



Province of Alberta

The 30th Legislature  
Third Session

# Alberta Hansard

Wednesday evening, May 25, 2022

Day 36

The Honourable Nathan M. Cooper, Speaker

**Legislative Assembly of Alberta**  
**The 30th Legislature**  
Third Session

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Milliken, Nicholas, Calgary-Currie (UC), Deputy Chair of Committees

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Armstrong-Homeniuk, Jackie,

Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville (UC)

Barnes, Drew, Cypress-Medicine Hat (Ind)  
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Carson, Jonathon, Edmonton-West Henday (NDP)  
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Copping, Hon. Jason C., ECA, Calgary-Varsity (UC)  
Dach, Lorne, Edmonton-McClung (NDP)  
Dang, Thomas, Edmonton-South (Ind)  
Deol, Jasvir, Edmonton-Meadows (NDP)  
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Eggen, Hon. David, ECA, Edmonton-North West (NDP),

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Glubish, Hon. Nate, ECA, Strathcona-Sherwood Park (UC)  
Goehring, Nicole, Edmonton-Castle Downs (NDP)  
Gotfried, Richard, Calgary-Fish Creek (UC)  
Gray, Hon. Christina, ECA, Edmonton-Mill Woods (NDP),

Official Opposition House Leader

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Hanson, David B., Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul (UC)  
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Horner, Hon. Nate S., ECA, Drumheller-Stettler (UC)  
Hunter, Hon. Grant R., ECA, Taber-Warner (UC)  
Irwin, Janis, Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood (NDP),

Official Opposition Deputy Whip

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Luan, Hon. Jason, ECA, Calgary-Foothills (UC)  
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Nally, Hon. Dale, ECA, Morinville-St. Albert (UC)  
Neudorf, Nathan T., Lethbridge-East (UC)  
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Nielsen, Christian E., Edmonton-Decore (NDP)  
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(UC), Government House Leader

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Notley, Hon. Rachel, ECA, Edmonton-Strathcona (NDP),  
Leader of the Official Opposition

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Panda, Hon. Prasad, ECA, Calgary-Edgemont (UC)  
Phillips, Hon. Shannon, ECA, Lethbridge-West (NDP)  
Pon, Hon. Josephine, ECA, Calgary-Beddington (UC)  
Rehn, Pat, Lesser Slave Lake (UC)  
Reid, Roger W., Livingstone-Macleod (UC)  
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Rosin, Miranda D., Banff-Kananaskis (UC)  
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Rutherford, Brad, Leduc-Beaumont (UC),

Deputy Government Whip

Sabir, Hon. Irfan, ECA, Calgary-Bhullar-McCall (NDP),  
Official Opposition Deputy House Leader  
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Schweitzer, Hon. Doug, ECA, QC, Calgary-Elbow (UC)  
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Sigurdson, R.J., Highwood (UC)  
Singh, Peter, Calgary-East (UC)  
Smith, Mark W., Drayton Valley-Devon (UC)  
Stephan, Jason, Red Deer-South (UC)  
Sweet, Heather, Edmonton-Manning (NDP)  
Toews, Hon. Travis, ECA, Grande Prairie-Wapiti (UC)  
Toor, Devinder, Calgary-Falconridge (UC)  
Turton, Searle, Spruce Grove-Stony Plain (UC)  
van Dijken, Glenn, Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock (UC)  
Walker, Jordan, Sherwood Park (UC)  
Williams, Dan D.A., Peace River (UC)  
Wilson, Hon. Rick D., ECA, Maskwacis-Wetaskiwin (UC)  
Yao, Tany, Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo (UC)  
Yaseen, Hon. Muhammad, ECA, Calgary-North (UC)

