



Province of Alberta

The 30th Legislature
Third Session

Alberta Hansard

Thursday afternoon, May 12, 2022

Day 34

The Honourable Nathan M. Cooper, Speaker

Legislative Assembly of Alberta
The 30th Legislature
Third Session

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New Democrat: 23

Independent: 3

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Legislative Assembly of Alberta

1:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 12, 2022

[The Speaker in the chair]

The Speaker: Hon. members, we will be led in the singing of *God Save the Queen* by Nicole Williams.

Hon. Members:

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

The Speaker: Hon. members, please be seated.

Introduction of Guests

The Speaker: Hon. members, we do have a number of guests, as you can well see. I hope to be able to get through the introductions in a prompt and reasonable manner.

Members, seated in the Speaker's gallery today is one of the families of our retiring pages, Grace Hlibka, who's in grade 11. She's a student hoping to pursue a career in medicine. Seated in the Speaker's gallery are her parents, Laura Hlibka and James Hlibka, along with her grandparents, aunts, and cousins. I would invite you all to rise and receive the warm welcome of the Assembly.

Hon. members, today, as you know, it's a great pleasure of mine to introduce to the Assembly an important group of individuals who play a key role in our democratic process in the province of Alberta. Our constituency staff are often the first point of contact for the people and the communities that we serve. Their jobs can be very rewarding, but they can also be very demanding and difficult depending on if you're the MLA for Calgary-Currie. It didn't really say that, but I thought I would take the opportunity to encourage my friend the Member for Calgary-Currie.

They are here participating in the spring constituency employee learning and development seminar, which is developed each year to help them with their unique roles and requirements in their service. The seminar provides them with an opportunity to network with each other, obtain an overview of numerous programs and services available through the Legislative Assembly Office, and over the lunch hour we had the opportunity to recognize the contributions of these individuals and sincerely thank them for their service to the province of Alberta.

I would like to point out specifically two constituency staff who are here celebrating 25 years of front-line service to this province. I would ask Darlynn Linn from Calgary-Lougheed and Angela Wolgen-Strojwas from Taber-Warner to rise along with the remainder of the 60 constituency office employees to receive the warm welcome of the Assembly. [Standing ovation]

Members, we have a number of other guests in our galleries today that I would like to welcome, but I ask that you hold your applause until the end of the introductions, and I would invite all guests that I introduce to feel free to rise as I introduce you.

First off, seated in the galleries today are special guests of the Member for Livingstone-Macleod. Please welcome Jay, Brady, and Brianna Maull.

Also joining us today is the cousin of the hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, Ron Goble.

We also have 20 guests of the Member for Peace River who are attending the March for Life rally today.

Finally, I'm pleased to introduce students and staff of Spring Glen junior high school from the Cardston-Siksika constituency. If you haven't already done so, I invite you to rise and receive the warm welcome of the Assembly.

Members' Statements

Nurses

Ms Gray: Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate National Nursing Week and we take time to stop and show our appreciation for the nurses in our province and in our country, I want to acknowledge that today is a particularly special day as International Nurses Day. The Canadian Nurses Association's theme for this year is We Answer the Call to showcase the many roles that nurses play in patient health care journeys.

Alberta nurses have gone above and beyond answering the call during the last few years while this government has thrown our health care system into chaos with their war on health care workers and the mishandling of the pandemic. But nurses kept showing up to take care of us despite the burnout, despite the exhaustion, despite the workload, despite this government's choices. Even when this government attacked their wages, their unions, even their overtime and paid sick days, nurses kept showing up. I'm in awe of the dedication of Alberta nurses and know that myself and my colleagues will continue to work hard towards a fair deal for some of our hardest working people.

United Nurses of Alberta's 30,000 members have made it clear that the UCP government must acknowledge that there is a crisis, a shortage of nurses, that requires real action, that requires measures to retain the nurses we have now and to recruit and educate new ones. An NDP government would ensure that nurses and health care workers have fair wages, paid sick days, mental health supports, and, more importantly, nurses and health care workers will be able to trust that an NDP government will support them and won't attack their basic working rights.

Nurses have been answering the call over the last three years, and I know that they're tired of the working environment this government continuously tries to make worse for them. I'm tired of it, too. So to all the nurses today and this week: we hear you, we see you, we thank you.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Brooks-Medicine Hat has a statement to make.

Federal Firearms Policies

Mrs. Frey: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Justin Trudeau is at it again. Yesterday his Liberals introduced new rules on the sale and transfer of nonrestricted firearms. We know that this will do absolutely nothing to reduce gun crime and simply represents another intrusion into the lives of law-abiding citizens. This is nothing more than a backdoor gun registry that they did not campaign on and nobody voted for, a registry that Stephen Harper and the Conservative government proudly abolished. On May 18 the Justin-Jagmeet bromance will impose new rules on the sale of otherwise legal firearms that require businesses and individual sellers to wade through countless red tape and needless regulation.

Let's be clear. Sufficient rules already exist to govern the sale of nonrestricted firearms. They already require a seller to verify that a buyer is legally authorized to own a gun by checking that the recipient has a PAL.

Mr. Speaker, Alberta's government has repeatedly called on the federal government to abandon their nonsensical backdoor firearms

registry. Justin Trudeau should be focused on implementing stronger border measures to cut off illegal gun smuggling at the source. He should bring back mandatory minimums for offences related to firearms trafficking and crime with a firearm, but what is he doing? He is making criminals out of law-abiding families: hunters, ranchers, sport shooters, and collectors. That's what.

Alberta's government will ensure a practical and balanced approach when it comes to firearms ownership that protects our communities from criminals, smugglers, and gangsters while upholding the rights of law-abiding Albertans.

Mr. Speaker, Justin Trudeau's rules have been implemented with almost zero consultation of law-abiding firearms owners. I repeat: instead of targeting real offenders like gun smugglers and gangsters, Justin Trudeau will be making criminals out of otherwise upstanding, responsible people. Conservatives and common-sense Albertans know that law-abiding farmers, ranchers, families, hunters, and sport shooters are not the problem; Justin Trudeau and his Liberal government are.

Social Supports and Assisted Dying

Mr. Williams: Mr. Speaker, ask yourself: how should we in government respond to men, women, and now increasingly children who live in destitution? Do we offer choices that only end in despair or worse?

During the pandemic a *Maclean's* article reported on an Ontarian woman with multiple nonterminal disabilities who lived on the edge of poverty. Frequenting food banks to be fed, Susan's story is one that should make every heart in our Chamber sink: "I have no other reason to want to apply for assisted suicide, other than I simply cannot afford to keep on living." Susan was poor, Mr. Speaker, and for that she died.

In another CTV article from April this year we hear from Sophia, with a sensitivity disability: "The government sees me as expendable trash, [as] a complainer, [as a] useless . . . pain in the ass." Eight days later Sophia died, her life taken in large part because she was poor and had a sensitivity to cigarette smoke and chemical cleaners.

1:40

An Ontario man named Chris with a serious, nonterminal disability also committed suicide. Here his brother is describing his care home: "There was urine on the floor, there were spots where there was feces on the floor . . . if you stood at his bedside and when you went to walk away, your foot . . . literally stuck." When Chris was 35, he took his own life with the help of the government. His brother believes he died because of the squalor in which he lived.

Assisted suicide and euthanasia are on the rise in Canada. The Parliamentary Budget Officer has reported that Canada has found a net savings of \$87 million due to our state-sponsored suicide program before Trudeau's Bill C-7. After that bill, when death need not be reasonably foreseeable, savings increased another \$62 million. Parliamentarians are now looking at expanding our suicide program to include mature minors, Mr. Speaker. I'm sure the savings will increase.

Mr. Speaker, ask yourself again: how should we in government respond to men and women and increasingly, unfortunately, now children who live in destitution? Do we offer choices that only end in despair or worse?

Diabetes Management Coverage

Mr. Nielsen: It is estimated that there are over 200,000 Albertans living with diabetes right now. One of them is my daughter. She was diagnosed at the age of six, so I understand the challenges that

people with diabetes face. Many of these can be managed with the use of a simple piece of technology: the insulin pump.

I've heard from countless diabetic Albertans about how this revolutionary piece of technology has given them their lives back. Students are able to go to school with confidence that they don't need to worry about insulin or needing to take a shot. The insulin pump has become for many a fact of life, something that they depend on, so naturally when this government imposed a change with no warning, no details, no consultation, and no regard for the lives of diabetics and their families, there was great concern. Albertans have come to expect this from this government. There is no concern for what this might do to them.

Our caucus has received messages from all corners of the province scared about this change and what it might mean for them or their loved one. The government isn't interested in getting them answers, though. In fact, as we learned this week, at least one member of the UCP cabinet thinks the concerns of Albertans are laugh-out-loud funny. Shameful, Mr. Speaker, but this is typical behaviour from this government, who is better at picking fights than they are at delivering services.

This government went to war with doctors, and it resulted in the health care crisis we are seeing in our emergency rooms and communities around Alberta. This government tried to sell parks from underneath Albertans without any warning. This government tried to tear down the eastern slopes in secret, and this government should never have messed with the essential medical supplies that thousands upon thousands of Albertans rely upon to live their lives.

Albertans need a government that works for them, not who works against them, who picks fights with them, who tries to hide from them. Mr. Speaker, the Alberta NDP is ready to be that government.

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

Civil Society Social Service Providers

Mr. Jeremy Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Sandwiches are beautiful,

Sandwiches are fine.

I like sandwiches, I eat them all the time.

Recently I had the privilege of taking a tour of Sonshine Community Services. They provide a safe zone for women and their children to escape abusive relationships, and its mission statement says in part: "help women and children transform their lives." Their emphasis on keeping families together during this difficult time is so important, and their intentional inclusion of the broader community in the solution is what will be needed to tackle the challenge of domestic violence.

I thoroughly enjoyed meeting with some of the children and singing one of my favourite songs about sandwiches. After seeing one of the suites, their child care facilities, and meeting with the staff, I came away impressed. Sonshine also offers child care and community counselling.

