



Province of Alberta

The 31st Legislature
Second Session

Alberta Hansard

Tuesday afternoon, October 27, 2026

Day 60

The Honourable Ric McIver, Speaker

Legislative Assembly of Alberta The 31st Legislature

Second Session

McIver, Hon. Ric, ECA, Calgary-Hays (UC), Speaker
Pitt, Angela D., Airdrie-East (UC), Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees
van Dijken, Glenn, Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock (UC), Deputy Chair of Committees

Al-Guneid, Nagwan, Calgary-Glenmore (NDP)
Amery, Hon. Mickey K., ECA, KC, Calgary-Cross (UC),
Deputy Government House Leader
Arcand-Paul, Brooks, Edmonton-West Henday (NDP)
Armstrong-Homeniuk, Hon. Jackie, ECA,
Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville (UC)
Batten, Diana M.B., Calgary-Acadia (NDP)
Boitchenko, Hon. Andrew, ECA, Drayton Valley-Devon (UC)
Boparai, Parmeet Singh, Calgary-Falconridge (NDP)
Bouchard, Eric, Calgary-Lougheed (UC)
Brar, Gurinder, Calgary-North East (NDP)
Brar, Gurtej Singh, Edmonton-Ellerslie (NDP)
Calahoo Stonehouse, Jodi, Edmonton-Rutherford (NDP)
Campbell, Kyle, Calgary-Shaw (NDP)
Ceci, Hon. Joe, ECA, Calgary-Buffalo (NDP)
Chapman, Amanda, Calgary-Beddington (NDP),
Official Opposition Deputy Assistant Whip
Cyr, Scott J., Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul (UC)
Dach, Lorne, Edmonton-McClung (NDP)
de Jonge, Chantelle, Chestermere-Strathmore (UC)
Deol, Jasvir, Edmonton-Meadows (NDP)
Dreeshen, Hon. Devin, ECA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake (UC)
Dyck, Nolan B., Grande Prairie (UC)
Eggen, Hon. David, ECA, Edmonton-North West (NDP)
Ellingson, Court, Calgary-Foothills (NDP)
Ellis, Hon. Mike, ECA, Calgary-West (UC),
Deputy Premier
Elmeligi, Sarah, Banff-Kananaskis (NDP)
Eremenko, Janet, Calgary-Currie (NDP)
Fir, Hon. Tanya, ECA, Calgary-Peigan (UC)
Ganley, Hon. Kathleen T., ECA, Calgary-Mountain View (NDP)
Glubish, Hon. Nate, ECA, Strathcona-Sherwood Park (UC)
Goehring, Nicole, Edmonton-Castle Downs (NDP)
Gray, Hon. Christina, ECA, Edmonton-Mill Woods (NDP),
Official Opposition House Leader
Guthrie, Hon. Peter F., ECA, Airdrie-Cochrane (PTP)
Haji, Sharif, Edmonton-Decore (NDP)
Hayter, Julia K.U., Calgary-Edgemont (NDP)
Hoffman, Hon. Sarah, ECA, Edmonton-Glenora (NDP)
Horner, Hon. Nate S., ECA, Drumheller-Stettler (UC)
Hoyle, Rhiannon, Edmonton-South (NDP)
Hunter, Hon. Grant R., ECA, Taber-Warner (UC)
Ip, Nathan, Edmonton-South West (NDP)
Irwin, Janis, Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood (NDP),
Official Opposition Assistant Whip
Jean, Hon. Brian Michael, ECA, KC, Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche
(UC)
Johnson, Jennifer, Lacombe-Ponoka (UC)
Jones, Hon. Matt, ECA, Calgary-South East (UC)
Kasawski, Kyle, Sherwood Park (NDP)
Kayande, Samir, Calgary-Elbow (NDP)
LaGrange, Hon. Adriana, ECA, Red Deer-North (UC)
Loewen, Hon. Todd, ECA, Central Peace-Notley (UC)

