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The 30th Legislature
Second Session

Alberta Hansard

Thursday afternoon, November 4, 2021

Day 124

The Honourable Nathan M. Cooper, Speaker

Legislative Assembly of Alberta The 30th Legislature

Second Session

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Independent: 2

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Legislative Assembly of Alberta

1:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 4, 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: Please be seated.

Ministerial Statements

The Speaker: The hon. the Associate Minister of Natural Gas and Electricity.

Hydrogen Industry

Mr. Nally: Mr. Speaker, the top two priorities of our government remain taking care of Albertans and economic recovery. I am proud to say that oil and gas will lead the way into recovery. We have seen it so far with things like line 3, which recently began production and has contributed 360,000 barrels per day of additional egress while also seeing higher resource prices. WTI is over \$81. Natural gas is over \$5.

Mr. Speaker, I am excited to say that our province is on the cusp of one of the greatest economic recoveries that we have ever seen, and hydrogen will be a driver of that economic growth. Now, we know this because we've seen early successes already. Probably one of the most significant ones has been Dow's announcement, which will be one of the single largest private-sector investments in our province's history. It's going to be a net zero ethane cracker, and they're going to be able to do that because of the circularity of hydrogen.

We've also seen Suncor and ATCO with a multibillion-dollar hydrogen announcement. We saw Itochu and Petronas team up not just on a hydrogen facility, but it will be for export to Japan as well. And another export project is Mitsubishi and Shell. To see ourselves participating in the hydrogen export industry so early on is very exciting, Mr. Speaker.

Lastly, how can we forget TC Energy, which recently announced that they are going to be putting up hydrogen fuelling stations across major transportation networks across North America?

I am thrilled to share with members of this House that tomorrow morning along with the Premier I'll be unveiling the Alberta hydrogen road map. Mr. Speaker, I can't overstate the massive opportunity hydrogen presents for emissions reduction and a diversified energy sector, and the hydrogen road map lays out a measurable and actionable plan to ensure we take advantage of that opportunity. It is a well-thought-out, well-researched road map with clearly articulated policies to strengthen the regulatory system, increase export capacity, and integrate hydrogen into several targeted areas of Alberta's economy. This is a clear path to reduce Alberta's emissions, and with increased export capacity we can offer Alberta's clean hydrogen to consumers around the world so they, too, can reduce emissions.

I want to make it clear, Mr. Speaker, that I am inviting all of the members of the opposition to work with us to promote hydrogen as the centrepiece of Alberta's clean energy future. Let's put partisan politics aside and work together so that Alberta can fully capture the multitrillion-dollar hydrogen opportunity and be a world leader in its production, export, and use because that is the opportunity that we are facing.

The global hydrogen market is predicted to be worth 2 and a half trillion dollars by 2050. Alberta can't afford to miss out on this chance, a chance to attract billions in investment dollars, create tens of thousands of mortgage-paying jobs, and to create generational wealth that will support everyday Albertans for decades to come.

Alberta has every tool it needs to be a key global player in the hydrogen space. We have the knowledge and expertise, being Canada's largest hydrogen producer already. We have existing infrastructure, skilled workers, innovation capacity, and now we have a strong and celebrated action plan to get there. Mr. Speaker, there will be many more exciting announcements in the hydrogen space. I'm not talking about next year and I'm not talking about next month; I'm talking about next week. I'm of the opinion that there is no space in Alberta's economy that is more exciting or that presents a better opportunity for Alberta jobs and prosperity than hydrogen.

Other jurisdictions are coming up with net zero ambitions with no clear plan of how they're going to get there. Well, I'm telling you: Alberta has that plan. I'm also proud to tell you that we no longer have to choose between the economy and the environment. There is another way. There is a better way, and that way, Mr. Speaker, is with clean, affordable hydrogen.

Mr. Bilous: Mr. Speaker, it is with optimism and concern that I'm responding to this ministerial statement on hydrogen. Hydrogen represents a great opportunity to grow our economy while the world is looking for fuels to move toward net zero. Hydrogen represents a potential \$100 billion annual industry here in Canada.

Alberta is well-positioned to be a leader in this emerging industry as 60 per cent of Canada's hydrogen comes from the Edmonton region alone, and we're the world's second low-cost producer of hydrogen. That's why we had funded pilot projects, published our hydrogen paper as the first set of proposals under our Alberta's future project, and proudly advocated for the Edmonton region to become Canada's first hydrogen hub.

We're glad that the UCP now, more than a year later, will publish a hydrogen strategy for the province. We've heard clearly from companies that this is badly needed and needed to be done earlier than the 2023 deadline set out in the UCP's natural gas strategy. We've seen many jurisdictions move very quickly in the last two years and be able to build the foundations for their hydrogen sectors to grow. We need to see this here in Alberta. While we do not have the benefit of seeing any details of this strategy yet, we hope that the minister listened and that this strategy will be the basis for a sustained effort to grow the hydrogen economy here in the province long term.

Without a consolidated effort Albertans will not see the maximum benefit of the opportunity hydrogen presents to our economy. This commitment will be crucial to remove barriers for investment and see long-term growth in hydrogen.

We have our concerns. As we speak, leaders from around the world are discussing what the hydrogen economy of the future could look like without anyone from Alberta in the room. No one from our province is there to make the case that hydrogen made from natural gas in Alberta has an important role to play, nor have we seen a commitment by the province to systematically reduce emissions and create opportunities for investments of emissions-reducing technologies. It's clear that we will have to do better. We

sincerely hope that the UCP's hydrogen meets the mark and will set Alberta up for success.

Thank you.

Members' Statements

COVID-19 Response

Ms Phillips: Mr. Speaker, it's been astonishing to be back in the Legislature for a couple of weeks watching the alternative reality that the UCP has been living in as the Premier boasts and gloats about his actions during the pandemic. But Albertans know the truth, and that's why this is the least trusted government in Canada.

Albertans know every single member of this government is complicit in pandemic mismanagement. The Health minister decided a global pandemic would be the perfect time to start a war with doctors, including shouting at them on their driveways. The agriculture minister told workers of Cargill that their workplace was safe when he knew for a fact it was not, leading to the largest workplace outbreak in North America at that time. The Finance minister thought it was reasonable to slash nurses' pay just as our ICUs started to overflow. The environment minister used the pandemic as an excuse to shut down monitoring and then tried to sell our parks out from underneath us. The Energy minister thought this pandemic was an ideal time to strip-mine the Rockies, poison our water, and hand the profits to Australian coal billionaires. The jobs minister claimed that women had taken time off during the pandemic, casually dismissing the struggles and sacrifices of working women and then not providing support to small and medium-sized businesses when they needed it.

1:40

And who can forget the Premier, who downplayed this pandemic at every chance? He called it the flu. He claimed that homeless people were immune. He said that those infected were not sick. He repeatedly peddled the fiction that natural immunity was superior to vaccination. This Premier backed his Health minister as he berated doctors, threatened to fire 11,000 health care workers, and allowed our ICUs to fill to the breaking point while he claims to have been working from Europe.

The entire UCP cabinet is complicit. Their inability to govern has prolonged the pandemic, caused instability, created economic uncertainty and anxiety. Albertans deserve better.

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

Diwali

Mr. Toor: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Today with the festival of lights beginning, Albertans of many faiths – Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists – are united in joy and veneration of the divine. This is the time for renewal and creativity, for blessing and optimism. We are also joined by Sikh communities in Alberta and around the world to celebrate Bandi Chhor Divas. Bandi Chhor Divas has a lot of historical significance attached to it for the Sikh people. On this day Sikhs recall the history of Sikh guru Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji and his release from prison. Guru Sahib believed that the freedom and the rights of others were more important than his own.

Bandi Chhor Divas reminds us of the importance of respect, freedom, and inclusion. This coming Thursday, 11th of November, will mark Remembrance Day, where the world remembers those soldiers who gave up their tomorrow for our today. The Sikhs did not just fight for their own freedom, but they also fought for the freedom of others who lived in foreign lands through volunteering to fight against tyrants threatening the world.

Today's celebration is also an opportunity to recognize contributions that Albertans of the Sikh faith make every day, especially during the

pandemic, to build an Alberta that is just, safer, and more inclusive for everyone. On behalf of all Albertans and our caucus I wish a very happy Bandi Chhor Divas and Diwali to those celebrating.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Camrose is next.

Gibson Energy Hardisty Terminal

Ms Lovely: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. This summer I was thrilled to have the Minister of Energy join me on a tour of the tanker farm just outside of Hardisty. For over 60 years the Gibson Hardisty terminal has been a key piece of energy infrastructure in western Canada. The facility possesses approximately 14 million barrels of storage capacity consisting of 34 tanks across four terminals. This facility alone sees around 1 in 4 of all barrels exported from western Canada.

They have been creating jobs in the region for years and will continue to do so for years to come. Not only do they directly create jobs; they also create jobs indirectly. As they grow and serve their customers over a high capacity, they, too, will create jobs. This is a prime example of why we need to support our oil and gas industry. They create jobs. They are leaders in development, and we need to be here for them.

When decisions are made about the oil and gas industry, decisions are being made about livelihoods of Albertans. This is why I have been hard at work, going business to business and home to home. I want to hear your voices and make your voices heard. Over the past summer I was able to do just that by having the opportunity to invite the Minister of Energy to our region. It was a pleasure to introduce the Minister of Energy to the mayor of Hardisty and the reeve for Flagstaff county. Our minister was happy to join me for stakeholder engagement, and I feel that our government is listening to the needs of rural Alberta. Thank you to the minister for delivering on her promise to make the trip and spending some time with me in my Camrose constituency. I stand here proudly supporting the oil and gas industry.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Agriculture

Ms Sweet: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is so much opportunity for agriculture in Alberta's economic future. I am continuously inspired by the ideas of innovation of Alberta's farmers and ranchers. But to ensure that agriculture can reach its full potential, Alberta needs leadership that will champion it. The UCP need to recognize global market realities, including the impact of climate change, and that the world is moving towards more renewable energy. They also need leadership to understand that drought like we had this year will unfortunately continue to happen if we don't deal with global climate change. Alberta needs leadership in agriculture to leverage and maximize economic opportunities and to work through those challenges; however, the UCP would rather sit on the sidelines and complain. Unfortunately, with the UCP, leadership is absent.

It's extremely disappointing for Alberta farmers and ranchers that there's no government of Alberta representation at COP 26 in Glasgow right now. I know the members opposite are claiming that COP is just a gathering of European elites. The UCP, however, should answer if they believe the Canadian Cattlemen's Association is a group of European elites because the Cattlemen's Association sent a delegation and is speaking at the conference. Maybe the Minister of Finance, who is the former president of the association, would like to answer my question. Manitoba's delegation to COP includes farmers

to ensure their voices are part of the economic discussion and to tell the world that Canadian agriculture is worth investing in.

If only the UCP was willing to do the same. UCP members take issue with leaders – and I quote – jet-setting to this conference. I hope, then, that they will be consistent and are equally concerned if the UCP members jet-set to Hawaii to avoid the public health measures or if the Premier jet-sets to Europe and the entire UCP government goes on vacation during the summer of our deadliest fourth wave of the pandemic while producers, again, were struggling with a drought. Instead of travelling only for selfish reasons, I hope the UCP starts representing Alberta and ensures Alberta agriculture is at the table where discussions are happening.

The Speaker: The Member for Leduc-Beaumont.

Remembrance Day

Mr. Rutherford: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Next week, on November 11, Albertans across the province will join Canadians in honouring Armed Forces members on Remembrance Day. Every year Canadians pause for a moment and reflect on the men and women who served and gave the ultimate sacrifice in defence of Canada's freedom and sovereignty. More than 2.3 million Canadians have served throughout Canada's military history, and there are more than 118,000 soldiers and military personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

From victory at Vimy Ridge to the Operation Medusa offensive in Afghanistan, we honour the service of those who served. It is also an opportunity to show current serving members and their families that their work, efforts, and sacrifices will not be forgotten. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the poppy, a symbol representing the many sacrifices made during war. I want to thank organizations like the Legion that uphold the tradition of the poppy and provide support for veterans and current members across the country.

Canadian veterans and service members leave a lasting impact on the world, and it's not just Canadians who remember them. Dutch schoolchildren still visit the Canadian war cemetery in the Netherlands each year to pay respect to the soldiers who died liberating Holland. France still has about a kilometre of territory designated as Canadian soil surrounding a monument set up to remember the Canadian soldiers who fought and died at Vimy Ridge. In Belgium in Flanders Fields Museum features *The Brooding Soldier*, which is a memorial that commemorates the 2,000 casualties of the 1st Canadian Division who were killed by a German gas attack in 1915.

These monuments and tributes can be found around the world, and I highlight just a few of them to recognize that the Canadian Armed Forces have made an immense impact globally. These are just a few touching examples of how the world and our country remember. As time passes, it is the responsibility of each new generation to respect and remember these sacrifices and take time to remember. Let us not forget.

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

1984 Violence against Sikhs in India

Mr. Sabir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This November marks the 37th anniversary of the 1984 Sikh genocide. Starting in Delhi on the evening of the 31st of October, what followed was days of fierce violence let loose on the Sikhs and their properties. Thousands of Sikhs were killed, several others injured, and many more forced to flee for their lives. Many families lost their loved ones, all because they were Sikhs.

Mr. Speaker, the calls for justice for those who lost their lives and for those who continue to live with that pain and intergenerational trauma have gone unheard for far too long. To this very day I come across Sikhs, including in my own riding of Calgary-McCall, who vividly remember the genocide: running from burning properties and hiding with dead bodies and sharing their experience with surviving that brutal violence. Many of them have witnessed horrors of their family members' and relatives' lives being cut short. Some recognize faces in the archival footage used in documentaries and films today.

Mr. Speaker, acknowledging these wrongs, their grief and their struggles, and access to justice is fundamental to the healing and reconciliation process for the thousands of Albertan and Canadian Sikhs that live with that pain as survivors and bearers of intergenerational trauma. We must not only continue to raise awareness of the atrocities of the past, but we must also march alongside those who are oppressed. We all must stand with the Sikh community in their search for truth, justice, and reconciliation to ensure that never again will a November 1984 happen. My colleagues and I in the Official Opposition stand in solidarity with the Sikh community at this difficult time.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

1:50

Oral Question Period

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

COVID-19 Response and Premier's Leadership

Ms Hoffman: Mr. Speaker, for weeks Albertans have been trying to get a simple answer about who was in charge when the Premier was in Europe. The Premier insists that it was him. He talks about marathon briefings and endless data transfers. He says that he was in charge the whole time. Let's talk about that. Between the day his vacation started, on August 13, and the day he came back, on August 30, active cases nearly tripled. To the Premier: can he tell this House on what date he asked the CMOH to send him projections for hospital capacity during the fourth wave?

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Municipal Affairs has risen.

Mr. McIver: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member knows – I think the hon. member has been here – that this question has been asked and answered by the Premier several times. The Premier has done a terrific job leading Alberta through this crisis. It's been acknowledged by the Premier and the Health minister that some of the calculations were incorrect at that particular time, but at all times were people on the job looking after Albertans.

Ms Hoffman: Mr. Speaker, the Premier can't tell us when he asked or received information from Dr. Hinshaw because he didn't. There were no data transfers, not between him and the chief medical officer, not between his chief and hers, not between his staff and hers, none. According to the FOIP, no one in the Premier's office asked anyone in Dr. Hinshaw's office for information about the rising fourth wave. Why is the Premier pretending that he was reading e-mails when in reality he was on airplane mode?

Mr. McIver: Mr. Speaker, I understand it's the opposition's job to oppose, but to suggest there was never a phone call, a conversation that wasn't part of what's FOIPed – listen, some of those folks on the other side were actually in government for a period of time, and that member that's asking the question actually stood in this House and said that we were in voice mode and made those motions that I just made to suggest that there was no record of every conversation.

So it shouldn't be that hard for folks over there to understand that when they FOIP something, not every conversation will be included.

Ms Hoffman: I said no such thing, and the member knows full well. He should table it in this House if he feels otherwise.

Mr. Speaker, during the time the Premier was on vacation, his best summer ever, approximately 7,000 more Albertans got sick, and 300 were hospitalized. Yesterday the Premier claimed that when he learned surgeries would be cancelled, he acted immediately except there is no evidence to back that up. He's proven time and time again that he can't be taken for his word. Can the Premier table any evidence of him providing direction from Europe, and if not, how was that showing leadership? Was he doing carrier pigeon, Morse code? Like, seriously?

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, as noted many times in this House, the move to managing COVID as an endemic back in July was too soon, but then we did take action when things changed. We responded to the fourth wave by bringing in the REP program, and we also brought in a number of other measures. Those measures are working. I'm pleased to say that for the past five weeks numbers have been coming down: the number of ICU cases have been coming down; hospitalizations have been coming down; and in terms of numbers with COVID in ICU, it's coming down. We need to continue to focus on that, and we will.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora for her second set of questions.