Mr. Speaker, in March I had the privilege of meeting with representatives of Ruth's House as well. Ruth's House is a safe haven for people in the African community needing to escape domestic violence. This organization focuses on educating other civil society groups as well as prevention and intervention. It warms my heart to see various groups working together to make our communities a safer and happier place for everyone, regardless of someone's background.

Another great civil society organization I've had the chance to meet with recently is Sagesse Domestic Violence Prevention Society. Its goal is to create a space for connections, creativity, and ideas regardless of our individual beliefs and ideals. It's about showing up and saying what needs to be said even when it's uncomfortable.

Mr. Speaker, something these not-for-profits I mentioned have in common is the acknowledgement that the answers to these complex

issues are found in engaging society to build awareness and mobilize resources and that only through broader community involvement can we address complicated and challenging issues like domestic violence. We all have a role. I want all civil society organizations to know that you have my constant admiration and support. I will advocate on your behalf in this government.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Education Funding and Curriculum Redesign

Mr. Deol: Mr. Speaker, for the past three years I have had the distinct privilege of representing the people of Edmonton-Meadows in this Assembly. I have the honour of attending the grand opening of Thelma Chalifoux school tonight. This school will serve 900 students and was funded and built by the NDP government, that put value in public education and invested to ensure that no matter where in the province you live, quality education would be available. The NDP funded and built hundreds of schools and ensured students and teachers were supported, but sadly while the NDP government lived up to its commitments to public education, the UCP has not.

The UCP has failed to fund new schools that Edmonton needs, leaving one of the largest boards with no schools despite badly needing them. UCP cuts to education funding mean that in Edmonton this year alone there will be 1,700 public school students who are not funded. The UCP plans have meant that there will be a thousand fewer teachers in classrooms since they have taken office. The Education minister fired 20,000 Edmonton workers and made the claim that they weren't working. Despite universal opposition the UCP insisted on forcing its discredited, garbage-pile curriculum into classrooms. Teachers, principals, school boards, parents, the francophone communities, and racialized Albertans oppose it, but still the Premier and the minister proceed, ignoring the feedback they hear. Members of the government even attacked teachers by claiming that their input was not needed to develop a good curriculum.

As I join my community in celebrating a new school that the NDP delivered, I will celebrate as part of a team that defends and stands up for public education. Albertans know which party they can trust with protecting public education in Alberta. It is not the UCP.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Highwood.

Surgical Wait Time Initiative

Mr. Sigurdson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Surgical wait times are an extreme concern for all Albertans. I'm sure that all of us can agree that the thought of having to wait months for a surgery is chilling. Alberta has had some of the highest surgical wait times in Canada, which increased every year from 2014 to 2020. During the past two years these wait times have continued to be a problem, which is worrisome for so many Albertans, but unlike the opposition across the aisle, this government has been committed to making changes that will actually reduce these wait times.

The Alberta surgical wait time initiative is a plan to lower wait times so that all Albertans receive surgeries within clinically appropriate timelines. To do this, we are investing \$133 million over three years to upgrade and expand surgical operating rooms. As Alberta has done since the 1990s, we're going to continue to work with chartered surgical facilities to increase access to these much-needed surgeries. So far, Mr. Speaker, this has been working. For cataracts we expanded our capacity by working with chartered surgical facilities to provide 10,000 cataract surgeries in Edmonton, and in Calgary we will have 15,000. By utilizing these clinics, we are reducing wait times and making sure that Albertans get the care

they deserve. In the first three quarters of the fiscal year we had an average wait time of 10 weeks for cataract surgeries, the shortest it's been since 2015.

So, Mr. Speaker, don't let the NDP fool you. They keep claiming their number one priority is Albertans, but when they were in power, wait times for the same procedures were extremely high at 17 weeks. Let's face it. Their union friends would have never allowed them to find solutions that actually work for Albertans because they only find solutions that work for their union bosses. I'm proud to be a part of a government that is taking real action to ensure Albertans get the surgeries they need when they need them.

The Speaker: Hon. members, if I could beg the indulgence of the Assembly for just one brief moment. I just realized and noticed that former member Scott Cyr and his mother have joined us in the gallery today, and I neglected to introduce them. I hope that you'll rise and receive the warm welcome of the Assembly.

1:50

Oral Question Period

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora has question 1.

Utility Rebate Timeline

Ms Hoffman: Mr. Speaker, Albertans facing sky-high natural gas bills are waiting for help from this Premier, waiting and waiting and waiting. The Premier announced this rebate for Albertans on February 1. It's been a hundred days, and Albertans still have no idea when it will arrive. Albertans don't want spin. They don't want UCP rhetoric. They don't want excuses. They want a cheque, and they want to know when it's coming. Will the Premier rise in this House today and tell Albertans what date the rebate is finally coming?

Mr. Kenney: Well, Mr. Speaker, thankfully, despite NDP obstruction and delays, we got the legislation passed. It is now law, and the minister is working with the utility companies, some 40 electricity retailers, to get that rebate on to people's bills as soon as possible; we hope in the weeks to come. Let's be clear about this. The NDP tried to stop that bill. They refused to allow us to fast-track it. The real issue is that they are cheering on Justin Trudeau's effort to quadruple the carbon tax to make life even more expensive for Albertans.

Ms Hoffman: Mr. Speaker, Albertans have gotten no answer from this government for a hundred days and counting. A recent survey shows half of Alberta households are just \$200 away from not being able to make ends meet. Instead of rushing to help, the UCP are ragging the puck on these rebates. In April the Premier suggested that he would speed it up and get these to families sooner than the fall, but he must've changed his mind because the regulations still say October. Why did the Premier flip-flop? Why is he so slow?

Mr. Kenney: Well, Mr. Speaker, Alberta's government has taken unprecedented action to help Albertans cope with the rising cost of living, a cost of living that is rising in large part because of the NDP-Liberal carbon tax grab. Through our immediate April 1 pause of the Alberta fuel tax, that represents a \$1.3 billion annual savings. The electricity rebate plus the forthcoming natural gas cap: all of that together represents \$2 billion in consumer relief, more than any other government by a country mile.

Ms Hoffman: Mr. Speaker, when the insurance lobby wants to jack up their fees, the Premier says, "No problem," and he rushes to make it happen. In fact, it took the Premier only two days to put

\$4.7 billion into the bank accounts of large profitable corporations – two days – but Albertans get a hundred days of excuses when it comes to their bank accounts. Is the Premier beginning to understand why Albertans can't trust him?

Mr. Kenney: Mr. Speaker, do you hear the sound of socialism from the other side? A tax cut they characterize as putting money into someone's bank account, when what we're doing is not taking it away from them. They crushed employers, job creators, and Albertans with a huge increase in the business tax rate, in the personal income tax rate, with their carbon tax hike. They drove us into four years of an economic tailspin from which we are only now recovering as we lead Canada in economic growth and job creation.

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

Private School Financial Reporting

Ms Hoffman: Mr. Speaker, every day it becomes more clear that Albertans cannot trust the UCP with public education. Just look at the confusion among the cabinet when it comes to Bill 21. The associate minister responsible for the bill and the Education minister can't even agree on what the bill does. Will the Premier, the guy who's ultimately responsible, tell Albertans why his associate minister of red tape thinks that private schools should be allowed to charge whatever they want for tuition and not even tell the Alberta public?

Member LaGrange: Mr. Speaker, nothing could be further from the truth. The items that are in the red tape reduction bill – that is, Bill 21 – really just simplify the process. The information is going to be provided to us, has always been provided to us through the audited financial statements. The member opposite is just trying to confuse the public.

Ms Hoffman: I'm just telling the minister what her colleague the other minister told everybody in Alberta. The Education minister, I guess, says that the associate minister of red tape is wrong.

Mr. Speaker, because public education and private education are all funded by the taxpayers of Alberta, we will be proposing an amendment to ensure that the UCP can't hide how much money private schools are charging. The minister says that they'll still have to tell her; they should have to tell the public. Will the Premier take a stand for transparency and accountability for once and promise Albertans that this information will be disclosed?

Mr. Kenney: Yes. Mr. Speaker, as the minister just said, of course, this information is available through the audited financial statements. But the real reason the NDP is upset is because they hate Alberta's tradition of school choice. They believe that bureaucrats and politicians should make decisions about kids' education rather than parents and families. We fundamentally disagree. The NDP voted against the Choice in Education Act, 2020, that recognized for the first time in Canadian law that parents have a human right to decide how best to educate their kids.

Ms Hoffman: Mr. Speaker, every child in Alberta deserves a high-quality education, reasonable class sizes, and a quality curriculum. This is important because right now the UCP is cutting public education, hiking school fees, and forcing a backwards curriculum on Alberta students. At the same time they want to hide how much taxpayers are forced to subsidize some wealthy private schools, some that are already flush with cash. Will the Premier stand up to the red tape minister and admit that Alberta taxpayers have a right to know how much schools are charging in tuition?

Member LaGrange: Mr. Speaker, again the member opposite shows that she does not understand independent schools. They only get 70 per cent funding. They get zero per cent for capital. While they have over 6 per cent of the population, they only get 4 per cent of the funding. In fact, the average taxpayer is saving money because students are in independent schools.

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

Diabetes Management Coverage

Mr. Shepherd: Mr. Speaker, only moments ago we heard the Health minister announce that the UCP will be suspending their changes to the insulin pump therapy program. This comes after days of the UCP ignoring the voices of Albertans who spoke out against this policy. We stood with Albertans like six-year-old Conor, who was worried about losing the pump that allows him to go safely to school without worrying about his diabetes. Albertans like Conor deserve an apology for the chaos and fear this government created. Will the Premier offer a full, unreserved apology to the thousands of Albertans with diabetes, like six-year-old Conor, who were belittled and ignored by his government?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Health.

