming-into-force date often, sometimes has multiple different considerations. This is a piece of legislation that has been lauded—lauded—by many organizations, including the Canadian taxpayers foundation, which has said that recall legislation is a big win for government accountability in Alberta. Albertans, other than those who are opposite, which we all know are the Old Autocratic Party . . . [interjections]

The Speaker: Order. Order. We all heard the question by the hon. Member for Calgary-McCall very clearly. Now I’d like to hear the answer clearly as well.

Mr. Shandro: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As we all know, those opposite are the Old Autocratic Party, but Albertans are lauding this legislation because it is a big win for government accountability here in Alberta.

Landowner Property Rights

Mr. Nielsen: To provide some cover for this UCP government’s undermining of property rights of Albertans with the elimination of things like formal timelines, the Associate Minister of Red Tape Reduction made a promise to this House. He promised that Albertans concerned about their property rights could access the Real Property Rights Committee. My question is simple and will only require a yes or a no. Does the Associate Minister of Red Tape Reduction stand by his claims and promise that the issue of Albertans’ property rights should be heard by the Real Property Rights Committee?

Mr. Jason Nixon: In all of the years that I have been in the Legislature—and you’ve been around here a long time yourself, Mr. Speaker—every time that a piece of property rights legislation came to this place, that party across the way voted against it. They do not stand up for landowners—frankly, the record shows that they don’t care about property rights—but this party, this government, does. It has a clear platform, endorsed by Keith Wilson and other property rights advocates, that is working its way through a special committee of the Legislature, an all-party committee, which is going to hear from Albertans. We’re going to end up with the best piece of legislation. The question will be: will he vote for that legislation?

Mr. Nielsen: Your record, eh?

Given that despite the assurances of the associate minister of red tape that the Real Property Rights Committee exists to support property rights claims, it appears that some of his colleagues haven’t gotten the message and given that the Member for Leduc-Beaumont moved to prevent the Real Property Rights Committee from considering the Surface Rights Act, the Water Act, and much more from the mandate of the committee, when the associate minister told Albertans that the committee would protect property rights, did he know of this plan to gut its ability to do that, or are Albertans’ property rights just red tape to this minister?

Mr. Jason Nixon: Well, again, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member wants to spend a significant period of time inside a committee that is focused on dealing with property rights in the province by pivoting to talk about important environmental issues. Environmental issues like that are important—I want to stress that very, very much—but this committee has an important job, to finally deal with property rights concerns of Albertans, particularly rural Albertans, who have asked this Chamber for years to deal with some of the horrendous situations that we find in our legislation when it comes to property rights, situations that were endorsed and continued by that party when they were in government. We’re going to fix it.

Mr. Nielsen: Well, given that once again we have a situation where the associate minister says one thing while the actions of the government go in the opposite direction and given that either this minister thinks property rights are red tape, which could explain why he’s watering them down, or he’s completely out of the loop on his file, will the associate minister stand in this House, tell his colleagues that surface rights and water must be part of any conversation about property rights, and if he can’t, will he admit to Albertans that their property rights are less important to him than doing the bidding of the Premier?
can to this House. Again, this is a platform that was endorsed by Keith Wilson, one of the greatest champions of property rights over the last few years in this province. If the hon. member would like to learn a little bit about property rights, I'd encourage him to give him a call.

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

**Galahad Care Centre**

**Ms Lovely:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. The town of Galahad is a community in my constituency that is home to the Galahad care centre, a long-term care facility. It provides 24/7 residential care for people with complex medical needs, including assessing and treating health issues and helping with everyday activities. Recently AHS closed the long-term care facility and moved 18 residents to other sites. Can the Minister of Health please provide an update on the status of the situation?

**Mr. Shandro:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Despite that defamation from the Member for Edmonton-City Centre the facility has not closed.

**Mr. Sabir:** Point of order.

**Mr. Shandro:** AHS has temporarily relocated 18 of the residents and the care staff to other facilities, but home care and ambulatory services remain operational at the care centre. It’s a temporary relocation. As of 9:30 a.m. on June 4 all of the residents who needed to be transported at Galahad have been safely relocated to alternative care facilities within the central zone. Nursing staff from Galahad have been temporarily redeployed to help care for residents in alternative facilities, and this week AHS has been following up . . .

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

**Ms Lovely:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister for the answer. Given that when AHS closed the Galahad care centre, they did not consult the community and 18 residents were moved to other sites and given that AHS has been struggling to find long-term care staff across the province, to the same minister: why did AHS deem it necessary for the site to close, and why was the community not consulted?

