



Legislative Assembly of Alberta

The 30th Legislature  
Second Session

Standing Committee  
on  
Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills

Bill 217, Polish-Canadian Heritage Day Act

Tuesday, June 1, 2021  
6:15 p.m.

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

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

Ellis, Mike, Calgary-West (UC), Chair  
Schow, Joseph R., Cardston-Siksika (UC), Deputy Chair  
Amery, Mickey K., Calgary-Cross (UC)  
Dang, Thomas, Edmonton-South (NDP)  
Getson, Shane C., Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland (UC)  
Glasgo, Michaela L., Brooks-Medicine Hat (UC)  
Horner, Nate S., Drumheller-Stettler (UC)\*  
Irwin, Janis, Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood (NDP)  
Nielsen, Christian E., Edmonton-Decore (NDP)  
Rutherford, Brad, Leduc-Beaumont (UC)  
Sigurdson, Lori, Edmonton-Riverview (NDP)  
Sigurdson, R.J., Highwood (UC)

\* substitution for R.J. Sigurdson

**Bill 217 Sponsor**

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6:15 p.m.

Tuesday, June 1, 2021

[Mr. Ellis in the chair]

**The Chair:** All right. Good evening. I'd like to call this meeting of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills to order and welcome everyone in attendance.

My name is Mike Ellis, MLA for Calgary-West and chair of the committee. I'd like to ask that members and those joining the committee at the table introduce themselves for the record, and then I'll call upon those joining us by videoconference. We'll begin to my right.

**Mr. Schow:** Joseph Schow, MLA for Cardston-Siksika.

**Mr. Rutherford:** Brad Rutherford, MLA, Leduc-Beaumont.

**Ms Glasgo:** Michaela Glasgo, MLA, Brooks-Medicine Hat.

**Mr. Williams:** Dan Williams, Member for Peace River.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Good evening, everyone. Chris Nielsen, MLA for Edmonton-Decore.

**Mr. Koenig:** Good evening. I'm Trafton Koenig with the Parliamentary Counsel office.

**Mr. Kulicki:** Good evening. Michael Kulicki, clerk of committees and research services.

**Mr. Huffman:** Hi. Warren Huffman, committee clerk.

**The Chair:** Thank you very much.

I'll call upon those on the videoconference here. We'll start with Member Dang. Member Dang, we can't hear you.

**Mr. Huffman:** He's not muted.

**The Chair:** He's unmuted? Okay.

How about we try Member Irwin.

**Member Irwin:** Hi. Janis Irwin, Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood. Can you hear me?

**The Chair:** Yeah, we can hear you. Thank you, Member, very much.

We'll go back to Member Dang in a moment here. We'll try Member Lori Sigurdson.

**Ms Sigurdson:** Good evening. Lori Sigurdson, Edmonton-Riverview.

**The Chair:** Thank you very much.  
Member Getson.

**Mr. Getson:** Hello. Shane Getson, MLA, Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland.

**The Chair:** Thank you.  
Member Horner.

**Mr. Horner:** Good evening. MLA Nate Horner, Drumheller-Stettler.

**The Chair:** Thank you very much.  
Member Amery.

**Mr. Amery:** Good evening, committee members. MLA Amery, Calgary-Cross.

**The Chair:** Thank you.

We'll go back to Member Dang, just because we didn't have the audio there.

**Mr. Dang:** Good evening. Thomas Dang, Edmonton-South.

**The Chair:** Fantastic. Thank you very much, sir.

For the record I'll note the following official substitution here: Member Nate Horner for Member R.J. Sigurdson.

A few housekeeping items to address before we turn to the business at hand. Pursuant to the February 22, 2021, memo from the hon. Speaker Cooper I would remind everyone of the updated committee room protocols, which encourage members to wear masks in committee rooms and while seated except when speaking, at which time they may choose not to wear a face covering. Based on the recommendations from the chief medical officer of health regarding physical distancing, attendees at today's meeting are reminded to leave the appropriate distance between themselves and other meeting participants.

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Next we'll move to the approval of the agenda. Are there any changes or additions to the draft agenda?

Hearing and seeing none, would a member like to make a motion to move the agenda? Member Glasgo. Thank you very much. Member Glasgo will move that the agenda for the June 1, 2021, meeting of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills be adopted as distributed. All those in favour, say aye. On the videoconference? Okay. Any opposed? Hearing and seeing none, that motion has been carried.