Natural Immunity to COVID-19 and Vaccination Rates

Ms Hoffman: Mr. Speaker, yesterday we heard questions and statements from those members in the UCP about natural immunity of COVID-19. Specifically, they wanted to know why it isn't being considered as part of the restrictions exemption program, or vaccine passport. The Health minister, to his credit, was pretty clear. He said that there isn't good data and that you should still get the vaccine. However, two hours later the Premier went on TV and said that natural immunity is just as good as getting the vaccine; in fact, you should have both. Does the Premier really believe one of the best ways to protect yourself against COVID is to get COVID?

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated yesterday – and so did the Premier indicate yesterday – we need more data in regard to doing assessment of natural immunity. Actually, the Premier said many, many times that based on studies that we've seen, for those who do have natural immunity, the safest way is for them to continue to get the vaccine and get a shot. So I urge all Albertans who haven't gotten the shot yet to actually get the information they need and then make the call to protect themselves, their families, and . . .

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora.

Ms Hoffman: Mr. Speaker, I fully understand that there are ongoing studies and research into antibodies generated from prior infection and the degree to which they might impact future infection. Totally fair. But right now we need to do everything we can to increase vaccine rates and talk about safety and effectiveness of vaccines with Albertans. Last night Albertans who were on the fence heard the Premier give them a reason to wait, a reason to stop going for a vaccine. Why doesn't the Premier understand that his words are actually impacting vaccine rates for the negative and that they're stopping people from getting their shot?

Mr. McIver: Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, this is textbook NDP. The hon. member just said that some immunity can be gotten from getting COVID. When she says it, she considers it okay. In her previous question somebody else said it; it's not okay. You can't believe a thing they say. I'm not sure they believe a thing that they say.

Ms Hoffman: Mr. Speaker, the Premier says that health officials are way too busy to speak freely at an all-party committee, yet he tells the same health officials to spend their precious time researching how he can roll back his own vaccine passport. To the Premier: why does he believe that senior leadership within Alberta Health have time to research loopholes to what is arguably Alberta's most effective vaccine program, finally the government implementing a vaccine passport, but not answer questions about his government's response to an all-party committee? Who is really wasting officials' time here?

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, we said in this House and the Premier said in this House numerous times that there will be an independent, comprehensive review once we're actually through COVID so we can learn from both our mistakes and where we have succeeded. I can say that my focus and our government's focus right now is getting through the fourth wave, increasing vaccinations, and dealing with the real issues that some people have in terms of fear of the vaccine, deal with them with kindness, with information. We know – and this is the policy of our government – that vaccines are the best way to not only help us get through the fourth wave but protect our health system from future waves.

Educational Curriculum Redesign

Member Irwin: Albertans from all parts of our province have rejected the UCP's garbage curriculum. It's been rejected by school districts representing more than 95 per cent of Alberta students. It's been condemned by Indigenous communities, francophones, teachers, students, parents, racialized Albertans, just to name a few. Now we know the minister was warned by her own department that the draft was no good. Former Alberta Education employee Dr. Joanne Neal submitted a 40-page analysis of the draft in the summer of 2020. A simple question: has the minister read that report?

Member LaGrange: Mr. Speaker, there are over 500 people who work in the Education department and over 150 of them in the curriculum division alone. This was just one of many views on curriculum. What the members opposite are forgetting is that Albertans elected our government with a majority, a huge majority, on a mandate to pause the NDP's curriculum review and change direction. We're doing just that. [interjections]

The Speaker: Order. Order.

Member Irwin: This report warned that the UCP's approach to curriculum would destroy Alberta's international reputation for excellence, that it will fail to prepare Alberta students for success at postsecondary schools in Alberta, let alone at schools in other provinces or other countries. University of Calgary professor Dr. Brent Davis says: it's clear that the UCP's curriculum is driven by politics and not by education. Why is this minister so determined to drive young families out of Alberta by forcing this useless, regressive, racist curriculum onto their children?

2:00

Member LaGrange: Again, Mr. Speaker, Albertans elected us to pause the NDP's curriculum review. This was a promise we made

and a promise we kept. Albertans told us loud and clear they want a stronger focus on basic literacy and numeracy, and that's exactly what we intend to deliver on after a year-long public consultation. The NDP in four years in government – they had four years. They didn't get the job done. They failed; we won't. [interjections]

The Speaker: Order.

Member Irwin: All right. Let's try your own government, then. In August the Member for Grande Prairie, a UCP MLA, wrote the Education minister a six-page letter listing all the things wrong with the curriculum, including: "Plagiarism is embarrassing," "Offensive content," "Have the writers ever met a child?" "This draft seems . . . driven by politics," "Where is the Canadian and Albertan geography?" "Where are the dinosaurs?" – and she didn't mean her own caucus. There are six pages of this. The curriculum is so bad that this minister cancelled all the in-person feedback sessions with Alberta parents. When will this minister listen to Albertans or, heck, even her own colleagues . . .

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Education.

Member LaGrange: Mr. Speaker, everyone knows that we've had a year-long engagement process. It's very comprehensive. All of the hon. members across the aisle can take part in it. We are listening to the feedback from Albertans, and I can tell the House that changes will be made to the draft content based on all the feedback we receive. But I will not apologize for doing exactly what Albertans elected us to do by following through on our promise to deliver an excellent curriculum. I'm committed to that. That is the number one goal for my department.

Surgery Wait Times

Mr. Shepherd: Mr. Speaker, today the Health minister revealed that 15,000 surgeries were postponed in the fourth wave. Yesterday I read the story of Eryn Bannerman, a Red Deer woman who's been waiting months for a leg amputation and still doesn't have a date or time. Thanks to the UCP's devastation of our health care system, the pain and suffering she endures every day is now compounded by worry and fear about when it will finally be resolved. I'm heartbroken, and I am angry. Why does this government think it's acceptable to leave people like Eryn and 14,999 others to suffer in pain, lose their sense of normalcy for so long, while they scramble to develop a plan to clean up the mess . . .

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Health.

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, as I indicated before in this House, I feel for all patients, all Albertans and their families, who have had their surgeries postponed. I appreciate that it is incredibly challenging for them. We are working on a plan to be able to get caught up, and there is hope. Because of the hard work that Albertans have done and because of putting in the measures that we put in, including the REP, the numbers are coming down. We are currently reducing the number of surge ICU beds, moving that into surgeries, and we've increased that to roughly two-thirds. We're not caught up yet, and we're continuing to do work on this.

Mr. Shepherd: Mr. Speaker, we didn't have to be here, and it's not the fault of AHS; it's not the fault of the patients; it's not the fault of the doctors. It's the fault of this Premier and this Health minister. Eryn Bannerman has been told that a portion of her leg will need to be amputated but can't know when because of the Premier's best summer ever. She's not alone. The minister revealed, at long last,

that there are 15,000 others who had their surgeries cancelled because of himself and every other member of the UCP. The Health minister hid this number until the last day of session before a break. Does he understand this shameful conduct is why no one trusts the UCP? Will he apologize right now?

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, I indicated earlier today that we postponed, unfortunately, roughly 15,000 surgeries. To put that in context, in the first three waves 30,000 surgeries were postponed. It is challenging dealing with COVID, but our system can respond to that. Of the 30,000 postponements that were done in the first three waves, we had largely caught up in terms of the numbers of people waiting for surgeries by August. It is incredibly unfortunate that we've had to cancel more surgeries to be able to deal with the fourth wave, but we are working on a plan not only to be able to get caught up at this point in time but to be able to show Albertans how we can actually get caught up and then exceed moving forward.

Mr. Shepherd: Mr. Speaker, it's unfortunate, and it's directly as a result of decisions by this government, who now have an exhausted workforce, thanks to their decisions, to try to dig us out from this, unlike the previous 30,000. This Premier gave a \$12,000 raise to one of his caucus members, and that member then stood in this House yesterday, undermined the vaccine passport program, which is keeping people safe, increasing vaccine uptake, and helping us to get to a place where we can catch up on these surgeries, 15,000. Will the Premier admit that it's disgusting that Albertans are suffering because his government is forcing them to have to fund raise to be able to survive long enough to get to their surgery?

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, our government, in terms of my mandate, is ensuring that we have the capacity to not only catch up on the surgeries but to exceed the surgeries and be able to live up to our commitment that we made to Albertans to reduce wait times, and that still is our focus throughout our mandate. I feel for all the families who are impacted, but I can tell them that we are focused, working with AHS in terms of developing a plan. We are continuing to increase surgeries, and I'm pleased to report to this House that even though we're only at two-thirds of the surgeries so far, 100 per cent of all cancer surgeries are being done right now, and the numbers are continuing to improve.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland.

Affordable Housing Strategy

Mr. Getson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. About 18 months ago I was appointed as co-chair on the Minister's Advisory Committee for Seniors and Housing and affordable housing, and it's been an honour to be part of that team that's looking at new ways of doing things. Given that the Alberta government understands the profound importance of affordable housing for the province's families, particularly in light of the rising cost of groceries, inflation, and essentials, can the Minister of Seniors and Housing tell us what the government is doing in order to add capacity to the province's current affordable housing stock?

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

Ms Pon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Stronger foundations is our government's 10-year strategy to improve and expand affordable housing while building a sustainable system that provides flexible, fair, inclusive housing options. It outlined the bold and thoughtful changes needed to provide safe, stable, affordable housing for an additional 25,000 households and to increase the total served to 82,000 households.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland.

Mr. Getson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that affordability has been a long-standing issue – as part of that advisory committee, it was kind of like a train wreck from the last organization – and given that the same old approach has not been serving us well at all, what sort of innovative solutions is the government pursuing to ensure that more Albertans have access to affordable housing?

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

Ms Pon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The key component to stronger foundations is bringing more people, more Albertans to the table to provide more affordable housing. The government cannot fix affordable housing systems ourselves alone, so we will bring more partners to the table by reducing red tape and making it easy for housing providers to provide affordable housing by working with them to provide new models of affordable housing such as a mixed-income model.

Mr. Getson: Mr. Speaker, given that we know that each municipality and region has unique housing needs that vary and given that municipalities have asked for a less top-down approach to addressing the need for affordable housing, what is the government doing to address these needs? [interjections]

The Speaker: Order.
The hon. minister.

Ms Pon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our government will work with the municipalities to make sure that the housing units that we are building are community driven and focus on better community results, which the opposition doesn't know how to do. As such, we will work with the municipalities to do housing need assessments to identify: what do we need in the community? We will work with the community leaders to tap into the local expertise to better serve the local needs and Albertans. [interjections]

The Speaker: Order. Order.

COVID-19 Response and Premier's Leadership (continued)

Ms Phillips: In August it was the Finance minister that was the first to emerge from hiding to answer questions about the dangerous fourth wave of COVID-19 hitting the province. He defended the absentee Premier, pointing out that he was still tweeting. That's where we're at: governance by Twitter in a pandemic. The Finance minister went on to say that the looming fourth wave would be, quote, bumpy. It was more than bumpy. The health care system almost went off a cliff because no one was driving. Will the Finance minister detail exactly how many public health briefings he attended in the month of August?

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

Mr. Toews: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Premier has been clear. The Health minister has been clear. Over the course of the month of August the Premier was taking briefings even while he was away for a couple of weeks on a vacation. He was taking briefings from his staff, from his Health minister at the time. Of course, we know that the modelling that we'd received in the early part of the summer had changed, and by early September, when it became apparent that we were on a different trajectory, the Premier called cabinet together, and we made decisions accordingly.

2:10

Ms Phillips: Well, given that the minister just avoided that question – government-wide it appears no one will give Albertans a straight answer – given that the Premier claims he was in charge but his calendar shows clearly he was not, and given that the regulations show that it should have been the Finance minister, will the minister table the order in council, the delegation of authority that the Premier would have had to sign before leaving the country, and if he can't, can he point me in the direction of who was supposed to be running the government when our health care system bordered on collapse and table that document instead?

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

Mr. Toews: Again, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again, I will state that the Premier was on the job even while he was on vacation. In August he was taking briefings from the Health minister and from other ministers during that time and from his officials. Again, our modelling changed over the course of the summer. As soon as it became apparent that we were on a different trajectory, that further action would be needed, the Premier called cabinet together, and decisions were taken.

Ms Phillips: Well, given, Mr. Speaker, that that, too, was not an answer and given that the Premier, who routinely schedules his phone calls, meals, walks, drives, downtime, and expenses, believed that he ran the government off his cellphone from Europe even though his calendar was empty, a simple question for the Finance minister, then: how many times during the Premier's European vacation did he call the Finance minister, and will he table those international phone records, which should exist, in this House?

Mr. Toews: Mr. Speaker, I don't know how many times we have to get up in this House and inform Albertans that the Premier was still on the job even though he was on a much-needed vacation. I don't know of an individual with a stronger work ethic than our Premier. He doesn't take a day off on a weekend. He doesn't take a day off even when he's on vacation. That was the case this summer. [interjections]

The Speaker: Order.

Alberta Artists

Ms Goehring: Mr. Speaker, yesterday in the House the minister claimed he was a huge supporter and fan of Alberta artists and made ridiculous claims that the opposition would like to put an end to art in the province. Being a fellow fan and supporter of the arts myself, as the minister claims to be, I wanted to ask my colleague and fellow appreciator of art about some of his favourite local musicians, artists, performers, and professionals so we can make sure he's really being honest. To the minister: who are your three favourite Alberta musicians? [interjections]

The Speaker: Order. Order. [interjections] Order. While I appreciate that the opposition might like the personal opinion of the minister, I find it very difficult to find any remotely close piece of government business that has to do with what he might listen to on the radio, but if you'd like to ask, he's welcome to answer. He's welcome to do so.

Mr. Orr: Yeah. Mr. Speaker, I think all I should refer to is that it seems to me like the members opposite have become infected, not with COVID-19 but with a dystopian cognitive dissonance. One minute they want schools closed. The next minute they want businesses locked

down. They want gatherings forbidden. They want people quarantined. The next minute they want live performances. They want crowds gathered. They want venues full. We're not going to do either. We've provided stabilized funding to keep them alive. We've provided for online events. We've created a restrictions exemption program to keep them . . .

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-Castle Downs.

Ms Goehring: Given that my favourite Alberta musicians include bands like Ayla Brook & The Sound Men, Sargeant X Comrade, and the beautiful songwriting of Electric Religious and given that I also love the guitar riffs in Jann Arden's music, which is performed by her long-time guitar player and multi-award winning musician, producer, and writer Russell Broom, and given that the government must work with musicians, no doubt, but theatre is also critical to our arts and culture sector, perhaps the minister can tell us who his three favourite Alberta playwrights, directors, or actors are.

Mr. McIver: Mr. Speaker, for those folks watching at home and those folks in the House, the first number of questions from the other side was: why did we not lock Alberta down? Now the question is: why didn't we open Alberta up? This is textbook NDP. If they don't like you, every answer is wrong. They're not consistent, but every answer is wrong. So what is it? I think you want it locked down, but this member wants it opened up. Mr. Speaker, no one can believe a thing that they say here or anywhere else.

Ms Goehring: Given that it's a long-standing tradition for Calgaryans to see Stephen Hair play Ebenezer Scrooge in Theatre Calgary's *A Christmas Carol*, a 26-year-old tradition, in fact, and given that on Friday the Rosebud Theatre's production of *A Christmas Carol* will open, starring Nathan Schmidt, a local graduate of the Rosebud School of the Arts and of workshops held at the Banff Centre for arts and creativity and given that maybe the minister is more into visual art like local artist Carol Stratman's work *Pacific Passage*, which is a moving depiction of orcas in the sea, I'm going to give the minister one more chance. Who are your three favourite visual artists . . .

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Culture.

Mr. McIver: Point of order.

The Speaker: A point of order has been noted at 2:16.

Mr. Orr: Well, Mr. Speaker, since they want to get personal here, I can accommodate that. My three favourite artists would be Grace, Wynonna, and Rachel, my three granddaughters who play violin. Beyond that I have to support my own local riding. Gord Bamford and . . . [interjections]

The Speaker: Order. Order. You asked the minister a question. He was answering it. You ought to at least let the Speaker hear his answer even if you don't like it.

The hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat is the only one with the call.

COVID-19 Response

Mr. Barnes: Yesterday Ontario's Premier announced that his province will not make vaccines mandatory for Ontario health care workers, stating that he is not willing to jeopardize the delivery of care to millions of Ontarians. Also, yesterday the Health minister of Quebec cancelled a vaccine mandate for current employees,

stating that the loss of staff would have a devastating effect on the system. To the Premier: when will you inevitably realize it is up to you to protect Alberta's health care system, protect jobs and rescind this government's policy of economically coerced vaccinations?