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

**Mr. Shandro:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just as a reminder, the site has not closed. Obviously, the relocation of the 18 residents was a difficult decision for AHS to make. As it has made some of these difficult decisions throughout the pandemic, it was only done after careful consideration to make sure that everybody throughout the province gets the care they need. With that being said, AHS should have proactively scheduled a community consultation to better inform the residents of the evolving situation. Thanks to the concerns that were raised by the hon. member, a community consultation is scheduled for tonight, where AHS will provide a comprehensive update on the situation.

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

**Ms Lovely:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister for the answer. Given that rural Albertans have been facing challenges when it comes to rural health care for decades and given that the COVID-19 pandemic brought unprecedented challenges to our health care system, especially in rural Alberta, to the minister: will the facility be open again soon, and what measures are in place to ensure that AHS does not close any long-term care facilities in rural Alberta?

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

**Mr. Shandro:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. AHS will look to resume continuing care services as soon as possible. The temporary disruption in long-term care services is expected to last a minimum of four months while recruitment efforts are doubled and new staff can be onboarded. Dedicated teams are working to recruit the RNs, the LPNs, the health care aides to Galahad. The facility has been a valuable resource for the community, and we expect it to continue to be going forward. Just as you and the community want to see all services resumed, so do we.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul.

**2:40 Rural Physician Recruitment and Retention**

**Mr. Hanson:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. This past weekend the St. Paul and Elk Point health care centres announced a reduction in their acute-care beds due to a high number of registered nurse and licensed practical nurse vacancies. This impacts 10 of 30 acute-care beds in St. Paul and 5 out of 12 in Elk Point. I’ve been advocating to AHS for better recruitment of medical professionals for over six years. To the Minister of Health: what is AHS doing to address this situation and to avoid future staff shortages in northern Alberta?

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

**Mr. Shandro:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like the hon. member, we value the work of our rural physicians and everything they do every day to bring care to patients in St. Paul and area. Our physician resource planners are dedicated to identifying and pursuing international and domestic recruitment opportunities. They work closely with various community partners and organizations such as the health advisory councils as well as some of the independent recruitment committees. The competition to hire qualified professionals nationally and internationally is tough, and we continue to work hard to find new, innovative solutions to attract skilled care providers.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul.

**Mr. Hanson:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that the mayor of St. Paul has been able to sign on seven new doctors to come to St. Paul over the last few months and given that AHS has said that no one is applying and given that now the holdup seems to be getting these doctors through accreditation – Minister, a couple of these doctors that are willing to move to rural Alberta have been waiting two years for accreditation spots – are you working with AHS and the college of physicians to expedite this process?

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

**Mr. Shandro:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I commend the hon. member as well as the mayor of St. Paul for all the work that they’ve undertaken to attract new physicians. As you know, all seven physicians have signed contracts but are in various stages of completing the assessments that are required by the CPSA, the College of Physicians & Surgeons. Right now the start dates have been determined for three candidates: in August, September, and
November of this year. I’m told that their assessments are going well, and we’re optimistic that these three physicians will start on time. I’m so happy to commit to the hon. member to meet with the college to strongly encourage them to expedite, as he is asking for, the completion of these assessments as soon as possible.

The Speaker: The hon. member.

Mr. Hanson: Thank you, Minister, and thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that one way we can work to solve the shortage of medical professionals in rural communities is through dedicated spots for rural medical students at the U of A and the U of C and, further, given that the U of A reserves only 10 spots each year for qualified rural Alberta applicants – you’ve heard this from me many times – to the Minister of Advanced Education: will you commit to working with these schools to provide 50 dedicated spots in each facility for students willing to move back to rural communities, where they are needed?

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

Mr. Nicolaides: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I want to take a quick moment to thank the member opposite for his incredibly strong advocacy. I know he’s raised this issue with me personally on a number of different occasions, and we’ve had extensive opportunities to discuss this. I want to thank him for being such a strong advocate for his community.

With the University of Alberta currently, the member is right: there are 10 spots that are reserved for qualified rural candidates. There’s more that we need to do. I’m very happy to continue working with the member as well as with the Minister of Health to see what more there is that we can do to further strengthen medical programming in our rural areas.

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. deputy chair of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members’ Public Bills.

Mr. Schow: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and to you I say good afternoon. 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 219, Workers’ Compensation (Expanding Presumptive Coverage) Amendment Act, 2021, sponsored by the hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning. The bill was referred to the committee on June 3, 2021. The report recommends that Bill 219 proceed. I request concurrence of the Assembly in the final report on Bill 219.