All right. Next we'll move to the approval of the minutes. Hon. members, we have the minutes of our last meeting, on May 3, to review. Are there any errors or omissions to note?

Hearing and seeing none, would a member like to make a motion to approve the minutes? Thank you, Member Nielsen. Member Nielsen moves that the minutes of the May 3, 2021, meeting of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills be approved as distributed. All those in favour, say aye. On videoconference? Thank you very much. Any opposed? Hearing and seeing none, that motion has been carried.

Next we will move to the review of Bill 217, the Polish-Canadian Heritage Day Act, the presentation by Member Dan Williams, the MLA for Peace River. Hon. members, Bill 217, the Polish-Canadian Heritage Day Act, was referred to the committee on Thursday, May 27, 2021, in accordance with Standing Order 74.11, and the committee's report to the Assembly is due on June 10.

At this time I'd like to invite Mr. Dan Williams, the MLA for Peace River, to provide a five-minute presentation, and then I'll open up the floor to questions from committee members.

Member Williams, welcome back to the committee, and the floor is yours. Go ahead, sir.

**Mr. Williams:** Thank you, Chair. It's been some time since I was here. I'm very grateful to be here and see you all again. I have the privilege to be able to introduce and move through the House a second private member's bill in my two years, and this one, as you know, is surrounding content of bringing in a Polish heritage day.

For background, I was introduced through my role as an MLA to the honorary consul for Poland in northern Alberta, John Szumlas, who worked closely with me in suggesting the possibility of the idea of a private member's bill recognizing a day for folks in Alberta of Polish heritage, who worked with the president of the Alberta chapter of the Canadian Polish Congress, Mrs. Madej, and also worked with the honorary consul for the Republic of Poland in southern Alberta, Mr. Potocki.

Initially the idea was that this would be passed before the date of the second Sunday in June. For obvious reasons, COVID has made that event be delayed until later in the summer, but it was something that was important to try and time for that timeline. The reason that we chose that timeline – well, it was largely a suggestion of the Polish community – was because some might think that they were morose people, recognizing Black Ribbon Day and many of the other tragedies that the Polish people have gone through along with other eastern Europeans, but they are, in fact, a very joyful and happy people.

This was an important point in their history, when in early June in 1989 Lech Wałęsa, the leader of Solidarity, a well-known Polish labour union and democracy advocate, won the first partially free election in Poland, which was still at that time under the Iron Curtain. This was a huge win not just for democracy, freedom, the west in general but particularly for the Polish people, who had been under such persecution. For much of their history their state had been partitioned up and cannibalized by other European powers until they regained a nation-state status, internationally recognized, after World War I at the Treaty of Versailles.

Sadly, after that, we all know the carnage that happened in Europe through Hitler's Nazi regime, which annexed much of Poland for its strategy of expanding the German state and pushed out, persecuted many ethnic Poles. Many were victims, obviously, of that horrendous regime, and subsequently, instead of liberation, they found themselves under the thumb of the Stalinist Communist dictatorship. So it has been a long road to that 1989 time, where they saw free elections.

I myself share some Polish heritage on my mother's side. I'm very proud of the Maykut family, as it's known in sort of the Barrhead area, Naples Hall. They're a family of left-handers, apparently, I've learned. I don't know much Polish myself, but "Maykut" does translate to "lefties." It's been an important part of my life growing up along with many, many Albertans. Whether they be mother-tongue, first-language-speaking Poles, we have about 186,000 Albertans who we know have some share in Polish heritage and many, many more beyond that. I just found a constituent of mine the other day, after I had made the announcement that I'd be introducing this bill, that told me that they were of Polish heritage, and I didn't know that myself.

This bill is intended to be, obviously, something to recognize the very hard work and contribution that the many, many Poles have contributed to our province over a century-plus time – 136 years they've been settling in this province – since the first settlers that we know of came from Poland to Medicine Hat, actually, Ms Glasgo. So it has heritage across the whole province, a very important part of our community. Obviously, it's put forward in the spirit of bipartisan participation and is modelled very, very closely on what many of the members from the NDP ranks will remember was a bill on Ukrainian heritage brought forward by Mrs. Littlewood, I

believe, and turned into a government bill, which, happily, was passed with unanimous consent in one day in the Legislature.

