



Province of Alberta

The 30th Legislature
Fourth Session

Alberta Hansard

Tuesday afternoon, November 29, 2022

Day 1

The Honourable Nathan M. Cooper, Speaker

Legislative Assembly of Alberta
The 30th Legislature
Fourth Session

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

Aheer, Hon. Leela Sharon, ECA, Chestermere-Strathmore (UC)
Allard, Hon. Tracy L., ECA, Grande Prairie (UC)
Amery, Hon. Mickey K., ECA, KC, Calgary-Cross (UC)
Deputy Government House Leader
Armstrong-Homeniuk, Hon. Jackie, ECA,
Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville (UC)
Barnes, Drew, Cypress-Medicine Hat (Ind)
Bilous, Hon. Deron, ECA, Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview (NDP)
Carson, Jonathon, Edmonton-West Henday (NDP)
Ceci, Hon. Joe, ECA, Calgary-Buffalo (NDP)
Copping, Hon. Jason C., ECA, Calgary-Varsity (UC)
Dach, Lorne, Edmonton-McClung (NDP)
Dang, Thomas, Edmonton-South (Ind)
Deol, Jasvir, Edmonton-Meadows (NDP)
Dreeshen, Hon. Devin, ECA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake (UC)
Eggen, Hon. David, ECA, Edmonton-North West (NDP),
Official Opposition Whip
Ellis, Hon. Mike, ECA, Calgary-West (UC)
Feehan, Hon. Richard, ECA, Edmonton-Rutherford (NDP)
Fir, Hon. Tanya, ECA, Calgary-Peigan (UC)
Ganley, Hon. Kathleen T., ECA, Calgary-Mountain View (NDP)
Getson, Shane C., Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland (UC)
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
Guthrie, Hon. Peter F., ECA, Airdrie-Cochrane (UC)
Hanson, David B., Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul (UC),
Deputy Government House Leader
Hoffman, Hon. Sarah, ECA, Edmonton-Glenora (NDP)
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
Issik, Hon. Whitney, ECA, Calgary-Glenmore (UC)
Jean, Hon. Brian Michael, KC, Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche (UC)
Jones, Hon. Matt, ECA, Calgary-South East (UC)
Kenney, Hon. Jason, PC, ECA, Calgary-Lougheed (UC)
LaGrange, Hon. Adriana, ECA, Red Deer-North (UC)
Loewen, Hon. Todd, ECA, Central Peace-Notley (UC)
Long, Martin M., West Yellowhead (UC)
Lovely, Jacqueline, Camrose (UC)
Loyola, Rod, Edmonton-Ellerslie (NDP)
Luan, Hon. Jason, ECA, Calgary-Foothills (UC)
Madu, Hon. Kaycee, ECA, KC, Edmonton-South West (UC),
Deputy Premier, Deputy Government House Leader
McIver, Hon. Ric, ECA, Calgary-Hays (UC)
Milliken, Hon. Nicholas, ECA, Calgary-Currie (UC)
Nally, Hon. Dale, ECA, Morinville-St. Albert (UC)
Neudorf, Hon. Nathan T., ECA, Lethbridge-East (UC),
Deputy Premier