The Speaker: Hon. members, the motion for concurrence on the report on Bill 219, Workers’ Compensation (Expanding Presumptive Coverage) Amendment Act, 2021, is debatable pursuant to Standing Order 18(1)(b). Are there any wishing to add comment? Seeing a number of such, the motion for concurrence will be debated at the next available opportunity.

Notices of Motions

The Speaker: The hon. the Government House Leader.

Mr. Jason Nixon: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to give oral notice of Government Motion 85, to be put on the Order Paper in my name.

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Prime Minister to respect the democratic voices of Albertans and refrain from filling Alberta’s two vacant Senate seats until Albertans have had an opportunity to elect nominees for appointment to the Senate on October 18, 2021, and further urge the Prime Minister to commit to filling the two vacant Senate seats with those individuals who receive the highest number of votes in that Senate election.

Tabling Returns and Reports

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

Mr. Schow: Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. I rise 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 following reports: one, Report of the Auditor General of Alberta, June 2021; and, two, processes of managing bail hearings and case management of criminal prosecutions performance audit.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: Are there other tablings? The hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat.

Mr. Barnes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two. First of all, an op-ed from the Alberta director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation supporting recall but wanting a much lower threshold and not wanting the double vote that this government has put in.

Secondly, from the UCP virtual AGM 2020, policy 19. There, too, 75 per cent of their members want a lower threshold for the recall law that this government has just put in.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Are there others? The hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood.

Member Irwin: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise with the requisite number of copies of a letter from a teacher in my riding. She’s urging this government to take action on racism, and she’s sharing the thoughts of her students, who are grade 6 students.

The Speaker: Hon. members, we are at points of order, and at 2:37 the hon. Deputy Opposition House Leader rose on a point of order.

Point of Order

Allegations against a Member

Mr. Sabir: Thank you. I’m rising under 23(h), in particular, and (j). In response to a question from a private member here, the Minister of Health – the question was about a facility where the member raised serious concerns of AHS not consulting residents and concerns with respect to relocation of the residents in that facility. The Health minister, instead of answering that question, whether the facility is relocated or closed or not, just went on to accuse the Member for Edmonton-City Centre of defamation. I think that’s not the first time that the Health minister has used that kind of language. He often resorts to such accusations, even more serious than that, so I think, Mr. Speaker, that you should note that as a point of order and ask the Health minister to withdraw such accusations and refrain from accusing other members of things that they didn’t know or didn’t do. Also, I think it would be helpful if he could retract, withdraw, and resign.

Thank you.
The Speaker: The hon. deputy government whip.

Mr. Schow: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don’t see how this is a point of order. I truly believe it’s a matter of debate. I do not have the benefit of the Blues, but if you do, you know, if we’re going to talk about the word “defame.” I think that when the hon. Member for Edmonton-City Centre makes the comments that he does both in his questions and also when he’s throwing comments across the aisle, it defames himself. I think that this is not a point of order, rather a matter of debate. I don’t see how this meets the threshold of 23(h) or 23(j), so I do encourage you to rule against this point of order.

Mr. Speaker: 2:50

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

Mr. Shepherd: Just to note that the accusation is that I was defaming, which would mean libel or slander. I would note that the information I presented about that facility being closed was in fact echoed by the minister’s own member, who repeatedly noted that that facility in her constituency is, in fact, closed and was closed by AHS.

Thank you.

The Speaker: I appreciate the submission. That did sound a lot like continuing debate, but I appreciate why you would want to do that. I am prepared to rule on the point of order. Hon. members, all members enjoy absolute immunity and impunity of the freedom of speech inside the Chamber, but that freedom of speech does not come without a responsibility. Making an accusation that another member has defamed is a serious action and a serious accusation. I have the benefit of the Blues: “Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Despite that defamation from the Member for Edmonton-City Centre the facility has not closed.” Now, whether or not the facility is closed or open, the Speaker takes no position, nor do I care, but when a member makes an accusation of defamation inside the Chamber, it is a serious matter and ought not to be done.

The hon. deputy government whip to apologize and withdraw.

Mr. Schow: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the hon. Health minister I apologize for and withdraw the comments of defaming and also apologize and withdraw my own comments suggesting that the Member for Edmonton-City Centre defames himself when he speaks.

The Speaker: I appreciate that very thorough and robust apology. Thank you.

Hon. members, I consider this matter dealt with and concluded.

Orders of the Day

Government Bills and Orders

Third Reading

Bill 72

Preserving Canada’s Economic Prosperity Act

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Energy.

Mrs. Savage: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to move third reading of Bill 72, Preserving Canada’s Economic Prosperity Act.