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Health.

Mr. Copping: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the hon. member for the question. As you know, AHS is a separate entity from the government of Alberta. AHS has announced a policy, a vaccination policy. They did extend, as was announced by the CEO a couple weeks ago, the deadline for that, which is enabling them to actually increase vaccination. The vaccination rates for full-time and regular staff are above 95 per cent. Same with physicians: above 95 per cent. I and our government have a commitment from AHS that they'll ensure that they'll be able to deliver the services that Albertans . . .

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat.

Mr. Barnes: Given that the Premier stated that the purpose of vaccine passports is to increase vaccination rates, yet this week he noted that we're probably getting to the point of diminishing returns, and given that most restrictions enacted during the pandemic infringe on Albertans' rights under sections 7, 8, and 15 of the Charter and given that to leave such restrictions in place governments must demonstrate that such measures are pressing, substantial, and proportional, again to the Premier: if you expect vaccination rates to plateau soon, why are you refusing to even consider lifting passport restrictions for another three to six months?

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, even though vaccinations are slowing down, they are still continuing to increase. That's why one of my key mandates is to increase vaccination rates. I understand that some people have concerns, and we need to recognize those concerns and those fears and, with kindness, provide information and get them vaccinated. We know that the way out of this fourth wave – and we're not out of the woods yet; we still have high ICU counts – is actually to increase our vaccination. Also, that will help us in the future to deal with future waves. That is my focus, and that's what we'll deliver on.

Mr. Barnes: Mr. Speaker, given that the chief medical officer of health and the Premier can't seem to figure out who's at fault for this government's colossal failures on the COVID-19 file, with the Premier using the CMOH as a scapegoat during this Assembly's debate on Motion 100, and given that the government indicated they could increase ICU capacity by 1,081 by the end of April, 2020, and given the government failed spectacularly, to the Premier. Albertans already are wise to the fact that you don't listen to anyone. When will you allow the CMOH to appear before our committee with her side of the story?

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, as said many times in this House by the Premier and by our government, we acknowledge that moving to managing COVID as an endemic back in July was too soon, but we did respond. We responded with the REP, and we responded with many other measures recommended by the CMOH. That's having an effect. What's important to realize is that we needed to protect capacity within our ICU system, and my mandate moving forward is to not only do contingency planning for what COVID may throw at us in the future but is to build that capacity and build that on a permanent basis, not only to be able to better respond to COVID but to be able to catch up on the backlog of surgeries.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood has a question, but prior to that I might just provide some early caution with respect to the use of preambles. On the last two occasions of your questions we have found a very creative use of preambles. I hope that won't continue today. The hon. member.

Workplace Conduct of Ministers and Staff

Member Irwin: I was deeply troubled yesterday to see the Premier completely dismiss very serious claims of sexual harassment and workplace abuse in this Legislature during a press conference that was being aired on national TV. We know full well that there has been a lawsuit filed by the former chief of staff to the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Innovation, who came forward with these concerns and then was subsequently fired. The court filing has been widely reported by the media and distributed online, but yesterday the Premier claimed he wasn't aware of those allegations. Can someone in this government cabinet rise and explain, for the benefit of the Premier, exactly what has been alleged to have happened in the workplace for which he is responsible?

Ms Issik: As I've said in this House before, sexual harassment has no place in this workplace or any other workplace in this province. I cannot speak about a case that is before the courts. I think the member across is well aware of that. I will tell you that we did make a statement that an independent review would be undertaken immediately, and I can tell you now that Ms Jamie Pytel will be conducting that review. It will begin immediately. It will be fully independent. Should new policies be adopted as a result of Ms Pytel's review . . .

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood.

Member Irwin: Given that the Premier's dismissal of the concerns as being part of a private relationship is deeply disturbing – the victim in this instance lost her job, but the minister at the centre of allegations still has his – and given that downplaying such a serious matter sends a chilling message and will act to deter others from coming forward, will the Associate Minister of Status of Women explain to this House whether she stands behind the Premier's answer on this very serious issue?

Ms Issik: As I just said, Mr. Speaker, I cannot comment on specific allegations on a specific case that is before the courts. I'm sure that everybody in this Chamber is well aware of that. I will repeat that there is an independent review that has been undertaken by Ms Jamie Pytel. It's going to be an independent review. It's starting immediately. Should new policies be adopted as a result of this review, they're going to be made public.

Member Irwin: Given that the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Innovation claims his chief of staff was an excellent staffer but he claims he had no knowledge of why he was fired and given that the Premier now also claims to have no knowledge of this very serious matter, did anyone on that side of the House actually try to stand up for this woman? Did anyone take her concerns seriously? Did anyone try to intervene before she was fired for bringing forward very serious allegations? Please let us know.

Ms Issik: Mr. Speaker, once again and for the third time I'm going to state that everyone in this Chamber is well aware that I cannot comment on specific allegations in a case that is before the courts. There is an independent review that has been undertaken. Ms Jamie Pytel is the person who will be conducting that review, and the

policies, if any, that come out of it that are new will be reported to the public.

Fort McMurray Concerns

Mr. Bilous: Fort McMurray has been through difficult times over the past several years, from the crash in oil prices to the 2016 fire and last year's flood to the current pandemic. All of these events have been hard on the people of Fort McMurray and the region's economy. I had the pleasure of visiting the city over the past couple of days, speaking to community and business leaders, and while the resilience of the people of Fort McMurray is clear, there is overwhelming frustration with the current government. Why did the government fail to help the city fund a major flood-mitigation project that was made critical after the 2016 flood?

Mr. McIver: Well, Mr. Speaker, we worked with the city of Fort McMurray. Our disaster recovery program is very straightforward. It's in no way political. I know that I've had some conversations about some of the work that we've done with the council in Fort McMurray. Everything that's been approved either has been paid or will be paid. Everything that didn't meet the disaster recovery standards: it doesn't apply to. That's a consistent standard that's been across Alberta in every disaster that happens.

Mr. Bilous: Given that Alberta's energy sector has a great story to tell about the progress we've made on tackling emissions and commitments made by oil sands producers to achieve net zero by 2050 and given that COP 26 is currently taking place, where decisions will be made that will impact the lives of the people who live and work in Fort McMurray, yet the UCP didn't send anyone – instead, the Premier said that he'd leave it to the war room – why is the UCP refusing to fight for the people of Fort McMurray on the world stage and leaving their future in the hands of the UCP's embarrassing war room?

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Energy.

Mr. Schow: Point of order.

The Speaker: A point of order has been noted at 2:27.

Mrs. Savage: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We're staying here in Alberta, getting action done to reduce emissions. We've announced \$176 million of funding to real projects in Alberta that will actually reduce emissions. We're staying here in Alberta to get a hydrogen strategy out. It's part of a way to get to net zero. We're staying here in Alberta to get a critical and rare-earth strategy out to search for the types of minerals that are needed for a low-carbon future. We're staying here in Alberta to help our oil sands pathways initiative aim to get to net zero. We're getting stuff done. They'd be over in Europe with . . .

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview.

Mr. Bilous: You're failing the energy sector.

Given that there's a major shortage of labour in Fort McMurray and given that I consistently heard that part of the reason for the labour shortage is due to a lack of access to physicians and specialists in the area and given that the UCP's constant war on health care professionals is forcing many of them to leave our communities like Fort McMurray and our province, will the UCP stop our attacks on our health care system and our health professionals that are hurting Fort McMurray's economy and all Albertans?

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, our government is committed to ensuring we have equitable access to health professionals, including physicians, no matter where they live in the province, including Fort McMurray. We have made significant investments to protect health care in rural areas, recognizing that different communities have different challenges. We are spending about \$90 million in '21-22 to address rural physician recruitment and retention, and part of my plan going forward in terms of increasing capacity is looking at not only on the short term how we get that capacity up but medium term and long term, and the way to do that is through recruitment and retention. That's my focus, and we'll deliver on that.

The Speaker: Hon. members, I failed to mention a point of order that is noted at 2:28, mentioned by the hon. the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

The Member for Lethbridge-East.

Postsecondary Education in Lethbridge

Mr. Neudorf: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As part of Bill 74, the Advanced Education Statutes Amendment Act, 2021, we are changing the categories of postsecondary institutions from six to two, one for universities and one for polytechnics and colleges. In 2021 we designated the Grande Prairie Regional College and the Red Deer college as polytechnics. Both colleges can now offer apprenticeship education and polytechnic-focused degree, diploma, and certificate programs. Lethbridge College has applied for recognition as a polytechnic based off the courses and programs they provide. To the Minister of Advanced Education: can you provide an update on the Lethbridge College's application for their status?

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

2:30

Mr. Nicolaides: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd be happy to. Indeed, the member is correct. We recently transitioned Grande Prairie Regional College and Red Deer college to become polytechnic institutions. Of course, that will allow them to expand program offerings in areas like apprenticeship education and applied learning and in other areas without sacrificing important programs that the community needs like trades programming and other areas. Under the NDP a transition to university would have put those programs at risk. When it comes to Lethbridge College, we have received an application from Lethbridge College. We are looking at that, and we hope to have an answer to them shortly.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Lethbridge-East.

Mr. Neudorf: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Give that Bill 74 also outlines increased collaboration between institutions and given that the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta both offer world-class medical school programs and given that in my riding and the rural municipalities around Alberta we are seeing a shortage of medical professionals and given that medical students are more likely to stay in the community that they train in, to the same minister: will you work with these medical institutions and institutions in Lethbridge and rural areas to provide more training opportunities in other communities?

Mr. Nicolaides: Absolutely, Mr. Speaker. Indeed, you know, the member is correct. One of the things that he mentioned there relates to Alberta 2030, of course, the 10-year strategic plan that we've developed. One of the key focuses of Alberta 2030 is to work with our rural and remote communities to help ensure that we're able to provide more programs to all Albertans in every corner of the province, regardless of where they're at. I know there have been

some interesting partnerships recently. The University of Calgary is collaborating with AHS to offer nursing degrees and nursing programs in Wainwright and in other areas. More of that is to come.

The Speaker: The hon. member.

Mr. Neudorf: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister. Given that the University of Lethbridge wants to add a medical training program for students to study in southern Alberta and in surrounding rural areas and given that there's currently a partnership between the University of Calgary and the University of Lethbridge that does bring some students to Lethbridge and the surrounding area to study, to the same minister: will you work with the University of Lethbridge to develop more collaborative programs that will attract further medical students into southern Alberta and the surrounding rural areas?

Mr. Nicolaides: I'm very happy to, Mr. Speaker. I think this is one of the areas where we can continue to strengthen our postsecondary system. When we look at these types of partnerships that allow for more collaborative programs, that's how we can truly expand access and create more opportunities for Albertans in all corners of the province, because I think every Albertan deserves the opportunity to pursue high-quality educational program regardless of where they are. Collaborative programs like the one the member mentioned will help us get there. I'm absolutely committed to working with the Lethbridge community and the institutions there to help see some of those results.

Affordable Housing Strategy

(continued)

Ms Sigurdson: The Seniors and Housing minister has defended her decision to sell off Alberta's affordable housing stock by claiming that the money gained by these sales will be used to support affordable housing. However, there's nothing in the bill that actually requires this. It is simply just words. Albertans will not be fooled by this. Why didn't the Minister of Seniors and Housing include a requirement to keep profits of the sale of housing actually in housing? Albertans don't trust this government to keep its word.

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

Ms Pon: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I don't understand why the member opposite doesn't understand the difference between – we are helping Albertans. We are building more housing for Albertans. This government before never did that before, and then for housing they got 65 per cent of the people increased on the wait-list. Now they're telling us what to do. No, we will not listen to you. We have a plan. We execute and we deliver results. [interjections]

The Speaker: Order. Order.

Ms Sigurdson: Given that without a tangible legislative requirement on the minister's claim that profit from selling affordable housing will actually remain in housing, she's asking Albertans to simply trust her and her cabinet colleagues, but given that the UCP continually polls as the least trustworthy government in the entire country and given that the last two years the UCP lost the trust of all levels of government on affordable housing by refusing to work with them, for the sake of accountability and honesty, will the minister commit to bringing in an amendment that requires the proceeds of the sales to be used to build affordable housing?

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

Ms Pon: Thank you. Talk about trust and talk about planning. I'm not sure that member opposite talked about her 12 pages, including pictures. She called that a strategy plan. We have a plan. We are going to have a plan to execute. We have lots of support from the stakeholders and the housing providers. They are going to work with us. You have no idea, Mr. Speaker, how many people, how many housing providers contacted me the last few days and want to be part of this.

Ms Sigurdson: Given that the lack of accountability in this housing bill makes many question the intent and purpose of it and given that many Albertans are also concerned that the UCP's plan to sell affordable housing is a way to help partisan insiders and friends in the real estate and development industries and given that when I asked about this before my question was completely ignored, I will ask again: will the minister commit to Albertans today that no affordable housing sales or public-private partnerships will be made with companies whose executives have made political donations to the UCP? Again, we need housing, not . . .

The Speaker: The hon. minister of housing.

Ms Pon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I answered, repeat my answer again. We are going to increase by partnership 25,000 households by the end of 10 years, which is in total an increase of 850,000 units that are coming. I don't understand why they're so against this partnership. We are paying all those operating costs for those underused facilities and land. They had been ignored in their four years of inaction.

Racism and Hate Crime Prevention

Member Loyola: Within Canada police-reported hate crimes against Black people rose by 92 per cent while hate crimes targeting East or South Asian people rose by 301 per cent. Indigenous hate crimes increased by 152 per cent. The government released the antiracism advisory report in June, with the Minister of Justice announcing the creation of a community liaison on hate crimes who would advise the government. My question to the minister is this: why has there been little to no action in four months since releasing the 48 recommendations in the report even though many Albertans continue to face the difficulties and complexities of racism in their daily lives?

The Speaker: The hon. associate minister of immigration.

Mr. Yaseen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is no place for racism or hate in this province, and we condemned it in this first term. That's why we established the Alberta security infrastructure program. That's why we established a community liaison on hate crimes. That's why we established a hate crime co-ordination unit. We are working on those recommendations.

Thank you.

Member Loyola: And no action on any of those files.

Given that the pandemic has intensified the racial grief or exclusion of many people of colour and that a survey conducted by the Angus Reid Institute shows a shadow pandemic of racism currently existing in Alberta and given that the report called for the government to protect the racialized workers in health care, who, by the way, have been integral to fighting the pandemic, what tangible actions has the government taken to support racialized workers since the release of the report?

The Speaker: The hon. the Associate Minister of Immigration and Multiculturalism.

Mr. Yaseen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the question. As the member knows, we are working on these recommendations across various ministries. We are waiting on some of the feedback to our ministry, and we will report accordingly.

Member Loyola: Again, just wait; we're getting there.

Given the fact that I'm sure the government agrees that racist hate and bias-motivated violence and crime cannot be tolerated in Alberta and given that Albertans deserve to see what resources this government is prepared to put behind the recommendations of this report to ensure that they are fulfilled, what comprehensive steps has the government taken to consult with ethnic, religious, and LGBTQ2S-plus communities who are directly affected by the increasing numbers of hate crimes?

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

Mr. Madu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let's be clear. Racism and acts of discrimination have no place in our province. But I am so proud of the work that this government has done to ensure that everyone in our province gets to enjoy the benefit and the freedom in our province. I have held more than 50 town halls, stakeholder consultations. I've met with people from every walk of life in our province, and I am glad that we are continuing to work to deepen that particular effort.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Brooks-Medicine Hat.

2:40 Small Businesses in Rural Alberta

Mrs. Frey: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When most people think about rural Alberta, they think of beautiful fields, animals, and the best people, but mostly they think about our farms and ranches. While farms and ranches are important, people often forget the various small businesses that exist in areas especially like Brooks-Medicine Hat. These businesses outside of large urban centres have historically felt left out when provincial governments talk about economic development, especially the NDP. Small businesses are vital to our tight-knit communities and their sustainability. But I'm going to have to ask the hard question here. Can the Associate Minister of Rural Economic Development tell this House about why these businesses are so important?

Mr. Horner: Well, they're so important because they're in rural Alberta and they keep the communities that we all love so much alive. Thank you for that question. They make up almost 99 per cent of all the businesses in rural Alberta. We know we need to take a hands-on approach to supporting rural communities, which includes everything from small-business supports and investments in critical infrastructure to health care and education. Just last week we launched our rural engagement tour to have an open and honest conversation with rural Albertans on how we can ensure they are part of Alberta's economic recovery.