Nicolaides, Hon. Demetrios, ECA, Calgary-Bow (UC)
Nielsen, Christian E., Edmonton-Decore (NDP)
Nixon, Hon. Jason, ECA, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre
(UC)
Nixon, Hon. Jeremy P., ECA, Calgary-Klein (UC)
Notley, Hon. Rachel, ECA, Edmonton-Strathcona (NDP),
Leader of the Official Opposition
Orr, Hon. Ronald, ECA, Lacombe-Ponoka (UC)
Pancholi, Rakhi, Edmonton-Whitemud (NDP)
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)
Renaud, Marie F., St. Albert (NDP)
Rosin, Miranda D., Banff-Kananaskis (UC)
Rowswell, Garth, Vermilion-Lloydminster-Wainwright (UC)
Rutherford, Hon. Brad, ECA, Leduc-Beaumont (UC),
Government Whip
Sabir, Hon. Irfan, ECA, Calgary-Bhullar-McCall (NDP),
Official Opposition Deputy House Leader
Savage, Hon. Sonya, ECA, KC, Calgary-North West (UC)
Sawhney, Hon. Rajan, ECA, Calgary-North East (UC)
Schmidt, Hon. Marlin, ECA, Edmonton-Gold Bar (NDP)
Schow, Hon. Joseph R., ECA, Cardston-Siksika (UC),
Government House Leader
Schulz, Hon. Rebecca, ECA, Calgary-Shaw (UC)
Shandro, Hon. Tyler, ECA, KC, Calgary-Acadia (UC)
Shepherd, David, Edmonton-City Centre (NDP)
Sigurdson, Hon. Lori, ECA, Edmonton-Riverview (NDP)
Sigurdson, R.J., Highwood (UC)
Singh, Peter, Calgary-East (UC)
Smith, Hon. Danielle, ECA, Brooks-Medicine Hat (UC),
Premier
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),
Deputy Government Whip
Wilson, Hon. Rick D., ECA, Maskwacis-Wetaskiwin (UC)
Yao, Tany, Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo (UC)
Yaseen, Hon. Muhammad, ECA, Calgary-North (UC)
Vacant, Calgary-Elbow

Party standings:

United Conservative: 61

New Democrat: 23

Independent: 2

Vacant: 1

Officers and Officials of the Legislative Assembly

Shannon Dean, KC, Clerk	Nancy Robert, Clerk of <i>Journals</i> and Committees	Terry Langley, Sergeant-at-Arms
Teri Cherkewich, Law Clerk		Gareth Scott, Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms
Trafton Koenig, Senior Parliamentary Counsel	Janet Schwegel, Director of Parliamentary Programs	Lang Bawn, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms
Philip Massolin, Clerk Assistant and Director of House Services	Amanda LeBlanc, Deputy Editor of <i>Alberta Hansard</i>	

Executive Council

Danielle Smith	Premier, President of Executive Council, Minister of Intergovernmental Relations
Kaycee Madu	Deputy Premier, Minister of Skilled Trades and Professions
Nathan Neudorf	Deputy Premier, Minister of Infrastructure
Mickey Amery	Minister of Children's Services
Jason Copping	Minister of Health
Devin Dreesen	Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors
Mike Ellis	Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services
Nate Glubish	Minister of Technology and Innovation
Pete Guthrie	Minister of Energy
Nate Horner	Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation
Brian Jean	Minister of Jobs, Economy and Northern Development
Matt Jones	Minister of Affordability and Utilities
Adriana LaGrange	Minister of Education
Todd Loewen	Minister of Forestry, Parks and Tourism
Jason Luan	Minister of Culture
Nicholas Milliken	Minister of Mental Health and Addiction
Dale Nally	Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction
Demetrios Nicolaides	Minister of Advanced Education
Jeremy Nixon	Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services
Brad Rutherford	Minister without Portfolio
Sonya Savage	Minister of Environment and Protected Areas
Rajan Sawhney	Minister of Trade, Immigration and Multiculturalism
Joseph Schow	Minister without Portfolio
Rebecca Schulz	Minister of Municipal Affairs
Tyler Shandro	Minister of Justice
Travis Toews	President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance
Rick Wilson	Minister of Indigenous Relations

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Tracy Allard	Parliamentary Secretary for Civil Liberties
Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk	Parliamentary Secretary for Ukrainian Refugee Settlement
Tanya Fir	Parliamentary Secretary for Status of Women
Shane Getson	Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Corridors
David Hanson	Parliamentary Secretary for Procurement Transformation
Martin Long	Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business
Miranda Rosin	Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism
R.J. Sigurdson	Parliamentary Secretary for EMS Reform
Devinder Toor	Parliamentary Secretary for Multiculturalism
Glenn van Dijken	Parliamentary Secretary for Agrifood Development
Tany Yao	Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health
Muhammad Yaseen	Parliamentary Secretary for Community Outreach