**Party standings:**

United Conservative: 61

New Democrat: 23

Independent: 3

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Jason Copping	Minister of Health
Mike Ellis	Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
Tanya Fir	Associate Minister of Red Tape Reduction
Nate Glubish	Minister of Service Alberta
Nate Horner	Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development
Whitney Issik	Associate Minister of Status of Women
Adriana LaGrange	Minister of Education
Jason Luan	Minister of Community and Social Services
Kaycee Madu	Minister of Labour and Immigration
Ric McIver	Minister of Municipal Affairs
Dale Nally	Associate Minister of Natural Gas and Electricity
Demetrios Nicolaides	Minister of Advanced Education
Jason Nixon	Minister of Environment and Parks
Ronald Orr	Minister of Culture
Prasad Panda	Minister of Infrastructure
Josephine Pon	Minister of Seniors and Housing
Sonya Savage	Minister of Energy
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Tyler Shandro	Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
Travis Toews	President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance
Rick Wilson	Minister of Indigenous Relations
Muhammad Yaseen	Associate Minister of Immigration and Multiculturalism

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Martin Long	Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business and Tourism
Jacqueline Lovely	Parliamentary Secretary to the Associate Minister of Status of Women
Nathan Neudorf	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Environment and Parks for Water Stewardship
Jeremy Nixon	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Community and Social Services for Civil Society
Searle Turton	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Energy
Dan Williams	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Culture and for la Francophonie

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

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

Chair: Mr. Rowswell  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Jones

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Eggen  
Gray  
Hunter  
Phillips  
Rehn  
Singh

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

Chair: Mr. Neudorf  
Deputy Chair: Ms Goehring

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Barnes  
Bilous  
Frey  
Irwin  
Rosin  
Rowswell  
Sweet  
van Dijken  
Walker

**Select Special Committee to Examine Safe Supply**

Chair: Mr. Jeremy Nixon  
Deputy Chair: Mrs. Allard

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Frey  
Milliken  
Rosin  
Stephan  
Yao  
Vacant  
Vacant  
Vacant  
Vacant

**Standing Committee on Families and Communities**

Chair: Ms Lovely  
Deputy Chair: Ms Sigurdson

Amery  
Carson  
Dang  
Frey  
Gotfried  
Hunter  
Loewen  
Reid  
Sabir  
Smith

**Standing Committee on Legislative Offices**

Chair: Mr. Rutherford  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Milliken

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Dach  
Long  
Loyola  
Rosin  
Shepherd  
Smith  
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**Special Standing Committee on Members' Services**

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Deputy Chair: Mr. Schow

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Deol  
Goehring  
Gray  
Long  
Neudorf  
Sabir  
Sigurdson, R.J.  
Williams

**Select Special Ombudsman and Public Interest Commissioner Search Committee**

Chair: Mr. Jeremy Nixon  
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Bilous  
Goehring  
Sabir  
Singh  
Williams

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

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Deputy Chair: Mr. Jeremy Nixon

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Irwin  
Long  
Nielsen  
Rehn  
Rosin  
Sigurdson, L.  
Singh  
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**Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing**

Chair: Mr. Smith  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Reid

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Deol  
Ganley  
Gotfried  
Loyola  
Neudorf  
Renaud  
Stephan  
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**Standing Committee on Public Accounts**

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Deputy Chair: Mr. Reid

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Lovely  
Pancholi  
Renaud  
Rowswell  
Schmidt  
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Toor  
Turton  
Walker

**Select Special Committee on Real Property Rights**

Chair: Mr. Sigurdson  
Deputy Chair: Mr. Rutherford

Frey  
Ganley  
Hanson  
Milliken  
Nielsen  
Rowswell  
Schmidt  
Sweet  
van Dijken  
Yao

**Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship**

Chair: Mr. Hanson  
Deputy Chair: Member Ceci

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Ganley  
Getson  
Guthrie  
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Rehn  
Singh  
Turton  
Yao

## Legislative Assembly of Alberta

7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

[The Deputy Speaker in the chair]

**The Deputy Speaker:** Good evening, hon. members. Please be seated.

### Government Bills and Orders Second Reading

#### Bill 24

#### Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2022

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

**Mr. Ellis:** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I am pleased to rise on behalf of the Government House Leader today to move second reading of Bill 24, the Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2022.

The Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act improves clarity in our laws, Madam Speaker. It allows lawmakers to make minor changes in the law and to correct anomalies, inconsistencies, outdated terminology, and errors to provide clarification in provincial law.

This bill would make minor amendments to 19 acts, which include – I've been asked to make sure the House is aware of all 19 of these acts, so bear with me, everyone – the Dairy Industry Act, the Family and Community Support Services Act, the Health Professions Act, the International Trade and Investment Agreements Implementation Act, the Interpretation Act, the Legislative Assembly Act, the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act, the Marriage Act, the Metis Settlements Act, the Occupational Health and Safety Act, the Personal Information Protection Act, and the Post-secondary Learning Act, as well as the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Recognition Act, the Recall Act, the Safety Codes Act, the Skilled Trades and Apprenticeship Education Act, the Societies Act, the Surface Rights Act, and, finally, Madam Speaker, the Vital Statistics Act. [some applause] Thank you very much.

Madam Speaker, while all of these amendments are minor in nature . . .

**Member Irwin:** Could you say that again?

**Mr. Ellis:** You want me to repeat that?

. . . they would add clarity and consistency to our laws. Thank you, Madam Speaker, very much.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Are there others to join the debate? The hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods.

**Ms Gray:** Thank you very much. Just on behalf of the Official Opposition we appreciated the government working with us on this particular piece, and we are pleased to support the Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2022.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Would the hon. minister like to close debate?

**Mr. Ellis:** Waived.

[Motion carried; Bill 24 read a second time]

## Government Bills and Orders Committee of the Whole

[Mrs. Pitt in the chair]

**The Chair:** Hon. members, I'd like to call Committee of the Whole to order.

#### Bill 10

#### Health Professions (Protecting Women and Girls) Amendment Act, 2022

**The Chair:** This is Bill 10's first time in Committee of the Whole. Are there members wishing to join the debate? The hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood.

**Member Irwin:** Sorry. I thought the lovely member across the way – but maybe we'll be hearing from her shortly, so I shouldn't assume.

It is an honour to rise. In fact, it feels like it's actually been a little while since I've spoken in the Chamber. I don't want to presuppose anything, but I may not have a whole lot more opportunities to do so.

As I like to do the first time when I speak in the Chamber, I just acknowledge – you know, we had the opportunity earlier today, many of my colleagues and I, to stand in support of paid sick days outside of the Legislature. There was a really good rally, and it was an important reminder of the fact that we are still in a pandemic. We as legislators should acknowledge the fact that the pandemic has laid bare many of the challenges that health care workers have seen and many of the gaps in our health care system. Shout-out to all those workers on the front lines not just in health care but in education and retail and anywhere on the front lines.

I will just speak briefly tonight to Bill 10. I did have the chance to speak to Bill 10 in I believe it would have been second. It feels like a while ago now. Time is awfully confusing here, both inside and outside the Chamber. I'll restate a few of my remarks. I said then that we absolutely, you know, on this side of the House believe that female genital mutilation – the intent of this bill is an important one. I appreciate very much that the Member for Chestermere-Strathmore has had a number of conversations on this bill. I know that she took some of the questions and comments that I had for her, mostly, I think, actually, offline. We mostly spoke outside the Chamber. I know that she did take some of that feedback to heart.

If she's willing to talk a little bit to the bill today, I did just want to ask a little bit more around the consultation piece on the bill. One of the things that I don't want to say I struggled with but that I questioned is just that, you know, it's not – the member can correct me, but I believe she said, at least it was in a media report, that there were no cases reported of FGM here in Alberta, something to that effect. I guess my question is: who did you consult with on this? What made this be a priority piece of legislation for this government?