[Mr. Milliken in the chair]

Mr. Speaker, passing this bill would further cement the government’s commitment to protecting the value of our natural resources, and it would ensure that we have every option at our disposal to defend Alberta, our economy, our resources, and our people. As with previous legislation of the same name, it provides the Minister of Energy, if necessary, with the authority to restrict the export of crude oil and natural gas from Alberta. However, minor but very important language changes will strengthen this legislation in the event legal challenges arise. The Constitution gives provinces the authority over the interprovincial export of primary production of natural resources. By excluding references to refined fuels, this legislation more closely aligns with this concept and more closely aligns with the Constitution. Peter Lougheed fought for the constitutional right of Alberta and Albertans to manage our natural resources, and this legislation demonstrates how serious we are about defending these rights.

At this point I would like to thank my colleagues in the House for supporting this bill.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I move that Bill 72 be read a third time.

The Acting Speaker: Thank you, hon. minister.

Are there any members wishing to join debate? I see the hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview has risen.

Mr. Bilious: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would gladly support this bill if it actually did anything to help secure Alberta’s energy future. You see, the government will complain over and over again about how the previous bill, that was brought in under the previous NDP government, was unconstitutional. Maybe it was, but I’ll tell you this much. That bill had the teeth that actually put – well, it worked. It actually had the teeth to be able to turn off the taps, not that I would hope a government would want to use it but as a last resort to protect their own interests and to ensure that the people on the other side would not like it much and would tell their government to come back to the table for conversations.

Mr. Speaker, that bill that we passed, that this government today criticizes us for, is the first piece of legislation that this government proclaimed when they formed government. Then they went and let it expire after two years and then decided it’s time to criticize the NDP opposition for a bill that they proclaimed, they applauded, they voted in favour of, and then they let expire two years later.

So what we have before us today, Mr. Speaker, is a watered-down version of a bill that will not impact refined products. Now, we know that there are – and I don’t have the volume of how much crude gets shipped to the west coast, but I can tell you that it is refined products that would have the greatest impact on people, on everyone. That’s what made that bill a much stronger version than this current bill.

You know, Mr. Speaker, we’ve seen time and time again this government attempt or pay lip service to supporting the energy industry, but when we look at their actions, they’re quite contradictory. I mean, you have this current government spending $30 million a year on a failed war room, which has become an international embarrassment. The government succeeded in putting Alberta on the international map and it being discussed in a number of communities. We are known for a number of very positive things, but under this current government we now have a war room that is run by a failed UCP candidate who has done nothing but make mistakes after mistake. They have plagiarized not one logo but two and continue to embarrass Alberta and our energy sector.

I mean, you know, if the Energy minister sits down with some of the players in the energy space, we know that they’re telling her to quietly shut down the war room or maybe get them to stop embarrassing the very sector that is facing a struggle, Mr. Speaker,
from the global prices to other pressures that are being put on them, and this UCP government is not helping them. You know who’s helping them? They’re helping themselves, and they see an alignment between their announcement this week on their targets on emissions reductions aligning, interestingly, with comments made by the Leader of the Official Opposition this week. So our energy sector knows where they need to go. They know what they need to do.

But this UCP government is acting, and their actions are about 40 years behind the times. Instead of focusing on critical investments for upgrading and refining more of our product here, instead of looking at how to support the energy industry to pull carbon out of the barrel, to reduce their GHGs, to be world leaders in reaching net zero, this government picks fights with people and continues to reduce the confidence of people world-wide about how clean our energy sector is.

3:00

Mr. Speaker, I’m very proud of the fact that in 2018, under the previous NDP government, we initiated a campaign, Keep Canada Working. That campaign: when it started, Mr. Speaker, there were 4 in 10 Canadians who supported the Trans Mountain pipeline, less than 40 per cent. At the end of our campaign that number was 7 in 10. That was because of the hard work done by the previous government to engage with Canadians not just to share the facts about the safety of pipelines and how we have high environmental standards, but we engaged in meaningful dialogue that moved the needle. Fast-forward to today, and we have a government that continually jumps up and down and shouts at everyone else, lays blame all over the place, points fingers and screams, and does nothing to move the needle, including gambling – gambling – with Albertans’ $1.3 billion could have been much better used. It could have been used to actually support the efforts that our energy sector is making to reduce their GHGs to get to zero, to be a world leader, to be first in the world to get to that target. They know that with the NDP they have an ally, they have an advocate, and they have a party that will support them in their endeavour and look for innovative ways to help them achieve their goal. This bill is a shadow of the previous bill that it’s representing. It’s unfortunate that this government isn’t willing to do more for a struggling sector.