Mrs. Frey: Thank you, Minister. Given the minister's mandate to increase rural economic development and given that the development must include a focus on the existing small businesses that make our rural communities so strong and given that small-business owners like those in Brooks-Medicine Hat often feel that it's a challenge to have their voices heard by government because they're so far away, can the same minister tell rural small-business owners across Alberta

how important community-focused business strategies are in this ministry's plan to get our province back on track?

The Speaker: The hon. the Associate Minister of Rural Economic Development.

Mr. Horner: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. As I mentioned earlier, we are currently consulting with rural Albertans to ensure that everyone, urban and rural, benefits from Alberta's recovery plan. We are already noticing several themes emerging from our engagements: rural broadband, the ability to remain competitive in a global market, and the sustainability of not only businesses but the communities they call home. We're going to continue to find ways to attract much-needed investment, support these businesses, and bolster rural economic activity.

Mrs. Frey: Thank you, Minister. Rural broadband is so important.

Given that small businesses in rural Alberta are run by our friends and families and the economic downturn has hit these communities much harder than some of the more urban centres and given that although our businesses take pride in buying local and made-in-Alberta brands, we need our businesses to be able to compete outside of the local area as well, can the minister tell these hard-working people what supports exist to help them remain competitive in Alberta's recovery plan?

The Speaker: The associate minister.

Mr. Horner: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Alberta's government has been rolling out some important programs to help Alberta businesses get back on track. For example, we're investing \$10 million toward the digital economy program, which will help small businesses build digital capability and increase their digital presence. Business Link is delivering the digital economy program and is working with Digital Main Street, a nationally recognized platform, to implement the program. Businesses will be able to access help to establish an online store, receive training and support to create and manage their e-commerce platforms.

The Speaker: Hon. members, in 30 seconds or less we will return to the remainder of Members' Statements.

If members are travelling home to their constituencies today, please do so safely and be kind to one another.

Members' Statements

(continued)

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Vermilion-Lloydminster-Wainwright.

Mask Use in School Buses

Mr. Rowswell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to take a moment to recognize a constituent of mine, a five-year-old named Hudson. Hudson is like most children his age. He enjoys playing outside, spending time with his family, and going to school with his friends. Hudson attends school at the Buffalo Trail public school division, and although he is not required to wear a mask in school, he is required to wear one when he takes the bus for an hour each way to and from school.

Recently Hudson's father, a member of the local fire department and a military veteran who has served overseas and who understands emergency situations well, found Hudson unconscious and unresponsive after an hour-long bus ride home. The bus driver

didn't notice that Hudson was having a medical episode because she was busy with her driving duties, which is understandable. After several efforts Hudson's father helped Hudson come to, thankfully. Hudson has recovered from the incident. No medical intervention was necessary.

Since this scary incident took place, I have been corresponding with Hudson's mother, a veterinarian. In her estimation Hudson was dehydrated, overheated, and oxygen deprived. She also believes the situation was mostly precipitated by the mask Hudson had been wearing for more than an hour. I'm inclined to agree with her analysis. [interjections]

Now, the government's position is that masks on buses are necessary as students cannot socially distance, they are not from the same household, and air circulation on the bus is not ideal. [interjections] Can we not reconsider this position to allow masking policies on buses to be the same as it is in schools? It might even be more important not to mask on the bus as there is less ability to monitor kids than in schools.

I want to thank Hudson's loving parents for their relentless advocacy.

Thank you.

Speaker's Ruling Interrupting Members' Statements

The Speaker: Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, no matter what your personal opinions about another member of the Assembly are, it is unbecoming of any member to make such allegations or make such statements as you did during that member's statement. First of all, there's a long-standing tradition of members being allowed to remain uninterrupted during Members' Statements, which every other member of the Assembly seems to be able to adhere to. I would expect that I will not hear such comments from you under any circumstances in the future.

The hon. Member for Chestermere-Strathmore is next.

Workplace Harassment

Mrs. Aheer: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Even a drop of water can erode a mountain. Dr. Nnorom, a physician and Black team leader for the faculty of medicine at the University of Toronto, said these words as she spoke to racism, intercultural competencies, and safety. We must be committed to making systemic change in all of our organizations and be empowered to create safe spaces so that people feel safe to disclose difficult and perhaps inappropriate behaviour and situations. We are in positions of authority, and we are held to a higher standard.

Harassment can destroy a person or an organization and friendships. It's hard to build trust once harassment has been disclosed and even more challenging when the person who has found the courage to come forward does not have the support of those they've disclosed to. What will we tell our next generation about how we treated people in our institutions and in our province? This is not a partisan issue. It is a systemic issue that continues to be pushed further into the darkness by those who dare to come forward and who are tossed away by those they trust. These people are not attention seekers. They face humiliation for telling their truth and negative consequences like being fired or, worse, isolation. The victims are being blamed.

We are all responsible for this behaviour, and we are collectively accountable for changing this culture. It requires kindness for changing this culture and to be able to see this through and to ask the right questions. If we are bystanders to this behaviour, we are part of the problem. We are responsible if money or a job or

credibility is used against a person or the culture allows harassment to continue. Do we only value people if they follow one ideology or thought process?

Understand this. People who have faced family violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or harassment do not want to be defined by it. They want to be valued and heard and have their concerns understood and see change happen. It's remarkable that anyone comes forward given that the chances of finding real solutions are so small. Yet these courageous few are hit with threats, minimizing their value, loss of opportunity, and retaliation.

2:50

UCP Government

Mr. Barnes: Albertans recently learned about the Premier's newest scandals involving allegations of sexual harassment, excessive drinking in the workplace, bullying by ministers, and false accusations of leaks. The staffer that raised these concerns has filed a wrongful dismissal case after being fired, demeaned, and vilified. In contrast, the accused harasser finished his high-priced sunshine list contract before moving on to the sweet world of the kind of high-priced taxpayer-funded contracts only available to favoured insiders. According to the staffer's legal filings she was wrongly accused of leaking scandals to the press. As someone who has been wrongly accused of leaking information, I found her court filing a compelling read on just how far this government has fallen, and I felt we could all use some revision.

Albertans, Mr. Speaker, were promised a government that would work hard and stay humble. Instead, we got a government that prioritizes rewarding insiders and vilifying any messengers with bad news from the real world. From refusing to implement the Fair Deal Panel recommendations to failing to end the carbon tax or even trying to make it neutral; to the ongoing mismanagement of COVID; to the Premier's infamous "I want a new base" comments; to a loss of the party base and the loss of the party donors; to ill-timed international travel; to the UCP's refusal to proclaim legislation into law like recall, citizens' initiatives, and ending mandatory union dues; to Patigote; to a point of privilege on Patigote where the Premier's defence was not knowing his own health restrictions; to the flip-flop of the century on vaccine passports; to a glaring failure to increase ICU capacity; to accusations of bullying, sexual misconduct, and excessive drinking; to the loss of this government's electoral mandate; and all of this dotted with constant demands for the Premier's resignation.

I cannot list all the scandals, Mr. Speaker – there are too many – but I will leave the Assembly with one final thought. Albertans will have their say in 2023.

Ms Issik: I wish to advise the Assembly that pursuant to Government Motion 96 the daily Routine may continue beyond 3 p.m.

Notices of Motions

The Speaker: The Deputy Government House Leader.

Mr. Schow: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to give oral notice of the following government bills: Bill 83, Environmental Protection and Enhancement Amendment Act, 2021, sponsored by the hon. Minister of Environment and Parks, and Bill 84, the Business Corporations Amendment Act, 2021, sponsored by the hon. Minister of Service Alberta.

Introduction of Bills

The Speaker: The hon. the Associate Minister of Red Tape Reduction.

Bill 80

Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2021 (No. 2)

Ms Fir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to introduce Bill 80, the Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2021 (No. 2).

Bill 80 will support Alberta's recovery plan and move us further towards being one of the freest and fastest moving economies in North America. These changes will also enable the removal of at least 870 requirements that get in the way of Alberta's job creators and the delivery of services to Albertans. We committed to cutting red tape by one-third, and Bill 80 will help us get there.

I hereby move first reading of Bill 80, Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2021 (No. 2).

[Motion carried; Bill 80 read a first time]

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

Bill 81

Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (No. 2)

Mr. Madu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to rise to move first reading of Bill 81, the Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (No. 2).

Mr. Speaker, if passed, this act will strengthen democracy by getting big money out of Alberta politics and establishing a set election date. Some of the other changes included in this act are as follows: banning foreign money in provincial politics, imposing an annual \$30,000 limit for donations from third parties or political action committees, and establishing the last Monday in May as election day in Alberta.

I ask that we move first reading of Bill 81.

[Motion carried; Bill 81 read a first time]

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Energy.

Bill 82

Mineral Resource Development Act

Mrs. Savage: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to request leave to introduce Bill 82, the Mineral Resource Development Act.

The proposed legislation is the first step in implementing Alberta's modern critical and rare-earth mineral strategy and action plan. If passed, this act would establish the Alberta Energy Regulator as the full life cycle regulator for Alberta's mineral resources from exploration through reclamation. This would provide certainty for industry, help position the province as a preferred mineral producer, and spur growth in the sector.

A full life cycle regulator would help ensure the responsible resource management and development of the province's mineral resources. It's a necessary step because the regulatory oversight is currently split among multiple entities in the province. The proposed legislation would consolidate that regulatory oversight and assign that to one entity.

Mr. Speaker, Alberta has a vast untapped geological potential to meet the increasing demand for minerals such as lithium, vanadium, uranium, and rare-earth elements that are essential to the technology and products that support our energy future and the adoption of a low-carbon economy. I firmly believe this legislation will help us capitalize on this important opportunity.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[Motion carried; Bill 82 read a first time]

Tabling Returns and Reports

Ms Fir: Mr. Speaker, I rise to table the requisite number of copies of the Red Tape Reduction annual report 2020-2021. The 2019 Red Tape Reduction Act mandates public reporting on red tape reduction strategies and initiatives. This is the second report. I am pleased to report that the government of Alberta has reduced red tape by 17.8 per cent.

The Speaker: I appreciate you tabling it. We can all read it when it's tabled.

The Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie.

Member Loyola: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to provide the requisite number of copies of an article that I quoted from during last night's debate on captive insurance companies called *Observations on Captive Insurance Companies: 10 Worst and 10 Best Things*, by Jay Adkisson.

The Speaker: Are there other tablings?

Seeing none, I do have a tabling. Pursuant to section 33(1) of the Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act I have the requisite number of copies of the Public Interest Commissioner's eighth annual report for the period April 1, 2020, through March 31, 2021.

Tablings to the Clerk

The Clerk: I wish to advise the Assembly that the following document was deposited with the office of the Clerk: on behalf of hon. Minister LaGrange, Minister of Education, pursuant to the Teaching Profession Act the Alberta Teachers' Association 2020 annual report.

The Speaker: Points of order. At approximately 2:15 p.m. the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs rose on a point of order.

Point of Order Seeking Opinions

Mr. McIver: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under 23(1), "introduces any matter in debate that offends the practices and precedents of the Assembly." It was the question before – you warned the hon. member that their question had nothing to do with government policy, and they stood up and asked another question that had nothing to do with government policy. At some point they need to respect your rulings, and as such, I would ask that you require them to withdraw this.

The Speaker: The Opposition House Leader.

Ms Gray: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. In this particular matter we have the Minister of Culture, who in this place has suggested that the NDP would have shut down all arts, that there wouldn't have been arts in the last couple of years, a minister who has told us he's been consulting with artists on a piece of legislation that is before this House. I know that we all respect the MLA who is asking these questions, who would never seek to offend the practices of this Assembly. Asking the minister who is responsible for culture and arts in this community to speak about artists is an opportunity for this minister to share the wonderful arts that we have in this community, whether it be musicians, whether it be playwrights, directors, or actors or visual artists and painters. I know that the member asking these questions did so not with the intention to offend the practices of this Assembly but to engage in a genuine conversation with this minister after having been accused of not supporting arts.

3:00

I would suggest that this is not a point of order. Rather, it should have been something that the minister would be able to calmly, coolly answer, which he was not, which is unfortunate. I do think it is government business for the minister of arts and culture to be able to speak about Alberta artists when asked.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: I appreciate the interjections, and while I agree it is important for the Minister of Culture to be able to talk about artists and arts in Alberta, that unfortunately wasn't the question. It was, "what are his," seeking his personal opinion on such a matter, and in *Beauchesne's* 409, paragraph 3, "the question ought to seek information and therefore cannot be based on a hypothesis . . . seek an opinion," which clearly this question did.

I have said on numerous occasions that there are varied clever and convenient ways to turn a question where a particular member is seeking information into a question about government business. It's not rocket science. I encourage members of the opposition or any member of the Assembly who may be doing such to ensure that in the future they are asking questions about government policy.

The Speaker is always conflicted about what the path forward is on this, and one of the tools that the Speaker has at their disposal is to advance questions for not following the rules of the Speaker. Members will leave the Speaker no option but to do that, because the only other option is to withdraw and apologize, and it's not as though what has happened is offensive. It is because they aren't seeking to make question period effective, so I encourage members of the opposition to do so, because the alternative is not hearing additional questions.

I consider this matter a point of order, and I also consider it dealt with and concluded.

At approximately 2:27 the Deputy Government House Leader rose on a point of order during the questioning of the Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview.

Mr. Schow: Mr. Speaker, I believe that I have withdrawn that point of order.

The Speaker: Oh. My correction.

Have I missed any other points of order that were called, then? The other was withdrawn. I recognize that the hon. Member for Central Peace-Notley did rise on a point of order during the member's statement by the hon. Member for Vermilion-Lloydminster-Wainwright, but given my comments immediately following that, I consider that point of order dealt with and concluded.

We are at Ordres du jour.

Orders of the Day

Government Bills and Orders Second Reading

Bill 75 Arts Professions Recognition Act

Ms. Gray moved that the motion for second reading of Bill 75, Arts Professions Recognition Act, be amended by deleting all of the words after "that" and substituting the following:

Bill 75, Arts Professions Recognition Act, be not now read a second time but that the subject matter of the bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future in accordance with Standing Order 74.2.

[Adjourned debate on the amendment November 3: Mr. Dang]

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

Ms Hoffman: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and to the Assembly for the opportunity to engage in discussion on Bill 75, which, of course, is about art and artists in this province and is the reason why we ended up in the discussion I guess we just did with regard to a point of order.

I have to say that earlier I had the opportunity to speak in second reading about some of the fantastic professional artists, which this bill only applies to, and this government has taken the intention of defining and limiting who professional artists are through their definitions section of Bill 75. Of course, when people say artists, often people gravitate immediately to visual artists, but it is so much more complex than that, and there are so many amazing, talented people here in the province of Alberta.

Somebody asked me the other day while I was walking over: what do you mean by diversified economy? I can tell you that one of the big things I mean is that every kid that I know and I care for: I want them to be able to see themselves living in Alberta for their entire lives and to be able to pursue a career path that brings them great fulfillment and great opportunity, one where they can afford to have a good quality of life, including a home and the ability to pay their bills and some additional enjoyment.

I know a lot of young people, a lot of kids who love the arts. I don't live far from this place, and not far from here is the Victoria school for performing arts. I have to say that Vic has a very strong reputation. It is one that the community can afford to create out of a time of retraction where the number of students living in mature areas in our city was on the decline. That school had been neglected by Conservative governments year after year after year in terms of investment and maintenance, and times were quite tough for Vic.

What happened is that the community came together and they said: you know, we want to save our downtown high school, and we want to make it a school that people are excited to choose to send their kids to. They consulted with people in the geographic area as well as people who work downtown and said: if you were going to drive your kid to a downtown school on your way in, what kind of programming would you be interested in? Overwhelmingly, there was huge support for the arts.

I want to encourage any of you, when you're in the Chinatown area, to just drive by. It's not far from here. I think you can get a sense of the feeling when you see the beautiful mosaics outside the school as you're approaching. It also happens to be a school that's connected to the district office. It's nice any time you're in a meeting space to be able to engage with students.

[The Deputy Speaker in the chair]

One of the reasons why we're calling for a vaccine passport for this building is because we want to be able to bring more people into this building. We want to be able to return children to being in the galleries. I really do miss seeing them here and discussing with them, before or after, their observations, some of the things that they know about the Legislature, about democracy, and some of their experiences here learning. I know that many, many students and teachers, particularly in grade 6, come to visit the Alberta Legislature. It's a marker of their school year, and many remember it for years to come. One of the reasons why we are pushing for this inclusion of vaccine passports is to be able to bring children here again.