Mr. Copping: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I'd like to thank the hon. member for the question. As I indicated to the media earlier today, we are doing a pause on our program. I want to apologize to Albertans due to the confusion, because there are a lot of questions that we actually hadn't answered yet. We're stopping the changes to the program right now. We're going to reach out to Albertans and do a series of town halls and reach out to all individuals involved in the insulin program. There are 4,000. We're going to make sure no one is going to be left behind. The intent behind this was to be able to expand access, and we're going to make sure that we're going to live up to the intent.

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

Mr. Shepherd: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the minister for the apology. You know, this government clearly did not consult as they plowed ahead with this plan that would seriously impact the lives of diabetics. It does not seem that a single diabetic was consulted, not a single organization. This government tried to move fast, and they got caught when Albertans got furious. Now they need to do better. While this policy is suspended, Albertans are understandably wary and want to be sure that government is not going to try to do the same thing again. Will the minister lay out today the details of what consultations he's going to hold? Will he commit that this policy won't move forward until every concern from the community is addressed?

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, we did do consultations beforehand. There was a clinical advisory committee in regard to the insulin pump program, but, evidently, given the concerns that were raised by some of my caucus colleagues, by the members across the aisle, and that I heard directly from Albertans who rely on the program themselves, we didn't do enough. Again I would like to apologize for that. We actually are going to be reaching out. We're going to be holding a town hall. We're going to be reaching out to each and every individual person in the program to understand what impact this has on them. Again, we'll make changes as necessary to ensure that no one gets left behind.

The Speaker: The hon. member.

Mr. Shepherd: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now, the minister said that they had details they hadn't released yet. I can't understand why this government keeps creating chaos in our health care system since they took office, with these lines outside of children's hospitals, thousands in southern Alberta with no family doctor. This simply does not help. But Diabetes Canada had also put out a letter today calling on the minister, noting that this program could put people in the position of having to choose between an insulin pump, rent, or food. To the minister: will he commit that his rewrite of this program will not put a single person in a position where they are unable to afford an insulin pump?

2:00

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, yes, we are going to ensure that we can protect those who need this, because there shouldn't be a choice between being able to manage this chronic disease and then putting food on the table. We are going to ensure, as we work through this policy program and the changes, that we understand where people have – you know, the vast majority already are in plans that actually can cover some of this, but there are some who are not. We need to identify those and make sure that no one is left behind. I did speak with Diabetes Canada earlier today to be involved in the ongoing consultation. I invited them, and I'm looking forward to speaking with them.

Homeless Supports and Affordable Housing

Ms Sigurdson: The city of Edmonton expects the number of people sleeping outside without support will continue to increase. Currently there are an estimated 800 people sleeping outside on any given night. This number will skyrocket once the pandemic emergency shelters close at the end of this month. The Premier has cut housing supports by more than 15 per cent and callously forced more Albertans onto the streets. To the Premier. We're in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis. There are more people facing homelessness because of this crisis. Why is the UCP cutting critical housing supports when so many Albertans have nowhere to go?

The Speaker: The hon. the Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.

Mr. Ellis: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the question. Of course, this government is committed to a recovery-oriented system of care to help all Albertans and to work with multiple ministries. The Alberta government is maintaining funding for homeless shelters, nearly \$49 million, ensuring that those who require emergency shelter have a safe place to stay. We provide nearly \$90 million to community-based organizations in Alberta, seven major cities, to fund a range of supports, including supportive housing, intensive care management, and rapid rehousing. This government is committed to that recovery-oriented system of care in helping Albertans.

Ms Sigurdson: This Premier failed to help Alberta's most vulnerable. As a result, the city of Edmonton is forced to spend \$860,000 to hire seven more park rangers, 14 more cleanup crew, and nine more housing and outreach workers to address the anticipated surge in homeless camps due to the emergency shelter bed closures. This is not a solution. Tearing down their tent and breaking up an encampment doesn't create a bed for them to sleep in. Does the Premier understand that forcing the city of Edmonton to clear out the homeless encampments from around the sky palace is not a feasible housing strategy?

Mr. Ellis: Mr. Speaker, of course, housing is an integral part of the recovery-oriented system of care. Ensuring that people have access to housing is extremely important but also ensuring that people have access to mental health and addictions support. That's why we've created the 8,000 spaces; 8,000 people are getting help that didn't get help under the previous government. That is so important to understand, and we're committing to helping people who are vulnerable on the streets of Edmonton.

Ms Sigurdson: Addressing homelessness is not only a social issue but an economic one. Chambers of commerce are calling on the UCP to take action. When addressing the Edmonton Chamber, Mayor Sohi stated: "Edmonton deserves a fair deal. [Please] work with us... Please stop holding Edmonton's economy back." Instead of working with the city of Edmonton, the Premier ignored their funding requests for permanent supportive housing and left hundreds of millions of dollars from the federal government on the table. To the Premier. Economic recovery needs to be for everyone. Will he commit here and now to work with the city of Edmonton to prevent the surge of homeless camps?

Mr. Ellis: Mr. Speaker, thank you to the member for the question. You know, over COVID this government had committed to over \$100 million during that particular time. Shelters, especially in Edmonton, are at 52 per cent. This government is committed, again, to helping people with mental health and addictions problems. We are committing to helping the most vulnerable, and I am proud of the work that our Premier has done. I am proud of the work that the minister of social services has done and that he continues to do.

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

Technology Industry Development

Mr. Amery: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Technology and innovation continue to be a key focus in Alberta as the sector gains momentum and expands in record numbers. Recently we heard about Calgary-based Neo Financial, who raised \$185 million in their most recent fundraising round and are now part of the one-billion-dollar-valuation club. But we know it's not just companies in the big cities who are developing innovation to help solve provincial, national, and international problems. To the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Innovation: what supports are available for tech companies and start-ups outside of Edmonton and Calgary?

Mr. Schweitzer: Mr. Speaker, Alberta's economy is firing on all cylinders. Our unemployment rate is at 5.9 per cent, a level we haven't seen in this province since 2015. That being said, we can't stop there. We're going to support entrepreneurs around the province, corner to corner. Our regional innovation networks in partnership with Alberta Innovates are going to be there as a pipeline of mentorship to help innovators take their ideas and make sure that they can have the tangible supports they need to turn it into a business plan and commercialize those opportunities.

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

Mr. Amery: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given the importance of supporting Alberta's tech sector throughout the province in all industries, from agriculture to health care and everything in between, and given that there have been numerous investments made by this government through Alberta Innovates to support innovators and entrepreneurs through regional innovation networks, to the minister: what services do these networks provide, and how can Albertans benefit from them?

Mr. Schweitzer: Mr. Speaker, right now in Alberta we're seeing a tech renaissance that's happening. Just a few years ago we only had 1,200 tech companies. Now we have over 3,000 tech companies in this province, and the amount of capital that they're raising is growing exponentially. We've broken our record each of the last three years. Now, we're going to support entrepreneurs in every corner of this province by making sure we're there at the early stage, mid-stage, and the later stage of mentorship. These companies can grow from a handful of employees one day to making sure that they're a billion-dollar company with 500-plus employees to a thousand employees. That's the support that we're going to be there with. We're going to have a bright future in this province and a more diversified economy.

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

Mr. Amery: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister. Given the growth that we are seeing in Alberta's tech and innovation sector, especially in our big cities but also growing in communities thanks to our investments like the one just spoken about, and given the need to find more talent to fill a growing number of these tech positions, can the minister tell us what work is being done to develop and attract more individuals to fill these roles?

Mr. Schweitzer: Mr. Speaker, do you remember those years under the NDP, when Albertans fled and their Energy minister told Albertans to go to another province to get a job? It's bright times in Alberta. We're seeing migration of thousands and thousands of Canadians moving to Alberta for high-paying jobs and an affordable way of life. [interjections] The NDP are heckling because they don't like that. They don't like the fact that Alberta is back and stronger than ever. [interjections]

The Speaker: Order. Order.

Disability Service Provider Funding

Ms Renaud: The Alberta Council of Disability Services launched a campaign called the Perfect Storm. Disability workers are the people that support developmentally disabled Albertans to live in their communities and take advantage of inclusive employment. Alberta's disability workers are chronically underpaid. With inflation at a 30-year high and the average hourly wage at \$18.76 an hour disability workers are leaving the sector in droves or having to get multiple jobs to feed their families. There is a documented crisis in this sector right now. They need an increase to their wages. Will the Minister of Finance deliver this increase?

The Speaker: The hon. the Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.

Mr. Ellis: Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the question. Certainly, on behalf of the minister of social services this government values the dedication that disability service workers have and have shown throughout the pandemic in caring for the most vulnerable Albertans. Last year Community and Social Services expanded the critical worker benefit to all community disability service workers, the funding through the family support for children with disabilities and persons with developmental disabilities. To date we have distributed over \$16 million to over 13,000 workers.

Ms Renaud: Given that the majority of responding community disability organizations are reporting increased costs related to insurance, utilities, employee benefits, IT, accounting, auditing, fees, staff training and recruitment, maintenance, property tax, rent,

and more and given that 61 per cent of reporting organizations are facing these financial pressures and given that the increasing financial pressure on these organizations may result in the rationing of supports or increased costs for disabled Albertans, does the Premier prefer that disabled Albertans face even higher costs or fewer services? Will he respond to the crisis or let someone just spew written notes?

The Speaker: The hon. the Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions.

Mr. Ellis: Mr. Speaker, thank you. The ministry is working with the disability services sector and the partnering ministries, of course, to improve attraction and retention within the sector. We've provided a grant to the Alberta Council of Disability Services to collect and analyze data. The ministry is committing to helping people in this sector. [interjections]

Thank you.

The Speaker: Order.

2:10

Ms Renaud: Given that this side needs way better notes and given that the Alberta Council of Disability Services has unequivocally stated that Alberta's community disability service sector is in an untenable situation right now as a result of consecutive years of stagnant funding, soaring inflation, and extreme pandemic pressure and given that community disability workers are leaving the sector due to fatigue or the inability to support . . . [interjections]

The Speaker: Order. Order. The hon. Member for St. Albert has the opportunity to ask the question without conversations happening around her.