Mr. Speaker, I’ll conclude my comments by stating that this bill, similar to the Recall Act, which will never actually recall a single individual – I’m willing to bet a bottle of Scotch on that, maybe Jameson’s. This bill will do very little to protect Alberta’s and Canada’s economic prosperity. I urge the government to take much more meaningful action to support our industries, especially our energy industry, and, looking beyond our energy at the whole economic package that Alberta has to offer, including tourism, life sciences, bioenergy, to support the very men and women who are the economic engine of this province.

Thank you.

The Acting Speaker: Thank you, hon. member.
Are there any other members wishing to join debate?
Seeing none, I am prepared to ask the question.

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

[Several members rose calling for a division. The division bell was rung at 3:05 p.m.]
This government is delivering real change when it comes to government in our country’s history, obviously after our current carding even though they were once the greatest virtue signalling racialized folks in our communities, to know that they failed to ban what their comments on this bill do reveal is a complete lack of beyond the pale that they do not deserve to be repeated by myself and they failed. That is their record.

Mr. Speaker, no democratic society can survive without the public’s faith and trust in law enforcement. Practices like carding have significantly undermined that trust, particularly in racialized communities. This bill will enhance the relationship between police and racialized Alberta citizens, creating a greater sense of trust and fairness. It also provides clear, reasonable guidelines for a practice that law enforcement officers have often been left to interpret for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, previous governments were unwilling to address this fundamental issue of fairness for Alberta’s citizens, like the members opposite, who merely offered bromides to racialized communities and refused to ban carding despite pressures from their own NDP-allied special-interest groups and despite a series of protests before the steps of this Legislature. Since we introduced this bill, the NDP has been absolutely disingenuous about what this legislation does. In fact, their criticisms of this legislation are so beyond the pale that they do not deserve to be repeated by myself in this Chamber.

What their comments on this bill do reveal is a complete lack of respect for the collective intelligence of Albertans and a complete disregard for the facts, and that doesn’t surprise me. I have never been surprised since I, you know, got before the floor of this Assembly. The only explanation for their complete campaign of fear and smear is that they don’t want Albertans, especially racialized folks in our communities, to know that they failed to ban carding even though they were once the greatest virtue signalling government in our country’s history, obviously after our current Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker, the NDP simply cannot accept the fact that it is a Conservative government that is truly reforming policing in this province when they did nothing. It is absolutely critical for me to put this on the record so that history can judge the true nature of what transpired between 2015 and 2019, when the NDP were in charge of this particular province and this particular issue. The NDP failed to ban carding. That is a fact. They had four years to do so, and they failed. That is their record.

This government is delivering real change when it comes to policing and addressing the legitimate concerns of racialized Albertans. While the NDP dithered for four years on these important matters, I trust they will do the right thing and support this very important bill.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I move third reading of Bill 63.

The Acting Speaker: Thank you, hon. minister.

Are there any members wishing to join debate? I see the hon. Member for Edmonton-City Centre, with a full 20 minutes should he choose to take it.
does not mean that that bill should simply be given a free pass. This is a serious situation. It deserves due rigour, and it should be measured against the highest standard that has been developed, which so far is the report that has been issued by Hon. Justice Tulloch. We have a commonality between these definitions in the government’s bill, which is basically that a police officer will be stopping an individual who has not committed a crime, in some cases may not even be suspected of committing a crime, and there may be collection of information. Our concern with what is left open in this legislation is that that will then continue to allow for disproportionate targeting of racialized persons.

Now, my colleague from Calgary-McCall is a lawyer; I am not. He has laid out much more ably the specific legalities and concerns that amount to this, and his analysis has been agreed on by others in the legal field and others in the public sphere who have been working on this issue and calling for a change. I know that my colleague from Calgary-McCall engaged in deep consultation with legal experts, academics, folks working in the field, folks working on the front lines, and communities that are engaged, and he brought forward thoughtful amendments based on the very recommendations from Hon. Justice Tulloch.

Now, the minister denigrated those as frivolous, unnecessary, as posturing, political posturing. To be clear, Mr. Speaker, these are directly taken from that review, from the Hon. Justice Tulloch, and if the minister is calling those frivolous and political posturing, that is what he is referring to the hon. justice as for having raised those as specific things that needed to be addressed to truly address the issue of carding and street checks.

3:40

That is why my colleague brought forward an amendment to require police officers to proactively inform individuals that they have the right to decline to engage in a conversation or to walk away from a conversation with a police officer. They do not have to provide information. That’s recommendation 7.2 from the justice’s report. The minister said that it was not necessary and led his colleagues in voting that down.

