



Legislative Assembly of Alberta

The 29th Legislature
First Session

Standing Committee
on
Private Bills

Friday, November 27, 2015
9:01 a.m.

Transcript No. 29-1-2

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The 29th Legislature
First Session**

Standing Committee on Private Bills

McPherson, Karen M., Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill (ND), Chair
Connolly, Michael R.D., Calgary-Hawkwood (ND), Deputy Chair

Anderson, Shaye, Leduc-Beaumont (ND)
Anderson, Wayne, Highwood (W)
Babcock, Erin D., Stony Plain (ND)
Drever, Deborah, Calgary-Bow (Ind)
Drysdale, Wayne, Grande Prairie-Wapiti (PC)
Fraser, Rick, Calgary-South East (PC)
Hinkley, Bruce, Wetaskiwin-Camrose (ND)
Kleinstauber, Jamie, Calgary-Northern Hills (ND)
Littlewood, Jessica, Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville (ND)
McKittrick, Annie, Sherwood Park (ND)
Rosendahl, Eric, West Yellowhead (ND)
Stier, Pat, Livingstone-Macleod (W)
Strankman, Rick, Drumheller-Stettler (W)

Also in Attendance

Schmidt, Marlin, Edmonton-Gold Bar (ND)

Bill Pr. 1 Sponsor

Schmidt, Marlin, Edmonton-Gold Bar (ND)

Bill Pr. 2 Sponsor

Nielsen, Christian E., Edmonton-Decore (ND)

Bill Pr. 3 Sponsor

Shepherd, David, Edmonton-Centre (ND)

Bill Pr. 4 Sponsor

Orr, Ronald, Lacombe-Ponoka (W)

Bill Pr. 5 Sponsor

McLean, Stephanie V., Calgary-Varsity (ND)

Bill Pr. 6 Sponsor

Fildebrandt, Derek Gerhard, Strathmore-Brooks (W)

Bill Pr. 7 Sponsor

Nixon, Jason, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre (W)

Support Staff

Shannon Dean

Corinne Dacyshyn

Janet Schwegel

Senior Parliamentary Counsel/
Director of House Services

Committee Clerk

Managing Editor of *Alberta Hansard*

Standing Committee on Private Bills

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Bill Diepeveen, Chair, Board of Governors, The King's University	
Andrew Geisterfer, Counsel	
Melanie Humphreys, President, The King's University	
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9:01 a.m. Friday, November 27, 2015

[Ms McPherson in the chair]

The Chair: Good morning, everyone. I'd like to welcome everyone to the meeting.

A few reminders. The microphone consoles are operated by *Hansard*, and if you have a phone with you, if you could keep it on silent and off the desk, that would be great.

I'd ask that you introduce yourselves for the record. Do you want to start, Mr. Drysdale?

Mr. Drysdale: Sure. Wayne Drysdale, MLA, Grande Prairie-Wapiti.

Mr. Strankman: Rick Strankman, Drumheller-Stettler.

Mr. W. Anderson: Wayne Anderson, Highwood.

Mr. Stier: Pat Stier, MLA, Livingstone-Macleod.

Ms Drever: Deborah Drever, Calgary-Bow.

Ms Babcock: Erin Babcock, Stony Plain.

Mrs. Littlewood: Jessica Littlewood, MLA, Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville.

Mr. Hinkley: Bruce Hinkley, Wetaskiwin-Camrose.

Mr. Rosendahl: Eric Rosendahl, West Yellowhead.

Mr. Kleinsteuber: Jamie Kleinsteuber, MLA, Calgary-Northern Hills.

Ms McKittrick: Annie McKittrick, MLA, Sherwood Park.

Mr. S. Anderson: Shaye Anderson, Leduc-Beaumont.

Mr. Schmidt: Marlin Schmidt, Edmonton-Gold Bar, and I'm the sponsor of Bill Pr. 1.

The Chair: I'm Karen McPherson, MLA for Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill, and I'm the chair.

I was wondering if someone could move that we approve the agenda for today. Everyone has a copy?

Mr. Rosendahl: So moved.

The Chair: Moved by Mr. Rosendahl that the agenda for the November 27, 2015, meeting of the Standing Committee on Private Bills be approved as distributed. All in favour? Any objections? The motion is carried.

Can we have someone move that we approve the minutes from our last meeting?

Mrs. Littlewood: I'll move that.

The Chair: Okay. Moved by Jessica Littlewood that the minutes for the June 29, 2015, Standing Committee on Private Bills meeting be approved as distributed. All in favour? Any objections? The motion is carried.

Petitions for seven private bills are being heard today, and copies were posted on the internal committee website. Parliamentary Counsel's report and supplementary report on the petitions pursuant to Standing Order 104 were distributed to members this week.

The purpose of private bills is to allow an individual or a group of individuals to petition the Legislature for relief or remedy that is

not available in general law, and once a private bill is passed in the Legislature, it becomes as effective as any other legislation. Our procedure on private bills is governed by standing orders 89 through 106.

Just to summarize, the requirements for compliance of the petitions pursuant to the standing orders are that a petitioner advertise twice, for two consecutive weeks, in an Alberta newspaper; that a petition must be filed with the Assembly and the Lieutenant Governor; and that there must be a draft bill presented along with a filing fee of \$500. Once the petitions have been received within the time limit, they are referred to the chair of the committee, who then presents them in the Assembly. Once the petitions had been reviewed, I reported again to the Assembly.

Today we'll proceed with the hearings. The petitioners appear as well as other interested parties. They are sworn in. Following each petition committee members are provided the opportunity to ask questions of the petitioners. Once all the hearings have been completed, the committee meets to deliberate on each bill and make one of the three following recommendations: either that the bill proceed as is, that it proceed with amendments, or that it not proceed. Once we've made those determinations, I then report on behalf of the committee to the Legislature. Depending on the decision with respect to each bill, it will follow the same process as any other bill in the House; namely, proceeding through second reading, Committee of the Whole, third reading, and Royal Assent.

Are there any questions before we invite in the first petitioner? Ms Dean will call in the petitioners for Bill Pr. 1, The King's University College Amendment Act, 2015.

Mr. Connolly, if you could introduce yourself for the record, please.

Mr. Connolly: Michael Connolly, MLA for Calgary-Hawkwood and deputy chair.

The Chair: Thank you.

[Dr. Bestman, Mr. Diepeveen, Mr. Geisterfer, and Dr. Humphreys were sworn in]

The Chair: Please be seated.

Just a couple of items. The microphones are operated by *Hansard*, so you don't need to operate them. If you do have a phone with you, if you could put it on silent and make sure that it's not on the table.

I'd invite you to introduce yourselves, and we will introduce ourselves at the table as well.

Mr. Geisterfer: Good morning. My name is Andrew Geisterfer. I'm counsel for King's University. This is Bill Diepeveen. He's the chairman of the board. Dr. Melanie Humphreys is the president of the university, and this is Dr. Hank Bestman, who's the vice-president, academic.

The Chair: Thank you.

Mr. Williams: I'm David Williams, executive director of Campus Alberta with the Department of Advanced Education.

The Chair: Thank you.

My name is Karen McPherson. I am the MLA for Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill, and I am the chair of the committee.

Mr. Connolly: Good morning. Michael Connolly, MLA for Calgary-Hawkwood and deputy chair of this committee.

Mr. Drysdale: Wayne Drysdale, MLA, Grande Prairie-Wapiti.

Mr. Strankman: Rick Strankman, Drumheller-Stettler.

Mr. W. Anderson: Wayne Anderson, MLA for Highwood.