You can go back a couple of seconds if you want. You have about 10 seconds remaining.

Ms Renaud: Given that I'm incredibly disappointed that this government is unable to put someone up that actually has some information to offer the community disability sector, will the Premier or the Finance minister answer the question that these service providers are asking?

Mr. Ellis: Well, Mr. Speaker, I thank the member for the question. You know, it's a little rich here for the NDP to especially talk about notes when they are in fact reading notes. I will ensure that the member from the ministry of social services is certainly aware of this issue. He is working very hard to rectify any of the issues within this department. I'm proud of the work that he's doing and that he's going to continue to do.

Ambulance Response Times

Ms Gray: Mr. Speaker, EMS is in crisis in this province, and the government is not listening to workers. Last month we sat down with Canmore-based advanced care paramedic Kristin Buck, who said that the town has gone from having to shut down an ambulance three times in 2019 to 32 times in 2021. There were 133 Albertans who saw a delayed response within the town of Canmore last year, and yesterday, when asked about these issues, the acting minister claimed this was all normal. To the minister: do 32 ambulance shutdowns in one Alberta town sound normal to him?

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Health.

Mr. Copping: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the hon. member for the question. This is an important issue. Our

system, our health care system, is facing pressures, including our EMS system. This problem has come to light. There's an increase of 30 per cent in calls, but we are taking action to address this. In Budget 2022 we put in an additional \$64 million. That's to add new ambulances, to hire new staff. AHS announced a 10-point plan to address some of these issues. We recognize there's an issue. We are solving it.

Ms Gray: Mr. Speaker, paramedics and first responders are telling us clearly that this is not normal, and given that Kristin had to file a freedom of information request to get the real facts instead of government spin and given that what she found was that response times are climbing, with more responses over 20 minutes, and given that in March a patient with a heart condition waited 33 minutes for an ambulance, why doesn't the minister stop the excuses, look at the data, listen to Kristin, and take immediate action?

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, we are taking action. Earlier this week I was pleased to tour the new integrated operating centre in Calgary. The purpose of this is to be able to smooth out the calls and to direct paramedics to different hospitals within Calgary and the surrounding area. I know this is just one of multiple actions that we need to do to address this issue. A big part of it is hiring more paramedics. We are doing that. We have actually hired several hundred, and we're actually going to hire more. We understand it's an issue, and we are going to correct it.

Ms Gray: Mr. Speaker, it used to be that Canmore EMS responded to most of their calls inside of Canmore, their own community, but given that last year Canmore EMS responded to more calls outside of Canmore than inside of it and that by not addressing pressures in Calgary, this government is causing stress and suffering in every single community around it and given that this week I talked to a Canmore firefighter who said that when they're first on the scene, they now have to ask from which community the ambulance is coming so they know how long they'll be waiting, will the minister listen to front-line workers, offer casuals full-time contracts, as front-line workers have asked for? We clearly need them. What is the holdup?

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, we are listening to front-line workers. We are adding resources and adding more people. We understand that there is an issue. That is the reason why we appointed an advisory committee. My colleagues in this Chamber are actually leading the charge in terms of doing that. They have reached out to do surveys of front-line workers as part of that. I am very much looking forward to hearing their report, which will be coming in the next couple of weeks. We've also asked for some quick hits so that we can address these issues. I'm looking forward to being able to make an announcement of that in the next coming days. We understand there's an issue. We are addressing it.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Grande Prairie.

Rural Health Care Professional Recruitment and Retention

Mrs. Allard: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the pandemic, understandably, the focus of our health care – doctors, nurses, and specialists – was on the pandemic response and those in critical care. Resources were focused, and the most urgent issues were prioritized. The pandemic highlighted critical system issues and put strain on health care and health workers right across the province. Rural areas in particular continue facing a shortage of physicians, which has left rural Albertans in a vulnerable position. To the

Minister of Health: what's being done to attract nurses, doctors, and specialists to rural areas, and what's the plan to ensure they remain working in these areas rather than relocating, leaving these communities short once again?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Health.

Mr. Copping: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the hon. member for the question. Staffing outside the two major cities has been an issue for a number of decades. We've been through a global health crisis that has strained health care in every province. We continue to add doctors, nurses, paramedics, and other health care professionals in spite of the pandemic, and we are going to do more. Budget 2022 maintains the most generous incentives for rural doctors in Canada and funds new initiatives to attract doctors and nurses to smaller communities. We know there's added strain on smaller communities, and we're addressing it as we add capacity right across our health care system.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Grande Prairie.

Mrs. Allard: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and, through you, to the minister for that answer. Given that a shortage of doctors and nurses has both immediate and long-term effects on families and communities and staff shortages can snowball, exacerbating the problem further, and given that hospitals in many rural areas are currently understaffed, adding additional pressure on those doctors and nurses that choose to remain to carry that additional load, to the same minister: what strategies are being implemented to ensure the retention of new hires, and how will unexpected staff vacancies be avoided in the future? For example, will there be sufficient flex capacity to bridge vacancies without further service reduction to rural Albertans?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Health.

Mr. Copping: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thanks again to the hon. member for these important questions. Budget 2022 includes \$90 million for rural physician recruitment and retention. It also includes two new initiatives. The RESIDE program will support 60 new doctors in rural or remote communities, and the new rural capacity investment fund will provide \$50 million for rural nurses and another \$7.5 million for relocation assistance. But we know that we need to do more. We're working with the AMA and with the rural practitioners program to do an assessment of our programs to help make them more effective and working with my colleague in Advanced Education to be able to train more . . .

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Grande Prairie.

Mrs. Allard: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and again, through you, to the minister. Given that the issue of service in rural communities is not unique to Alberta, with more than 20 per cent of the Canadian population residing in rural areas but only 9.3 per cent of physicians practising in these same areas, and further given that rural communities experience the largest deficit of health care workers consistently and that this is a decades-old problem, again to the Minister of Health: what strategies are being enacted to guarantee improved health care for those working in rural areas, and what's the plan to stabilize the flux of physician supply in these areas, including in the rural hubs like my community of Grande Prairie?

The Speaker: The Minister of Health.

Mr. Copping: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As the hon. member mentioned, this is an issue not only being faced in Alberta and in

rural areas but across the entire country. We are fortunate to see a net gain of 99 physicians in the first quarter of this year compared to last year, but we understand that those gains are not where we necessarily need all the doctors. We know that in smaller communities they had losses, and the pandemic has been hard on family physician practices especially in those communities. We are working with AMA to address the pressure on family doctors as part of the work as we work towards a new agreement, and we will continue to focus on solving this problem in rural Alberta.

Calgary Storm Damage Recovery Funding

Mr. Sabir: Mr. Speaker, next month marks the two-year anniversary since the devastating hailstorm hit northeast Calgary, and as I drive through my community, I still see houses with hail damage. The UCP government has done nothing to help these people. The Premier once promised to call his friends in the insurance industry, but those calls appear to have been ignored. Thankfully, the city has stepped up with supports to help Calgarians replace their roofs with stronger ones that can resist future hailstorms. Why has the UCP refused to provide similar support to the people of northeast Calgary?

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

Mr. McIver: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will acknowledge that the hon. member did go and pose for a picture along with the Leader of the Opposition. Congratulations on that. But while they were posing for that picture, members of ours from northeast Calgary went and have been working with people who had hail damage, working to make sure that the insurance claims that they had were honoured, pushing the insurance companies to honour those claims. That is actually more than the NDP did when there were hailstorms when they were in government. We will continue to faithfully work with people that suffered damage through disasters.

2:20

Mr. Sabir: Given that the city has recently ended the hail-resilient roofing rebate program and given that the program was oversubscribed and ran out of money due to its high demand and given that it would cost \$5 million to process the remaining applicants, not the made-up \$2.5 billion figure the UCP keeps citing, and given that this is just one-sixth of the annual budget of the war room, will the government step up and help the people of northeast Calgary, or will they continue to fund their shameful war room?

Mr. McIver: Well, Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, the NDP has just revealed the way they look at the world. We have a disaster recovery program that is designed to look after uninsured losses, which is what the design is. What the NDP wants to do is pay for everybody's loss in Alberta that hasn't bought insurance, billions of dollars. You know what? They haven't even put any thought into the extent of what they're asking for, putting the government on the hook to pay for every uninsured loss: roofs, homes, automobiles. They just don't have any idea what they're asking for.

Mr. Sabir: Mr. Speaker, given that the minister last week announced \$744 million in flood mitigation for Calgary and refuses to fund \$5 million for hail-resistant roofs in northeast Calgary, why is there a double standard? Why are people in northeast Calgary treated differently, Minister?

Mr. McIver: Mr. Speaker, what the NDP doesn't understand is that there is no double standard. Disaster recovery program is for uninsured

losses. The NDP is suggesting that nobody buys insurance and the government replaces every single thing for every single Albertan that's ever lost. [interjections]

The Speaker: Order.

Hon. Member for Calgary-Bhullar-McCall, you had your opportunity to ask your question. Now I'd like to hear the answer.

Mr. McIver: Now, I appreciate that the hon. member that's asking the question posed for a picture once, and he wants to be thanked for that. Mr. Speaker, instead, he's actually suggesting that we put insurance companies out of business and that the government pays for every single loss that everybody has, no matter what. [interjections]

The Speaker: Order.

Utility Costs and Rebates

Ms Sweet: Mr. Speaker, skyrocketing utility prices are crippling Alberta's rural economy. It's having a detrimental effect on families, businesses, and nonprofits. I'm hearing from people across the province who can't afford their monthly bills. Our economy is still recovering from the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The rural Albertans I'm hearing from say that their bills are hundreds of dollars higher now than they were under the NDP government. Will the associate minister of electricity rise in this House and tell rural Albertans specifically what he's going to do to address this crisis today? No more talking points. Let's have some action, Minister.