We brought forward amendments regarding disciplinary procedures for police officers, regarding how police record and report activities and offer documentation to the individuals, on establishing public education and outreach, which the minister in his closing remarks said he will do but was not willing to put in the legislation to be required to be done.

We brought forward an amendment regarding general and specific corrective actions and practices to be reported to the public and for training for police officers on bias, discrimination, and racism and, lastly, requiring a 90-day public posting and public consultation and enhanced informal consultation with indigenous communities on any further regulations regarding police and the public to be developed under the act.

It is our job, Mr. Speaker, as Official Opposition, whether our government brought in a piece of legislation or not, to give due rigour to analysis of legislation that is brought forward by this government. In debate on this bill I have made great efforts to refrain from partisan commentary on the minister or his political party. At no point in our debate on this bill have I made a broad accusation about every member of the UCP. At no point have I suggested that the minister has some ulterior motive or questioned his credentials as a representative of black communities in the province of Alberta. I wish I could say that the same was true of the minister.

If this is truly legislation that he is bringing forward because he believes he is doing so for the right reasons, then let’s let that legislation stand on those merits. It would certainly be my hope that if the minister is bringing forward this legislation because he truly wants to do right by the people of Alberta, then I will not see social media posts after the vote today making accusations about myself or my colleagues, misrepresenting what we have said in this House, that this would not be, say, the subject of a fundraising e-mail.

The minister will have his opportunity. The government has a majority. They have the ability to pass this legislation. He will have his opportunity, I guess, to follow through on the promises he made today about his next steps once this legislation passes, and it will be our job as the Official Opposition to hold him to those commitments, to ensure that this is followed through on.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I spoke of that report from Justice Tulloch. Recommendation 5.1 in his report. At the outset he recommends that the regulation expressly stipulate that the purpose or objective “is to prevent arbitrary or random stops of individuals,” prevent outright, not allow exceptions for, not write legislation in such a way that there is wiggle room. Indeed, the justice went on to say:

I conclude that random street checks, which take considerable time and effort for a police service to conduct, have little to no verifiable benefits relating to the level of crime or even arrests.

He notes:

In fact, even before the Regulation that was brought in in the province of Ontario, many police services had already discontinued the practice because of its lack of effectiveness… I thus recommend discontinuing the use of random street checks altogether.

This is somewhat in contrast to the minister’s remarks opening third reading, in which he stated that street checks have always been a useful tool when used lawfully. The hon. justice disagrees. I disagree, Mr. Speaker. My colleagues disagree.

Justice Tulloch is clear on what he considers to be arbitrary. He said that it “is considered to be arbitrary unless the police officer can articulate a proper reason for the attempted collection.” He is quite clear that it should not be based – he says that the “reasonable suspicion must be based on something more than a mere suspicion or a ‘hunch’.” My colleague the Member for Calgary-McCall brought forward amendments to address that. They were rejected.

To use a phrase that we often joke about in terms of conventions where parties are debating policy, Mr. Speaker, we do not believe this bill goes far enough. I want to be absolutely, fundamentally clear. I believe we must ban the practice of carding and street checks. That is the official position of myself and all of my colleagues in the Alberta NDP caucus. We believe there should be legislation in the province of Alberta which does so thoroughly, as laid out in hon. Justice Tulloch’s report. Bill 63 does not meet that standard.

The government has a majority and the ability to pass this legislation without our support. They have the ability to take the step and to demonstrate to the people of Alberta that they intend to follow through on the promise that they have made. Based on that fact, I believe it is important for me as a representative of people of Alberta, as a representative of racialized communities, as a member of the opposition to on principle vote against this legislation because it does not do what it needs to do. It does not accomplish the task that it needs to accomplish. It does not provide the level of protection for racialized Albertans that it should provide. That is the standard, the standard set out in Justice Tulloch’s report, that I believe should be implemented in the province of Alberta, and I will not vote for a bill that does not do so. I know I can speak for myself that given the opportunity I will work to ensure that we have legislation that does.

Let me again be clear, Mr. Speaker, just in case anyone wishes to be disingenuous about the position of myself and my caucus. In the case that anyone should choose to be partisan about an issue of such
great importance to the people of Alberta, something that multiple ministers of this government have admonished all of us about this week, let me be one hundred per cent, absolutely clear: we support the banning of carding and street checks in the province of Alberta. Bill 63 does not accomplish that goal. It is for that reason, on point of principle, that we will not add our voice to government’s in passing this legislation. I believe that is what I owe to the people of Alberta, to the racialized communities of Alberta: to make it clear that this legislation does not do enough. They deserve better.