Mr. Stier: Pat Stier, MLA for Livingstone-Macleod.

Ms Drever: Deborah Drever, MLA for Calgary-Bow.

Ms Babcock: Erin Babcock, MLA for Stony Plain.

Mrs. Littlewood: Jessica Littlewood, MLA for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville.

Mr. Hinkley: Bruce Hinkley, MLA, Wetaskiwin-Camrose.

Mr. Rosendahl: Eric Rosendahl, West Yellowhead.

Mr. Kleinsteuber: Jamie Kleinsteuber, MLA, Calgary-Northern Hills.

Ms McKittrick: Annie McKittrick, MLA, Sherwood Park.

Mr. S. Anderson: Shaye Anderson, Leduc-Beaumont.

Mr. Schmidt: Marlin Schmidt, Edmonton-Gold Bar. I'm not a member of the committee, but I'm the proud sponsor of Bill Pr. 1.

Mrs. Dacyshyn: I'm Corinne Dacyshyn, the committee clerk.

Ms Dean: Good morning. Shannon Dean, Senior Parliamentary Counsel and director of House services.

9:10

The Chair: Thank you.

I would like to invite you to make your introductory remarks to the committee, please.

Mr. Geisterfer: Thank you. That will be done by Dr. Humphreys.

The Chair: Okay. Thank you.

Bill Pr. 1

The King's University College Amendment Act, 2015

Dr. Humphreys: Well, thank you very much for the opportunity to talk to you today about the petition to change our name. I'm very pleased to be able to speak to you for a few minutes and entertain any questions you may have.

King's was founded in 1979 and has been degree granting since 1987. It was from the outset designed to be a university, with all the appropriate structures. Today we have 785 students and about 5,000 alumni. It's really on their behalf that we're here today in front of you.

We offer a small-university experience. Our students are highly satisfied, by all accounts, with their education, and our graduates are highly employable and have excellent acceptance rates into graduate schools. King's is one of 26 publicly funded Campus Alberta institutions. We currently offer undergraduate degrees in 24 disciplines, and we have a two-year after-degree in education. All of our programs are reviewed by the quality council and are approved by the ministry.

A couple of other comments. We're fully integrated into the Campus Alberta transfer system, the common application system, the library consortium. We're good neighbours, in other words. Our faculty from the beginning have taught and conducted research. They're very productive. We're eligible for Tri-Council research grants and have our first Canada research chair this year, which we're very excited about. We're also members of Universities

Canada, which some of you may know as the former Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, which is the 97 university-level institutions in Canada. It's an association.

Some of the reasons for changing our name at this point. University college is a structural disadvantage to current students who need to describe university college to employers and graduate schools. This designation has formerly been used nationally for colleges that are subsidiaries of other large universities. We're independent, and that's a hard thing to describe. We're not a federated college, so they don't get their degree through another university. They get their degree through King's.

Changing our name to King's University also provides us some differentiation from King's University College at the University of Western Ontario and also the University of King's College in Halifax, both of whom support our name change. They actually just asked us not to use their font and their colours. We have good relationships with both.

Having "university" and "college" in our name has also created barriers for recruitment as it doesn't accurately describe, reflect the degree-granting status of the institution, and we have goals to grow. This year we grew 8 per cent, and that was a really significant jump for us, and we have goals to be 1,000 students by 2020. The formal name change will assist us in this goal.

The petition also modernizes the language of the act, from "servants" to "employees," for example, and allows us future name changes without amendment to the act, which is something we would appreciate.

These are our reasons for the request. We're very delighted to be here today and to entertain any questions you may have about King's University. We're quite proud of this small institution and our students and all that they accomplish for Alberta and for Canada and for the world.

The Chair: Thank you.

Is there anyone else that would like to address the committee?

Dr. Humphreys: I think we're good.

Ms Dean: Madam Chair, if I may, perhaps counsel can just run through the provisions in the bill that you're recommending to the committee.

Mr. Geisterfer: Oh. I'm sorry. I thought we had the provisions before us all. No?

Ms Dean: Well, if you wanted to summarize them for the committee.

Mr. Geisterfer: The provisions, merely in general terms, just delete the word "college" from the name throughout the act as it stands and then just modernize the language.

I'm really sorry, but my perception is that this is a relatively straightforward proposal in terms of what the provisions are, if that's okay.

Ms Dean: Sure. I just wanted to comment. There is a provision in the bill in connection with: if you contemplate any future changes of name. Perhaps you would like to comment on that.

Mr. Geisterfer: Actually, I'll have Dr. Humphreys comment.

Dr. Humphreys: Yes. As you may know, there are five independent universities in Alberta, and two of those universities were able to accomplish their name change fairly quickly. When the minister gave permission a little over a year ago, St. Mary's University college already had the provision in their act that they

could change their name without going through a private bill. So we've modelled the wording of that change off their private act. It just allowed them to complete the name change without further additions to the act.

The Chair: Mr. Williams, do you have anything to add?

Mr. Williams: No, other than to say that from the opinion of the department we're okay with the bill and the proposed changes and that our comments have already been incorporated by Parliamentary Counsel.

The Chair: Thank you very much.

Are there any questions for the petitioners? No? Okay.

Ms Dean: I think all committee members are aware that there were some very minor suggestions for wording changes to the bill that came from ministry officials this week, and I've been working with them to put together an amendment. Counsel for the petitioner has reviewed the amendment and doesn't have any concerns, and we will bring forward that amendment for your review on Monday during deliberations.

Dr. Humphreys: Thank you.

The Chair: Just to let you know, you'll be advised as to the disposition of your bill following the deliberations of the committee, which will take place on Monday.

This concludes the hearing for Bill Pr. 1. Thank you very much.

Mr. Geisterfer: Thank you.

Dr. Humphreys: Thank you very much.

9:20

The Chair: Members, we are waiting on counsel for the second petitioner. If you could stay fairly close by so that when they arrive, we are able to get back to what we're doing. Thanks.

Our next petitioner is for Bill Pr. 4, Canadian University College Amendment Act, 2015.

[Mr. Chipeur and Dr. Haynal were sworn in]

The Chair: Thank you. Please have a seat. Welcome. Just to let you know, the microphones are operated by *Hansard*, so you don't need to touch them at all; they'll come on when needed.

The meeting is recorded, and the audio is being streamed live on the Internet. I'm sure we have millions of listeners right now.

Also, I'd like to let you know that for any phones that you may have, if you could put them on silent and make sure that they're not on the table, that would help. It may interfere with the microphones.

At this time I would like to take the opportunity for us to introduce ourselves, and I'll start with Ms Dean.

Ms Dean: Good morning. Shannon Dean, Senior Parliamentary Counsel and director of House services.

Mr. Connolly: Michael Connolly, MLA for Calgary-Hawkwood and deputy chair of this committee.

Mr. Drysdale: Wayne Drysdale, MLA, Grande Prairie-Wapiti.

Mr. Strankman: Rick Strankman, MLA, Drumheller-Stettler.

Mr. W. Anderson: Wayne Anderson, MLA for Highwood.

Mr. Stier: Hi. Pat Stier, MLA for Livingstone-Macleod.

Ms Drever: Deborah Drever, MLA for Calgary-Bow.

Ms Babcock: Erin Babcock, Stony Plain.

Mrs. Littlewood: Jessica Littlewood, MLA for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville.

Mr. Hinkley: Good morning. My name is Bruce Hinkley. I am the MLA for Wetaskiwin-Camrose.

Mr. Rosendahl: Good morning. Eric Rosendahl, MLA for West Yellowhead.