I'm hoping for some more bipartisan support, of course. This really is something that the Polish community brought forward to me and that I'm happy to bring forward to you.

6:25

**The Chair:** Great. Well, thank you very much, sir.

As is the convention of this committee, this is a government member's bill, so we will start with the Official Opposition regarding questions. I see Mr. Nielsen signalling, so we'll get the clock started. Sir, the floor is yours. Go ahead.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Well, thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you, Mr. Williams, for bringing the bill forward. You know, I'm happy to say that I have a very vibrant Polish community right in Edmonton-Decore. I have the Polish Veterans Hall, that used to be literally right across the street from my old office. Needless to say, I got to hang out there quite a bit, had a few ice cream parties. It was a lot of fun with the community.

I know that you had touched a little bit on sort of why you are doing this bill, and I know the time ran out, so if there was anything else you wanted to add onto that, I'll throw that into the mix. I guess I'll also add: what are you hoping the bill will achieve should it be passed in the House?

**Mr. Williams:** I'm sure I could speak for hours – I appreciate that – but I won't take up more time on what I could add. Perhaps we can enjoy some opiatek this coming Christmas together. I know the Polish community was frustrated they couldn't because of COVID this year, and I know you would be invited to many because your riding does have a vibrant Polish community.

The goal, really, is recognition of what I think is an important part of Alberta's history. We as a province are made up of our land and of our people, and they've influenced each other. The hard settling of the land, beginning in the late 1800s, as this bill recognizes, in Medicine Hat formed who we are, and it formed the Poles who came here, too. There is a huge gift of the heritage and patrimony passed down from generations past. As an Albertan I truly believe that that needs to be recognized. There are so many different communities that need this recognition, and if I had many more private members' bills, I have many ideas for more communities to recognize, of course, but right now I think this is one that made sense with that community approaching me and the desire to have this recognition for the second Sunday in June. I really think it's homage and recognition, especially of those who've gone past, and for us to keep that tradition vibrant in the future.

**The Chair:** A follow-up, sir?

**Mr. Nielsen:** A follow-up, yeah.

I know, having discussions with my community, that I was trying to advocate for something along this line back in the day as well. You know, again, with the passage of this bill, what are you hoping that the government might be able to do with this bill? Are there any kinds of extras, maybe, that you're hoping they'll take on?

**Mr. Williams:** I appreciate the question. I think the idea of an annual recognition at the monument on the Legislature Grounds is something that the Polish community has indicated they would like to do – obviously, this year not highly likely – but that, I think, would be the centrepiece of this. They want to tie it into recognition on the Legislature Grounds of that monument to those five waves of Polish immigrants that came to Canada. Of course, I'm open to

more suggestions. I have a sense that you have some, and I'm happy to receive them.

As far as the structure of the bill itself, I really did want to mirror as closely as possible the Ukrainian heritage bill, with the advice coming from the Polish community that that's what they would like to see, too, for a sense of parity between the two and respecting both communities. But if you have ideas, Member Nielsen, I'm with you. I'm happy to chat offline.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Food.

**Mr. Williams:** Food. Good. Some nalesniki and gwumpki and bulgogi.

**The Chair:** We'll go to Member Rutherford next, please.

**Mr. Rutherford:** Perfect. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'll be happy if there's an amendment that involves food, Mr. Williams. It would be much appreciated.

I do thank you for bringing forward this bill. I think it's an important bill, you know, touching on 186,000 Albertans with Polish heritage and the 136 years that Polish people have been in Alberta. It is important to look at that history and to understand how our communities have come together and where they have come from and all of – and you touched on this as well – sort of the trials and tribulations that folks have gone through in different parts of the world in different times and what has brought us all together. I was wondering if you would maybe just elaborate a little bit more on the recognition part. You talked about having an event here at the monument. I was wondering: maybe you could go further on what you had hoped would be highlighted then.

**Mr. Williams:** Yeah. I think it's primarily a monument to the people who came in those five waves of immigration into Alberta from Poland. It's very interesting to see ties between the history happening in Europe and those waves. My own family is a product of trials and tribulations in Poland, where they fled to Canada as a land of freedom and opportunity. Out of that quarter section of land granted to my grandfather from the Dominion lands grant in the early 1900s, I am a product, my family. My brothers, my sisters – pardon me; I have no sisters – my aunts, my uncles are doctors, nurses, pipefitters, welders, janitors. You name it; we have it in our family. That's the contribution that the community has given to a vibrant Alberta, and that can be repeated in every corner of this province. Recognizing that, I think, is very important, recognizing that every year on the Legislature Grounds, with the authority of the government saying: "Yes; we see you, we recognize you, and we thank you for what you have done." I think that is key. And, again, if we can include food, I won't say no.