I want to frame this positively because, as I shared in second when I spoke to this bill, I remember when I was a high school social studies teacher in rural Alberta. I remember this was actually one of the human rights abuses that we talked about. One of my students even did a bit of their presentation on this topic, so it's something that a lot of people don't necessarily know is happening globally. However, again, I would love to learn a little bit more about the Alberta context and why it is that of – again, I want to frame this not as criticism but just as questions. You know, there are so many issues facing women and gender-diverse folks in this province. I've said this – again, I know I'm a broken record. I want

to not frame this as criticism, but I've talked to a lot of women and a lot of folks across this province. I do every day, and I'm proud of that. Quite honestly, this is not an issue that I've heard to be a concern.

I've heard a whole heck of a lot of issues, particularly surrounding women's health. I think that was something that we've said in our early comments on this bill as well. You know, when we heard that there was something coming to do with women's health, I was intrigued to see what it would be. I was a little bit surprised that there wouldn't be perhaps something that would address the challenges that women and gender-diverse folks experience when accessing obstetrical care, as an example, across this province. We know countless communities – I know that my colleague from Edmonton-City Centre has named a whole bunch of them – where women and folks who need those services are not able to access them. I mean, maybe that couldn't be addressed through legislation, but it could certainly be addressed through tangible action by this government. That's one example.

Another example. I note the Associate Minister of Status of Women mentioned this as well, just talking about something I talked about back in, I think, March – oh, time is confusing – Endometriosis Awareness Month, right? That's an issue that, I'll be honest with you, I didn't know enough about until I met with some women and some folks who struggle with it and just hearing how incredibly debilitating that women's health issue is.

My questions, I guess, primarily for either the Associate Minister of Status of Women or the Member for Chestermere-Strathmore, would be to just talk a little bit about the consultation process. What led this to be a bill that would be a priority of this government?

You know, I said it multiple times in this Chamber in this session: this government had an opportunity with so many pieces of their legislation to really make transformational change. A great example would be the Continuing Care Act. I believe that's Bill 11. The pandemic has really exposed some of the huge gaps in the continuing care system. What an opportunity for this government to be leaders and to try to really address some of those challenges. No. Instead, they presented a piece of legislation that's very much mostly housekeeping changes, administrative changes, right? We saw that with a number of other pieces of legislation this session. I think there are members, no doubt, on both sides of this Chamber that would question the seriousness or the gravity of the pieces of legislation that came forward this session.

7:40

With that, again I want to make it very clear that, you know, we are in support of this bill and we are in support of having these sorts of difficult conversations. We all want to be in this Chamber leaders, I'm certain, when it comes to standing up against human rights abuses such as FGM. But I still do have a few questions, so I'm hoping that we can get a few answers from that side of the House.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

**The Chair:** The hon. Member for Chestermere-Strathmore.

**Mrs. Aheer:** Thank you, and thank you so much to the member across the way for the questions. Really great questions, actually. One of the most transformational things that happens in this place is actually being able to bring pieces of legislation like this, that elevate many of the things, many of the topics that the member spoke about. In my lifetime, especially coming from – I'm part of a very beautiful culture on one side, the Southeast Asian culture. I'm very lucky. There are so many beautiful things about my culture, but there are also things that call into question the equality and equity for girls and women.

A lot of the legislation that we bring through this House – and I think that the opposition could equally agree – not only comes from the people that we speak to but elevates the discourse around many, many discussions. When we're talking about sexual assault, domestic violence, and – in this particular case, FGM stems from many discussions around child marriage and honour beatings and honour killings and situations that still occur.

Just to add some clarity, Madam Chair, for the member across the way, we are coming into something called the cutting season. Now, the cutting season is something that happens in other countries whereby they call it vacation cutting. Because we don't necessarily know – you can imagine that the cutting of the clitoris, the sewing of the labia, and all of the sort of practices that go along with this are not something that one would speak about.