Mr. Kleinsteuber: Good morning. Jamie Kleinsteuber, MLA, Calgary-Northern Hills.

Ms McKittrick: Annie McKittrick, MLA, Sherwood Park.

Mr. S. Anderson: Shaye Anderson from Leduc-Beaumont.

Mrs. Dacyshyn: Corinne Dacyshyn, committee clerk.

The Chair: I'm Karen McPherson. I'm the MLA for Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill as well as chair of this committee.

If you could take a moment to introduce yourselves, please.

Dr. Haynal: I'm Mark Haynal. I live in Lacombe, where Burman University is located.

Mr. Chipeur: I'm Gerry Chipeur. I'm an alumnus of Burman University in the high school division, and I now live in Calgary.

Mr. Williams: David Williams, executive director of Campus Alberta, with Advanced Education.

The Chair: Thank you very much.

At this time I'd like to invite the petitioners to make their submissions to the committee, please.

Bill Pr. 4

Canadian University College Amendment Act, 2015

Mr. Chipeur: You have before you a bill, Bill Pr. 4, sponsored by the MLA for Lacombe-Ponoka, that requests the change of name from Canadian University College to Burman University. This is part of an evolution of this particular advanced educational institution over the last 100 years from a high school, a technical institute, if you will, through junior college, then college, then a university college, and now, under the policies of the government of Alberta, a university.

I know that the government of Alberta will have someone address the Campus Alberta issue, so I'm not going to get into that. But I wanted to let you know that Burman University is excited about this development, and as an alumnus of the university it is with great pride that I sit here today asking you to recognize this change of name through a special act of the Legislature to recognize the continued evolution of this advanced educational institution here in Alberta, providing advanced education degrees in a number of areas.

I'd like to turn the time over now to the president to just give you a short introduction to the university and the great work they're doing in central Alberta.

Dr. Haynal: Thank you very much for this opportunity. Burman University is one of Alberta's oldest institutions, established in 1907, shortly after the province of Alberta came into existence. It was begun in Leduc, and my paternal grandfather went to that

particular institution. After two years in Leduc it moved down to just outside Lacombe and has operated there since. It was also the institution my mother went to. She remembers it as Canadian junior college.

9:30

Over the years it has had a really powerful influence in training young men and women, most of them from central Alberta, who have gone out and served their communities in all sorts of ways. We're very proud of what our alumni have accomplished.

We have reached the point now where we are granting bachelor's degrees. We're in our 23rd year of having that authorization to grant bachelor's degrees, and we grant them now in around 30 different areas and different flavours of those degrees. We're very pleased that each of our degree programs has gone through the same approval process that has been asked of other postsecondary institutions here in Alberta. We want to be a quality institution, and we have demonstrated that over the years.

We're a small institution. We only have just under 500 students in the university section, but it allows us to do unique things with our students. It allows them to develop these wonderful, lifelong friendships and mentor relationships with their professors. It allows them to network, to develop friendships. We're very proud to be a part of Campus Alberta and to provide sort of this unique opportunity for young men and women in central Alberta who want this type of an education.

The Chair: Thank you.

Is there anyone else that wishes to address the committee on this matter?

Mr. Williams: The Department of Advanced Education has no concerns with the proposed wording of the bill.

The Chair: Thank you very much.

Excellent. Well, thank you for your submissions and your attendance here today. We have a lovely parting gift. No. I'm just kidding. We'll contact you following deliberations.

The committee will now proceed to the next petitioner.

Thank you very much.

Dr. Haynal: Thank you.

The Chair: We will now take a recess until 10:15.

[The committee adjourned from 9:32 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.]

The Chair: I'd like to call the meeting back to order, please.

Welcome. Thank you for joining us here today. I'd like to advise you that you do not need to operate the microphones. They are operated by *Hansard*, and we are being recorded and live streamed on the Internet.

I'd like to take this opportunity for the members to introduce themselves. Could you start, please, Ms Dean?

Ms Dean: Good morning. Shannon Dean, Senior Parliamentary Counsel and director of House services.

Mr. Connolly: Good morning. I'm Michael Connolly, MLA for Calgary-Hawkwood and deputy chair of this committee.

Mr. Drysdale: Wayne Drysdale, MLA, Grande Prairie-Wapiti.

Mr. Strankman: And still good morning. Rick Strankman, Drumheller-Stettler.

Mr. W. Anderson: Good morning. Wayne Anderson, MLA for Highwood.

Mr. Stier: Pat Stier, MLA for Livingstone-Macleod.

Ms Drever: Deborah Drever, MLA for Calgary-Bow.

Ms Babcock: Erin Babcock, MLA for Stony Plain.

Mrs. Littlewood: Jessica Littlewood, MLA for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville.

Mr. Hinkley: Bruce Hinkley, MLA, Wetaskiwin-Camrose.

Mr. Rosendahl: Eric Rosendahl, MLA, West Yellowhead.

Mr. Kleinsteuber: Good morning. Jamie Kleinsteuber, MLA, Calgary-Northern Hills.

Ms McKittrick: Hello. Annie McKittrick, MLA, Sherwood Park.

Mr. S. Anderson: I'm Shaye Anderson. I'm from Leduc-Beaumont.

Mrs. Dacyshyn: Corinne Dacyshyn, committee clerk.

The Chair: I'm Karen McPherson. I'm the MLA for Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill as well as the chair.

If you could take this time to please introduce yourselves to the committee.

Dr. Krispin: Gerald Krispin. I'm president and vice-chancellor, Concordia university of Edmonton.

Mr. Feth: I'm Kevin Feth. I'm legal counsel to Concordia.

Mr. Williams: David Williams, executive director of Campus Alberta with the Department of Advanced Education.

The Chair: Thank you.

Just one more thing. If you do have a phone with you, if you could turn it to silent and make sure that it's not on the table because it may interfere with the microphones. Thanks.

At this time I'd like to invite you to please address the committee with your comments.

[Mr. Feth and Dr. Krispin were sworn in]

Bill Pr. 5

Concordia University College of Alberta Amendment Act, 2015

Dr. Krispin: This change that has been requested to our act is predicated on the permission given us by the former Premier and minister of innovation and advanced education, Dave Hancock, to allow us to use the name "University." As you've read in the material, in consultation with both the University of Alberta and Concordia University in Montreal, we utilized the name Concordia University of Edmonton, trademarked that, and have presented it.

The other changes within the legislation. Concordia has evolved since 1995 and certainly since 1978. What we have placed into the changes reflects the current state of Concordia more accurately, and that's why we wanted it reflected in the legislation.

The Chair: Thank you. Do you have any more comments? No? Okay.

Are there any other comments?

Mr. Williams: The Department of Advanced Education is supportive of the name change. I've provided specific comments on technical details in the legislation to Parliamentary Counsel, and I understand that they've been incorporated, so we're comfortable with the process moving forward.

The Chair: Okay. Great. Thank you.

Dr. Krispin: There is a small amendment that was suggested by the – was it by Shannon? It basically was a technical point in the context of the PSLA, how it was phrased. It's not a substantive change, just a technicality that we thought would be useful to include, to bring our act in line with the PSLA at that particular point.

The Chair: Okay.

Ms Dean.

Ms Dean: Thank you, Madam Chair. As with Bill Pr. 1, involving King's University, similar changes were recommended from the ministry officials, so we have prepared in consultation with petitioner's counsel and the department a proposed amendment for the committee to consider during its deliberations on Monday.

The Chair: Thank you.

Are there any questions from any committee members at this time? Mr. Kleinsteuber.