Mr. Jason Nixon: Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to invite any of the members of the NDP to come and experience rural Alberta at any time. In fact, the Sundre stampede rodeo is about to happen at the end of the month, and I hope they all come and see what rural Alberta is really about. The Associate Minister of Natural Gas and Electricity and this government are working tirelessly to help with bills and to fix the boondoggle that the NDP made with our electricity system and our heating system in this province. We have rebates coming for both electricity and natural gas, and we have fought against Justin Trudeau's carbon tax, that they supported.

Ms Sweet: Well, given, Mr. Speaker, that utility costs were lower when we were in charge and we took action to ensure they never hammered household budgets the way they are right now and given that the devastating effects of these utility costs have left some rural municipalities to call on the Alberta Utilities Commission to launch an investigation and given that we support any inquiry into why costs are so high, does the minister support the call from the mayors of Taber, Fox Creek, and other municipalities, and will he join them in supporting an investigation into these skyrocketing costs?

Mr. McIver: Mr. Speaker, I love that the NDP talked about when they were in government. When they took government, electricity cost 3 cents. After they were done, they capped it at 6.8, almost triple. Why did it triple? They cut off the cheapest source of electricity. They added a carbon tax. They supported the federal – with these folks across, actually, a stated objective is to have everybody taking the bus because they wouldn't be able to drive. That's actually their goal. Now they're complaining about the cost? They've actually succeeded in making it unaffordable.

Ms Sweet: Well, given that this government continues to do nothing and, again, municipal leaders are asking for an inquiry and given that the Premier promised the natural gas rebate 100 days ago and we still don't know where that is and given that the minister

himself represents a rural riding of Morinville-St. Albert, has the minister forgotten the people who put him in that chair? Does he even care? Explain to the voters of the constituency of Morinville-St. Albert why this government is doing nothing.

Mr. Jason Nixon: Mr. Speaker, there was an inquiry into what happened with electricity, done by this government as part of our platform, that came back and said that the NDP broke the entire system, did Albertans an extraordinary disservice, and made electricity prices skyrocket. On top of that, they have inside this House filibustered and tried to block natural gas rebates. Shameful. They stood with Justin Trudeau and their boss Mr. Singh in Ottawa, forcing a carbon tax on Albertans over and over, and have defended Justin Trudeau trying to steal Albertans' birthright, which we will not let happen.

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

Antiracism Strategy

Mr. Jeremy Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm proud of this government's work to fight racism and thankful that this government is taking concrete steps to stand up to racism. For example, the discriminatory practice of carding was banned by this government, and we created the hate crimes task force as well as the associate ministry of immigration and multiculturalism to act as an advocate for Alberta's minority communities. To the Associate Minister of Immigration and Multiculturalism: can you update this House about what this government's initiatives are to make our province a more welcoming place for everyone?

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

Mr. Yaseen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for that question and also recognizing some of our government's work to combat racism in this province. In addition to banning the horrible practice of carding and establishing the hate crimes unit and community liaison, we have more than doubled the funding to protect places of worship and multicultural places through the Alberta security infrastructure program. By the way, that program is very welcomed by the communities. I continue to do my outreach.

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

Mr. Jeremy Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thanks to that minister for his outreach and his efforts. Given that moving to a new city can be overwhelming, especially when you're moving from a new country, and given that according to Stats Canada hate crimes were on the rise from 2019 into 2020 and given that racism can happen in the workplace, to the same minister: can you tell this House about some of the initiatives that our government is undertaking to make sure that every Albertan feels safe and valued in this workplace?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Mr. Yaseen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member. Under the fairness for newcomers action plan we have created a fairness for newcomers office to work with regulatory organizations to ensure that their processes are up to date, fair, and procedurally correct. One of the best ways to reduce challenges in the workplace for newcomers is through credential recognition. We have also created the Alberta mentorship program. We had the first-

ever Premier's summit for newcomers. We are also bringing forth the newcomers' recognition award.

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

Mr. Jeremy Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and again thank you to the minister for his efforts. Given that wiping out racism and hate is an ongoing challenge and given all the initiatives this government has taken and the broader community has taken to make Alberta hate-free through various grants and other programs to reduce barriers for minority communities, to the same minister: what is the government's benchmark to ensure that we are achieving our goals in this area, to create an inclusive and welcoming community?

The Speaker: The hon. associate minister.

Mr. Yaseen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member. We continue to have discussions with Alberta's Anti-Racism Advisory Council and are nearing completion on more than half of their 48 recommendations. We have been working across multiple ministries on an action plan to reduce systemic racism and to collect feedback to implement more inclusive programs. I'm happy to say that our government has done unprecedented work for our newcomers and racialized communities so that they can thrive, feel safe, and reap their full potential in this beautiful province of Alberta.

Dene Tha' First Nation Concerns

Mr. Feehan: Yesterday I raised concerns about the devastating flooding at the Dene Tha' First Nation in northern Alberta; 1,100 members of the nation have been evacuated from Chateh and have been housed in hotels wherever possible. Unfortunately, housing is not consistently available, and the roads to camping sites such as Rainbow Lake have been cut off by the floods. Last year flooding forced the nation to replace 72 furnaces and hot water heaters, an expense the nation cannot continue to support. A protective berm is needed in the community of Chateh. What is the government's plan to get this berm built as soon as possible?

2:30

Mrs. Sawhney: Thank you to the hon. member for that question. It's a very important question. I'd like to start off by saying that we know it's a difficult time for many residents in northwestern Alberta. Our first priority is to ensure the safety and security of everyone. I do want all Albertans to know that my department is on the ground, working around the clock to undertake significant repairs. I've also had a conversation with the Dene Tha' First Nation Chief, James Ahnassay, and I will be visiting in the coming weeks to have an in-depth conversation about how to enhance critical infrastructure.

Mr. Feehan: Given that on Tuesday I spoke with Chief Ahnassay, who expressed concern that evacuation out of the community is severely hampered by the poorly maintained roads and the dangerously steep approach to the community from highway 58, and given that this road is so steep that in wintertime ambulances have refused to go down the hill and are forced to wait for patients to be brought up to them, will the Minister of Transportation provide the people of Chateh with the necessary resources needed to repair this road into the townsites?

Mrs. Sawhney: Again, Mr. Speaker, we are taking a crossministry approach on this. I have been in touch with the mayor of High Level as well because they are also impacted. Again, I will be visiting with the chief in the coming weeks to make sure that we're having a detailed discussion on the infrastructure that we need to invest in to make sure that they are safe and secure.

Mr. Feehan: Given that in my conversation with Chief Ahnassy he expressed concern that clear-cutting upstream has seriously affected the environment and landscape, which has resulted in the nation experiencing hundred-year floods three times in the last few years, and given that to prevent natural disasters from doing the damage that we are seeing in Chateh now, more needs to be done on climate mitigation and protection, will the environment minister tell the people of Chateh what specifically he will do to mitigate and prevent the community of Chateh from experiencing flooding of this nature in the future?

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Environment and Parks.

Mr. Jason Nixon: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Alberta government and our largest industries and Albertans all across this province are investing unprecedented amounts in technology to be able to make sure that we can meet our environmental obligations to be able to combat climate change. That's a sharp contrast from that member and the Official Opposition, who dedicated most of their time in government to attacking our largest industry and, in fact, as the Court of Appeal just said the other day, working to help Justin Trudeau steal the birthright of all Albertans.

Mr. Feehan: You took \$50 million a year away from those communities. You stopped the Indigenous climate leadership . . .

Mr. Jason Nixon: It's unfortunate to see that . . .

The Speaker: Order. Order. The hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford had his opportunity to ask a question.

Mr. Feehan: Yeah; but it was better than his answer.

The Speaker: Order. Of course, the Speaker would never judge the quality of a question or an answer because we all know how that would end.

Mr. Jason Nixon: Mr. Speaker, you see it right there. The NDP get mad when we attack their boss, Justin Trudeau.

Mr. Feehan: When you take money away from Indigenous communities.

Mr. Jason Nixon: But this side of the House: we work for Albertans.

Mr. Feehan: You took money from Indigenous people.

Mr. Schow: Point of order.

The Speaker: A point of order is noted.

Child Care Access and Affordability

Ms Pancholi: This week Albertans learned that the UCP will fail to meet its promise to reduce child care fees by 50 per cent for families in Calgary, Edmonton, and Lethbridge. Well, the UCP also promised to create 10,000 new child care spaces this year. Thousands of families are on wait-lists right now. If the UCP stands a chance of creating these many new spaces, all UCP ministers, not just Children's Services, need to be working on this. Let's see if any of them are. To the Minister of Jobs, Economy and Innovation. The UCP's plan for downtown Calgary includes nothing about creating new child care spaces. Why not?

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

Ms Fir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our made-in-Alberta child care plan will provide \$3.8 billion for child care in Alberta over the next five years to support improved access to affordable, quality, and inclusive child care. This new child care agreement is great news for working families with children zero to kindergarten age who are enrolled in licensed child care. It's also great news for our province's economic recovery. Alberta was one of the first provinces to help reduce fees for parents, and families are seeing savings already.

Ms Pancholi: Sounds like that minister is doing nothing.

Given that 40 per cent of the new spaces that the UCP claimed to create last year never actually opened and given that creating 10,000 new child care spaces requires a well-developed strategy, involving nonprofits, school boards, and, importantly, municipalities, and given that I've spent months actively speaking to municipalities across the province about creating child care spaces but they tell me they haven't heard from any UCP ministers on this, will the Minister of Municipal Affairs tell us when he plans to start taking this seriously? Why isn't he talking to municipalities about new child care spaces? Doesn't he care about the families in Calgary?

Ms Fir: Mr. Speaker, more than 90,000 children are benefiting from our agreement and are seeing reduced fees. Part of the approach is to complement Alberta's existing strong subsidy model that supported thousands of low- and middle-income families across the province. This means that those families who were already receiving the highest subsidy were already on their way to paying much lower fees. The CCPA report made their conclusions based on projections from a phone survey before the child care agreement in Alberta was rolled out. The report also did not take into account Alberta subsidies, an important part of how parents are saving on child care fees.