**The Chair:** Do you have a follow-up?

**Mr. Rutherford:** Just a quick one, Mr. Chair. I guess I'll just give you an opportunity for in and around your own riding, if you could talk about the impact that the Polish community has had in your area and if there's anything you wanted to highlight about that as well.

**Mr. Williams:** Well, I wouldn't say that there is a concentration of Poles, of people of Polish heritage, in my riding, and that's true for many of our ridings. Mr. Nielsen could be one of those exceptions, where there is truly a concentration in his area in north Edmonton. There are a few other areas, in sort of the borscht belt with Ukrainian and Polish descent northeast of Edmonton as well as on the edge of the parkland. For many of our constituencies, they're

among us. They're there. We don't necessarily know who they are. Sometimes that number, 186,000, could be lower. It is, in all likelihood, lower. Those are people who identified through StatsCan in 2016. There are many who have even more. So the contribution, I think, isn't necessarily riding specific, I'd say. If you heard my member's statement on Monday, the contribution has been in many ways the work ethic, their desire for freedom and truth. They have a deep love of – because of what they've gone through as a people, their fidelity to their faith I think is a huge contribution to this province.

**The Chair:** Thank you very much.

We'll now go to Member Lori Sigurdson. Go ahead, please.

**Ms Sigurdson:** Well, thank you very much, Mr. Williams, for presenting and bringing forward this bill to have a special day, a heritage day, for the Polish descendants and people here in Alberta. I just really want to acknowledge you for accepting the community's wish to have it around the time of the groundbreaking election of a strong labour unionist in Poland, Lech Wałęsa. Good for you to acknowledge that tremendous success and that the Polish people wanted to have it then because they wanted to acknowledge that work.

A day is important. You know, we need to have these sorts of sacred times, when we really acknowledge people. I think that that's very important. It's also good to have some really concrete programming sometimes for different populations to support them. I know that there is a youth mobility agreement between Poland and Alberta, where youth travel and can work for up to a year, where either Polish youth come to Canada or Albertans go to Poland. Obviously, COVID has stopped everything, but I'm just wondering if you're familiar with that program. Is it still going? I understood that it was something that was a really great opportunity for the youth of both Alberta and Poland.

**Mr. Williams:** Yes. I do know of the program, and I dare say that our current Premier had a hand in placing some of that. I believe it was introduced first in 2008, and then he subsequently became the Minister of Immigration sometime after that and obviously supported and – I could stand to be corrected – also expanded the program to some degree. I'm familiar with it. Obviously, because of restrictions right now, it's very difficult to know the future, but I think that's a terrific idea. Collaboration in a very real way, that practical program, as you said, is important because fundamentally building that relationship, I think, will strengthen both states, the Canadian and the Polish.

6:35

I want to also recognize again how much I appreciate you pointing out Lech Wałęsa's work and what he did with Solidarity. He's a personal hero of mine and, I think, a model for honest, forthright politics in what was a very turbulent time, something all of us can refer to. As you said, he came out of the labour movement in Poland fighting against the Communists and that socialistic ideology that had been taken to an extreme level. But I think it's just terrific that we can find common ground on this. I absolutely agree that if there is any way that we can facilitate, co-ordinate, and work with more programming, with the example of the youth mobility agreement between our two states, that would be good.

**The Chair:** Member Sigurdson, have you got a follow-up, please?

**Ms Sigurdson:** Yeah. I just wondered if Mr. Williams would talk a little bit about the other sort of collaborations, I guess, other things that we're doing already in Alberta to support the Polish people.

**Mr. Williams:** Well, to be fair, I think you guys might have more ideas than I do on all of it. I know that there are a number of different programs that are very important to the Polish community in Edmonton. I've spoken before about the fully bilingual Polish school in Edmonton, St. John Paul II school, that the community is very, very proud of. In the Catholic school division I think St. Basil also has a fully integrated program as well. That is important. I know that in both Edmonton and Calgary there are Saturday schools for families that want to maintain their Polish heritage and, particularly, language. As we know, language is so key to any culture. Those often run out of the church and are incredibly important parts of the Polish community.