Another thing that children used to do – arguably, not quite yet performing artists that are professional, according to this act, but I will say that they deal with their performances with all professionalism – is that they'd come here during the holiday season and they'd sing. Often

their parents and their grandparents would have an opportunity to come and hear them as well. So wouldn't it be an opportunity for us to embrace and return some experiences with the arts to this building, a public building, one that should be public? It's publicly owned. It should be available to the public to come in and enjoy the building that they have paid for, the building that they are so proud of. I think that a lot of Albertans, specifically Edmontonians, when they think about Edmonton's downtown, think about this building that we have the honour to work in.

When it comes to the Arts Professions Recognition Act, it was our understanding from earlier introductions of this bill that this was supposed to be focused on the Saskatchewan bill. It seems like this has actually taken quite a different path. We have had some opportunity to engage with some stakeholders on this, but it certainly hasn't been as extensive as I would like for the government to engage in in terms of consulting with professional artists on how to move the dial forward.

Some of the things that I mentioned in previous stages that I don't think we've had a fair response to yet in order to be able to support this, in an enthusiastic way anyway, are the what's-the-problem questions, right? This is only really about government contracts being signed with government artists or artists who are performing for the province or subsidiaries, I guess. But it goes so much beyond that. This government could do so much to actually embrace and enhance and create opportunities for that diversified economy that I talk about, for artists to be able to celebrate their talents, to be able to share them with one another, to share them with all Albertans, and be able to have that type of long-term dignified life that we all aspire for ourselves and for the next generation.

If the government really wanted to focus on finding ways to support artists, they would find ways to do things that some of our major cities have done. For example, in Edmonton and, I believe, in Calgary as well there is policy that any public infrastructure project has a component, I think it's 1 per cent, dedicated towards public art that goes along with that new infrastructure project.

3:10

That goes a long way to creating opportunities for artists to be able to diversify their income. A lot of artists do, you know, private sale, do fine art, do private performances, really hustle in a variety of environments, but if they're able to get some opportunities to engage in public art, it goes a long way to being able to afford to rent or even buy a home one day and be able to have some predictability when it comes to one's economic situation. I think you should be able to be an artist and be able to have a good quality of life and be able to see yourself staying in Edmonton or in Calgary or anywhere in Alberta and be able to have that pathway. You shouldn't have to imagine yourself moving to another city, another province, or another country to be able to see the fullest in your fulfillment of your career-path prospects as an artist.

I'm very confident that members of the Assembly, some more recently than others, have flown to the United States. When you're at the Edmonton airport, for example, there are a number of places where you'll see public art. One of my favourites is – I haven't seen it in a very long time. There's a moving sidewalk, and there's a beautiful mosaic of the city of Edmonton. It's cut into four pieces. It's the four seasons that you'll experience here, and it's three-dimensional. You'll see the Legislature, of course, on that beautiful mosaic, a grand piece of art. It's almost as big as the surrounding of the Speaker's chair, probably about that size. It's a piece that Erin Pankratz, an Edmonton mosaic artist, has done. Being able to present in public, obviously, is a great point of pride, and that is something that artists want, to be able to share their skills and talents with as many viewers as possible, as many participants as possible. It also

meant that she had some quality revenue, quality income that she could use while maybe times weren't quite so lucrative.

One of the things that we've asked the government to consider is that some jurisdictions let artists who have, for example, a good year, where they get a piece of public art, spread that income over a few years. We all know that times are easier and times are tougher, and in employment situations that are often precarious, being able to share some of that income through your provincial tax assessment over a few years would make things a lot better for a lot of artists. So that's one thing that we've proposed.

Certainly, many artists have really struggled over the last two years, and artists have really gotten us through the last two years. When I think about how many people have participated in virtual experiences offered by arts and culture through remote engagement opportunities, it's amazing. It really is. When I think about how much joy can be brought to an artist as well in being able to share that gift or that talent with Albertans, it certainly makes my heart very happy.

I can't help but think about one of the things that I laughed a lot about, and probably many of you in this place did, too. There weren't a ton of opportunities for artists in the peak of the pandemic, but I actually happen to know Uncle COVID, the COVID-masked actor. Any time those pop-up ads would show up – you probably saw them, Madam Speaker – it brought a lot of joy. I was thinking about how great it was that there were actually some opportunities for some local actors in this situation to be able to engage and share their talents with their friends and their community and also share a public health message – right? Obviously, advertisements engage art, but they also engage in trying to deliver a public health message when they're purchased, for example, by Alberta Health Services or Alberta Health.

Those are a couple of the things I wanted to say. Generally I think artists are amazing contributors to making life more enjoyable for all of us. I'm excited for opportunities to engage in live theatre. I want to say that artists are some of the most responsible folks I've encountered when it comes to COVID precautions, because artists really want to be back on stage; they want to be back in the theatre; they want to be back sharing their talents with the world.

For example, I'm aware that the Citadel Theatre this year – I often go and see the *Christmas Carol*. Last year it had to move online, but it's a long-standing Edmonton tradition. I understand that they're moving this year to ensure that all of their actors, not just all of their audience, because, of course, they are requiring a vaccine passport for all their audience members, but they're also doing that for their actors, to protect their actors, their crew – the crew also must be double-vaccinated – but also to create an increased sense of confidence that you can engage in places like the theatre again. I hope that the government takes an opportunity, that has been presented to them here through this bill, to find ways to actually work with artists, to invest in artists, and to create more opportunities for artists to share their skills and talents. I think COVID has also heightened our awareness of the importance of the beautiful things in life that bring us joy and laughter, but, of course, they're needed at all times.

I really think that it is an opportunity for us to reposition some of the priorities of government and focus on ways that we can ensure that Alberta families can live here, can create art here, and can afford to live here, for this generation and for the next. That's truly one of the things I want. I don't want the minister's budding-artist grandchildren to think that they need to move somewhere else if they want to be artists for their career. I want them to be able to see an opportunity to engage in that and to live the kind of life that we all aspire to right here in Alberta. I hope that they and every Alberta child and every Alberta adult artist sees an opportunity.

We're certainly looking at Alberta's future. That's one of the reasons why we created an engagement opportunity with many different sectors, and we welcome feedback from artists on how we can bolster the arts here in Alberta to make sure that we have an Alberta for everyone. That really should be the goal. I think that this bill doesn't get us there.

I look forward to hearing more feedback from my colleagues as we continue to discuss the importance of arts here in Alberta. Thank you very much for the opportunity to share today.

The Deputy Speaker: Any other members that wish to join in the debate on the amendment? The hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo.

Member Ceci: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. With regard to the referral to committee of Bill 75, the Arts Professions Recognition Act, I of course wanted to get up – I spoke to this in second reading – and I want to address why I think this should go to committee for further discussion.

Of course, we know that this Bill 75 does a few things. It formally recognizes artists and the value they hold in our society. It also requires that all public entities, agencies, boards, and commissions that have involvement with the government of Alberta enter into written contracts with professional artists. There are a significant number of public entities, so that's a helpful, useful thing. But there is no protection for artists that don't fall under the definition of professional artists in this bill. Of course, we're not talking about all those for-profit, nonpublic entities out there, which arguably are far more in number than the previous comment I made about public entities and the coverage there.

So there are many shortcomings to this bill, and I think it requires further debate, clarification. It'd be interesting to receive feedback from artists. As my colleague previously mentioned, you know, there's a range or a spectrum, a very interesting number of kinds of artists – visual artists, performance artists, music, dance, other kinds of things – and that's a great thing for our society. It's a good thing in these stressful times, as my colleague talked about, to have that kind of ability to get some break, relief from the times we're living in.

One interesting, good thing that's in this bill – and I'll just point it out briefly. It's not very long. It talks about the definitions of artist. An "artist has received training or acquired traditional knowledge," and then under (D), point (II) it says, "within the established practice of the artist's cultural traditions." I think that is a recognition or understanding that Indigenous and Métis peoples are trained in their cultural traditions, and it may even include other kinds of artists from ethnocultural groups, who have a background with an ethnocultural group.

3:20

You know, the part of arts, I guess, that I am most frequently involved with – and one of the shortcomings of this bill is that it doesn't really cover it as well as the efforts to date by this government to assist the whole cultural sector – would be music, live performances. I'm just thinking about the experiences of for-profit venue owners who have talked to me about what it's been like to experience COVID and to be shut down numerous times, to not have any way of earning money and trying to find creative ways to do that.

In the stabilize live music grant area – that's, of course, part of the ways of addressing the needs of that whole part of the artist culture – the government developed a three-tranche program called the stabilize program. Under the stabilize live music grant program I'm certainly aware that for-profit venues – and I live in a neighbourhood that has probably four for-profit venues. It provides

really rich musical offerings many times of the week through those four for-profit ones, and then there are a couple of nonprofit ones that are on either end of the Music Mile, starting from the National Music Centre on 4th Street SE on 9th Avenue, going all the way to 14th Street SE, and ending with the Blues Can in Inglewood. Those for-profit venue owners said that, you know, they could receive up to a maximum of \$25,000. If you do the math, if everybody gets the full amount, that's only 24 venues in the entire province that could access that money because only \$600,000 was dedicated to that in that tranche.

I just mentioned that there are four in the mile that I am aware of in my neighbourhood. It wouldn't take too many other parts of Alberta to take up all of those \$600,000 in dedicated monies for those for-profit centres. Anyway, some of them have dozens of staff. [interjection] Sorry. I didn't see you. Go ahead.

Mr. Orr: Yeah. I'd just respond to that briefly. Fair question. You're right. The live music business support money was oversubscribed. There were more applications than money was allotted. On the other hand, the grant money to help individual musicians was significantly undersubscribed in spite of advertising and trying to promote it, so we've actually transferred some of that money rather than leave it on the table so that there is more money for the venues and the businesses so that they will survive. Hopefully, we've answered some of that. Fair question.

Member Ceci: Thank you very much. Thank you for the minister's intervention.

The larger point I think I'm trying to make is that the industry that is there has become challenged. It's grown up over time and it's matured, and it has been a source of support for not only the musicians in that context of live music venues, but it's also a source of support for – you know, I'm aware of dozens of people who make their living off of service, of cooking, of taking tickets, of cleaning up the venues. There were – well, it's about 20 months of COVID now – significant periods of dark days where nothing was happening. That's where the federal government came in, for the most part, and helped support lost wages of people in those situations.

I think what I'm trying to get to is that we should have been doing a better job supporting artists, supporting live music venues, the for-profit ones in particular, and we failed. We failed because there wasn't a great deal of two-way communication between the industries that artists and the for-profit venues inhabit and the government of Alberta. When we look at the what-we-heard documents or we look at the consultations that the government of Alberta did, we can see – you know, the cherry-picked nature of direction that has wound up in this bill is again too little, too late, acted last and acted least.

Other provinces have done a better job of recognizing their cultural industries and supporting them. We had the opportunity to do that in this province as well. That's why we should refer this to committee, to look at what the best benchmarks in other provinces are and how we can incorporate those into our much-needed act, Bill 75.

When we were in government, we also did consultations, and we found a number of things. I'll just read a few of them. I've listed them off in part previously, but I'll just do it in a more organized fashion. We engaged with participants, and they favoured educational initiatives to improve recognition of artists' contributions. They favoured fair compensation, increased funding, marketing, and promotion initiatives. They would like to see improved access for training and development opportunities. Those are concrete steps, Madam Speaker, that could've made their way into Bill 75. Haven't

for the most part, and I believe it's a failing of the opportunity given this government to do that. Recognizing by definition artists and looking at public entities and contractual obligations are good, but they don't go far enough. There could've been more done.

In my own hiring of artists, whether they be performance artists or musicians, contracts are always put in place. Not written contracts; verbal, based on scale, and understanding what that scale is, asking different venues what they pay artists, and not trying to grind artists to a lower amount. That's often done by people who aren't in the business of arts and entertainment. I think I heard it here before, you know. They, unfortunately, believe that artists will work for free just for the recognition and the ability to be in front of people and kind of promote themselves. That's not the way things should be done, and I'm glad that at least in the public entities it's recognized that there have to be contracts in place and they have to be at scale.

There should've been more, and I wonder why there wasn't kind of a breadth. Why aren't we talking about for-profit venues as well and ensuring that there are contractual obligations there? Perhaps the government and minister didn't find there was an issue, but I think that's a very kind of one-sided approach. I think that from an artist's perspective they would've appreciated more being done to protect their rights, both of payment and benefits, to make sure that they got those.

Those are some of the things that I wanted to raise in support of the referral of this bill to committee for further discussion, and I thank you, Madam Speaker, for the opportunity to address them.

3:30

The Deputy Speaker: Any other members wishing to join the debate on the referral amendment? The hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford.

Mr. Feehan: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Perhaps, as I begin my speech, the Speaker could call the maintenance department and have the napkin dispenser in the government lounge filled again because they need more supplies for their bills. I'm very disappointed to see yet another bill where the minimum is absolutely done, the bill written on the back of a napkin, for those of you who missed the point, and here we are. When we had a chance to do something really useful for the people in the province of Alberta, we have a minister of arts and culture that has taken on the role of a busker, being a living statue, sitting still and doing nothing. You know, I really think that there was an opportunity here to do a lot more.

Mr. McIver: Point of order, Madam Speaker.

Point of Order Language Creating Disorder

Mr. McIver: I know that hon. member thinks he's a riot, and maybe in some quarters he is. Under 23(h), (i), and (j), "makes allegations against [a] Member," "imputes false or unavowed motives to another Member," and, specifically, "uses abusive or insulting language of a nature likely to create disorder." I'm sure he was attempting to be funny. He fell short, and while doing so, he offended the rules of this place.

The Deputy Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods.

Ms Gray: Thank you very much. I apologize, Madam Speaker. I'm not sure which specific comment the Government Deputy House Leader is concerned about. He did not cite anything. I think that the Member for Edmonton-Rutherford was being hilarious and was

genuinely engaging in debate on this important piece of legislation. I don't think that this is a point of order, but perhaps a more specific citation would have been helpful in this case.

Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker: Fortunately, your dear Speaker was paying attention during the hon. member's speech, and I would tend to agree with the hon. minister in that there were comments that were made that were very clearly meant to cause disorder in this House. They were certainly insulting to the minister, and I would ask the member to apologize and withdraw and then continue with his comments.

Mr. Feehan: Well, I certainly offer to proffer my apology and ask for withdrawal.

Debate Continued

Mr. Feehan: I would like, then, to go on with my speech to speak to the fact that I feel like this bill does very little. There was plenty of opportunity to do a lot for artists in this province, and it does nothing. The fact that the government has thin skin and is sensitive to the fact that they have accomplished little: you know, that's on the government; that's not on me.

I certainly would like this bill to be referred to committee so that something more can be added to it so it's more substantive and more useful and more useful to the time in this House. You know, we all know that artists, for the most part, live lives of precarious work, have undependable income streams, tend to have difficulties maintaining contracts that are consistent with the well-being of themselves and their families in a manner that's equal to other people in the province. Their annual salaries are approximately half of the average annual salaries of other Albertans.

You know, this was an opportunity for the minister and for the government to actually try to look at the types of legislation that would be supportive of artists and to help create a circumstance where they would do better. Instead of all the things that artists asked for in terms of helping them deal with issues around fair compensation, which might have even included issues around precarious work such as things like benefits and pension plans and the ability to get backstops to apply for loans and mortgages and things like that, that would actually make their lives as artists more satisfactory, or perhaps just other ways in which funding could be increased or that marketing could be done on their behalf and promotion both within the province and outside of the province – all of these kinds of things could have been included in this kind of legislation. All of these things were requested by artists, who sort of expressed the concern about the lack of supports for artists and what they have to go through, the training they have to go through in order to get to the place where they can perform their work in an appropriate way, and the government has failed to do it.

I know the government doesn't like to hear it, but essentially there is a one-paragraph bill here. The rest of it is just definitions and so on. I just think that that is inadequate. I would certainly like to see the minister refer this to committee, come back to this bill, and just imagine what could possibly go into it. Artists would be more than happy to sit down, to have those kinds of conversations, and to try to see if they could actually move into a place where they could, you know, expect to live a reasonable life while they pursue their areas of talent and creativity and offer to the rest of the province the things that are important.

You know, I would have liked to have seen something about legal supports for artists who need to enter into these contracts, some

requirement for these kinds of contracts to be committed to by private-sector employers and not just by government contractors. I would have liked to have seen some legislation around what happens when venues go into insolvency and have outstanding bills to artists and how the artists could be supported in claiming monies owed to them appropriately or when businesses just fail to provide those kinds of resources in a reasonable time.

I would have liked to have seen some greater work on the income tax act to support artists who are below a certain income, to support the level of their wages, bring them up to a living wage and perhaps allow them to stagger earnings over multiple years given that particularly some types of art take years to create and only have a one-time payoff and then they have to live on that for many, many years afterwards. It's particularly true for people who create big art installations such as sculptures or, you know, other major projects that require significant input well before any payout comes along.