Ms Pancholi: Well, given I'd understand that I'd be afraid to admit I'm doing nothing as well, like they are all ...

Mr. Jason Nixon: Point of order.

Ms Pancholi: ... and given that creating new child care spaces is meaningless if there are no early childhood educators to staff them and given that there's an extreme labour shortage in this workforce but this government continues to attack the postsecondary institutions where they learn and upgrade their skills as educators and given that failing to address this labour shortage has direct implications on our economy and the ability of families to go to work, can the Minister of Advanced Education tell this House if he's done any work at all with Alberta's postsecondary institutions to increase the number of spaces and access to early childhood education programs? And be specific, please. We'd like to grade your work.

The Speaker: A point of order is noted at 2:36.

The hon. the Associate Minister of Red Tape Reduction.

Ms Fir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's always rich and entertaining to hear the members opposite talk about impacts to the economy.

But anyways, families are paying between \$10 to \$25 a day, and most supports are being targeted to the parents who need it most. Parents are seeing on average a 50 per cent reduction in their fees, but that will vary depending on the fees targeted by . . . [interjections]

The Speaker: Order. Order. The hon. the Associate Minister of Red Tape Reduction is very close to me, but it's difficult to hear her from even this range. I hope that I'll be able to do that with some reduction in the noise.

Ms Fir: Mr. Speaker, no family will pay more than they did before that.

I know that it's painful and difficult for the members opposite to hear about the outstanding work the Minister of Children's Services is doing in child care and the positive impacts that's having for our economy, but they just have to face it.

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

Federal Travel Vaccination Mandate

Mr. Getson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When it comes to COVID-19, Canada has one of the highest vaccinated populations in the world. However, according to manufacturers of the COVID-19 vaccines efficacy is greatly diminished for the current variants. As such, it behooves most rational-minded people to reconcile the federal mandatory vaccine policies that not only limit freedom of movement but freedom of employment of its own citizens. In fact, the freedom convoy, that had millions of supporters not only in this country but internationally, is asking the same question. Why do we need this mandated? It's simply out of touch with current realities. The response to the concerned citizens? Invoke the Emergencies Act, something that typically is only reserved for war or unless you're fans of the bromance down east. To the Minister of Health: what is being done by the provincial government . . .

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Health is rising.

Mr. Copping: Mr. Speaker, thanks for the question, hon. member. This government will always call out federal government overreach. An example of that overreach is the use of the Emergencies Act. It was unnecessary and disproportionate. Vaccine mandates and other public health measures also must be proportionate to the risk at that time. At this time the federal vaccine mandates for travel are disproportionate and pointless. We'll keep advocating for the federal government to align their public health measures with the evidence and with the policies in place here in Alberta and in other provinces.

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

Mr. Getson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the minister. Given that the concerns of Canadians, regardless of vaccine status, were over the infringements of rights and freedoms as per our Constitution and given that people had enough of the virtue signalling regarding the COVID policy and given that the federal government had their desired effect of scaring their citizens into conformity and that the federal government has shown its track record of begging for forgiveness after they've done these types of acts rather than seeking parliamentary approval, to the Minister of Justice: what are you and your fellow ministers doing to pressure the federal government to cease these infringements on Canadians' rights and freedoms?

Mr. Schweitzer: Mr. Speaker, when it comes to standing up for Albertans' rights and their constitutional freedoms, no government across Canada is doing more than this one. We want to know: when will the NDP join us in our fight against the no-more-pipelines bill? The Alberta Court of Appeal ruled that it's unconstitutional. We've stood up for Albertans' rights time and time again. When will the failed, failed, failed NDP join us in standing up for the constitutional rights of Albertans? [interjections]

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

2:40

Mr. Getson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the minister. Given that the travel restrictions not only within our country but across the U.S. border and internationally have a negative impact on the economy and given that numerous countries have already done away with their restrictions, what is being done by the government of Alberta to have the removal of the restrictions on its citizens travelling for work or leisure in and out of this province who just happen to not be vaccinated from the first vaccination that went around for COVID?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Mr. Copping: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health Canada have been clear. Public health measures must be based on the risk at a given time, and they must be adjusted as the risk changes. Federal travel restrictions are hurting our economy with no proportional public health benefit at this time. We welcome the changes that the federal government made in April. They're a start, but they are not enough. Federal vaccination mandates are out of step with the evidence at this time, and they need to end.

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

Members' Statements

(continued)

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Camrose has a statement to make.

Women's Reproductive Health

Ms Lovely: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm proud to rise today and speak to the topic of women's health in recognition of Women's Health Week. I want to first acknowledge the Women's Health Coalition, who has advocated tirelessly on this subject and kindly joined us in the Chamber for question period yesterday.

Mr. Speaker, women's health is crucial, yet there is a serious lack of understanding regarding women's health. There is a shortage of training and knowledge about the challenges that face women, particularly women's reproductive and general gynecological health. Unfortunately, when it comes to reproductive health, 10 per cent of cases concerning men are listed as urgent, yet only 1 per cent concerning women are treated with the same urgency.

Traditionally in medicine, the health of women during their child-bearing years or when they were bearing children was seen as the most important. While the wonder of conception and child birth are amazing things, I can tell you that there is far more to women's reproductive health than just those years.

Mr. Speaker, we must bring women's health into the spotlight. It is time to take action and work to get more health practitioners trained in gynecology. It's time to acknowledge that there are women who experience heavy menstrual cycles every month. It's time to raise awareness that this could be a sign of health complications and make sure doctors are trained to recognize this and provide treatment. It is time to acknowledge that women face challenges like fibroids, endometriosis, polycystic ovary syndrome, and so many more.

Here in Alberta and across the world there is more time to bring awareness to women's health and its importance. I am proud to say that Alberta's government is up to the challenge. We are committed

to making sure that women have access to quality health care in a timely fashion across the province.

This week and all weeks I encourage continued conversation around challenges faced by women in their pursuit of quality health care. Only in hearing the stories and understanding the challenges can we arrive at the solutions.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Lobbyists

Mr. Barnes: Hey there. Have you ever wondered why megacorporations have access to the highest political offices in the province, but you can't even get a response to an e-mail? The answer to this quandary is simple: hire a lobbyist.

We all know lobbying is the most simple and proven way to get your way, and thankfully Alberta has some of the most toothless lobbying regulations in Canada. In Alberta we don't even prevent immediate family members from lobbying each other. "But wait," you say, "isn't that a little shady?" To that we say, "Don't you want a sole-source contract?"

If you're looking to hire a lobbyist in Alberta, start with one of the Premier's pet firms. You can even hire the Premier's most recent campaign team, something that is technically legal in Alberta. You know what we say? "Technically legal is the best kind of legal." If you're an Albertan who can't pay your utilities or you're struggling with rising insurance costs, you can stand in line with the rest of the schlubs, or you can do what the rich and the powerful do: hire a lobbyist today.

But wait; there's more. For a limited time only, when you hire one lobbyist, three more work for free on the Premier's leadership review. You may already know that the Official Opposition has been outfundraising the government of Alberta for years. The Premier is getting desperate. As such, you can rest assured that there is no job too big or too small for our crack team of party insiders. Using one of our patented political greasing technologies, we can unstick rusty hinges and pry our way into virtually any Legislature door.

And don't worry about Alberta's pesky financial contribution limits. Our Premier and his cronies have rewrote the rules to ensure there are plenty of loopholes to exploit. If money in politics is like water on pavement, Bill 81 opens all the floodgates. Call now and we'll even throw in a free Best Summer Ever hat and an open for good T-shirt. Lord knows there's no shortage of defunct swag lying around the Premier's office. Operators are standing by.

Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees

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

Mr. Jeremy Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As deputy chair of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills I am pleased to present the committee's final report on Bill 207, Traffic Safety (Tow Truck Warning Lamps) Amendment Act, 2022, sponsored by the hon. Member for Leduc-Beaumont. This bill was referred to the committee on April 28, 2022. The report recommends that Bill 207 proceed. I request concurrence of the Assembly in the final report on Bill 207.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: Hon. members, the Speaker has the call. The hon. Member for Calgary-Klein has moved concurrence in the report on Bill 207, Traffic Safety (Tow Truck Warning Lamps) Amendment

Act, 2022. This is a debatable motion pursuant to Standing Order 18(1)(b). Are there any members wishing to speak to concurrence?

Seeing none, the deputy chair of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills has requested concurrence in the report on Bill 207, Traffic Safety (Tow Truck Warning Lamps) Amendment Act, 2022.

[Motion for concurrence carried]

Tabling Returns and Reports

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

Ms Hoffman: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I have the requisite number of copies of an article that ran today in the *Calgary Herald* highlighting the cruel cut made to the Alberta School Councils' Association by the current government and stating that an NDP government will reinstate their 650,000 annual dollars in funding.

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

Mr. Sabir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been 58 shootings in Calgary this year, and people are concerned about the proliferation of guns and gun violence, so I am tabling the requisite number of copies of an article titled 'This Is a Tragedy for Our Community': Mother of Five Dead after Road Rage Shootout in Forest Lawn.

Thank you.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung I saw.

Mr. Dach: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise with the five requisite copies of a report that shows that the health and climate impacts from coal power cost Alberta millions. Health and environmental groups urge Alberta to improve a phase-out of coal. I mention this in reference to the laughter that emanated from the other side by government members after I said that coal phase-out was saving lives when, in fact, this report clearly shows that it does and that each year 700 emergency visits, 4,000 asthma episodes, and nearly 100 premature deaths are precluded by this move.

The Speaker: Are there other tablings? The hon. Member for Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland.

Mr. Getson: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have two tablings here, again from folks having difficulties with vaccine injuries: one lady unable to find work, the other one unable to travel in the country, which the opposition was heckling and laughing at today in a statement.

The Speaker: Hon. members, we are at points of order. At approximately 2:34 the Deputy Government House Leader rose on a point of order.