3:50

That in no way diminishes the fact that the minister was the first minister in Alberta to bring forward any form of carding legislation. That is his legacy, but once the vote is finished, Mr. Speaker, the minister’s legacy will be what he does next. It will be: what is the result for the people of Alberta? It is Albertans and indeed racialized Albertans that will have the opportunity to make that judgment.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker: Thank you, hon. member.

Are there any members wishing to join debate?

Seeing none, I am prepared to ask the question.

[Motion carried; Bill 63 read a third time]

Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act

[Adjourned debate June 10: Ms Gray]

The Acting Speaker: Are there any members wishing to join debate?

Seeing none, I am prepared to ask the question.

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

4:10

Against the motion:

Bilous  
Carson  
Deol  

Totals:  
For – 30  
Against – 8  

[Motion carried; Bill 67 read a third time]

The Acting Speaker: I see the hon. Deputy Government House Leader has risen.

Mr. Nally: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It has been a good week, a long week, but we’ve accomplished a lot, so I move that the Assembly be adjourned until 1:30 p.m. Monday, June 14, 2021.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 4:13 p.m.]
Bill Status Report for the 30th Legislature - 2nd Session (2020-2021)

Activity to Thursday, June 10, 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)
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)
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 aft., 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)
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.)
Royal Assent — (Mar. 20, 2020 outside of House Sitting) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2020 c3 ]
Bill 6 — Appropriation Act, 2020 ($) (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)
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)
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)
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)
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)
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)
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)
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)
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)
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)
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)
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)
Committee of the Whole — 1983-99 (Jul. 14, 2020 aft., passed)
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)
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)
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)
Committee of the Whole — 1804-30 (Jun. 24, 2020 aft., passed on division)
Third Reading — 1679-81 (Jun. 25, 2020 aft., passed)
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)

Bill 27 — Alberta Senate Election Amendment Act, 2020 (Schweitzer)
First Reading — 1568 (Jun. 23, 2020 aft., passed)
Third Reading — 2076-81 (Jul. 15, 2020 eve., passed)

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)
Bill 29 — Local Authorities Election Amendment Act, 2020 (Madu)
First Reading — 1619-20 (Jun. 24, 2020 aft., 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)
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)

Bill 32 — Restoring Balance in Alberta’s Workplaces Act, 2020 (Copping)
First Reading — 1760 (Jul. 7, 2020 aft., 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., passed)
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 various dates; SA 2020 c28.4]

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)
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)
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 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)
Committee of the Whole — 3024-29 (Nov. 4, 2020 aft.), 3031-48 (Nov. 24, 2020 eve.), 3398-3401 (Nov. 24, 2020 aft., passed)
Third Reading — 3529-30 (Nov. 25, 2020 eve., 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)
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)
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)
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)
Committee of the Whole — 3679-85 (Dec. 1, 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 51* — Citizen Initiative Act (Madu)
First Reading — 4058 (Mar. 16, 2021 aft., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 5159-86 (Jun. 2, 2021 eve., passed with amendments)
Third Reading — 5398-5401 (Jun. 9, 2021 aft., passed)

Bill 52 — Recall Act (Madu)
First Reading — 4028-29 (Mar. 15, 2021 aft., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 5403-24 (Jun. 9, 2021 eve., passed)

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)
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 proclamation; SA 2021 cC-18.8]

Bill 56 — Local Measures Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (McIver)
First Reading — 4005 (Mar. 11, 2021 aft., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 4877-83 (May 25, 2021 eve.), 4953-58 (May 26, 2021 eve.), 4970 (May 27, 2021 aft., passed)

Bill 57* — Metis Settlements Amendment Act, 2021 (Wilson)
First Reading — 4005 (Mar. 11, 2021 aft., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 4743-52 (Apr. 21, 2021 aft.), 4883-88 (May 25, 2021 eve.), 4971-77 (May 27, 2021 aft., passed; amendments agreed to)
Third Reading — 5189-95 (Jun. 3, 2021 morn.), 5222 (Jun. 3, 2021 aft., passed on division)

Bill 58 — Freedom to Care Act (Aheer)
First Reading — 4180 (Mar. 23, 2021 aft., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 5343-52 (Jun. 8, 2021 eve., adjourned)
Bill 59 — Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2021 ($) (Toews)
First Reading — 4083 (Mar. 16, 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)
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)
Committee of the Whole — 5124-31 (Jun. 2, 2021 morn.), (Jun. 3, 2021 morn., passed)