I think about so many things that I've learned. The member had talked about this under other situations regarding surgeries and transformational changes that happen. A lot of the things that we talk about in this House, Madam Chair, a lot of us don't have a lot of information about. We wouldn't have been able to learn about those things or start the process of education had we not had the opportunity and the privilege to be able to bring those things before the House. Any time we can save any little girl from any situation, especially in Canada – in Canada we believe we are a country that believes in the safety and security of girls and women. We say that when people enter our borders. We tell people, when they come to Canada, that their daughters will be safe.

However, with a practice like this – and I'd also like to just mention that this legislation is not led by western philosophy; it is led by the diasporas around the world that are changing. They are changing the world for their girls in countries where millions – 200 and some million girls have been cut and have lost babies or have died as a result of having labour with closure of the labia minora.

In Africa there is a report that is called the Maputo protocol. The Maputo protocol is a protocol across Africa that is about protecting and promoting the rights of women and girls across Africa. The Maputo protocol in section 14 talks about women's rights over their body and reproduction rights and many, many things that are very important to all of us in this House and in Canada. But the most important piece about that protocol is what they're doing across the diaspora and through Africa to help elevate the rights of girls and women.

The language and everything that is in this bill that has been used – and you'd asked about consultation. I'm not sure, to the MLA, if we had actually sent this list of consultations. I'm happy to share that with you. But if you don't mind, I'll read – like, it's two pages long of consultations. I'm happy to share . . .

**The Chair:** Through the chair.

**Mrs. Aheer:** Sorry if that's a prop. I apologize, Madam Chair.

**The Chair:** No, no. Just speak through the chair.

**Mrs. Aheer:** I won't go through the entire list.

**Member Irwin:** No. That's fine.

**Mrs. Aheer:** But I'm very happy to share – yeah. I can send it over to you if you like. Okay.

**The Chair:** Hon. members, speak through the chair.

**Mrs. Aheer:** Yes. Okay. Thank you, Madam Chair.

One thing I wanted to actually talk about with the member, through you, Madam Chair, is that we'd actually had some

interesting conversations with folks after the legislation came forward. Some of the colleges had actually reached out to us to go: why are we doing this, and how does this impact us?

The conversations that we had were so amazing because we were able to explain what the situation was, knowing that a lot of these colleges are dealing with new Canadians, and the ability to have an open conversation – quite often the colleges are the people that are working with these folks that already have really, really solid protocols for sexual assault and domestic violence and many other things and are able to have another tool in their tool kit should they hear something about this. Imagine if under the circumstances they had heard through their discussions that they're having with folks that this situation was occurring and the ability not only to help a little girl but even to help a family in this situation.

The member had mentioned about the opportunities of other legislation coming forward. There is a lot of transformative legislation that can happen in this place, but until we start these difficult conversations and are willing to actually have it within this space – it's difficult for all of us, and we all come from very different places, with a lot of really important things that need to be spoken about. The member had spoken about that with the LGBTQ2S-plus community and transformational change that has to happen in there, the gender-reaffirming surgeries that we had actually spoken about, which is super important.

We just want to make sure that all of that important work has its place to be able to talk about that and that we're talking about this, that we're talking about little girls that are having an action put against them that is against their will in this country and, when they are sent overseas to have this procedure done, the incredible number of medical situations that can occur to their little bodies as they grow and have to deal with this and, on top of that, supports for survivors and potentially help to have reconstructive surgery when needed in order to be able to put their perfect bodies back the way they wanted them if that's what they choose to do.

I'm trying to remember the other questions that were asked. I apologize. I did write some of them down.

I wanted to also say that the member had mentioned about the seriousness and the gravity. I think that suggesting that one situation has more seriousness and gravity than another one puts us into a situation where we're choosing. I think all of the discussions that we're having in here as a result of this discussion show the seriousness and gravity of how it is that we protect our public and how as a Legislature, when we say that we're going to protect girls and women, we're going to protect girls and women.