Point of Order Allegations against a Member

Mr. Schow: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll be quick. At the time you just mentioned, the Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, while the hon. Minister of Environment and Parks was answering a question, said: you took money from Indigenous communities. Making such a claim about a specific member in this Chamber is unparliamentary. I rise under 23(h), (i), and (j) and would ask that that member please apologize and withdraw.

The Speaker: The hon. Opposition House Leader.

Ms Gray: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. At that time certainly the Minister of Environment and Parks had imputed false motives by suggesting that the anger from the Official Opposition was to do with support for the Prime Minister when, in fact, we're very concerned because under the UCP government \$50 million that had previously been allocated for climate change adaptation to Indigenous communities is no longer there, making the statement that the UCP took money from Indigenous communities correct.

Unfortunately, the member, in the heat of the moment, used the phrase "you." He was talking about the government, and certainly the entire dialogue back and forth was focused on the UCP government's actions, which have resulted in Indigenous communities having less money for climate adaptation. Given that he misspoke, though, and said "you" rather than "the UCP," I certainly withdraw on his behalf although he is also in the room . . .

The Speaker: It makes it difficult, because he will apologize and withdraw.

Ms Gray: There we go. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Feehan: I apologize and withdraw the word "you" and replace it with "your government."

The Speaker: I consider this matter dealt with and concluded.

At approximately 2:36 the Government House Leader rose on a point of order.

Mr. Schow: Withdrawn.

The Speaker: I consider that matter dealt with and concluded as it has been withdrawn.

Hon. members, Ordres du jour.

Orders of the Day

Government Motions

Select Special Ombudsman and Public Interest Commissioner Search Committee

27. Mr. McIver moved on behalf of Mr. Jason Nixon:
Be it resolved that:

1. A Select Special Ombudsman and Public Interest Commissioner Search Committee of the Legislative Assembly be appointed, consisting of the following members, namely: Mr. Jeremy Nixon, chair; Ms Rosin,

deputy chair; Mrs. Aheer; Ms Armstrong-Homeniuk; Mr. Bilous; Ms Goehring; Mr. Sabir; Mr. Singh; and Mr. Williams, for the purpose of inviting applications for the position of Ombudsman and Public Interest Commissioner and to recommend to the Assembly the applicant it considers most suitable to this position.

2. Reasonable disbursements by the committee for advertising, staff assistance, equipment and supplies, rent, travel, and other expenditures necessary for the effective conduct of its responsibilities shall be paid subject to the approval of the chair.
3. In carrying out its responsibilities, the committee may, with the concurrence of the head of the department, utilize the services of members of the public service employed in that department and of the staff employed by the Assembly.
4. The committee may, without leave of the Assembly, sit during a period when the Assembly is adjourned or prorogued.
5. When its work has been completed, the committee shall report to the Assembly if it is sitting; during a period when the Assembly is adjourned or prorogued, the committee may release its report by depositing a copy with the Clerk and forwarding a copy to each member of the Assembly.

[Mr. Reid in the chair]

The Acting Speaker: Thank you, hon. member. The hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs on behalf of the hon. Government House Leader has moved Government Motion 27. This is a debatable motion. Anybody wishing to speak to the motion?

To the hon. minister to close debate.

Mr. McIver: Closed.

[Government Motion 27 carried]

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

Mr. Schow: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's been a great week of work this week. I am grateful for everyone's participation, but at this time I move that the Assembly be adjourned until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, May 24, 2022.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 2:54 p.m. to Tuesday, May 24, at 10 a.m.]

Bill Status Report for the 30th Legislature - 3rd Session (2022)

Activity to Thursday, May 12, 2022

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 — Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Recognition Act (\$) (Kenney)

First Reading — 4 (*Feb. 22, 2022 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 94-97 (*Mar. 7, 2022 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 140-44 (*Mar. 10, 2022 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 230-34 (*Mar. 17, 2022 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Mar. 24, 2022 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2022 cQ-0.7]

Bill 2 — Financial Statutes Amendment Act, 2022 (\$) (Toews)

First Reading — 110 (*Mar. 8, 2022 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 312-19 (*Mar. 22, 2022 aft.*), 391-95 (*Mar. 23, 2022 eve.*), 484-90 (*Mar. 29, 2022 aft.*), 565-71 (*Mar. 30, 2022 eve.*), 599-604 (*Apr. 19, 2022 morn.*), 661 (*Apr. 19, 2022 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 699-707 (*Apr. 20, 2022 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 715-24 (*Apr. 20, 2022 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — 767 (*Apr. 21, 2022 aft.*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2022 c4]

Bill 3 — Special Days Act (Orr)

First Reading — 124 (*Mar. 9, 2022 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 327 (*Mar. 22, 2022 eve., adjourned*), 343-45 (*Mar. 22, 2022 eve., adjourned*), 346 (*Mar. 22, 2022 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 375-78 (*Mar. 23, 2022 aft.*), 379 (*Mar. 23, 2022 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 389-91 (*Mar. 23, 2022 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Mar. 24, 2022 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force March 24, 2022; SA 2022 cS-16.3]

Bill 4 — Municipal Government (Face Mask and Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination Bylaws) Amendment Act, 2022 (McIver)

First Reading — 110 (*Mar. 8, 2022 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 163-77 (*Mar. 14, 2022 aft.*), 360-66 (*Mar. 23, 2022 aft.*), 396 (*Mar. 23, 2022 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 519-23 (*Mar. 29, 2022 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 571-79 (*Mar. 30, 2022 eve., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — 767 (*Apr. 21, 2022 aft.*) [Comes into force April 21, 2022; SA 2022 c5]

Bill 5 — Traffic Safety Amendment Act, 2022 (Sawhney)

First Reading — 202 (*Mar. 16, 2022 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 319-26 (*Mar. 22, 2022 aft.*), 469-71 (*Mar. 28, 2022 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 523-24 (*Mar. 29, 2022 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 537-43 (*Mar. 30, 2022 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — 767 (*Apr. 21, 2022 aft.*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2022 c6]

Bill 6 — Emblems of Alberta Amendment Act, 2022 (Orr)

First Reading — 228 (Mar. 17, 2022 aft., passed)
Second Reading — 502-505 (Mar. 29, 2022 aft.), 513-14 (Mar. 29, 2022 eve., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 562-65 (Mar. 30, 2022 eve., passed)
Third Reading — 594-98 (Mar. 31, 2022 aft., passed)
Royal Assent — 767 (Apr. 21, 2022 aft.) [Comes into force April 21, 2022; SA 2022 c3]

Bill 7 — Appropriation Act, 2022 (\$) (Toews)

First Reading — 272-73 (Mar. 21, 2022 eve., passed)
Second Reading — 310-11 (Mar. 22, 2022 aft., adjourned), 327-36 (Mar. 22, 2022 eve., adjourned), 345 (Mar. 22, 2022 eve., passed on division)
Committee of the Whole — 366-75 (Mar. 23, 2022 aft.), (Mar. 23, 2022 eve.), 395 (Mar. 23, 2022 eve., passed on division)
Third Reading — 411-14 (Mar. 24, 2022 aft.), 419 (Mar. 24, 2022 aft., passed on division)
Royal Assent — (Mar. 24, 2022 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force March 24, 2022; c1]

Bill 8 — Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2022 (\$) (Toews)

First Reading — 297 (Mar. 21, 2022 eve., passed)
Second Reading — 311-12 (Mar. 22, 2022 aft., adjourned), 336-43 (Mar. 22, 2022 eve., adjourned), 345-46 (Mar. 22, 2022 eve., passed on division)
Committee of the Whole — 379-89 (Mar. 23, 2022 eve.), 395 (Mar. 23, 2022 eve., passed on division)
Third Reading — 414-19 (Mar. 24, 2022 aft.), 419 (Mar. 24, 2022 aft., passed on division)
Royal Assent — (Mar. 24, 2022 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force March 24, 2022; c2]

Bill 9 — Public's Right to Know Act (Shandro)

First Reading — 309 (Mar. 22, 2022 aft., passed)
Second Reading — 447-54 (Mar. 28, 2022 aft.), 455-63 (Mar. 28, 2022 eve.), 643-51 (Apr. 19, 2022 eve., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 707-13 (Apr. 20, 2022 aft., passed)
Third Reading — 745-49 (Apr. 21, 2022 morn., passed)
Royal Assent — 767 (Apr. 21, 2022 aft.) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2022 cP-47]

Bill 10 — Health Professions (Protecting Women and Girls) Amendment Act, 2022 (Aheer)

First Reading — 408 (Mar. 24, 2022 aft., passed)
Second Reading — 463-69 (Mar. 28, 2022 eve.), 543-50 (Mar. 30, 2022 aft.), 604-10 (Apr. 19, 2022 morn.), 661 (Apr. 19, 2022 eve., passed)

Bill 11 — Continuing Care Act (Copping)

First Reading — 432 (Mar. 28, 2022 aft., passed)
Second Reading — 550-56 (Mar. 30, 2022 aft.), 634-42 (Apr. 19, 2022 aft.), 663-72 (Apr. 20, 2022 morn.), 865-71 (Apr. 26, 2022 aft.), 873-79 (Apr. 26, 2022 eve.), 891-97 (Apr. 27, 2022 morn.), 936-42 (Apr. 27, 2022 aft.), 1027-34 (May 2, 2022 eve.), 1074-82 (May 3, 2022 aft.), 1140-43 (May 4, 2022 aft.), 1300-01 (May 10, 2022 eve., passed on division)

Bill 12 — Trustee Act (Shandro)

First Reading — 483 (Mar. 29, 2022 aft., passed)
Second Reading — 651-61 (Apr. 19, 2022 eve.), 749-54 (Apr. 21, 2022 morn., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 858-65 (Apr. 26, 2022 aft., passed)
Third Reading — 903-09 (Apr. 27, 2022 morn.), 988-90 (Apr. 28, 2022 aft., passed)
Royal Assent — (Apr. 29, 2022 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2022 cT-8.1]