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

Allard
Eggen
Gray
Hunter
Phillips
Rehn
Singh

Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future

Chair: Mr. Neudorf
Deputy Chair: Ms Goehring

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

Standing Committee on Families and Communities

Chair: Ms Lovely
Deputy Chair: Ms Sigurdson

Amery
Carson
Dang
Gottfried
Hunter
Loewen
Reid
Sabir
Smith
Vacant

Standing Committee on Legislative Offices

Chair: Mr. Rutherford
Deputy Chair: Mr. Milliken

Allard
Ceci
Dach
Long
Loyola
Rosin
Shepherd
Smith
van Dijken

Special Standing Committee on Members' Services

Chair: Mr. Cooper
Deputy Chair: Mr. Schow

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

Select Special Ombudsman and Public Interest Commissioner Search Committee

Chair: Mr. Jeremy Nixon
Deputy Chair: Ms Rosin

Aheer
Armstrong-Homeniuk
Bilous
Goehring
Sabir
Singh
Williams

Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills

Chair: Mr. Rutherford
Deputy Chair: Mr. Jeremy Nixon

Amery
Irwin
Long
Nielsen
Rehn
Rosin
Sigurdson, L.
Singh
Sweet

Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing

Chair: Mr. Smith
Deputy Chair: Mr. Reid

Aheer
Armstrong-Homeniuk
Deol
Ganley
Gottfried
Loyola
Neudorf
Renaud
Stephan
Williams

Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Chair: Ms Phillips
Deputy Chair: Mr. Reid

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

Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship

Chair: Mr. Hanson
Deputy Chair: Member Ceci

Dach
Feehan
Ganley
Getson
Guthrie
Lovely
Rehn
Singh
Turton
Yao

Legislative Assembly of Alberta

3 p.m.

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

The Sergeant-at-Arms: Order! Order! All rise, please.

[The Clerk read the Royal Proclamation dated October 26, 2022, summoning the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta to convene on this date]

The Clerk: Please be seated.

[The Sergeant-at-Arms left the Chamber]

The Sergeant-at-Arms: Order! Order! Mr. Speaker.

[Preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Speaker, accompanied by the officers of the Assembly, entered the Chamber and took the chair]

Prayers

The Speaker: Lord, the God of righteousness and truth, grant to our King and to his government, to Members of the Legislative Assembly, and to all in positions of responsibility the guidance of Your spirit. May they never lead the province wrongly through love of power, desire to please, or unworthy ideas but, laying aside all private interest and prejudice, keep in mind their responsibility to seek to improve the condition of all.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would now like to invite Ariana Whitlow, accompanied by the Royal Canadian Artillery Band, to lead us in the singing of *O Canada*.

Hon. Members:

O Canada, our home and native land!
True patriot love in all of us command.
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The True North strong and free!
From far and wide, O Canada,
We stand on guard for thee.
God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.

The Speaker: Please be seated.

Presentation to the Assembly of Ms Danielle Smith Member for Brooks-Medicine Hat

The Speaker: I would now like to invite the hon. the Government House Leader to proceed to the main Chamber doors.

Hon. members, I have received from the Chief Electoral Officer of Alberta the report of the returning officer for the constituency of Brooks-Medicine Hat containing the results of the by-election conducted on November 8, 2022, which states that by a by-election that was held in the constituency of Brooks-Medicine Hat, the Hon. Danielle Smith was duly elected as the Member for Brooks-Medicine Hat. Would she please come forward.

[Mr. Schow escorted Ms Smith to the Mace]

Mr. Schow: Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to present to you the hon. Ms Danielle Smith, the new Member for Brooks-Medicine Hat, who has taken the oath as a member of this Assembly, has inscribed the roll, and now claims the right to take her seat.