But I think what might be an important piece for us to look at expanding is not just those who have it as a mother tongue or as a second language but community members, like the majority of those 186,000-plus, who have a connection, a heritage to it but don't know the language and aren't immersed in the culture, who don't have a first-generation or second-generation connection. My family: I'm third generation, and it's just a step enough removed. I think that really is so important, to foster as many Albertans as we can to embrace the diversity of their heritage while still being proudly Canadian and proudly Albertan.

**The Chair:** Thank you.

Member Amery, go ahead, please.

**Mr. Amery:** Hi. I hope everybody can hear me. Thank you very much, Member Williams, for bringing this forward. I have a little bit of a story to share with you. I have a very, very magnificent facility located right near the constituency of Calgary-Cross, the Polish Canadian Cultural Centre. I have spent some time there with the Polish community at various events, and they, in fact, hosted me right after the 2019 election. I was able to have a number of different interactions. They've all been fantastic and wonderful. Each one of those has really highlighted the need and the importance for something like this to recognize the great contributions of Polish Canadians and their contributions and their great work within our province.

Now, you've talked a little bit about this, and I think some of it might be a little bit more elaboration than anything, but your bill seeks to establish the second Sunday in June as the date for Polish-Canadian heritage day. Can you tell the committee why this date was selected? What is the particular importance of June in honouring Polish Canadians, and why did you arrive at this day? Was there anything else that you considered, any other days of significance that you had contemplated to put into your bill otherwise?

**Mr. Williams:** A fair question. I appreciate that. A shout-out, of course, to the Polish community in Calgary, who I think have the largest community centre for capacity for weddings, so they are going to be booked up as restrictions lift, I know. They're very excited. They have a wonderful facility there, that they love to show off.

I really did follow the lead of the community. The honorary consuls of the Republic of Poland, who are both Albertans themselves, of course, of Polish heritage, co-ordinated with the Canadian Polish Congress. They really did feel a desire to articulate and celebrate something positive in their history. They have much to mourn and grieve, of course, with the history that they have gone through, but it is also important for them to celebrate the wins that they have.

There was a very important election held, as I mentioned earlier. Through a lot of – I mean, the solidarity movement began in the '70s in Poland, and we have to understand that this didn't resolve itself until the 1989 election, at least in part, where we saw through

sheer will, commitment to faith, and everyone from Ronald Reagan to John Paul II having a hand in moving forward the history to the point where they could have free elections. I know that many Poles I talk to think often of John Paul II's speech that he gave when he visited Poland under the scrutiny of the Soviet Union in Victory Square – I think it was in '79 – where he used the word "solidarity" every single chance he could and at every opportunity he could to highlight the important work they were doing in absolute defiance of that awful state and the impositions that they put on the Polish people. So it's a very, very warm memory.

The week that they had that election and they saw themselves almost universally voting to overthrow the shackles of oppression and communism and, instead, adopt the view that truth and freedom should be at the heart of the Polish republic, not communism. So a very warm feeling for every Pole and much of Poland's multcentury history from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth all the way until now was tied up in that week when we saw those election results come in in Poland, so very, very important for the people and in many ways – I think it's fair to say – for the entire west. Arguably, that was the start of the downfall of the Soviet Union in practical terms.

**The Chair:** Thank you.

Member Amery, do you have a follow-up?

**Mr. Amery:** Certainly. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you, MLA Williams, for that. You know, again I want to stress that the Polish Canadian Cultural Centre is just a fantastic and wonderful facility. I have no doubt in my mind that it may be as big or the biggest one in the province.

You had alluded a little bit to this earlier, and I want you to potentially pull it all together for the benefit and the sake of the rest of the committee members and to establish on the record, what stakeholder engagement took place during the development of your bill? Talk to us about who you talked to and who you consulted with in developing the ideas behind this bill, in a concise response, because I know that you've alluded to some of the people that you've talked to earlier, but I'd like to see if you could pull it together and give us just sort of a list and a summary of what you heard.