Bill 13 — Financial Innovation Act (Toews)

First Reading — 535 (Mar. 30, 2022 aft., passed)
Second Reading — 624-33 (Apr. 19, 2022 aft.), 724-27 (Apr. 20, 2022 eve.), 807 (Apr. 25, 2022 eve.), 850-58 (Apr. 26, 2022 aft., passed)
Committee of the Whole — 925-36 (Apr. 27, 2022 aft., passed)
Third Reading — 943-48 (Apr. 27, 2022 eve., passed)
Royal Assent — (Apr. 29, 2022 outside of House sitting) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2022 cF-13.2]

Bill 14* — Provincial Court (Sexual Assault Awareness Training) Amendment Act, 2022 (Issik)

First Reading — 535-36 (*Mar. 30, 2022 aft., passed*)
Second Reading — 672-81 (*Apr. 20, 2022 morn.*), 727-33 (*Apr. 20, 2022 eve., passed*)
Committee of the Whole — 1159-66 (*May 4, 2022 eve., passed with amendments*)
Third Reading — 1167-72 (*May 5, 2022 Morn., passed*)

Bill 15* — Education (Reforming Teacher Profession Discipline) Amendment Act, 2022 (LaGrange)

First Reading — 592 (*Mar. 31, 2022 aft., passed*)
Second Reading — 767-76 (*Apr. 21, 2022 aft.*), 825-32 (*Apr. 26, 2022 morn.*), 884-89 (*Apr. 26, 2022 eve.*), 923-25 (*Apr. 27, 2022 aft., passed*)
Committee of the Whole — 1065-67 (*May 3, 2022 aft.*), 1090-95 (*May 3, 2022 eve., passed with amendments*)
Third Reading — 1125-28 (*May 4, 2022 aft., passed*)

Bill 16 — Insurance Amendment Act, 2022 (Toews)

First Reading — 622 (*Apr. 19, 2022 aft., passed*)
Second Reading — 807-808 (*Apr. 25, 2022 eve.*), 832-37 (*Apr. 26, 2022 morn.*), 879-84 (*Apr. 26, 2022 eve.*), 897-903 (*Apr. 27, 2022 morn.*), 1034-37 (*May 2, 2022 eve., passed*)
Committee of the Whole — 1067-74 (*May 3, 2022 aft., passed*)
Third Reading — 1196-99 (*May 5, 2022 aft., passed*)

Bill 17* — Labour Statutes Amendment Act, 2022 (Madu)

First Reading — 766 (*Apr. 21, 2022 aft., passed*)
Second Reading — 968-75 (*Apr. 28, 2022 morn.*), 1128-40 (*May 4, 2022 aft., passed*)
Committee of the Whole — 1271-83 (*May 10, 2022 aft.*), 1334-51 (*May 11, 2022 aft., passed with amendments*)

Bill 18 — Utility Commodity Rebate Act (Nally)

First Reading — 693-94 (*Apr. 20, 2022 aft., passed*)
Second Reading — 735-45 (*Apr. 21, 2022 morn.*), 807 (*Apr. 25, 2022 eve., passed on division*)
Committee of the Whole — 808-22 (*Apr. 25, 2022 eve., passed*)
Third Reading — 822-23 (*Apr. 25, 2022 eve., passed*)
Royal Assent — (*Apr. 29, 2022 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force April 29, 2022; SA 2022 cU-3.5]

Bill 19 — Condominium Property Amendment Act, 2022 (Glubish)

First Reading — 766 (*Apr. 21, 2022 aft., passed*)
Second Reading — 948-58 (*Apr. 27, 2022 eve.*), 959-68 (*Apr. 28, 2022 morn.*), 1021-27 (*May 2, 2022 eve.*), 1083-87 (*May 3, 2022 eve.*), 1180-83 (*May 5, 2022 morn.*), 1233-38 (*May 9, 2022 eve., adjourned on amendment*)

Bill 20 — Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2022 (Shandro)

First Reading — 766 (*Apr. 21, 2022 aft., passed*)
Second Reading — 1087-90 (*May 3, 2022 eve.*), 1097-1105 (*May 4, 2022 morn.*), 1289-94 (*May 10, 2022 eve., passed*)
Committee of the Whole — 1305-16 (*May 11, 2022 morn., passed*)
Third Reading — 1365-68 (*May 11, 2022 eve.*), 1371-80 (*May 12, 2022 morn., passed*)

Bill 21 — Red Tape Reduction Statutes Amendment Act, 2022 (Fir)

First Reading — 788 (*Apr. 25, 2022 aft., passed*)
Second Reading — 1045-52 (*May 3, 2022 morn.*), 1152-58 (*May 4, 2022 eve.*), 1176-80 (*May 5, 2022 morn.*), 1238-44 (*May 9, 2022 eve.*), 1294-1300 (*May 10, 2022 eve.*), 1353-62 (*May 11, 2022 eve., passed*)

Bill 22 — Electricity Statutes (Modernizing Alberta's Electricity Grid) Amendment Act, 2022 (Nally)

First Reading — 922 (*Apr. 27, 2022 aft., passed*)
Second Reading — 1039-45 (*May 3, 2022 morn.*), 1105-14 (*May 4, 2022 morn.*), 1145-52 (*May 4, 2022 eve.*), 1172-76 (*May 5, 2022 morn., passed*)
Committee of the Whole — 1251-56 (*May 10, 2022 morn.*), 1283-88 (*May 10, 2022 aft.*), 1301-03 (*May 10, 2022 eve., passed*)
Third Reading — 1362-65 (*May 11, 2022 eve.*), 1380-88 (*May 12, 2022 Morn., passed*)

Bill 23 — Professional Governance Act (Madu)

First Reading — 1002 (May 2, 2022 aft., passed)

Second Reading — 1245-50 (May 10, 2022 Morn.), 1316-22 (May 11, 2022 morn.), (May 11, 2022 eve., passed)

Bill 201 — Eastern Slopes Protection Act (Notley)

First Reading — 156 (Mar. 14, 2022 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 432 (Mar. 28, 2022 aft., committee recommendation that Bill not proceed reported to Assembly), 789-95 (Apr. 25, 2022 aft., debate on concurrence motion; not proceeded with)

Bill 202 — Public Health (Transparency and Accountability) Amendment Act, 2022 (Loewen)

First Reading — 110 (Mar. 8, 2022 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 309 (Mar. 22, 2022 aft., committee recommendation that Bill proceed reported to Assembly), 433-40 (Mar. 28, 2022 aft., debate on concurrence motion; proceeded with)

Second Reading — 1211-13 (May 9, 2022 aft., adjourned)

Bill 203 — Technology Innovation and Alberta Venture Fund Act (Bilous)

First Reading — 228 (Mar. 17, 2022 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 693 (Apr. 20, 2022 aft., committee recommendation that Bill not proceed reported to Assembly), 796-801 (Apr. 25, 2022 aft., debate on concurrence motion; not proceeded with)

Bill 204 — Anti-Racism Act (Shepherd)

First Reading — 408 (Mar. 24, 2022 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 788 (Apr. 25, 2022 aft., committee recommendation that Bill not proceed reported to Assembly), 1002-1008 (May 2, 2022 aft., debate on concurrence motion; not proceeded with on division)

Bill 205 — Human Tissue and Organ Donation (Mandatory Referral) Amendment Act, 2022 (Sigurdson, RJ)

First Reading — 592 (Mar. 31, 2022 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 922 (Apr. 27, 2022 aft., committee recommendation that Bill proceed reported to Assembly), 1008-14 (May 2, 2022 aft., debate on concurrence motion; proceeded with on division)

Second Reading — 1213-27 (May 9, 2022 aft., passed on division)

Bill 206 — Prohibiting Ownership of Agricultural Lands (Pension Plans and Trust Corporations) Act (van Dijken)

First Reading — 988 (Apr. 28, 2022 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills)

Bill 207 — Traffic Safety (Tow Truck Warning Lamps) Amendment Act, 2022 (Rutherford)

First Reading — 988 (Apr. 28, 2022 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 1400 (May 12, 2022 aft., committee recommendation that Bill proceed reported to Assembly)

Bill Pr1 — Calgary Young Men's Christian Association Amendment Act, 2022 (Jones)

First Reading — 309 (Mar. 22, 2022 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 1001 (May 2, 2022 aft., reported to Assembly; proceeded with)

Second Reading — 1371 (May 12, 2022 morn., passed)

Bill Pr2 — Calgary Heritage Authority Amendment Act, 2022 (Nixon, JP)

First Reading — 309 (Mar. 22, 2022 aft., passed; referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills), 1001 (May 2, 2022 aft., reported to Assembly; proceeded with with amendments)

Second Reading — 1368-69 (May 11, 2022 eve., passed)

Table of Contents

Introduction of Guests	1389
Members' Statements	
Nurses	1389
Federal Firearms Policies	1389
Social Supports and Assisted Dying	1390
Diabetes Management Coverage	1390
Civil Society Social Service Providers	1390
Education Funding and Curriculum Redesign	1391
Surgical Wait Time Initiative	1391
Women's Reproductive Health	1399
Lobbyists	1400
Oral Question Period	
Utility Rebate Timeline	1391
Private School Financial Reporting	1392
Diabetes Management Coverage	1392
Homeless Supports and Affordable Housing	1393
Technology Industry Development	1393
Disability Service Provider Funding	1394
Ambulance Response Times	1394
Rural Health Care Professional Recruitment and Retention	1395
Calgary Storm Damage Recovery Funding	1396
Utility Costs and Rebates	1396
Antiracism Strategy	1397
Dene Tha' First Nation Concerns	1397
Child Care Access and Affordability	1398
Federal Travel Vaccination Mandate	1399
Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees	1400
Tabling Returns and Reports	1400
Orders of the Day	1401
Government Motions	
Select Special Ombudsman and Public Interest Commissioner Search Committee	1401

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