Mr. Kleinsteuber: Hi there. We noticed that there had been a report filed previously about a bit of a conflict with the name, back in 1995, with Concordia University of Montreal. Is there still anything outstanding there, or has that been resolved?

Dr. Krispin: Nothing whatsoever. Our counsel and Concordia's counsel agreed on this particular name. They approved the trademarking that we have, and they are very comfortable. As a bit of an aside, we had trademarked two names, Concordia University, Edmonton; and Concordia University of Edmonton. They didn't like the Concordia University, Edmonton because they feared that Montreal might be seen as a subsidiary of Concordia in Edmonton, which is rather strange. So we said that we would rescind that trademark and stay with the one that they were comfortable with. Everything is fine between the two institutions.

Mr. Kleinsteuber: Okay. Good to know. Thank you.

The Chair: I have a question. I understand from what you were saying in your remarks that the institution was incorporated in 1978. Is that correct, or was it before that?

Dr. Krispin: Well, the first legislative act is from 1978. The institution has existed since 1921 as part of the Edmonton community but wasn't at that time – long ago the Missouri synod had an outpost in this province. Well, there are two kinds of Lutherans in Alberta, us and them: us German Lutherans and them Scandinavian Lutherans. So them Scandinavian Lutherans are in Camrose, and us German Lutherans are on this side of the river, and we go all the way up to Wetaskiwin and Bruderheim and off to Barrhead and the like. Anyway, they established this institution on the north side of the river. It's had a long history, but it was deemed necessary or they felt they needed to incorporate Concordia properly by legislative act back in 1978.

The Chair: Great. That was a wonderful answer. Thank you very much.

Is there anyone else that would like to ask questions at this point?

No. I have another question for you, then. What sort of degrees do you grant at this time?

Dr. Krispin: We grant undergraduate degrees in arts, science, and management and after degrees in education and environmental health. For example, two-thirds of the public health inspectors of this province are Concordia graduates. We have two master's degrees in information systems, one in information systems security management and the other in assurance management, to which I, coming from the arts, say: what is that exactly? You might ask the same thing. It seems to be a very popular, very sought-after program. We have many international students coming for that one. Then we also have a master of arts in Biblical and Christian studies.

The Chair: Actually, in terms of the information systems programs, the degrees, I am quite well versed, and those are wonderful things to have. We really need them in our society. I commend you for focusing on that area.

Dr. Krispin: Yeah. It's one of the few that exists in Canada.

The Chair: Yeah. That's actually pretty specialized. Awesome. That's great.

I think at this time we're going to take a short recess, until 10:45. If you could all come back at that time, please.

[The committee adjourned from 10:24 a.m. to 10:46 a.m.]

The Chair: I would like to call the meeting to order, please.

[Ms Odishaw and Ms Pelletier were sworn in]

The Chair: Please have a seat. Welcome.

I'd like to let you know that the microphones that are in front of you are operated by *Hansard* – you don't need to do anything to make them work; they will come on when they need to – and that we're being recorded by *Hansard* and the audio is being streamed on the Internet.

Also, if you have a phone with you, if you could put it to silent, please, and make sure that it's not on the table so that it doesn't interfere with the sound system.

At this time I'd like to take the opportunity for members to introduce themselves. Ms Dean, if you could start, please.

Ms Dean: Good morning. I'm Shannon Dean, Senior Parliamentary Counsel and director of House services.

Mr. Connolly: Hello. Michael Connolly, MLA for Calgary-Hawkwood and deputy chair of this committee.

Mr. Drysdale: Wayne Drysdale, MLA, Grande Prairie-Wapiti.

Mr. Strankman: Good morning. Rick Strankman, MLA, Drumheller-Stettler.

Mr. W. Anderson: Good morning. Wayne Anderson, MLA for Highwood.

Mr. Stier: Hi. Pat Stier, MLA for Livingstone-Macleod.

Ms Drever: Hello. Deborah Drever, MLA for Calgary-Bow.

Ms Babcock: Erin Babcock, MLA for Stony Plain.

Mrs. Littlewood: Hello. Jessica Littlewood, MLA for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville.

Mr. Hinkley: Bruce Hinkley, MLA, Wetaskiwin-Camrose.

Mr. Rosendahl: Good morning. Eric Rosendahl, MLA, West Yellowhead.

Mr. Kleinsteuber: Good morning. Jamie Kleinsteuber, MLA for Calgary-Northern Hills.

Ms McKittrick: Hello. Annie McKittrick, Sherwood Park.

Mr. S. Anderson: I'm Shaye Anderson for Leduc-Beaumont.

Mrs. Dacyshyn: Corinne Dacyshyn, committee clerk.

The Chair: My name is Karen McPherson. I'm the MLA for Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill, and I'm the chair of this meeting.

Okay. At this time I'd ask you to please, if you would, present your submission to us.

Ms Odishaw: Yes. I'm not sure whether I need to introduce myself or not.

The Chair: Oh, I'm so sorry. That is an excellent point. Would you please introduce yourselves.

Bill Pr. 2

Bethesda Bible College Amendment Act, 2015

Ms Odishaw: My name is Carla Odishaw. I am counsel for Christcity Church. To my right is Mona Pelletier. She is a staff member and has active involvement with Christcity Church and particularly with the college, that is the subject matter of this petition.

The petition before you is the Bethesda Bible College Amendment Act, 2015. Just by way of background, in 1996 a private member's bill was passed under which the Bethesda Bible College was formed. It has operated through the Bethesda church. In 2009 the church changed its name, through the Business Corporations Act, to Christcity Church Ltd. The college is continuing to operate out of and is an extension of that church.

The amendments that we are seeking are quite simple. We are simply seeking to change the act so that it is now named the Christcity Theological Institute Act. Also, where there are references to Bethesda Bible College, those are now being changed so that it's a reference to Christcity Church.

I think the only other amendments are with respect to sections 2 and 8 of the current act, that are simply allowing the members to be elected pursuant to the bylaws rather than specifically naming individuals in the act itself.

Christcity Church is very excited and is looking forward to continuing their tradition of theological training at their new church, at its new location.

Those are basically the main reasons for the amendment. Unless there are any questions, that would be all of our submissions.

The Chair: Thank you very much.

At this time are there any members that have any questions for the petitioners?

Ms McKittrick: Well, I just have a question. I'm just wondering why the name "theological institute" and what kind of courses you offer and at what level.

Ms Pelletier: Okay. I'll answer that. We are now offering courses that are more at a seminary level. It's an off-campus institution, so our texts that we use are chosen particularly at a theological level. One of the reasons that it's being called institute and not college is because we had another program at the church with the

abbreviations CTC. We wanted this to be brand new, therefore CTI, Christcity Theological Institute. It differentiates it there.

Ms McKittrick: I was just wondering. Are you, then, accredited as a seminary through some of the theological accreditation organizations?

Ms Pelletier: No, not as a seminary, just what we have here through Bethesda. With the name change of Bethesda church to Christcity, we're simply wanting to change what we had before with the new name.

Ms McKittrick: So you're not offering a master's in divinity or theology?

Ms Pelletier: No, we're not.

Ms McKittrick: You're just offering seminary types of courses but are not accredited?

Ms Pelletier: Right. Just at a higher level.

Ms McKittrick: Okay.

Ms Pelletier: Rather than the practical teaching of before – it was more of a discipleship program – this is more an advanced Biblical training.

The Chair: Thank you.

Is there anyone else that has any questions? No? Okay.

Well, I want to thank you for your submissions and your attendance today. We'll contact you following deliberations.