The Speaker: Let the member take her seat.

Hon. members, while we await the arrival of Her Honour, the RCA Band will now play a brief musical interlude. The RCA Band, Canada's oldest regular army band, was formed in Quebec City in 1879. It was subsequently stationed in Montreal and Halifax. It has been in service in both world wars and in Korea and has travelled across Canada and beyond our borders. Reconstituted in Edmonton in 1997, the band today is under the direction of Captain Curtis Bain. Please enjoy listening to the Royal Canadian Artillery brass band.

Entrance of the Lieutenant Governor

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

[The Mace was draped]

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

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

Mr. Speaker, Her Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor awaits.

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

[A fanfare of trumpets sounded]

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

Her Honour: Please be seated.

Good afternoon, everyone. Before I deliver the Speech from the Throne, I would like to thank all elected official members of the Assembly for serving our province. Thank you for what you do, and you know that you are a very important part of our precious system of government. The decisions you make and what you do in the Assembly, in the Chamber, make a difference to the lives of all Albertans, so I want to wish you all a very successful, productive session. I hope that when you go back to your constituencies, you will thank all the community leaders in your respective constituencies for what they do to keep our communities and province moving forward.

Now, before I end, I also want to welcome our new Chief Justice of Alberta, the Hon. Ritu Khullar. Congratulations, Madam Chief Justice. We all wish you well in your new role.

I want to finish by wishing each and every one of you and your families, your loved ones all the very, very best for a peaceful, joyous, happy holiday season, and let us all look to 2023 and the future with hope and optimism.

Speech from the Throne

Introduction

Her Honour: Mr. Speaker, hon. Members of the Legislative Assembly, and fellow Albertans:

I open this Fourth Session of the 30th Legislature as His Majesty the King's representative.

I would like to begin by acknowledging the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Alberta's and Canada's longest serving monarch. Her dedication to duty and service is an example that all of us in this Chamber should aspire to emulate. Queen Elizabeth had a great affection for our province, which is shared by His Majesty King Charles

III. I am honoured to open this Legislative Assembly for the first time on His Majesty's behalf.

Today we gather on Treaty 6 territory, and I invite all hon. members to reflect upon and acknowledge the traditional territories of Alberta's First Peoples and their invaluable contribution to our province and country.

Today's Speech from the Throne will outline the commitments of His Majesty's government for the people and province of Alberta.

Hon. members, this is a challenging time for our province. Rising inflation is impacting the ability of Albertans to provide for themselves and their families, our health care system is under significant strain, and we're combatting unprecedented interference and overreach from the federal government in Ottawa. These may be harsh headwinds, but Albertans are strong. We have faced difficult challenges before, and not only have we overcome them; we have grown the stronger for it. We will do so again.

Affordability

Albertans are an independent and self-reliant people. We do not often ask the government to assist us with meeting our needs. However, during times of crisis and hardship Albertans expect their government to use our vast resource wealth to assist those in need. We must never lose sight of the fact that our natural resources are not the property of government; they are the property of the people of Alberta.

And too many Albertans are facing an inflationary crisis that is forcing them to make choices they should never have to make. Parents are choosing between food and after school activities for their children, and seniors are choosing between life-saving medication and heating their homes. Although most Albertans are feeling the financial pressure of this crisis, low- and middle-income seniors, families with children at home, and vulnerable Albertans are being hit the hardest.

This crisis is not of Alberta's making. It has been thrust upon us from elsewhere. It is the result of supply chain disruptions and war internationally, combined with antienergy policies and economic mismanagement by politicians in Ottawa.

But whatever the cause, this government has a responsibility to take immediate action to help make life more affordable for all Albertans. The new Ministry of Affordability and Utilities will lead work across government to implement a package of targeted inflation-relief measures, starting with the introduction of the Inflation Relief Act. Under this legislation households earning under \$180,000 will be provided with a tax-free payment of \$600 over six months, starting this January, for each senior, to parents for each dependent child under 18, and to each vulnerable Albertan collecting AISH, PDD, and income support.