I think that, you know, the minister would do well to refer this to committee so that they could call in artists and actually ask them what it is that they'd like to see and get some specific suggestions on some of the things that they are hoping that the government will actually do on their behalf.

I myself would certainly love to see us look at ways in which we could support the arts and the artists to stay here in the province of Alberta. Too often people either have to leave the province in order to become successful or, once they become successful, leave the province in order to maintain their relationships with the institutions and agencies that will support their ongoing success. It's too bad. I'd love to see it happen here. I'd love to see us have some major record producers out of Alberta. I'd love to see us have major performance art organizations like Cirque du Soleil and so on, those types of things housed here in the province of Alberta. I just don't see the government doing anything to actually move us in the direction of those kinds of things happening. I don't see any supports for the academic institutions that support artists, and I don't see any part of this bill that is about making sure that the artists, you know, have a chance of being successful in their art.

3:40

This was a chance to do it. I mean, if you're going to take the time to bring a bill into the House, why not take the time to make a full bill? Why not take the time to read through the information on the consultations that have been done with artists up to this point and particularly look at ways in which you can enhance, you know, the artists' well-being based on the information that's already been gathered? Why not design parts of the bill that would enhance particularly vulnerable arts communities such as culturally diverse arts communities or perhaps arts communities that have the disabled community and looking at the barriers that they are experiencing in terms of entering into the arts fields and moving on?

I guess I just find it frustrating, how often the government brings forward these bills where they just haven't put any meat on the bones, where they come in to say that they're going to do something and the title of their bill is one that I think: oh, great; finally something that I can get behind. Then I read it and just end up, you know, 30 seconds into it, so disappointed that they actually haven't taken the time to do what it is that they're suggesting that they're doing.

I guess my frustration comes out in the things that I say in the House, but this has happened time and time again this session, that we've had these bills, many of which are fewer than a few pages long. You know, we're taking the time in this House in order to debate it. A four-page bill gets as much time to debate in the House as a 25-page or much larger bill. I see members have on their desks bills that are hundreds of pages long, yet there's just no content here for us to properly support.

What can I say? Chances are I'm going to vote for the bill because I certainly would like to offer my support to the arts community and will vote in favour of the government even in doing the minimal amount of things that they have done, but I just need to put on the record my severe disappointment that they chose to do so little.

Thank you.

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

Mr. Schow: Thank you, Madam Speaker. It's an honour to rise this afternoon and speak to this bill, Bill 75, the Arts Professions Recognition Act. I think this is a really great and important piece of legislation albeit . . .

The Deputy Speaker: Sorry. Just to clarify, we are on the referral amendment.

Mr. Schow: We are on the referral amendment. Yes, I do recognize that, Madam Speaker, and I should have said that earlier, to point out the fact that we are on a referral amendment.

What's important to note about a referral amendment is, of course, it is asking the Chamber to endorse an amendment that would push this bill to a committee. Now, I don't have the referral amendment in front of me, so I wouldn't be able to say what committee it's actually being referred to. This is a common amendment moved forward by the opposition, so I don't have the committee name in front of me.

What's important about this bill is its intent. Intent is very important in this Chamber as we talk about this legislation, and this one, of course, is meant to recognize the importance of the arts in Alberta as it does define who we are and passes our culture from one generation to another, whether that is in film or in music or in paintings or drawings. Madam Speaker, I can tell you that one of the skills that I wish I had was the ability to draw. I took grade 10 art class. I still have my portfolio at home, and I think every Christmas I pull it out and laugh at it because I'm really that horrible an artist. But I can appreciate the arts. I think it's so important, in fact.

Film is one that I get a little more interested in. It's one that I can relate to better. I took some film classes in university and really enjoyed that. Canada has produced some fantastic, fantastic actors and actresses. One of my favourites, of course, is Ryan Reynolds. He has some fantastic movies. Without recognizing the importance of art in Canada, in Alberta, actors similar to the likes of Ryan Reynolds would maybe not have had the opportunity or the ability to star in such feature films as *The Proposal*, a fantastic rom-com about two individuals unlikely to fall in love who ultimately do. Of course, they do in the end. A fantastic film.

The second one is *Just Friends*. A similar situation: a high school nerd becomes a famous record producer, goes back home and tries to prove what a bigwig he is, and turns out falling back into old cycles. And then *X-Men*, I think, one of my favourite types of movies. Ryan Reynolds, a Canadian actor given the opportunity to thrive with opportunities, something that bill could afford him, was able to star in these kinds of movies, Madam Speaker.

Mr. McIver: He's a romantic. Who knew?

Mr. Schow: What can I say?

Mr. Getson: *Green Lantern*.

Mr. Schow: I'm not going to go down the *Green Lantern* road. That one's not exactly a blockbuster.

What I would say is that not only do we have fantastic actors that are coming out of this country; this province has a wealth of

landscape that is sought after by many production companies, to shoot their films here. When you shoot films and TV series here, as we even see at the Legislature, you're providing direct, indirect, and induced jobs locally.

Now, one, for example, down in my neck of the woods, albeit just a little bit to the west of my own constituency of Cardston-Siksika, in Livingstone-Macleod's – I will not use his name – is the movie *Ghostbusters: Afterlife*. Now, that was shot in Fort Macleod. *Ghostbusters*, as many in this Chamber would know, is a movie that goes all the way back to *Ghostbusters*. Even to this day I love that movie, *Ghostbusters II* as well, where they break out the Nintendo controller and the Statue of Liberty walks across I think it's the East River.

Now, what about *Cool Runnings*? Another movie filmed right here in Alberta with John Candy, the late John Candy.

Mr. McIver: Ya, mon.

Mr. Schow: That's right. Feel the rhythm, Madam Speaker, feel the rhyme. It's bobsled time.

Alberta, with the help of legislation just like this, will provide artists or production companies the ability to create opportunities, and without these opportunities we wouldn't have these incredible movies that I'm referring to. *Canadian Bacon*: there's another great one.

Mr. Getson: *Legends of the Fall*.

Mr. Schow: *Legends of the Fall*. I mean, look, the list will go on and on and on.

Other Canadian actors, for example, like the late Norm MacDonald: now, one of the most underrated comedians, I'd argue, starred in a fantastic film early in his career alongside Adam Sandler, *Billy Madison*, where a young underachieving individual, son of a wealthy hotel tycoon, decides to go back to school through all the grades and hopes to pass them all in two weeks and ultimately inherit his father's company. Madam Speaker, Norm MacDonald was in this film with Adam Sandler. He was also on *Saturday Night Live*, but he grew up in Canada and was afforded fantastic opportunities because of the importance of the arts and – something I believe that this bill does – recognizing the importance of the arts.

What some people may know is that this member right now, the one speaking, myself, the hon. Member for Cardston-Siksika, was also cast in a commercial . . .

An Hon. Member: No kidding?

Mr. Schow: The shock and the awe.

. . . in my first year of university at Simon Fraser. Many people know that Vancouver is a hot spot for movie production. Casters for a Nintendo commercial were looking for someone who had abnormal height, so I and a number of my teammates were all given the opportunity to audition for a commercial for Nintendo for Mario Kart. This is a true story, Madam Speaker. You may not know it. I think it paid about 20 grand if the person got it. For anyone here who knows a university student, 20 grand goes a heck of a long way.

Mr. Dach: Not with your tuition rates.

Mr. Schow: Of course, I hear the heckling from the hon. member from across the aisle. Maybe he's upset that he didn't get cast for a commercial. But that's okay. We all have our opportunities in life, and this is mine to speak, and I ask that member to raise the level of decorum and maybe give me the opportunity to finish my remarks.

3:50

With that said, a number of us went to a casting room or what have you, and there were a couple of chairs there, and we were able to, like – and they threw socks at us, Madam Speaker, kind of to simulate what it'd be like in Mario Kart when you're throwing bananas and, like, upside down question marks. I mean, look, we're talking Mario Kart here. I could go on forever because I'm, like, fantastic at it.

The point is that there is great opportunity in the arts even for someone like me, without any great acting talent, which was clearly recognized by the casting crew there because they realized that neither I nor any of my teammates had any talent in acting, and none of us got put into it. But the point is that the opportunity was there, Madam Speaker, and opportunity is a lot of times all people need.

We do recognize that in the province of Alberta the median individual income of artists is \$25,800. That's 51 per cent lower than the average income of all Alberta workers. You know, I recognize that that is a very difficult salary, if not nearly impossible, to live on. What I would like to do is make sure that this bill can get passed as soon as possible, Madam Speaker, so that potential artists like those who are living here in Edmonton and across the province and even me – heaven knows, if I ever got a phone call to star in a commercial, I'd take a shot. I'd take a shot. But the point I'm getting at here is that referring this bill to a committee would delay ultimately the process, delay the means that we're trying to put in place here to recognize the importance of arts in the province of Alberta.

As we go down the list of famous artists and actors in this province – as I previously mentioned, we have John Candy, you have Norm MacDonald, you have Ryan Reynolds.

Mr. Getson: Leslie Nielsen.

Mr. Schow: Leslie Nielsen.

Mr. Getson: Eugene Levy.

Mr. Schow: Eugene Levy.

I mean, Madam Speaker, for heaven's sake, there is some great talent that came right out of this country here of Canada, and we should be proud. I think this bill does an excellent job and is another step forward in recognizing the importance of arts. But a referral amendment, I just don't . . .

Mr. Getson: Shatner.

Mr. Schow: Shatner is Canadian? Oh, that's right. He's Canadian.

Mr. Getson: Jim Carrey.

Mr. Schow: Oh. Jim Carrey: there's a good one. *The Mask*: fantastic film.

These are actors that were given an opportunity, and sometimes in art that's all you need. You just need your shot. Back before they had the Internet, people had demo tapes. They would do anything. You'd hear stories of artists going to incredible great lengths just to get their demo tape in the hands of the right people. If you go and walk down the streets in certain parts of the country or even down in the U.S., like in Hollywood, for example, you'll have people, men and women, just handing out CDs, trying to get their CD in front of the right person just so that maybe they'll listen to that one song that's the big break, and then they'll have more songs so they're not just a one-hit wonder.

How important is that? I mean, fantastic Canadian artists – the Barenaked Ladies: I've seen them in concert, a long time ago.

Alanis Morissette: actually, Madam Speaker, way back in the day in the '90s, when she opened at the Ottawa exhibition for Vanilla Ice, I was at the concert.

Mr. Getson: *Ice Ice Baby*.

Mr. Schow: Absolutely. *Ice Ice Baby*.

Alanis Morissette had a fantastic performance. At the time she was a local star musician in Ottawa, hadn't really made a worldwide name for herself, and now look at her. I think she's a platinum recording artist.

But it's about that break, and that break comes with opportunity, and that opportunity can be afforded through legislation just like this, Bill 75, the Arts Professions Recognition Act. But as we have before us, Madam Speaker, a referral amendment, I ask the members opposite: to what end is the referral amendment being moved? Why are we trying to delay a great piece of legislation?

You know, it's interesting because I am going to quote the Member for Edmonton-Rutherford talking about the size of the legislation. I thought it was actually an inappropriate quote, so maybe I'll refrain from using it, but maybe the size of the legislation isn't as important as the content, to put it in more appropriate terms. I won't quote that member. I actually thought it was unparliamentary, but I decided to not call a point of order at the time. I thought that even drawing attention to that kind of remark wouldn't be necessary.

What I will say is necessary, Madam Speaker, is passing this bill. I will vote in favour of this bill. I will vote against the referral amendment because I don't think it's a necessary step that we need to be putting in this bill's approval process. Many times the members opposite love to put forward these referral amendments. I disagree with them because I don't think they're seeing the large picture. There's no pun intended there because I don't try to use puns very often. They're kind of not the best kind of humour.

But I will say this. There is so much potential in Canadian art, and there's so much great content that has come out of Canada, content we need to recognize but content that may have never been created without that opportunity. It's about the opportunity. I was given an opportunity to be in a commercial, and I blew it, but I'm here today, and I'm happy with where I'm at. But you know what? Maybe another opportunity comes up in the future. Maybe we'll walk out of this Chamber, and someone sees the Member for Edmonton-Glenora and says: "You know what? I need to cast that member in a commercial or a movie," and that's the big break. Or maybe the Member for Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo. Madam Speaker, it's about opportunity. This bill affords that, and I wholeheartedly endorse it.

I could just go on forever and tell you all about my favourite movies and all the Canadian actors that are in them and all the movies that have been filmed in Canada. *Interstellar*: that was also filmed down in Fort Macleod. That's actually one of my favourite movies. [interjection] Oh. I will give way, hon. member.

Mr. Getson: Thanks, hon. Member for Cardston-Siksika. You know, we're kind of sitting in the back here, and one of those things with recognition is that it starts to spark new ideas. Maybe the member would talk about – since it's currently coming up to Remembrance Day, maybe we could talk about some of the great Canadian artists that have brought attention to some of the valour and efforts that were made by Canadians such as Vimy Ridge, such as *Hyena Road* by Paul Gross, who seems to try to bring attention to some of those stories given that some of his relatives that he made in *Passchendaele* were actually from southern Alberta as well.

Mr. Schow: Well, thank you, hon. Member for Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland, for that interjection. You're right. Now is an incredible time to reflect on the sacrifice made by those men and women who served diligently and gave the ultimate sacrifice, asking nothing in return, for our freedom and, frankly, the right to stand in this Chamber and debate this legislation. I am humbled, particularly at this time of year, to reflect back on those. I was honoured yesterday to attend the Remembrance Day ceremony that we had here in the Legislature. It's just such an important time to reflect on those sacrifices.

But I will say that in some of the most difficult times and circumstances come some of the most beautiful things. One would be, certainly, *In Flanders Fields*, the poem that was written and one that we recite every year to recognize and help us all remember. I try to get my daughter to memorize poems as part of her education at home that she gets, and that's the first poem that I asked her to remember and to learn. We're still working on it, but I can tell you, Madam Speaker, that it's coming and it is number one on the list.

With that said, I will finish my remarks. Thank you for allowing me to speak.

The Deputy Speaker: Hon. member, I could have sworn you might have been at the Wreck-It Ralph edition. Pause for laughter. Fun fact: Ryan Reynolds' grandfather served in the Alberta Legislative Assembly.

The hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie.

Member Loyola: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I'm not going to be able to follow up the Member for Cardston-Taber – sorry. Which one is it?

The Deputy Speaker: Siksika.

Member Loyola: Cardston-Siksika. Right. I'm thinking of before it was changed. As much as I love movies, I couldn't come up, like, with a long list of movies like that, that he came up with. I'm glad that there are all these Canadian actors that have actually made it into Hollywood, which is great. It's wonderful. However, I choose to focus a lot more on the local artists that are doing an incredible amount of work here inside of Edmonton, in Calgary, Red Deer, and Alberta in general to really try to put their cities on the map.

4:00

When I say, "Put the city on the map," the first person that I think of is actually a really good friend of mine. His name is Marlon Wilson, also known as Arlo Maverick, of Politic Live, an incredible hip hop group that has a long history here in the city of Edmonton and has done a number of tours even across Canada and the United States, a great bunch of guys that I had the opportunity to connect with a number of times in the community. Of course, Marlon Wilson, also known as Arlo Maverick, not only did he dedicate himself to actually being the best performer that he could be when it came to hip hop music here in the city of Edmonton and across Alberta but then even also went the extra step to cultivate other artists and pass on all the lessons learned that he had to go through. You know, I follow him on social media, specifically on Instagram, and I even see Arlo doing interviews still to this day, passing on the knowledge that he was able to get by actually being an artist here in Alberta, applying for grant funding, how that would go.

Of course, I saw him many a time do presentations for, for example, western Canadian music awards, when they would actually bring together artists and provide a space where people could actually educate other artists, because, of course, the industry is trying very hard to cultivate a lot of those local artists right here in Alberta so that we can

actually, again, as Arlo used to say it, put this city on the map when it comes to the music industry and, for him specifically, the hip hop music scene across Canada and across North America.

Another individual that did the same and was always involved in these educational workshops and presentations is – and she continues to do Facebook Lives and now even invites her daughter to perform with her on Facebook Lives, and she's always reaching out to the community. That's, of course, Waymatea Ellis, who is the lead singer, guitarist, keyboard player of Souljah Fyah, which is a great, great Alberta band. They do reggae music here, mainly out of Edmonton, but of course, just like many of the local artists, they have done western Canada tours, cross-Canada tours. She has an amazing voice and, more importantly than that, an amazing soul.

I'm proud to call her a sister of mine, and I'll never forget that ever since I got into the politics game, she's been incredibly supportive of me. Whenever I have the opportunity to – and this, of course, was before COVID. When I had the opportunity and Souljah Fyah was doing a show, I'd always make sure to show up even if it was just for half an hour, an hour to enjoy the first set. I was always happy to hear Waymatea give me a shout-out in the crowd, of course, because of our great relationship when it comes to actually supporting the arts and music here in Alberta.