If I may say, I've met hundreds of women in this province. Was the actual procedure done in Alberta? Not as far as we know. Are procedures being done in North America? Yes, they are. In fact, in the United States, because federal legislation was only available and state legislation was not available, girls were continuing to be cut in places like Michigan, because the federal legislation and the state legislation didn't align.

I also wanted to mention the many networks that are organizing around the world globally to end this practice, again, just to reinforce that this isn't us as a western culture trying to impose our ideas onto a different culture. This has been led completely by the cultures that are trying to change and alter the way that girls are being treated. You can imagine: just put yourself into a situation for a moment in a different country whereby your value is being measured over whether you will be promiscuous or dirty. Those are the languages that are used when a girl is not cut or sewn up. This isn't in any way to point fingers at anybody. This is thousands of years of cultural practice that have come into play that have determined the go-forward. That girl that is going to a different group, going to a different family is worth – her value is increased

because she has been cut. Everything that goes along with that facilitation of her marrying into, you know, the neighbouring family or whatever that is is about elevating her value.

7:50

Imagine if we as a western nation are able to help our counterparts across the world to show what the value of a girl is and find other ways to show coming of age and opportunities to really develop how it is that we treat girls and how it is that we see that development and the importance of their development and who they are, that we do not need to alter them for them to be clean or not promiscuous. Those are just a couple of those things.

Imagine for a moment the labia minora being sewn up and that there's only a tiny, little hole for a girl to menstruate and urinate through. And then, on top of that, you add in the aspect of intercourse or anything like that when she's of age and she gets married and what that's like for that person. And then you add, on top of that, that she gets pregnant and delivers a baby and has to be opened and then sewn shut again. It doesn't need to happen here, and we don't need to know a direct example of that to know that it's happening and that there are girls and women who are impacted by that. We know that. We've talked to the doctors; we've talked to the organizations. We know that this is happening. We just don't know how to prevent it yet.

This legislation is enabling legislation to help all of us learn a little bit more about how we can be there for our people, whether you're a person who just got off the airplane yesterday and are starting your life in Canada and, hopefully, Alberta or if you've been here for seven, eight, 10 generations.

One of the things that was very profound for me that I read – there's an organization called Our Daughters. In it one of the women – her name is Ifrah. She started this organization, and the entire mandate is: let's make sure that our daughters don't suffer the way that we did. Again, it is led by the associations and the women, these powerful women, in cultures who are coming forward to defend their daughters.

I think that as a multicultural society, a beautiful province that wants to fling her doors open to everybody and anybody who wants to come here and be successful, not only do we look at health care, but we have to look at racism, we have to look at bigotry, and we have to look at the way that women are marginalized in the system. We have to look at so many different things.

But if we have the tools to be able to make ourselves better and to understand it and to be able to ask the questions – I spoke to one of the doctors. Oh, gosh, this is going back four and a half years ago. They had mentioned that they had seen a woman, several women, actually, that had been altered, and if you can imagine, they were able to ask questions about abuse like ligature marks and other things that are on women's bodies if they've gone through physical abuse. They were able to ask questions about that, but they were not comfortable asking about an alteration of the labia or a cut of the clitoris, because they didn't know how to ask the question. These are professionals who probably have every conversation imaginable with a person when they're on the table, but they were terrified to ask the question, too, because they didn't want to be offensive or, you know, talk about something that they didn't know about. We need and have responsibility, because we know that this is happening, to make sure that we have the opportunity to educate people.

If it's one girl or if it's 10,000 girls, it doesn't matter. What matters is that we elevate the discussion around that protection, and that will lead to other legislation, some of what the member was talking about, which I think is really important, but also around other cultural practices that countries are trying desperately to end

like child marriage, like honour beatings, and like honour killings. I wish I could tell you that I hadn't had experience with that in my own families, but unfortunately, like most families, we have history in our own of these kinds of behaviours.