The government will also index for inflation AISH, PDD, income support, the Alberta seniors' benefit, and the Alberta child and family benefit while providing additional support for food banks and expanding access to low-income transit passes. Protecting and supporting the most vulnerable among us has and always will be the Alberta way, and this government is committed to ensuring that its support for those in the most need continues to be among the most generous in all of Canada.

Although most of this government's affordability measures will target those with the most need during this inflationary crisis, all Albertans will also benefit. The majority of Albertans must drive to go to work, buy groceries, and get their families to appointments and activities. The government will provide immediate relief at the gas pumps by suspending the entire provincial fuel tax for at least six months and by making the current fuel relief program permanent thereafter.

As temperatures drop and the days shorten, Albertans pay more for electricity and heating. This government will provide increased rebates on consumer electricity bills through the winter months totalling an additional \$200 per household. The government will also make the current natural gas rebate program permanent and is working with providers on a plan to flatten out spikes in winter electricity rates this winter and permanently thereafter.

And to keep the tax burden on Albertans as low as possible, the government will index personal income taxes retroactively to 2022 levels, meaning a larger rebate for each Alberta taxpayer this spring.

Together these measures will save Alberta families and businesses more than \$2.4 billion over the next 18 months. Again, this is just a start. More affordability measures are in the works because every decision this government makes until this inflation crisis is over will balance affordability for Albertans with protecting our province's financial well-being and that of the next generation.

Health Care

Albertans must have access to world-class health care where and when they need it most. However, across our province critical surgeries are being delayed. Parents are waiting hours with their children to receive basic treatment in the emergency room. Ambulances are taking far too long to arrive when needed. The government must take action. More words and platitudes will not shorten wait times or free up hospital beds.

Thankfully, our doctors, nurses, paramedics, and all front-line health care professionals are the best in the world and are heroes in our midst, and they are literally the key to fixing health care. We need many more of these great Albertans on the front lines caring for patients.

To our front-line professionals: we thank you. We know you are tired, yet you soldier on to serve and love and care for all of us. We love and salute you. On behalf of all Albertans, thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

This government is here for our health care workers. That is why it is committed to supporting our public health care system and ensuring resources are directed where they are needed most, to emergency and operating rooms rather than to boardrooms and consulting companies.

Although fixing our health care challenges will take time, we will see progress on these issues immediately. The government's Health minister, Jason Copping, along with AHS Official Administrator Dr. John Cowell have initiated the health reform action plan. The plan includes instructions to Alberta Health Services to maximize the use of all surgical facilities across the province while using chartered facilities to deliver more needed surgeries more quickly for more Albertans. The government's health care reform action plan also includes reforms to decrease ambulance response times significantly by shortening patient transfer times at emergency rooms, using specialized nonemergency vehicles for interfacility transfers, and empowering our paramedics to provide on-site evaluation and treatment where medically appropriate.

The government will also bring additional health professionals into our emergency rooms to assist with treatment and triage so that those who need a simple prescription or alternative care get the assistance they need without taking a hospital bed away from those who truly need one.

And, critically, the government will continue to lead with our world-renowned treatment-first approach for Albertans with mental health and addictions challenges while expanding mental health supports for youth and children. The government understands that investing significantly in mental health saves thousands of lives and improves the lives of hundreds of thousands more in our province.

It is time to double down on our success on this issue, and the government will do so.

Jobs and Economy

The Alberta government also remains focused on its steadfast commitment to job creation and economic diversification. To achieve Alberta's full potential, the government will champion innovation while reducing the barriers of entry to entrepreneurs and innovators who want to invest in new ideas and industries in our province.

We know Alberta's greatest asset is its people. This government is committed to nurturing the best education and training programs in the world. Training the next generation will meet the needs of both traditional and emerging industries to attract the best and brightest from across the nation and around the world to our province.