The committee will now proceed to the next petitioner. Thank you for coming in.

Ms Odishaw: Thank you very much.

The Chair: Can I get someone to make a motion to adjourn?

Mr. Connolly: I'll make a motion to adjourn until 12:30 p.m.

The Chair: Okay. So lunch is in the Canadian Shield Room at 11:30 a.m., and I believe that there's a prayer service as well in the Capital View Room at noon if you're interested.

Thank you.

[The committee adjourned at 10:53 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.]

The Chair: I'd like to call the meeting to order. I believe Ms Dean is bringing the petitioners in right now.

[Sister Filthaut and Mr. Mah were sworn in]

The Chair: Welcome. Thank you for joining us.

I'd just like to let you know that the microphones that you see in front of us are being operated by *Hansard*. You don't need to do anything to make them work. They will come on when you are speaking. Also, the audio portion of our meeting is being streamed on the Internet, so your fans are out there. I'd also like to let you know that if you have a cellphone with you, if you could turn it to silent and just make sure that it's not on the table so that it doesn't interfere with the microphones.

At this time I'd like the members to introduce themselves, and I'd start with Ms Dean.

Ms Dean: Good afternoon. My name is Shannon Dean. I'm Senior Parliamentary Counsel and director of House services.

Mr. Connolly: I'm Michael Connolly, MLA for Calgary-Hawkwood and deputy chair of this committee.

Mr. Drysdale: Wayne Drysdale, MLA for Grande Prairie-Wapiti.

Mr. W. Anderson: Good afternoon. Wayne Anderson, MLA for Highwood.

Mr. Stier: Hi. Pat Stier, MLA for Livingstone-Macleod.

Ms Drever: Hello. I'm Deborah Drever, MLA for Calgary-Bow.

Ms Babcock: Erin Babcock, Stony Plain.

Mrs. Littlewood: Jessica Littlewood, MLA, Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville.

Mr. Rosendahl: Good afternoon. Eric Rosendahl, MLA, West Yellowhead.

Mr. Kleinsteuber: Good afternoon. Jamie Kleinsteuber, Calgary-Northern Hills.

Ms McKittrick: Hello. Annie McKittrick, Sherwood Park.

Mr. S. Anderson: I'm Shaye Anderson, Leduc-Beaumont.

Mrs. Dacyshyn: Corinne Dacyshyn, committee clerk.

The Chair: My name is Karen McPherson. I'm the MLA for Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill, and I'm the chair of the Private Bills Committee.

If you could take a moment, please, and introduce yourselves.

Mr. Mah: Good afternoon, Madam Chair and members of the panel. My name is John Mah. I'm with CBM Lawyers, and I'm counsel for the Rosary Hall.

Sister Filthaut: Good afternoon. I'm Sister Jeannette Filthaut, a Sister of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul.

The Chair: Thank you very much.

At this time I would invite you to please address the committee with your petition.

Bill Pr. 3

Rosary Hall, Edmonton Repeal Act

Mr. Mah: Thank you very much, Madam Chair. The reason that we're here today is to request two things. First of all, the repeal of An Act to incorporate Rosary Hall, Edmonton, which was passed by statute in 1961. As well, we'd like to request the dissolution of the corporate entity Rosary Hall, Edmonton. The reason for this is that the Rosary Hall, that was operated for many years, from about 1913 in Edmonton, has ceased operation.

The reason that it ceased operation was that the numbers of people that the sisters had to run this operation basically were down to about three sisters, and they couldn't maintain the operation. At the time that it ceased operation, though, it had about 12 or 15 ladies who lived there, and they were there as a home for women with high mental needs. It was really serving the community. So that was the reason why the hall closed. As of October 2013 there were no assets or liabilities in the corporation, and I believe that you have in front of you a statutory declaration from the sisters' treasurer indicating that.

Now, if there are any questions you'd like to address in relation to perhaps the operations or the history of Rosary Hall, I have Sister

Jeannette here with me as well, who would be pleased to answer those. She's very familiar with that.

The Chair: Thank you very much.

I'm wondering at this time if there is anyone else that wishes to address the committee. It doesn't look like there's anyone else. Okay.

At this time are there any committee members that have any questions for the petitioners? Ms McKittrick.

Ms McKittrick: Yeah. We understand that you have submitted documents confirming that you are no longer operating and that there are no longer any assets and that Rosary Hall doesn't have any liabilities. Could you confirm that for us?

Mr. Mah: Yes, I can confirm that. Rosary Hall has no assets or liabilities at this present time.

The Chair: Thank you.

Do you have any other questions?

Ms McKittrick: Just for the record and because Sister Jeannette is here, I am wondering: what happened to the assets of Rosary Hall?

Sister Filthaut: Those would have gone to our mother house in Kingston, Ontario, and they would be put to our other needs that we address as a community.

The Chair: I understand from what you were saying today that you were serving a number of people. Where are they seeking services now?

Sister Filthaut: When we looked at closing Rosary Hall in 2012, we at that time were hoping that Alberta Health was going to be able to take over Rosary Hall and that the women who had high mental needs would be able to stay there because it was their home. A lot of that was happening, and then we got the word that it couldn't. What I did, because I was teaching English as a second language at Changing Together: A Centre for Immigrant Women, was that I informed them right away. I said: we're going to have to find spaces for the women who've been living there. What our sisters did then was to find homes for them – some of them are in Ottewell centre and other locations around the city – trying as much as we could to keep them together because they were a family. I mean, I loved going over there. I didn't live there.

Changing Together was looking at getting it, and what happened was that one of the ladies who helped with the funding of that took it over herself. It is still being used for its original purpose in the sense that it is a boarding house for immigrant women. Changing Together didn't get it. I'm teaching over in the old McCauley school right now. That's where we are. We did not have the women in our own community to continue to do the work, so we had to let that go. I'm one of three left here in Alberta.

The Chair: Have you been in Alberta for quite some time, then?

Sister Filthaut: I was just telling Mr. Mah that this is the longest I've been in any one place. This is home, Edmonton. I'm 10 years in Edmonton now.

The Chair: Thank you very much.

Does anyone else have any questions?

Ms McKittrick: I just wanted to thank you for the work that the sisters have done with those high-risk groups. I'm glad that you

were able to find a solution to at least continue helping immigrant women. I just wanted to thank you for that.

Sister Filthaut: Thank you.

12:40

The Chair: Well, thank you for your submission and for coming here today. We'll contact you following the deliberations.

Now the committee will proceed to the next petitioner.

Sister Filthaut: Thank you.

Mr. Mah: Thank you.

The Chair: Thanks.

Just to let you know, we're waiting on one more person from I believe it's Service Alberta. They're just checking on their attendance right now, but we should be under way again shortly.

[Mr. J. Anderson and Ms Chenier were sworn in]

The Chair: Hello and welcome. I just wanted to advise you that the microphones that you see in front of you are operated by *Hansard*. You don't need to take any action in order to make it work. Also, we are being streamed live on the Internet, so, yeah, it's pretty fancy. If you have a phone with you, if you could turn it to silent, please, and we ask that you don't keep them on the table just so that they don't interfere with the microphones.

At this time I'd like the members to introduce themselves for the petitioners.

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Mr. Drysdale: Wayne Drysdale, MLA for Grande Prairie-Wapiti.

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Mr. Stier: Hi. Pat Stier, MLA for Livingstone-Macleod.

Ms Babcock: Erin Babcock, Stony Plain.

Mr. Hinkley: Bruce Hinkley, Wetaskiwin-Camrose.