**Mr. Williams:** I likely cannot be concise; I will try.

There are 186,000 people of Polish heritage. I did not speak to many or most of them, but I did reach out, I think, to important stakeholder groups and, through them, others. Important in the input for this was the north and south honorary consuls of the Republic of Poland, as I mentioned, Mr. Szumlas and Mr. Potocki; and then the president of the Alberta branch of the Canadian Polish Congress, Mrs. Madej, also had input as well. Those would be the major stakeholder groups that I consulted, and due to the relatively nontechnical nature of the bill, I felt it sufficient that that would be a good place to start, and that's the heart of my consultation with stakeholders.

**The Chair:** All right. Thank you.

There's nobody else on the list. Is there anyone from the Official Opposition?

Hearing and seeing none, anyone from the government members?

Okay. Any final thoughts, Member Williams?

**Mr. Williams:** I'll just say that it's been so nice to talk to you guys. I could have gone on for hours. I love talking about history, particularly about Polish history, so I thoroughly enjoyed it, and I'll come back again.

**The Chair:** Thank you very much. I appreciate that. I would like to thank Mr. Williams again for presenting to the committee here today.

At this time I'd like to note that the committee invited the Ministry of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women to provide a technical briefing on Bill 217; however, the ministry respectfully declined to present.

Next, ladies and gentlemen, we will go to the decision on the review of Bill 217. Hon. members, the committee must now decide on how to conduct its review of Bill 217 in accordance with our previously approved process. The committee may choose to invite additional feedback from up to six stakeholders, three from each caucus. Alternatively, the committee may also choose to expedite this review and proceed to deliberations.

Does anyone have any thoughts on this? Okay. Member Schow.

6:45

**Mr. Schow:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. This has been a very enlightening and thorough discussion. Certainly, I would say, more collaborative than the last time Mr. Williams was here, just to kind of address the elephant in the room. But, you know, I really did appreciate the discussion with Mr. Williams and the thoughtful questions input from all members of this committee. I think that Mr. Williams has done a tremendous amount of research on this bill, as he always does on all of his remarks and motions and bills, so I would see no reason to bring in stakeholders. I would rather just move a motion that the bill proceed to the Legislature.

**The Chair:** Well, I happen to have a draft motion, if I may, Mr. Schow, and please tell me if this is accurate of what you were thinking. Moved by Mr. Schow that the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills recommend that Bill 217, the Polish-Canadian Heritage Day Act, proceed.

I'll open up the floor to any further discussion. Yeah. Mr. Nielsen, go ahead, sir.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Yeah. Thanks, Chair. I'd like to thank Mr. Williams for bringing the bill forward. I've certainly heard from my constituents of Polish descent over the years that they would love to see a recognition day, certainly some of the things that I was working on. I also would agree that we're pretty clear about what the community would like to see; no point holding it up any further. Let's get it back to the Legislature so that we can see it, and maybe we can move it forward.

**The Chair:** Maybe. Thank you very much.

I'll just open the floor for any other comments or questions.

Hearing and seeing none, I'll read it one more time and put the question to the committee. Moved by Mr. Schow that the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills recommend that Bill 217, Polish-Canadian Heritage Day Act, proceed.

All those in favour, say aye. On the videoconference? Thank you. Any opposed? Hearing and seeing none, that motion has been carried.

Okay. Thank you very much.

Hon. members, the committee has concluded its deliberations on Bill 217. It should now consider directing research services to prepare a draft report, including the committee's recommendations. Would a member move a motion to direct research services to prepare the committee's draft report? Thank you very much, Member Rutherford. Member Rutherford will move that

the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills (a) direct research services to prepare a draft report on the committee's review of Bill 217, the Polish-Canadian Heritage Day Act, which includes the committee's recommendations and (b) authorize the chair to approve the committee's final report to the Assembly on or before noon on Thursday, June 3, 2021.

Mr. Rutherford, that sounds and looks good to you? All right. There we go.

I'll put the question to the committee. All those in favour, say aye. Okay. On videoconference? Thank you. Any opposed? Hearing and seeing none, that motion has been carried.

Other business. Are there any other issues for discussion at today's meeting?

Hearing and seeing none, we'll go to the date of the next meeting. The next meeting of the committee will be held tomorrow evening at 6:15.

Adjournment. Would a member like to move to adjourn? All right. Member Rutherford. Member Rutherford will move that the meeting be adjourned. All those in favour, say aye. On videoconference? Any opposed? Hearing and seeing none, that motion has been carried.

Thank you very much. Everybody have a great evening. See you tomorrow.

[The committee adjourned at 6:49 p.m.]