The government must also support the economic sectors that have brought so much continued wealth and prosperity to our great province. Alberta's foundational industries of agriculture and energy produce what the world needs most: food and clean, dependable energy. As Albertans we will never be ashamed of feeding and powering the world.

In fact, now more than ever the world needs more Alberta energy and agriculture, and this government is going to make sure that is exactly what happens. This government will work to reduce interprovincial trade barriers, work towards new customs preclearance for agricultural exports, and expand and improve Alberta's irrigation network. It will maintain and greatly expand exportation of our natural resources to world markets, and it will contribute to lowering emissions by investing in Alberta-based environmental technology like carbon capture and hydrogen while replacing the world's reliance on coal and wood with clean and ethical Alberta LNG.

Humankind has not solved its challenges by cutting economic growth and making people more poor. That is a recipe for environmental disaster and poverty. We overcome our greatest challenges through innovation, technology, wealth creation, and economic growth, and that is exactly how Alberta intends to take on the challenge of lowering our province's and the world's emissions. It is time for our federal government to get on board with that plan and, rather than land-locking our province's energy and technology, work with us to take our clean energy and technology to all the world.

And speaking of technology and innovation, this government will work to diversify our economy. It will do that through the development of a technology and innovation strategy, a new digital media tax credit, and the expansion of high-speed rural broadband services to attract new investment and changemakers to all parts of our province. This also means continuing to lead the way when it comes to harnessing the power of our natural resources such as hydrogen, helium, liquefied natural gas, and geothermal energy while exploring new economic corridors.

All of these opportunities will help Albertans benefit from the province's economic potential, including Indigenous peoples who have always called these lands home. As a part of needed economic reconciliation this government will strengthen its partnership with Indigenous peoples by listening, learning, and ensuring that Indigenous peoples are not only participants in our economic growth but partners and owners of the developments they choose to permit on their treaty lands.

Standing Up to Ottawa

It is important to address our province's relationship with the federal government. As Albertans we have individual and

provincial rights enshrined in Canada's Constitution and Charter of Rights and Freedoms. These rights underpin the very foundation of our nation and who we are as Canadians and Albertans. These include our freedoms of speech and religion; liberty; equality; the rights of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples; the right of provinces to deliver health care, education, and social programs free from federal interference; and, of course, the rights of all provinces to develop our natural resources for the benefit of our people. These personal and provincial rights are not something the federal government can simply supersede when it chooses. Ottawa is not our ruler; Ottawa is our partner, and it needs to begin acting like it.

The Canadian Constitution is clear. The federal and provincial governments both have exclusive and sovereign areas of jurisdiction, and this government will no longer sit idly by as Ottawa infringes on our constitutional rights to develop our resources, develop our economy, and deliver our social programs in the manner that Albertans see fit.

That is why the first piece of legislation this government, under our new Premier, will introduce will be the Alberta Sovereignty Within a United Canada Act. This act is to be used as a constitutional shield to protect the personal and provincial rights of Albertans from any unconstitutional or harmful acts by the federal government taken against our province, our people, or its economy. Whether it be Ottawa restricting the use of fertilizer by our farmers or attempting to prevent us from developing the very energy resources that power our provincial and national economies, whether it be persecuting owners of legal firearms, inappropriately invoking emergency powers, or intentionally interfering in the delivery of provincial health care, education, or child care, the government will not enforce any unconstitutional federal measure or policy within the boundaries of Alberta going forward.

Let us make no mistake: Albertans are proud Canadians, and we love our country. This legislation will never be used to undermine the rule of law or the unity of our nation. Just the opposite: it will be used to uphold and restore the intent of the most foundational document of our law, the Canadian Constitution and Charter of Rights.

Alberta's voices will be heard, Albertans' rights will be respected, and the Alberta government invites every one of its fellow provinces to work with the government in ensuring that same respect is demonstrated to every single province by our nation's capital on a go-forward basis. In so doing, the government will ensure Canada becomes stronger and more unified than ever before.