Mr. Rosendahl: Good afternoon. Eric Rosendahl, MLA, West Yellowhead.

Mr. Kleinsteuber: Good afternoon. Jamie Kleinsteuber, Calgary-Northern Hills.

Ms McKittrick: Annie McKittrick, Sherwood Park.

Mr. S. Anderson: I'm Shaye Anderson, Leduc-Beaumont.

Mrs. Dacyshyn: Corinne Dacyshyn, committee clerk.

The Chair: My name is Karen McPherson. I'm the MLA for Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill, and I am the chair of the Private Bills Committee.

At this time I'd like you to please introduce yourselves to the members.

Ms Chenier: Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Yvonne Chenier, and I'm a lawyer with the firm of Drache Aptowitz LLP in Calgary.

Mr. J. Anderson: My name is Jeff Anderson. I'm president of the Evangelical Covenant Church of Canada.

Mr. Sharpe: I'm Jean-Paul Sharpe. I'm with Alberta Justice. I'm legal counsel to Service Alberta, where the corporate registry is.

The Chair: Thank you very much.

I would like to invite you as the petitioners to please speak about your petition.

Bill Pr. 6

Covenant Bible College Amendment Act, 2015

Ms Chenier: Thank you, Madam Chair. Just a few remarks about the history of the bill. It might sound like a little bit of a story. The Covenant Bible College is an organization that was run by the Evangelical Covenant Church of Canada, where my client is from. We'll call it the ECCC or the E triple-C. This Covenant Bible College originated in Saskatchewan, where it became a registered charity in 1967. Then it wanted to relocate to the province of Alberta. As many organizations did and still do, it prayed to the Alberta Legislature, and with the consent of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta a bill was created to create the Covenant Bible College. That was chapter 40 of the statute that was assented to in 1996.

Well, the college operated over the years in Alberta until recently when it decided that it needed to restructure. Counsel for the E triple-C, who was Aikins, MacAulay & Thorvaldson in Manitoba, contacted me as a lawyer practising in the province of Alberta. They had been retained by the E triple-C, who wanted to restructure the college in some way across Canada, and they'd picked the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, which was a new piece of legislation that had been enacted by the federal government, as the perfect legislation that they wanted to be continued under.

However, it soon became obvious to me, as I did my research on the college and I found out that they had been created by this special act of the Legislative Assembly, that there was nothing in the act that would allow them to continue into the Canadian jurisdiction under the new Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act because that act won't allow any organization to continue into the act unless the legislation that it was created under, in this case the Alberta bill, allowed it. So the solution that I presented was to have the bill amended – and the amendments are now in front of you in the form of Bill Pr. 6 – to change the legislation to allow the Covenant Bible College to continue out of Alberta into the Canadian jurisdiction under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, where it wants to reside.

In the process of drafting the bill and looking at the name, we ran across another issue. That is why it is suggested that the name be changed from Covenant Bible College to the Trellis Foundation, and my colleague Jean-Paul is here to talk about that, the potential name change issue. It turns out that since 1996, when the original bill created the college, another intervening Covenant Bible College came in and registered under the Societies Act of Alberta, and it became another corporate entity in Alberta. So if we changed the legislation to allow the Covenant Bible College to become a corporation that could continue out, the Alberta corporate registry, Service Alberta would end up having two identically named colleges. All that worked out well because the ECCC had decided already that they would like to use a more modern name and call themselves the Trellis Foundation. That was also added to the act. So they'll leave Alberta as the Trellis Foundation if the amendments to the bill pass.

Once the bill does get passed, then the Covenant Bible College becomes the Trellis Foundation in Alberta, and then it will be allowed to continue into any other jurisdiction that allows continuances such as the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, the federal statute. If it does become a Canada not-for-profit corporation, it can still do business in Alberta and carry on in Alberta if it does register again in Alberta, and that would be the subject of something after the legislation is passed.

12:50

In summary, the Covenant Bible College wants to change its name in Alberta to the Trellis Foundation. It wants to be able to restructure and continue out of the province into the federal Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act. It cannot do so under the current legislation that created it, so the amendments that will allow it to so continue are the subject of all of the amendments that you have in front of you in this bill.

Thank you.

The Chair: Thank you.

Is there anyone else that wishes to address the committee on this? Mr. Sharpe, can we have your comments, please?

Mr. Sharpe: Very briefly, Service Alberta fully supports this bill. Private acts are quite short, and they don't have all the options that would be available, say, if you were under the Business Corporations Act. There isn't this option in the private act to continue out, which is pretty typical of private acts, that they would not have that option in them. We fully support this bill. They need it to do what they want. This type of continuance out is a normal kind of thing that a corporate entity would do from time to time. As mentioned, they're changing their name, which really is required for our corporate registry; otherwise, there would be some confusion. They're going to be registered in the corporate registry, which is kind of necessary for us to help them with the continuance out. The continuance out provisions are fairly standard, very comparable to what's in the Business Corporations Act and other legislation. Service Alberta fully supports this bill.

The Chair: Thank you.

It sounds like what you really need is a two-stage approach to get to where you want to be, and this is the first step along the way. Would that be a fair assessment?

Ms Chenier: Yes. Correct.

The Chair: Is this going to at some point involve a physical relocation of your entity as well?

Ms Chenier: I'll ask my client to answer that question.

Mr. J. Anderson: The physical facility of the Bible college was actually already sold.

The Chair: Oh. Okay.

Mr. J. Anderson: So we've been working without a physical location.

The Chair: Okay. Thanks.

Are there any other members of the committee that have questions that they would like to ask?

Ms McKittrick: I'm just wondering. With the name change will you still be operating a Bible college, then?

Mr. J. Anderson: No. Essentially, the goal of the Bible college – way back in its history it was a place where pastors and missionaries were trained. Over time it turned into a one-year school of discipleship for predominantly 18- to 20-year-olds. What the Trellis Foundation is doing is continuing the goal of helping people to be followers of Christ, but it's doing it, really, presenting far more options. It's looking at ways that we can help local churches. It's looking at ways that we can support individuals as they pursue a path that falls in line with the goals of the Bible college.

Ms McKittrick: Thank you.

The Chair: Thank you.

Are there any other questions at this time? No?

Well, thank you for your submission and your attendance here today. We'll contact you following our deliberations. Thank you very much.

The committee will now proceed with the next petitioner.

[The committee adjourned from 12:54 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.]

The Chair: I'd like to call the meeting back to order.

Ms Dean has just gone out to bring the next petitioners in.

[Mr. Reich and Mr. Stone were sworn in]

The Chair: Please feel free to take a seat. Welcome. Thank you for coming today. I just want to let you know that you don't need to operate the microphones. They're being operated by *Hansard*, so when you speak, they'll be turned on.

Today's proceedings are being recorded by *Hansard* and being streamed live on the Internet.

If you do have a mobile phone with you, if you could turn it to silent and keep it off the table so that it doesn't interfere with the microphone system.

At this time I'd like to have the members introduce themselves, starting with Ms Dean.

Ms Dean: Good afternoon. I'm Shannon Dean, Senior Parliamentary Counsel and director of House services.

Mr. Connolly: Hello. I'm Michael Connolly, MLA for Calgary-Hawkwood and deputy chair of this committee.

Mr. Drysdale: Wayne Drysdale, MLA for Grande Prairie-Wapiti.

Mr. Strankman: Good afternoon. Rick Strankman, Drumheller-Stettler.

Mr. W. Anderson: Good afternoon. Wayne Anderson, MLA for Highwood.