So it's very, very personal for me, and it's really, really important that as a person from a Southeast Asian background I'm able to share these experiences with you and that we can pass legislation that I think will elevate all of us and, hopefully, lead to other pieces of legislation that are equally transformational and that understand the seriousness and the gravity of all of the things that we're dealing with.

Thank you so much.

**The Chair:** Are there others wishing to join the debate?  
Seeing none, I will call the question.

[The clauses of Bill 10 agreed to]

[Title and preamble agreed to]

**The Chair:** Shall the bill be reported? Are you agreed?

**Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**The Chair:** Any opposed? Carried.

#### **Bill 24 Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2022**

**The Chair:** Are there members wishing to speak?  
Seeing none, I will call the question on Bill 24, the Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2022.

[The clauses of Bill 24 agreed to]

[Title and preamble agreed to]

**The Chair:** Shall the bill be reported? Are you agreed?

**Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**The Chair:** Any opposed? That is carried.

#### **Private Bills Committee of the Whole**

##### **Bill Pr. 2 Calgary Heritage Authority Amendment Act, 2022**

**The Chair:** Are there speakers to the bill? I see the hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods.

**Ms Gray:** Thank you. We are discussing Bill Pr. 2, Calgary Heritage Authority Amendment Act, 2022, in Committee of the Whole. I stand in support of Pr. 2, something that we know is supported by the city of Calgary and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, but I was also thinking that this was a bill that would be amended, as was recommended by the committee. An amendment to Pr. 2, I think, would follow the recommendations of the committee and improve this piece of legislation. Specifically, I believe we're looking for an amendment that would address liability of the authority with respect to loss or damage.

Having said that, with that amendment this particular piece of legislation is really going to make some very straightforward changes to change the legal name of the Calgary Heritage Authority to Heritage Calgary, to clarify the definition of heritage resources and the activities of the authority, and to modernize its governance framework. As I mentioned, again, there is agreement between the

stakeholders involved as well as support from the city of Calgary and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

This piece of legislation will also, through various sections, change some of the definitions, including adding the words "director," "executive director," "inventory of evaluated historic resources," "board," and expanding the concept of heritage resource with specific categories of items to be included such as buildings, historical landscapes, culturally significant areas.

I want to thank the committee that reviewed Pr. 2 as well as the petitioner, the general manager on behalf of what is currently the Calgary Heritage Authority, for bringing this forward. This piece of legislation was discussed at the committee, and I'm very pleased that all parties are in support of it, particularly with the one amendment that will improve this piece of legislation.

On behalf of the Official Opposition I'm very pleased to have spoken briefly to this Pr. 2.

**The Chair:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Klein.

**Mr. Jeremy Nixon:** Thank you, Madam Chair, and thank you to the hon. Opposition House Leader for her great remarks. I appreciate that.

I'd like to rise now and move an amendment. Would you like me to read that?

**The Chair:** No. I would like your copies and the original.

**Mr. Jeremy Nixon:** Okay. Here you go.

**The Chair:** This will be known as amendment A1.  
Hon. member, please proceed.

**Mr. Jeremy Nixon:** Perfect. Thank you, Madam Chair. Essentially, the amendment that I'm moving on Pr. 2 is to clarify the extent of the authority's limitation of liability. It is important to ensure that petitioners are not being granted powers or rights that would be extraordinary when compared to what is provided to other entities under the public law of Alberta.

Some of the parts of subsection (2) limit the liability of directors in relation to the authority. Others, however, relate to liability of directors in dealing with third parties. From a legal standpoint it is important to ensure that organizations are not entirely limited from liability. Otherwise, their acts, omissions, even if caused through an employee or director, could result in significant damage, loss, or injury to a third party that has no legal recourse to be compensated.

With that, I move this amendment. Thank you, Madam Chair.

**The Chair:** Are there others to speak to the amendment?

Seeing none, I will call the question on amendment A1 as moved by the hon. Member for Calgary-Klein.

[Motion on amendment A1 carried]

**8:00**

**The Chair:** Are there any members wishing to speak to the bill as amended? The hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo.