Overcoming Challenges Together

Hon. members of this Legislature, whatever your party affiliation, the government asks that you work together to overcome the challenges facing this province for we are all Albertans, and we love this province deeply: our magnificent cities, our breathtaking mountainscapes, our boundless fields of grain and natural resources, and, of course, our greatest treasure of all, the indomitable and compassionate spirit of our people. Our nation and the world need Alberta to lead, and that is what the government shall do because that is the Alberta way, and Albertans must never apologize for it.

God save the King, and may God bless Alberta to be forever strong and free.

The Sergeant-at-Arms: Order! All rise, please.

The Speaker: Hon. members, ladies and gentlemen, I would now like to invite Ariana Whitlow, accompanied by the RCA Band, to lead us in the singing of *God Save the King*. Please remain standing at the conclusion of *God Save the King*.

Hon. Members:

God save our gracious King,

Long live our noble King,
 God save the King!
 Send him victorious,
 Happy and glorious,
 Long to reign over us,
 God save the King!

The Sergeant-at-Arms: Order!

[Preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms, Their Honours, their party, and the Premier left the Chamber as a fanfare of trumpets sounded]

The Speaker: Please be seated.

[The Mace was uncovered]

[The Premier returned to the Chamber]

Statement by the Speaker

50th Anniversary of Legislative Assembly Broadcast Services and *Alberta Hansard*

The Speaker: Hon. members, I'd like to provide some brief remarks about two very important anniversaries in the history of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. This year marks the 50th anniversary of both the television broadcast of the Assembly proceedings as well as *Alberta Hansard*.

On March 2, 1972, something special happened here at the Assembly. It was opening day of the 17th Legislature, and it was the first time that the Assembly proceedings were broadcast live on television. I can only imagine the anticipation of Albertans from corner to corner. In the throne speech that day the government announced that as part of their open government program the regular proceedings of the Assembly would be televised.

A week later, on March 9, the Assembly adopted a resolution, supported by all parties – note to members – to allow for the broadcast of proceedings by various media, including television. After preparations were made, by March 15, 1972, regular broadcasts of the Assembly's proceedings began.

In those early days only Friday question period – yes, you heard that right: Friday question period – was broadcast, and a summary of the prior week's proceedings on the following Sunday was televised. By 1978, however, CTV broadcast gavel-to-gavel coverage of the proceedings. This would later be reduced, sadly, to only Oral Question Period and certain items of the daily Routine until the advent of Alberta Assembly TV, which broadcasts proceedings from gavel to gavel once more.

Significantly, Alberta was the very first jurisdiction in Canada to have its proceedings broadcast on a permanent basis.

Nineteen seventy-two was also a very important year because on March 8, 1972, a motion was moved and passed, with the support of the entire House, to publish a complete record of Assembly proceedings retroactive to March 2. *Alberta Hansard* was born. By 1974 *Hansard* staff produced the *Hansard* Blues, which are the unofficial transcripts of the Assembly that are made available to all of us. Since 1972 *Alberta Hansard* has been relied upon extensively by members, staff, Assembly officials, media, and members of the Alberta public to know and to follow the Assembly debates, to understand and fully appreciate what their elected officials are saying in the Assembly.

Nineteen seventy-two also marked a very important date in my parents' lives, who join us today in the Assembly, as it was also their 50th anniversary just last week. Welcome to the Assembly. [applause]

To conclude, I will leave you with this thought, and I encourage, as we start a new session of the Assembly, members to choose their

words wisely. It is estimated that since *Alberta Hansard* formed, over 50 years ago, approximately 153.7 million words are part of the permanent record of Alberta history and *Alberta Hansard*. I hope you will choose your words wisely, and let's look to see what the next 50 years have in store for the Alberta Assembly.

Tablings

The Speaker: Hon. members, I have the honour to table a copy of the speech graciously given by Her Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor.