Mr. Stier: Hi. Pat Stier, MLA, Livingstone-Macleod.

Ms Drever: Good Afternoon. Deborah Drever from Calgary-Bow.

Ms Babcock: Erin Babcock, Stony Plain.

Mrs. Littlewood: Jessica Littlewood, MLA, Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville.

Mr. Hinkley: Bruce Hinkley, Wetaskiwin-Camrose.

Mr. Rosendahl: Good afternoon. Eric Rosendahl, MLA, West Yellowhead.

Mr. Kleinsteuber: Hi there. I'm Jamie Kleinsteuber, MLA, Calgary-Northern Hills.

Ms McKittrick: Annie McKittrick, MLA, Sherwood Park.

Mr. S. Anderson: I'm Shaye Anderson from Leduc-Beaumont.

The Chair: I'm Karen McPherson. I'm the MLA for Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill, and I am the chair of the Private Bills Committee.

Mrs. Dacyshyn: I'm Corinne Dacyshyn, the committee clerk. Thanks.

The Chair: If you could take a moment, please, and introduce yourselves to the committee.

Mr. Stone: I'm Glenn Stone. I'm the business administrator at Living Faith Bible College.

Mr. Reich: And I'm Paul Reich. I'm the president of Living Faith Bible College.

The Chair: Thank you very much.

At this time I'd invite you to please make your remarks to the committee.

Bill Pr. 7

Living Faith Bible College Amendment Act, 2015

Mr. Reich: Okay. Thank you very much for meeting with us. We appreciate it. I'll just share a little bit of our history. Living Faith Evangelistic Association was incorporated in Alberta in 1971, so next year will be our 45th anniversary. Immediately that very year a Bible college under the ministry of Living Faith Evangelistic Association began, in the fall of 1971, and has since that time been training pastors and youth pastors and missionaries in a variety of Christian ministries, that are serving both in Canada and the U.S. and around the world.

We are the training centre for the Fellowship of Christian Assemblies. It's not a large denomination – there are about 200 churches in Canada and the U.S. – but we are highly interdenominational and have had probably two dozen other denominations represented in our student body. So that's been a broad part of it. We're here to petition a name change to Clearwater college, and there are a number of reasons for that.

First of all, we're located in Clearwater county, and the Clearwater River borders our property, so it's a good location identification for us.

We feel that the name would also have broader denominational appeal. In some circles some misunderstand the name Living Faith to be part of the word-faith prosperity movement, and we've never been that before. Because of that misunderstanding, we're thinking a good name change would be helpful.

The third thing is that the name Clearwater college would give us some flexibility because we could add various monikers on the end. It could be the Clearwater college of Biblical studies, which would be very true for who we are today, and that's probably what we will do to promote it. If we were to choose Clearwater college of Christian ministries or Christian leadership or Clearwater college of missions, we wouldn't have to change the name again; we could still stay Clearwater college. So that's one of the reasons for that.

A fourth reason is that sometimes some of our international students, especially from countries that have been non-Christian countries, have been discriminated against. Though Revenue Canada does not discriminate against people on the basis of culture or race or religion, sometimes they have nationals working for them, and we have had students turned down because, "You

shouldn't be going to a Bible college. We're not a Christian nation. We're a Hindu country," or something like that. So not having "Bible" directly in the name would be helpful to us for international students or for when our students have gone into countries that are a little more hostile to Christianity, when they go in for humanitarian purposes or things like that. That's one of the reasons we're wanting to do it that way.

Fifth, there are some wonderful Biblical, spiritual implications for the name Clearwater as well, and there are a number of verses I could quote you that would support that.

Those are five of the reasons why we are looking at a name change. We underwent a process, actually, over several years where we went through our board, talked to our constituency, went through our national leaders of our fellowship, also met with alumni in various pockets across Canada and where that allowed, and this was the name that was approved and come up with, that went through our association. So this is what our petition is.

Thank you for hearing us.

The Chair: Thank you very much.

Are there any committee members that have any questions?

Ms McKittrick: I was just wondering. Is your Bible college accredited with any of the theological associations?

Mr. Reich: We are not at this time. We do have articulation agreements with a number of accredited Bible colleges, and our students have been accepted into quite a few accredited seminaries right out of our bachelor's program. We haven't pursued accreditation primarily on the grounds of the number of general education courses we would have to offer. We just feel like we can't afford that in our program. We focus more on Bible theology and ministry preparation. Not that general educations are bad. I've taken a lot myself through the years. But we just feel that a priority – a pastoral counselling course has about 80 per cent take-home whereas a general psychology course may have 5 per cent take-home for practical application for our students.

We do offer some general education, but they require at least a third of your program to be general education. We haven't been prepared to move there yet. We've talked about it lots, but we just haven't been prepared to move there yet.

Ms McKittrick: Thank you.

The Chair: How many students do you have?

Mr. Reich: Historically we've never been a large college. Our highest numbers have been in the 90s; our average is in the 40s. We've had more challenging years these last years, so we're wanting to get our numbers back up. We're hoping that the name change will give us a broader denominational appeal for that.

The Chair: Okay. Are there any other questions from members?

Mr. Rosendahl: I've got one. In just looking at the name itself, I automatically think of Clearwater, B.C. Is this an issue at all?

Mr. Reich: Boy. We did do a nuanced . . .

The Chair: Name search?

Mr. Reich: Yeah, a search for that. I do know that Clearwater, B.C., is known, but I don't think it would be a problem for us. There are a lot of Clearwater names for businesses.

Mr. Rosendahl: Okay.

Mr. Reich: But we would be the only Clearwater college or any educational institute in Canada that has the name Clearwater. There is a Clearwater Christian College in Florida, and that's the only educational institution that we could find that had the name Clearwater, though there are many businesses and so on with that name. So there would be no problem, in terms of an educational facility, with Clearwater, B.C.

Mr. Rosendahl: Okay.

The Chair: Thank you.

Are there any other questions? No? Okay.

I'd like to thank you for your submission and your attendance here today. We will contact you following deliberations.

The committee will now proceed to our next item of business.

Thank you.

Mr. Reich: Thank you.

1:40

The Chair: Okay. Would someone like to move that the committee deliberate on private bills 1 to 7 this afternoon and cancel the meeting scheduled for November 30.

So moved. All in favour, say aye. Opposed? Motion carried.

Ms Dean, would you like to make some comments?

Ms Dean: Certainly. Before we proceed to the motions with respect to each of the seven bills, I just want to reiterate what the three options are: that a bill proceed, proceed with amendment, or not proceed.

As you know, there was some discussion earlier about amendments that are contemplated for Bill Pr. 1, The King's University College Amendment Act, 2015, as well as Bill Pr. 5, the bill dealing with Concordia. We have copies of those amendments that we'll circulate. I just thought that I would touch upon the amendments before we go right into the motions for each of the bills.

The amendment that deals with Bill Pr. 1 is a very minor amendment. The comments came from the ministry. They wanted to change the words at the top of page 3 of the bill that reference some authority with respect to the minister, and they wanted that replaced with a reference to the regulations under the Post-secondary Learning Act. They also wanted a change with respect to the reference to the authority of the college to award diplomas and certificates, and they wanted to make sure that there was language in there referencing that these were institutionally approved programs. So that's it with the amendment for Bill Pr. 1 unless anybody has got questions. No?

Then with respect to the amendment for Bill Pr. 5, if you flip the page, again it was a similar type of amendment. They wanted their reference to authority of the minister replaced with the words "regulations" under the "Post-secondary Learning Act."

Again, both of these amendments have been vetted by the petitioners' counsel, and there are no issues from my end.