**Member Ceci:** Thank you very much. Just briefly, Madam Chair. I'd certainly agree with the comments made by my colleague on this side just a few minutes ago. The general manager: I certainly know that person, and I believe that the petition to make the changes that are identified here will assist in not only governance but ultimately, I believe, in the protection of important historical resources in Calgary, something that – many people in Calgary believe not enough protection goes on. I know that there has to be some remuneration to property owners if this action is taken but not if the provincial government takes the action.

In any event, the city of Calgary will be better served by a more streamlined and better functioning entity, and I certainly want to support that happening not only for the protection of built structures but other significant structures in the Calgary area.

Thank you.

**The Chair:** Any other members wishing to speak?

If not, I will call the question.

[The remaining clauses of Bill Pr. 2 agreed to]

[Title and preamble agreed to]

**The Chair:** Shall the bill be reported? Are you agreed?

**Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**The Chair:** Any opposed? Carried.

The hon. Deputy Government House Leader.

**Mr. Schow:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I move that the Committee of the Whole rise and report Bill 10, Bill 24, and Bill Pr. 2.

[Motion carried]

[The Deputy Speaker in the chair]

**Mrs. Frey:** Madam Speaker, the Committee of the Whole has had under consideration certain bills. The committee reports the following bills: Bill 10 and Bill 24. The committee reports the following bill with some amendments: Bill Pr. 2. I wish to table copies of amendments considered by Committee of the Whole on this date for the official records of the Assembly.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Does the Assembly concur in the report? All those in favour, please say aye.

**Hon. Members:** Aye.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Any opposed, please say no. That is carried.

### Private Bills Third Reading

#### Bill Pr. 2

#### Calgary Heritage Authority Amendment Act, 2022

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

**Mr. Jeremy Nixon:** Excellent. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd like to rise today to move third reading of Bill Pr. 2, Calgary Heritage Authority Amendment Act, 2022.

One thing I really appreciate about Heritage Calgary is that they maintain the sites and its inventory but in some cases find a way to

come up with new and creative uses for some of these facilities, and I just wanted to share a quick story about how a church that was built in 1911 made the decision to use their building to provide shelter and food for the homeless many years later. They took in a 15-year-old boy who went on to found an organization that impacted thousands of people. That organization eventually outgrew that church and moved to another heritage site, the electric warehouse, which was used to help thousands more.

Most of us could not imagine Calgary without the Mustard Seed and would lament the loss of these structures on our landscape. These buildings are not just part of our past, but they're also part of our future and who we are as a people. The preservation and celebration of our past builds a future and a culture for our children.

As I have previously spoken to this bill, I didn't want to talk too long on it, but I wanted to give this one example of the importance of preserving these historical buildings. With that, I will sit down.

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

**Member Ceci:** Thank you. I certainly want to support Bill Pr. 2. I'm also conscious that there are many other structures in Calgary that the Calgary Heritage Authority, now going to be called Heritage Calgary, I think, has taken issue with and wants to see preserved and has met with resistance. They try and negotiate as best possible to save as much as they can. One of those buildings, older structures, is the Calgary brewery site in Inglewood, where there is a rather large development plan for it, and hopefully some of it will be saved for the future generations to understand what the industrial landscape looked like in Calgary in the 1900s, early 1900s.

But with this private bill before us, Bill Pr. 2, I certainly want to say that the members of the opposition support it.

**The Deputy Speaker:** Are there others wishing to speak?

Seeing none, would the hon. Member for Calgary-Klein like to close debate?

**Mr. Jeremy Nixon:** No. I'm good.

[Motion carried; Bill Pr. 2 read a third time]

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

**Mr. Schow:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd like to thank everyone for their participation tonight. I would argue that we have record progress and record speed. With that, I would move that the Assembly be adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow, which will be Thursday, May 26, 2022.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 8:07 p.m.]



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