One of the artists that I've had an opportunity to actually perform with and sing with, of course, is the very famous Maria Dunn. Maria is an incredible artist. Again, I've been able to work with her on a number of workshops and on music and actually combining social issues with music. Back in the day Maria and I actually worked together on doing a song for Brooks, actually, and a lot of the racialized workers at the meat-packing plant. One of the things that we had the opportunity to do is – basically, there was someone who did an interview of a lot of these racialized workers. We watched a lot of these interviews that had been done and then actually put their words and their thoughts into song. Maria Dunn did a fantastic job of that. Not only that; she's done whole albums dedicated to putting the experiences of Alberta workers and not only Alberta workers but also racialized workers and what they're experiencing here in Alberta into song form and sharing them with the world.

Of course, the last one that I'll mention is actually someone who lives in the riding of Edmonton-Mill Woods, a good friend of Christina and mine, and we've connected a number of times: Kristina de Guzman, who at one time was actually working for the Edmonton Arts Council. She's gone on to other things, of course, but she continues to be an amazing supporter of the arts, always helping people in the arts here in the province of Alberta, and has an incredible wealth of knowledge. I'm very proud to say that with Ms de Guzman, I actually offered my constituency office to a number of artists, where they did a workshop, and they were talking about the racialized experience of Albertans and putting that into these eight by four foot murals. They created five of them, and three of them actually hang in my office to this day.

One of the reasons why I bring this up is that we need to rethink. Now, I appreciate that the minister has brought this particular bill forward in this House. Yes, it does something, but it doesn't do near enough to actually address the challenges that artists are experiencing right now, not only given the current environment surrounding arts. I wanted to just talk a little bit about that. What we're seeing with the current generations is that the whole concept of philanthropy and the way that – you know, back 50 years ago there was an understanding where, yeah, if you were a wealthy individual, you would give money towards the arts, but this is changing. It's changing perhaps, I will suggest, because, of course, the arts are actually seen with providing a voice to particular issues. I'm not just talking about social justice

issues. I'm talking just issues in general, whether that has to do with identity.

Of course, there was a movement for arts for arts' sake and, you know, detaching it from politics, but for me, in my analysis, you can't separate art from politics because it is an expression. As soon as an artistic expression from an individual is put out into reality, you're expressing a political reality whether you like to or not. But what we see happening is that current generations are not seeing – and I think it has to do with the fact that the arts have not been able to really coalesce people around a particular political idea in order to make the change necessary. Politics and privilege and power are just not willing to bend to the social expressions of people who are trying to actually make an impact.

4:10

The current generation is saying, "Well, it's not really working out" and therefore are not giving money. I'm so glad that the Member for Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland is looking over here quite quizzically, you know, really trying to comprehend what I'm talking about. I hope that it does strike a nerve with you, Member.

Mr. Getson: I'm listening.

Member Loyola: Yeah. I appreciate that you're listening. I really do. I'm sharing my analysis. It's my perspective, of course. I'm sure that you have another one.

But what's important with all of this is to acknowledge the fact that philanthropy is changing. This is what I'm trying to get at, Madam Speaker. Philanthropy is changing. And although the minister has brought forward this bill, I think that a more holistic approach needs to be taken to the whole understanding of the arts in our society right now. We have to reinvent the relationships that exist.

Now, last time I got up to speak on the bill itself, Madam Speaker – and I do recognize that I'm speaking to the amendment here, the referral amendment, and that's why my comments are in this vein – it was to say that there's a relationship between nonprofits that exist and artists and then government funding and support. I talked about philanthropy. But I beg this House to really consider that we need to reformulate this. We need to look at it again. Although the bill does, yes, technically support the contract of artists, I don't think it's going to truly help those artists that are suffering right now because of the current economic climate, the social understanding around what role art actually plays in Alberta society, and, of course, the changing understanding of philanthropy and how all that works.

We're talking about a bigger economic challenge than what this particular bill will actually be able to contribute in a positive way to the life of artists. That's what I'm begging and appealing to the members on the other side, to really take a second look at what we're trying to do with this bill and send it to committee so that we can evaluate, really, how we can better help artists here in Alberta. At the end of the day, that's the issue. How can we enrich – and I'm not talking economically solely – the lives of artists in a more meaningful way so that they are playing a grander role within Alberta society and helping us move along in our understanding and wanting to change and make Alberta the best, which is what we all have in mind? They play a role economically, socially, culturally, and even politically.

That's what I'm asking the members. Let's send this to committee, re-evaluate how we can better support our artists so that they can have that path towards success.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker: Any other speakers to the amendment?

Seeing none, I will call the question.

[Motion on amendment REF1 lost]

The Deputy Speaker: We are back on the main bill, Bill 75. Any members wishing to join the debate? The hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung.

Mr. Dach: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I know how excited you were about the natural art that was appearing last night after session, when you announced that the aurora borealis was about to appear. I'm not sure if that's scheduled again for tonight, if the alerts have gone off on your phone. Oh, shame. It's not going to. But that tells me that you're someone who appreciates the arts and colourful things.

I think that if we look around us, Madam Speaker, even right here in this Chamber, the most colourful and delightful things, other than the wonderful human beings in the place, that we see is the art, in fact, embedded in the building itself and in the stained-glass windows and in the artwork, that was commissioned by former Speaker Wanner, by our renowned Indigenous artist Alex Janvier, the two paintings of *Sunrise and Sunset*. He would have, just being a public entity, Madam Speaker, who commissioned that art, indeed required a written contract between Mr. Janvier and the provincial government to buy that art.

Now, it's interesting to note that this legislation was intended to model the Saskatchewan legislation, and in that piece of legislation, Madam Speaker, not only public entities but also private entities would be required to enter into written contracts with artists. I'm curious to note the contrast here, though. When we look at the pieces that Mr. Janvier has hanging in this Chamber, *Sunrise and Sunset*, that were commissioned by former Speaker Wanner and knowing that he would have had to enter into a written contract because the public entity had actually commissioned the work; however, down the road in Rogers Place there's other artwork of Mr. Janvier's, a floor piece, a mosaic embedded in the floor – beautiful piece as well done by Mr. Janvier – but that being a private entity under this legislation would not have required a written contract. That shows the discrepancy that I think is a glaring omission in this legislation compared to that of Saskatchewan.

Now, I can't imagine that Rogers Place would have been able to get away with having no contract. I understand that actually there was an Alberta Union of Provincial Employees that gifted the two pieces of art, *Sunrise and Sunset*, that Mr. Janvier actually created for this space. However, I tried to use it as an example. I was flawed in my analysis, but hopefully you get the point, that public entities are required to enter into written contracts with artists, and private entities under this legislation would not be. It begs the question: why was this the intentional omission of the legislation? It certainly is one that leaves artists at risk and vulnerable because they can't rely on the legislation and point to it and say to the private entity that might want to hire them or commission them to do work: sorry; in Alberta the legislation requires a written contract.

Now, I spent a significant amount of time in the real estate industry, as many people know, and if you look at the legalities around contracting and real estate in this province and, in fact, in most jurisdictions around Canada if not all of them, a contract for real estate that is not written is unenforceable. In other words, you cannot transact real estate without a written contract. Now, you can do the deal and then after the fact write it up, but the contract, in order to be registered as a transaction in land, must be written. The same rules, I would have hoped, would have applied in this

piece of legislation to model the Saskatchewan legislation, which requires private entities to enter into contract. [interjection] If the minister wishes to clarify a little bit on the intention of that, I'd be happy to hear his intervention.

Mr. Orr: Yeah. Thank you very much. Now that we're back on the main bill, I'm more inclined to respond directly. Yeah. It's a question that has been raised. The point of going the way we've gone is to lead by example without creating too much regulatory burden. Part of the reason for that – and I'm referring to my notes here – is that one of the things that we heard from artists in consultation with them here in Alberta as compared to what was laid out in Saskatchewan is that in some cases the artists felt that mandating compensation and written contracts for all works or all kinds of events or venues, because there's such a vast variety, would, in fact, in some cases hinder the marketplace, hinder their opportunities, and they wanted to have some flexibility. Of course, my point as well is that I think that we need to respect a certain amount of freedom for artists to make those choices. I would use the opportunity, though, of this bill to encourage all artists in all cases to actually use a written contract. I'll come back to it.

4:20

Mr. Dach: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you to the minister for that intervention. Certainly, written contracts do actually provide clarity to both parties in a transaction, no matter what it happens to be. I certainly can understand situations where there may be an artist, whether they be musicians or visual artists or performing artists of any kind, who may look at that casual employment as being too much bother to actually get into a written contract, but if there is a problem, you certainly are always glad that you have a contract that has been written down. Think of other industries, Madam Speaker. Even a small plumbing repair requires, for the consumer's protection, a written contract. In cases where they don't exist, if there's a problem, then you end up with a war of words and nothing to rely upon, no written contract.

Even though it may seem to be too much of a bother even by some of the artists involved, I think mandating a written contract, as the Saskatchewan model does, is probably the better option. Dealing with situations maybe to exempt types of situations where artists really have the feeling that it's too much of a bother might have been the preferred method. I understand what the minister is saying, but I think it probably would have been better to follow the Saskatchewan model and create a field of exemptions, maybe under regulations, that would have allowed for some variation in practice.

Now, I wanted to suggest that if we look at the historical record of artistry and culture in this province, whether it would be Indigenous artists or artists of the earlier settlers, our ancestors here in Alberta who came from other places, I think it's important to note that initially we were cottage artists. We did art that was beneficial to ourselves or to our local community and then became recognized and got more notoriety, and ultimately somebody found value in it and wanted to either trade for it or pay for it.

I think of the development of such things as country music. Many small communities in Alberta will have had certain family members and certain families well known for their musical abilities. I know that in my father's family he had a number of brothers who played different instruments, and they were quite welcome to come to the local barn dances or school dances that were held. People would walk for miles to come to listen to local artists sing and play their instruments and hold dances. Then, ultimately, what would spring up were large barn dance situations such as one would have found

at Namepi River at the Hurskainen farm not too far from Thorhild, and that ultimately became a business.

There's an evolution from the amateur to the professional and, further, a greater recognition as time wore on that art is work. That is what I think should be recognized in this piece of legislation, Madam Speaker, that art is not an amateur entity; it's something that should be recognized as work and treated as such in the legislation. That's why I say that artists should be able to rely upon legislation that mandates a written contract. Private employers should expect that's what will have to be done if indeed they wish to hire a local artist. My one point, I think, is something we can talk about more once we arrive at Committee of the Whole. I'd like to perhaps even look at making some changes to the legislation if the minister is so inclined to doing it.

Now, there are a lot of other things that are ongoing with respect to this legislation that concern me, but I think that the outcomes that artists want from this legislation are going beyond actual recognition. They want to have the nuts and bolts in place that allow them to create more work and find more work and that more work emanates from any legislation that we actually produce. I'm not sure exactly how this legislation is going to provide more jobs for artists. I don't know how it's going to encourage others to go ahead and contract with them.

The fact that the pandemic is still under way is something that artists are painfully aware of. I know that with the yo-yo effect of the opening and closing that this government had the whole province going through rather than looking at managing the pandemic in a way that allowed us to save businesses from that ritual over the successive waves that we went through has caused great consternation amongst artists. So many venues in particular, Madam Speaker, are just hanging by a thread. Whether they be large comedy clubs or music venues throughout the city, they're hard enough pressed as it is to survive. Now with the pandemic it's day by day, if that. It would be a miracle if some of them didn't actually end up going under even yet.

Now, there are some early signs that we might be seeing some Edmonton venues that I'm aware of actually pulling through, Madam Speaker, and surviving, but it's because of their creativity in conjunction with artists that they were able to do it and no credit to this government for that. There were artists who found themselves playing on, for example, in my constituency of Edmonton-McClung, neighbourhood lawns to do community music performances that neighbours came to. I'm sure the same thing may have happened in Airdrie and other places, where the creativity of artists led them to find a way to perform and create a bit of a revenue stream while they still kept social distancing and served their communities.

I know that I'd like to continue for a while longer yet, but I think we're growing short on time. I think that, without getting into greater length, I'll look forward to speaking to the bill at other stages. Hopefully, we'll be able to make some changes to it before it receives final passage if that is the House's decision.

Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker: Any other members wishing to join the debate?

Seeing none, would the hon. minister like to close debate?

Mr. Orr: I'll waive. Thanks.

[Motion carried; Bill 75 read a second time]

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

Mr. Schow: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to thank all members of the Assembly for their hard and diligent work this week. Lots of work was done, and the people that we serve in Alberta have been well served by our toils this week.

With that, I wish everybody safe travels home, and I move that the Assembly be adjourned until 1:30 p.m., Monday, November 15, the ides of November, 2021.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 4:28 p.m. to Monday, November 15, at 1:30 p.m.]

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

Activity to Thursday, November 4, 2021

The Bill sponsor's name is in brackets following the Bill title. If it is a money Bill, (\$) will appear between the title and the sponsor's name. Numbers following each Reading refer to Hansard pages where the text of debates is found; dates for each Reading are in brackets following the page numbers. Bills numbered 1 to 200 are Government Bills. Bills numbered 201 or higher are Private Members' Public Bills. Bills numbered with a "Pr" prefix are Private Bills.

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

The date a Bill comes into force is indicated in square brackets after the date of Royal Assent. If a Bill comes into force "on proclamation," "with exceptions," or "on various dates," please contact Legislative Counsel, Alberta Justice, for details at 780.427.2217. The chapter number assigned to the Bill is entered immediately following the date the Bill comes into force. SA indicates Statutes of Alberta; this is followed by the year in which it is included in the statutes, and its chapter number. Please note, Private Bills are not assigned chapter number until the conclusion of the Fall Sittings.

Bill 1 — Critical Infrastructure Defence Act (Kenney)

First Reading — 4 (*Feb. 25, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 12-18 (*Feb. 26, 2020 morn.*), 96-98 (*Mar. 2, 2020 aft.*), 791-98 (*May 27, 2020 morn., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 859-91 (*May 28, 2020 morn., passed*)

Third Reading — 861-69 (*May 28, 2020 morn., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 17, 2020; SA 2020 cC-32.7]

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

First Reading — 30 (*Feb. 26, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 857-58 (*May 28, 2020 morn.*), 1004-09 (*Jun. 2, 2020 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1238-44 (*Jun. 9, 2020 eve., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 1364-70 (*Jun. 15, 2020 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 17, 2020; SA 2020 c9]

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

First Reading — 30 (*Feb. 26, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 431-46 (*Apr. 7, 2020 morn.*), 458-65 (*Apr. 7, 2020 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 465-76 (*Apr. 7, 2020 aft.*), 477-507 (*Apr. 7, 2020 eve.*), 572-83 (*Apr. 8, 2020 eve.*), 659-66 (*May 6, 2020 morn., passed*)

Third Reading — 703-09 (*May 7, 2020 morn., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 12, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2020 c8]

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

First Reading — 62 (*Feb. 27, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 858 (*May 28, 2020 morn.*), 869-75 (*May 28, 2020 morn.*), 933-35 (*Jun. 1, 2020 aft.*), 970-72 (*Jun. 1, 2020 eve.*), 1040-43 (*Jun. 2, 2020 eve.*), 1077 (*Jun. 3, 2020 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1257-66 (*Jun. 10, 2020 aft.*), 1311-16 (*Jun. 11, 2020 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 1442 (*Jun. 17, 2020 aft.*), 1452-55 (*Jun. 17, 2020 aft., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 26, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 26, 2020; SA 2020 c14]

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

First Reading — 110 (*Mar. 3, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 224-32 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft., passed on division*), 222-23 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft.*)

Committee of the Whole — 232-33 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft.*), 234-41 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 241 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft.*), 242-48 (*Mar. 17, 2020 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Mar. 20, 2020 outside of House Sitting*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2020 c3]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bill 14 — Utility Payment Deferral Program Act (Nally)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bill 21* — Provincial Administrative Penalties Act (Schweitzer)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bill 23* — Commercial Tenancies Protection Act (Fir)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

First Reading — 1619-20 (*Jun. 24, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1784-97 (*Jul. 7, 2020 eve.*), 1962-63 (*Jul. 13, 2020 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 2163-81 (*Jul. 20, 2020 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 2239-64 (*Jul. 21, 2020 eve., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force September 1, 2020; SA 2020 c22]

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

First Reading — 1695 (*Jul. 6, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1783-84 (*Jul. 7, 2020 eve.*), 2032-37 (*Jul. 14, 2020 eve.*), 2086-2103 (*Jul. 15, 2020 eve.*), 2189-97 (*Jul. 20, 2020 eve.*),