Introduction of Bills

Bill 1

Alberta Sovereignty Within a United Canada Act

Ms Smith: Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to rise to add a few more words to the millions that have already been put on the record. Thank you for that wonderful history.

It is also my honour today to rise and introduce the Alberta Sovereignty Within a United Canada Act.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is designed to be a constitutional shield to protect Albertans from unconstitutional federal laws and policies that harm our province's economy or violate Alberta's provincial rights. To be clear, it was devised to be respectful of court decisions and Indigenous and treaty rights. By restoring and respecting the constitutional rights of our creative and diverse provinces, including Alberta, Canada will become stronger, more prosperous, and more unified than ever.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I move first reading of Bill 1, the Alberta Sovereignty Within a United Canada Act.

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

[Several members rose calling for a division]

The Speaker: I'll tell you what we'll do, hon. members. A division has been called, which is, of course, the right of members of the Assembly, however unconventional during a throne speech. A division bell will be rung. For the benefit of those seated and joining us in the galleries, it sounds a lot like a fire alarm; however, there is no fire. We will have a recorded division. What will happen is that there will be a 30-second bell. There will be a 15-minute period between that and when the actual division takes place. At 14 minutes a minute-long bell will sound again. Please don't be alarmed. To try to make this as smooth as possible, if you must leave the Chamber, I think it's reasonable to allow you the opportunity to do that. If you can remain seated to create as little disruption as possible, that's helpful, but I appreciate the fact that the delay may not be ideal for some of you.

[The division bell was rung at 3:54 p.m.]

[Fifteen minutes having elapsed, the Assembly divided]

[The Speaker in the chair]

For the motion:

Allard	Loewen	Sawhney
Amery	Long	Schow
Armstrong-Homeniuk	Lovely	Schulz
Barnes	Luan	Shandro
Copping	Madu	Sigurdson, R.J.
Dreeshen	McIver	Singh
Ellis	Milliken	Smith, Danielle
Fir	Nally	Smith, Mark
Getson	Neudorf	Stephan
Glubish	Nicolaides	Toews

Gotfried	Nixon, Jeremy	Toor
Guthrie	Orr	Turton
Hanson	Pitt	van Dijken
Horner	Pon	Walker
Hunter	Reid	Williams
Issik	Rosin	Wilson
Jean	Rutherford	Yao
Jones	Savage	Yaseen
LaGrange		
Against the motion:		
Bilous	Goehring	Phillips
Carson	Gray	Renaud
Ceci	Hoffman	Sabir
Dach	Irwin	Schmidt
Deol	Loyola	Shepherd
Eggen	Nielsen	Sigurdson, L.
Feehan	Pancholi	Sweet
Ganley		
Totals:	For – 55	Against – 22

[Motion carried; Bill 1 read a first time]

Motions

The Speaker: The hon. Premier has the call.

Ms Smith: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the speech of Her Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor to this Assembly be taken into consideration Wednesday, November 30, 2022.

[Motion carried]

The Speaker: Members and invited guests, I would like to remind all of you that you are invited to attend a reception, that is currently half being held in the Legislature rotunda, immediately following the closing ceremonies. I hope that you will join us for some light refreshments.

The Government House Leader.

Mr. Schow: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the Assembly stand adjourned until Wednesday, November 30, at 1:30 p.m.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 4:13 p.m.]

Table of Contents

Prayers	1
Presentation to the Assembly of Ms Danielle Smith, Member for Brooks-Medicine Hat	1
Entrance of the Lieutenant Governor.....	1
Speech from the Throne	
Introduction	1
Affordability	2
Health Care.....	2
Jobs and Economy	3
Standing Up to Ottawa	3
Overcoming Challenges Together	3
Statement by the Speaker	
50th Anniversary of Legislative Assembly Broadcast Services and <i>Alberta Hansard</i>	4
Tablings	4
Introduction of Bills	
Bill 1 Alberta Sovereignty Within a United Canada Act.....	4
Division	4
Motions	5

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