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)
Third Reading — 5456-59 (Jun. 10, 2021 aft., passed)

Bill 64 — Public Lands Amendment Act, 2021 (Nixon, JJ)
First Reading — 4416 (Apr. 12, 2021 aft., passed)
Third Reading — 4938-44 (May 26, 2021 eve., 4946-53 (May 26, 2021 eve., passed on division)
Royal Assent — (May 27, 2021 aft.) [Comes into force May 27, 2021; SA 2021 c8 ]

Bill 65 — Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (Shandro)
First Reading — 4394 (Apr. 8, 2021 aft., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 5064-74 (Jun. 1, 2021 aft., passed)

Bill 66 — Public Health Amendment Act, 2021 (Shandro)
First Reading — 4416 (Apr. 12, 2021 aft., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 5083-97 (Jun. 1, 2021 ev.), 5338-43 (Jun. 8, 2021 eve., adjourned)
Bill 67 — Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act (Nicolaides)
First Reading — 4468 (Apr. 13, 2021 aft., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 5272-83 (Jun. 7, 2021 eve.), 5386-98 (Jun. 9, 2021 aft., passed)
Third Reading — 5433-39 (Jun. 10, 2021 morn.), 5459 (Jun. 10, 2021 aft., passed on division)

Bill 68 — Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (Madu)
First Reading — 4614 (Apr. 19, 2021 aft., passed)
Second Reading — 4808 (Apr. 22, 2021 aft.), 5019-32 (May 31, 2021 eve., passed)
Third Reading — 5195-99 (Jun. 3, 2021 aft., passed on division)

Bill 69 — Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (Nixon, JJ)
First Reading — 4592 (Apr. 15, 2021 aft., passed)
Second Reading — 5288-89 (Jun. 7, 2021 eve., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 5424 (Jun. 9, 2021 eve., passed)
Third Reading — 5424 (Jun. 9, 2021 eve., passed)

Bill 70 — COVID-19 Related Measures Act (Gotfried)
First Reading — 4806 (Apr. 22, 2021 aft., passed)
Second Reading — 5331-38 (Jun. 8, 2021 eve.), 5357-63 (Jun. 9, 2021 morn.), 5425-30 (Jun. 10, 2021 morn., adjourned on amendment)

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 72 — Preserving Canada's Economic Prosperity Act (Savage)
First Reading — 4844 (May 25, 2021 aft., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 5352-56 (Jun. 8, 2021 eve., passed)
Third Reading — 5455-56 (Jun. 10, 2021 aft., passed on division)

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; proceeded with)
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., debate on concurrence motion; 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; proceeded with)
Second Reading — 2379-93 (Jul. 27, 2020 aft., passed on division)
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; proceeded with)
Second Reading — 3103-08 (Nov. 16, 2020 aft.), 3307-14 (Nov. 23, 2020 aft., passed)
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; proceeded with)
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; proceeded with)
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), 4029-36 (Mar. 15, 2021 aft., debate on concurrence motion; 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; proceeded with)
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)
Committee of the Whole — 4326-28 (Apr. 6, 2021 eve., 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., debate on concurrence motion; 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; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 4179 (Mar. 23, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly; proceeded with)

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), 4667 (Apr. 20, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly), 5242-49 (Jun. 7, 2021 aft., debate on concurrence motion; proceeded with)
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), 4806 (Apr. 22, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly), 5249-51 (Jun. 7, 2021 aft., adjourned debate on concurrence motion)

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), 4843 (May 25, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly; proceeded with)

Bill 217 — Polish-Canadian Heritage Day Act (Williams)  
First Reading — 4969-70 (May 27, 2021 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 5220 (Jun. 3, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly; proceed with)

Bill 218 — Provincial Parks (Protecting Park Boundaries) Amendment Act, 2021 (Schmidt)  
First Reading — 4970 (May 27, 2021 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 5237 (Jun. 7, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly; debate for concurrence will take place on the next available Monday)

Bill 219 — Workers' Compensation (Expanding Presumptive Coverage) Amendment Act, 2021 (Sweet)  
First Reading — 5220 (Jun. 3, 2021 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Public Members' Public 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; proceeded with)  
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), 4843-44 (May 25, 2021 aft., reported to Assembly; proceeded with)  
Second Reading — 5045 (Jun. 1, 2021 morn., passed)  
Committee of the Whole — 5045 (Jun. 1, 2021 morn., passed)  
Third Reading — 5045-46 (Jun. 1, 2021 morn., passed)
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