2210-27 (*Jul. 21, 2020 aft.*), 2289-96 (*Jul. 22, 2020 aft.*), 2313-28 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve.*), 2360-61 (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft., passed on division*)

Committee of the Whole — 2432-475 (*Jul. 27, 2020 eve.*), 2512-20 (*Jul. 28, 2020 aft.*), 2523-31 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 2539-61 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve.*), 2562-69 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 29, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force July 29, 2020, with exceptions; SA 2020 c27]

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

First Reading — 1760 (*Jul. 7, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1878 (*Jul. 8, 2020 eve.*), 2023-31 (*Jul. 14, 2020 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 2233-39 (*Jul. 21, 2020 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 2309-12 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force July 23, 2020; SA 2020 c21]

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

First Reading — 1760 (*Jul. 7, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1861-63 (*Jul. 8, 2020 eve.*), 2003-23 (*Jul. 14, 2020 eve.*), 2051-53 (*Jul. 15, 2020 aft.*), 2059-69 (*Jul. 15, 2020 aft.*), 2147-62 (*Jul. 20, 2020 aft.*), 2268-73 (*Jul. 21, 2020 eve.*), 2296-307 (*Jul. 22, 2020 aft.*), 2328-40 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve.*), 2361-63 (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft., passed on division*)

Committee of the Whole — 2404-32 (*Jul. 27, 2020 eve.*), 2475-85 (*Jul. 27, 2020 eve.*), 2502-12 (*Jul. 28, 2020 aft.*), 2531-39 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 2569-78 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve.*), 2579-86 (*Jul. 28, 2020 eve., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 29, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2020 c28]

Bill 33* — Alberta Investment Attraction Act (Fir)

First Reading — 1760-61 (*Jul. 7, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1807-19 (*Jul. 8, 2020 morn.*), 1927-37 (*Jul. 13, 2020 aft.*), 2117-27 (*Jul. 16, 2020 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 2227-31 (*Jul. 21, 2020 aft.*), 2233 (*Jul. 21, 2020 eve.*), 2340-44 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve.*), 2312-13 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve.*), 2363-65 (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 2401-04 (*Jul. 27, 2020 eve.*), 2485-88 (*Jul. 27, 2020 eve., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 29, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2020 cA-26.4]

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

First Reading — 1839 (*Jul. 8, 2020 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1966-69 (*Jul. 13, 2020 eve.*), 2116-17 (*Jul. 16, 2020 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 2117 (*Jul. 16, 2020 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 2312 (*Jul. 22, 2020 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jul. 23, 2020 aft.*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2020 c23]

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

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

Second Reading — 2666-81 (*Oct. 21, 2020 aft.*), 2741-55 (*Oct. 26, 2020 eve.*), 2803-15 (*Oct. 27, 2020 eve.*), 2841-47 (*Oct. 28, 2020 aft.*), 2860-69 (*Oct. 28, 2020 eve.*), 2940-43 (*Nov. 2, 2020 eve.*), 2986-94 (*Nov. 3, 2020 eve.*), 3072-83 (*Nov. 5, 2020 aft.*), 3126-36 (*Nov. 16, 2020 eve.*), 3208-12 (*Nov. 17, 2020 eve.*), 3265-72 (*Nov. 18, 2020 eve.*), 3361-65 (*Nov. 23, 2020 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 3834 (*Dec. 7, 2020 eve.*), 3886-92 (*Dec. 8, 2020 eve., passed on division*)

Third Reading — 3900 (*Dec. 8, 2020 eve.*), 3903-09 (*Dec. 8, 2020 eve., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force December 9, 2020, with certain sections having effect on various dates; SA 2020 c40]

Bill 36 — Geothermal Resource Development Act (Savage)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bill 49 — Labour Mobility Act (Kenney)

First Reading — 5647 (*Oct. 25, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 5680-95 (*Oct. 26, 2021 aft.*), 5709-17 (*Oct. 26, 2021 eve.*), 5728-37 (*Oct. 27, 2021 morn.*), 5802-07 (*Oct. 28, 2021 morn.*), 5951-61 (*Nov. 2, 2021 eve., passed*)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bill 51* — Citizen Initiative Act (Madu)

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

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

Committee of the Whole — 5159-86 (*Jun. 2, 2021 eve., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 5398-5401 (*Jun. 9, 2021 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2021 cC-13.2]

Bill 52 — Recall Act (Madu)

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

Second Reading — 4633-42 (*Apr. 19, 2021 eve.*), 4846-58 (*May 25, 2021 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 5403-24 (*Jun. 9, 2021 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 5542-48 (*Jun. 15, 2021 aft., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2021 cR-5.7]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Committee of the Whole — 4877-83 (*May 25, 2021 eve.*), 4953-58 (*May 26, 2021 eve.*), 4970 (*May 27, 2021 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 5186-87 (*Jun. 2, 2021 eve.*), 5297-5302 (*Jun. 8, 2021 morn.*), 5439-41 (*Jun. 10, 2021 morn.*), 5579-85 (*Jun. 16, 2021 morn., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2021 c11]

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

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

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

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

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2021 c12]

Bill 58 — Freedom to Care Act (Aheer)

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

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

Committee of the Whole — 5343-52 (*Jun. 8, 2021 eve.*), 5496-5507 (*Jun. 14, 2021 eve.*), 5549-60 (*Jun. 15, 2021 eve.*), 5585 (*Jun. 16, 2021 morn.*), 5599-5603 (*Jun. 16, 2021 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 5603-08 (*Jun. 16, 2021 aft.*), 5609-13 (*Jun. 16, 2021 aft.*), 5622-25 (*Jun. 16, 2021 eve., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force September 1, 2021; SA 2021 cF-25.4]

Bill 59 — Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2021 (\$) (Toews)

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

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

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

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

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

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

First Reading — 4099 (*Mar. 17, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 4180-99 (*Mar. 23, 2021 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 4220-33 (*Mar. 24, 2021 aft.*), 4249-52 (*Mar. 24, 2021 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 4268-76 (*Mar. 25, 2021 aft., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Mar. 26, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force March 26, 2021; SA 2021 c1]

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

First Reading — 4150 (*Mar. 22, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 4341-42 (*Apr. 7, 2021 aft.*), 4512-13 (*Apr. 13, 2021 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 4752-59 (*Apr. 21, 2021 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 4793-94 (*Apr. 21, 2021 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Apr. 22, 2021 aft.*) [Comes into force April 22, 2021, with sections 2(a), 5, 9 and 10 coming into force on proclamation; SA 2021 c7]

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

First Reading — 4393-94 (*Apr. 8, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 4675-82 (*Apr. 20, 2021 aft.*), 4760-61 (*Apr. 21, 2021 aft.*), 4759 (*Apr. 21, 2021 aft.*), 5011-19 (*May 31, 2021 eve.*), 5106-11 (*Jun. 1, 2021 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 5124-31 (*Jun. 2, 2021 morn.*), 5199-207 (*Jun. 3, 2021 morn., passed*)

Third Reading — 5222-23 (*Jun. 3, 2021 aft.*), 5291-97 (*Jun. 8, 2021 morn.*), 5367-74 (*Jun. 9, 2021 morn.*), 5430-33 (*Jun. 10, 2021 morn., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2021 c16]

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*)

Committee of the Whole — 5074-81 (*Jun. 1, 2021 aft.*), 5083 (*Jun. 1, 2021 eve.*), 5144-54 (*Jun. 2, 2021 aft., passed*)

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

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2021 c14]

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

First Reading — 4416 (*Apr. 12, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 4475-87 (*Apr. 13, 2021 aft.*), 4547-60 (*Apr. 14, 2021 eve.*), 4642-57 (*Apr. 19, 2021 eve.*), 4821-32 (*May 25, 2021 morn.*), 4858-62 (*May 25, 2021 aft.*), 4864-71 (*May 25, 2021 eve., passed on division*)

Committee of the Whole — 4871-77 (*May 25, 2021 eve.*), 4890-4900 (*May 26, 2021 morn.*), 4931-34 (*May 26, 2021 aft.*), 4935-37 (*May 26, 2021 eve., 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*)

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

Committee of the Whole — 5064-74 (*Jun. 1, 2021 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 5283-88 (*Jun. 7, 2021 eve.*), 5257 (*Jun. 7, 2021 eve.*), 5363-67 (*Jun. 9, 2021 morn., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 17, 2021, except sections 1, 3 and 7, which come into force on proclamation; SA 2021 c10]

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

First Reading — 4416 (*Apr. 12, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 4487-88 (*Apr. 13, 2021 aft.*), 4489-501 (*Apr. 13, 2021 eve.*), 4535-46 (*Apr. 14, 2021 aft.*), 4704-19 (*Apr. 20, 2021 eve.*), 4779-88 (*Apr. 21, 2021 eve.*), 4900-4904 (*May 26, 2021 morn., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 5083-97 (*Jun. 1, 2021 eve.*), 5338-43 (*Jun. 8, 2021 eve.*), 5507 (*Jun. 14, 2021 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 5570-75 (*Jun. 15, 2021 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation, with exceptions; SA 2021 c15]

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

First Reading — 4468 (*Apr. 13, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 4593-94 (*Apr. 15, 2021 aft.*), 4719-26 (*Apr. 20, 2021 eve.*), 5097-5106 (*Jun. 1, 2021 eve.*), 5113-24 (*Jun. 2, 2021 morn., 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*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2021 cS-7.88]

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*)

Committee of the Whole — 5154-57 (*Jun. 2, 2021 aft.*), 5159 (*Jun. 2, 2021 eve, passed*)

Third Reading — 5195-99 (*Jun. 3, 2021 morn.*), 5222 (*Jun. 3, 2021 aft., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation, except section 1, which has effect January 1, 2021; SA 2021 c9]

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*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2021 c13]

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.*), 5485-96 (*Jun. 14, 2021 eve.*), 5516-22 (*Jun. 15, 2021 morn.*), 5536-42 (*Jun. 15, 2021 aft., passed on division*)

Committee of the Whole — 5560-64 (*Jun. 15, 2021 eve.*), 5568-70 (*Jun. 15, 2021 eve.*), 5615-20 (*Jun. 16, 2021 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 5620-21 (*Jun. 16, 2021 eve.*), 5625-31 (*Jun. 16, 2021 eve., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force March 1, 2020; SA 2021 cC-31.3]

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*)

Second Reading — 4916-29 (*May 26, 2021 aft.*), 5032-37 (*May 31, 2021 eve.*), 5046-51 (*Jun. 1, 2021 morn.*), 5039-45 (*Jun. 1, 2021 morn.*), 5189 (*Jun. 3, 2021 morn.*), 5221-22 (*Jun. 3, 2021 aft., passed on division*)

Committee of the Whole — 5352-56 (*Jun. 8, 2021 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 5455-56 (*Jun. 10, 2021 aft., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force May 1, 2021; SA 2021 cP-21.51]

Bill 73 — Infrastructure Accountability Act (Panda)

First Reading — 5647 (*Oct. 25, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 5675-79 (*Oct. 26, 2021 aft.*), 5697-5709 (*Oct. 26, 2021 eve.*), 5719-28 (*Oct. 27, 2021 morn.*), 6011-23 (*Nov. 3, 2021 eve., adjourned*)

Bill 74 — Advanced Education Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (Nicolaidis)

First Reading — 5673 (*Oct. 26, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 5773-93 (*Oct. 27, 2021 eve.*), 5807-12 (*Oct. 28, 2021 morn.*), 5826-34 (*Oct. 28, 2021 aft.*), 5895-5908 (*Nov. 2, 2021 morn.*), 6027 (*Nov. 3, 2021 eve., passed on division*)

Bill 75 — Arts Professions Recognition Act (Orr)

First Reading — 5673-74 (*Oct. 26, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 5752-71 (*Oct. 27, 2021 aft.*), 5936-39 (*Nov. 2, 2021 aft.*), 5963-70 (*Nov. 3, 2021 morn.*), 6023-27 (*Nov. 3, 2021 eve.*), 6061-70 (*Nov. 4, 2021 aft., passed*)

Bill 76 — Captive Insurance Companies Act (Toews)

First Reading — 5750 (*Oct. 27, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 5825-26 (*Oct. 28, 2021 aft.*), 5944-51 (*Nov. 2, 2021 eve.*), 5986-6003 (*Nov. 3, 2021 aft., adjourned debate on amendment*)

Bill 77 — Municipal Government (Restoring Tax Accountability) Amendment Act, 2021 (McIver)

First Reading — 5823-24 (*Oct. 28, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 5928-36 (*Nov. 2, 2021 aft.*), 6039-48 (*Nov. 4, 2021 morn., adjourned*)

Bill 78 — Alberta Housing Amendment Act, 2021 (Pon)

First Reading — 5845-46 (*Nov. 1, 2021 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 6029-39 (*Nov. 4, 2021 morn., adjourned*)

Bill 79 — Trails Act (Nixon, JJ)

First Reading — 5919 (*Nov. 2, 2021 aft., passed*)

Bill 80 — Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2021 (No. 2) (Fir)

First Reading — 6060 (Nov. 4, 2021 aft., passed)

Bill 81 — Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (No. 2) (Madu)

First Reading — 6060 (Nov. 4, 2021 aft., passed)

Bill 82 — Mineral Resource Development Act (Savage)

First Reading — 6060 (Nov. 4, 2021 aft., passed)

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., Committee recommendation that Bill not proceed 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)

Committee of the Whole — 2720-33 (Oct. 26, 2020 aft.), 2908-09 (Nov. 2, 2020 aft., passed)

Third Reading — 3096-3103 (Nov. 16, 2020 aft., passed on division)

Royal Assent — (Dec. 9, 2020 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force December 9, 2020; SA 2020 c41]

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

First Reading — 2718 (Oct. 26, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 3070 (Nov. 5, 2020 aft., reported to Assembly; proceeded with)

Second Reading — 3103-08 (Nov. 16, 2020 aft.), 3307-14 (Nov. 23, 2020 aft., passed)

Committee of the Whole — 3813-14 (Dec. 7, 2020 aft.), 3948-59 (Mar. 8, 2021 aft.), 4036-37 (Mar. 15, 2021 aft., passed with amendments)

Third Reading — 4158-64 (Mar. 22, 2021 aft., passed on division)

Royal Assent — (Mar. 26, 2021 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force January 1, 2021; SA 2021 cG-5.4]

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

First Reading — 2827 (Oct. 28, 2020 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 3223-24 (Nov. 18, 2020 aft., reported to Assembly; 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 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)

Committee of the Whole — 5476-79 (Jun. 14, 2021 aft.), 5653-56 (Oct. 25, 2021 aft.), 5850-59 (Nov. 1, 2021 aft., passed; amendments agreed to)

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., Committee recommendation that Bill proceed 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)
Second Reading — 4006-15 (Mar. 11, 2021 aft.), 4102-07 (Mar. 17, 2021 aft., passed)
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., Committee recommendation that Bill proceed 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., Committee recommendation that Bill proceed 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., Committee recommendation that Bill proceed reported to Assembly), 5249-51 (Jun. 7, 2021 aft., debate on concurrence motion), 5471-73 (Jun. 14, 2021 aft., debate on concurrence motion), 5652-53 (Oct. 25, 2021 aft., debate on concurrence motion), 5846-49 (Nov. 1, 2021 aft., debate on concurrence motion; proceeded with)

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; proceeded with)
Second Reading — 5631-32 (Jun. 16, 2021 eve., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 5633 (Jun. 16, 2021 eve., passed)
Third Reading — 5633-34 (Jun. 16, 2021 eve., passed)
Royal Assent — (Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force June 17, 2021; SA 2021 cP-18.3]

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., Committee recommendation that Bill proceed reported to Assembly), 5473-74 (Jun. 14, 2021 aft., debate on concurrence motion), 5653 (Oct. 25, 2021 aft., debate on concurrence motion), 5849-50 (Nov. 1, 2021 aft., debate on concurrence motion; adjourned)

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*), 5454 (*Jun. 10, 2021 aft., Committee recommendation that Bill proceed reported to Assembly*), 5474-76 (*Jun. 14, 2021 aft.*), 5653 (*Oct. 25, 2021 aft., adjourned debate on concurrence motion*)

Bill 220 — Employment Standards (Expanding Bereavement Leave) Amendment Act, 2021 (Walker)

First Reading — 5534 (*Jun. 15, 2021 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills*), (*Nov. 3, 2021 aft., Committee recommendation that Bill proceed reported to Assembly; debate on concurrence motion to take place Monday, November 15, 2021*)

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*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 17, 2021 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 17, 2021; SA 2021]

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