That's it, Madam Chair.

The Chair: Thank you.

The committee is deliberating on and making its recommendations for seven private bills, the petitions for which were heard today; namely, Bill Pr. 1, The King's University College Amendment Act, 2015 . . .

Mr. Stier: Madam Chair.

The Chair: Yes.

Mr. Stier: I apologize for interrupting you. We just had two amendments, so is your preamble to vote on these amendments, or are you now going into the general . . .

Ms Dean: Pardon me, Madam Chair. I just wanted to give you the summary of the amendments, and then as we deal with each of the bills in sequence, the amendments will be part of the motion.

Mr. Stier: Okay. I apologize for interrupting again. I do have a question regarding not the amendment but one of the bills.

The Chair: Okay.

Mr. Stier: Just to let you know. I don't know when it's time to talk about that.

The Chair: All right. I'm just going to pick up where I left off.

Bill Pr. 2, Bethesda Bible College Amendment Act, 2015; Bill Pr. 3, Rosary Hall, Edmonton Repeal Act; Bill Pr. 4, Canadian University College Amendment Act, 2015; Bill Pr. 5, Concordia University College of Alberta Amendment Act, 2015; Bill Pr. 6, Covenant Bible College Amendment Act, 2015; Bill Pr. 7, Living Faith Bible College Amendment Act, 2015. The committee will consider the bills and make its recommendation as to whether each bill proceeds in the Assembly as is, proceeds with amendments, or does not proceed. Once we've made those determinations, I will report on behalf of the committee to the Legislature. Depending on the decision with respect to each bill, it will follow the same process as any other bill in the House; namely, proceeding through second reading, Committee of the Whole, third reading, and Royal Assent.

Are there any questions before we begin?

Mr. Stier: Yes, Madam Chair. With respect to the first bill, which is Bill Pr. 1, this was a little unusual in the sense that under section 9 they had clauses with respect to being able to change the name. I would just like, through the chair, to perhaps pose a question to Ms Dean with respect to this. Is this something that was special just for them? Obviously, it was, but is this uncommon? Perhaps in another way: was this something that should have been considered for the others? If not, why not? Could you expand a little bit on that to help me understand that? We're here today to discuss name changes, yet this includes a clause that they don't have to come back for name changes.

Ms Dean: Thank you for the question, Mr. Stier. I would say that it's an unusual provision but not unheard of. The petitioner cited an example in another private act, dealing with St. Mary's. They didn't have to go through this process that King's University did because they had a provision in their act that allowed them not to bother amending their private act. You know, my view is that it's probably more prudent for these types of name changes to come before the committee. I mean, it is a statute. It should be amended in the normal course. But I don't have any strong views either way with respect to this clause.

Mr. Stier: Okay. I was just wanting to know that because it would seem that if we give this entity the ability to just on their own merit decide they want to do something like that, it kind of opens the door to a lot of things. I just wanted to be sure we weren't maybe discussing something in more detail to prevent further issues.

Ms Dean: If I may just add, though, that the clause requires approval from the minister and public notification in a newspaper as well as in the *Alberta Gazette*.

Mr. Stier: Okay. All right. I understand that, yeah.

Ms Dean: So they wouldn't be doing it unilaterally. I was concerned about that provision, but the ministry officials made some changes in the drafting stage, and they're fine with it.

Mr. Stier: Okay. Very well. Thank you, Madam Chair.

The Chair: Are there any other questions?

Okay. Regarding Bill Pr. 1, The King's University College Amendment Act, 2015, I will invite members' discussion.

Would a member like to move a motion?

Mr. Connolly: I'll move the motion.

The Chair: Okay. Mr. Connolly.

Mr. Connolly: I move that

the Standing Committee on Private Bills recommend to the Legislative Assembly that Bill Pr. 1, The King's University College Amendment Act, 2015, proceed with the following amendment. Section 7 is amended in the proposed section 6 by striking out clause (a) and substituting the following:

- (a) has authority to provide programs of study, approved in accordance with the Post-secondary Learning Act and the regulations made under that Act, that lead to the granting of baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees;
- (a.1) to provide institutionally approved programs of study that lead to the granting of diplomas and certificates.

The Chair: Is there any discussion on the motion? No? Okay. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion carried.

Regarding Bill Pr. 2, Bethesda Bible College Amendment Act, 2015, I invite members' discussion. Are there any questions? Discussion?

1:50

Mr. Drysdale: Madam Chair, I move that

the Standing Committee on Private Bills recommend to the Legislative Assembly that Bill Pr. 2, Bethesda Bible College Amendment Act, 2015, proceed.

The Chair: All in favour, say aye. Opposed? Any objections? Motion carried.

Regarding Bill Pr. 3, Rosary Hall, Edmonton Repeal Act, I will invite members' discussion.

Would a member like to move a motion? Ms McKitrick.

Ms McKitrick: I'd like to move that

the Standing Committee on Private Bills recommend to the Legislative Assembly that Bill Pr. 3, Rosary Hall, Edmonton Repeal Act, proceed.

But it's with a lot of regrets that I do that.

The Chair: All in favour? Any objections? Opposed? Motion carried.

Regarding Bill Pr. 4, Canadian University College Amendment Act, 2015, I invite members' discussion.

Would a member like to move a motion? Mr. Rosendahl.

Mr. Rosendahl: I'd like to move that

the Standing Committee on Private Bills recommend to the Legislative Assembly that Bill Pr. 4, Canadian University College Amendment Act, 2015, proceed.

The Chair: All in favour, say aye. Any objections? Opposed? The motion is carried.

Regarding Bill Pr. 5, Concordia University College of Alberta Amendment Act, 2015, I will invite members' discussion.

Would a member like to move a motion? Mrs. Littlewood.

Mrs. Littlewood: I'd like to move that

the Standing Committee on Private Bills recommend to the Legislative Assembly that Bill Pr. 5, Concordia University College of Alberta Amendment Act, 2015, proceed with the following amendment. Section 6 is amended in the proposed section 4(1) by striking out clause (c) and substituting the following:

- (c) to provide programs of study, approved in accordance with the Post-secondary Learning Act and the regulations made under that Act, that lead to the granting of baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees.

The Chair: All in favour, say aye. Any objections? Opposed? The motion is carried.

Regarding Bill Pr. 6, Covenant Bible College Amendment Act, 2015, I invite members' discussion.

Would a member like to move a motion? Mr. Kleinsteuber.

Mr. Kleinsteuber: Thank you. I move that

the Standing Committee on Private Bills recommend to the Legislative Assembly that Bill Pr. 6, Covenant Bible College Amendment Act, 2015, proceed.

The Chair: All in favour, say aye. Any objections? Opposed? The motion is carried.

Regarding Bill Pr. 7, Living Faith Bible College Amendment Act, 2015, I invite members' discussion.

Would a member like to move a motion? Mr. Strankman.

Mr. Strankman: I move that

the Standing Committee on Private Bills recommend to the Legislative Assembly that Bill Pr. 7, Living Faith Bible College Amendment Act, 2015, proceed.

The Chair: Thank you. All in favour, say aye. Any objections? Opposed? The motion is carried.

That concludes our deliberations on the private bills presented in this session of the Legislature. The petitioners will be advised of the committee's decisions, and I will report the committee's recommendations in the Assembly.

Is there any other business that committee members wish to raise? No? Okay.

Business is concluded for this year. Would someone like to move to adjourn the meeting? Mr. Drysdale. All in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

Thank you very much.

[The committee adjourned at 1:56 p.m.]