Long, Hon. Martin M., ECA, West Yellowhead (UC)
Lovely, Jacqueline, Camrose (UC)
Lundy, Brandon G., Leduc-Beaumont (UC)
Government Whip
McDougall, Hon. Myles, ECA, Calgary-Fish Creek (UC)
Metz, Luanne, Calgary-Varsity (NDP)
Miyashiro, Rob, Lethbridge-West (NDP)
Nally, Hon. Dale, ECA, Morinville-St. Albert (UC)
Nenshi, Naheed K., Edmonton-Strathcona (NDP),
Leader of the Official Opposition
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Nicolaidis, Hon. Demetrios, ECA, Calgary-Bow (UC)
Nixon, Hon. Jason, ECA, Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre
(UC)
Pancholi, Rakhi, Edmonton-Whitemud (NDP),
Official Opposition Whip
Petrovic, Chelsae, Livingstone-Macleod (UC)
Renaud, Marie F., St. Albert (NDP)
Rowswell, Garth, Vermilion-Lloydminster-Wainwright (UC)
Sabir, Hon. Irfan, ECA, Calgary-Bhullar-McCall (NDP),
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Sawhney, Hon. Rajan, ECA, Calgary-North West (UC)
Sawyer, Hon. Tara, ECA, Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills (UC)
Schmidt, Hon. Marlin, ECA, Edmonton-Gold Bar (NDP)
Schow, Hon. Joseph R., ECA, Cardston-Siksika (UC),
Government House Leader
Shepherd, David, Edmonton-City Centre (NDP),
Official Opposition Deputy House Leader
Sigurdson, Hon. Lori, ECA, Edmonton-Riverview (NDP)
Sigurdson, Hon. R.J., ECA, Highwood (UC)
Sinclair, Scott, Lesser Slave Lake (UC)
Singh, Peter, Calgary-East (UC)
Smith, Hon. Danielle, ECA, Brooks-Medicine Hat (UC),
Premier
Stephan, Jason, Red Deer-South (UC)
Sweet, Heather, Edmonton-Manning (NDP)
Tejada, Lizette, Calgary-Klein (NDP)
Turton, Hon. Searle, ECA, Spruce Grove-Stony Plain (UC)
Wiebe, Ron, Grande Prairie-Wapiti (UC)
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Deputy Government House Leader
Wilson, Hon. Rick D., ECA, Maskwacis-Wetaskiwin (UC)
Wright, Hon. Justin, ECA, Cypress-Medicine Hat (UC)
Wright, Peggy K., Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview (NDP)
Yao, Tany, Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo (UC),
Deputy Government Whip
Yaseen, Hon. Muhammad, ECA, Calgary-North (UC)
Vacant, Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland

Party standings:

United Conservative: 46

New Democrat: 39

Progressive Tory: 1

Vacant: 1

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Trafton Koenig, Law Clerk

Vani Govindarajan, Parliamentary Counsel
Philip Massolin, Clerk Assistant and
Executive Director of Parliamentary
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Mickey Amery	Minister of Justice
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Tanya Fir	Minister of Arts, Culture and Status of Women
Nate Glubish	Minister of Technology and Innovation
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Adriana LaGrange	Minister of Hospital and Surgical Health Services
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Tara Sawyer	Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation
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Searle Turton	Minister of Children and Family Services
Dan Williams	Minister of Municipal Affairs
Rick Wilson	Minister of Mental Health and Addiction
Justin Wright	Minister of Primary and Preventative Health Services
Muhammad Yaseen	Associate Minister of Multiculturalism

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Nolan Dyck	Parliamentary Secretary for Indigenous and Rural Policing
Chelsae Petrovic	Parliamentary Secretary for Health Workforce Engagement
Ron Wiebe	Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health (North)
Tany Yao	Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business and Northern Development

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Chair: Mr. Yao
Deputy Chair: Mrs. Johnson
de Jonge
Ellingson
Kasawski
Kayande
Rowswell
Stephan
Wiebe

Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future

Chair: Mr. Wiebe
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Cyr
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Stephan
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Select Special Committee on Electoral Boundaries

Chair: Mr. Lundy
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Ganley
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Standing Committee on Families and Communities

Chair: Ms. Lovely
Deputy Chair: Ms. Goehring
Batten
Haji
Johnson
Jones
Lundy
Sinclair
Singh
Tejada

Standing Committee on Legislative Offices

Chair: Mr. Lundy
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Armstrong-Homeniuk
Chapman
Dyck
Miyashiro
Petrovic
Shepherd
Sinclair
Wright, P.

Special Standing Committee on Members' Services

Chair: Mr. McIver
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Metz
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Rowswell
Sabir
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Chair: Mr. Bouchard
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Deol
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Singh
Vacant

Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing

Chair: Ms. Armstrong-Homeniuk
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Arcand-Paul
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Chair: Mr. Sabir
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Dyck
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Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship

Chair: Mr. Dyck
Deputy Chair: Ms. Sweet
Al-Guneid
Armstrong-Homeniuk
Calahoo Stonehouse
Horner
Ip
Petrovic
Rowswell
Yao

Legislative Assembly of Alberta

1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

[The Speaker in the chair]

Prayers

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

Mr. Jack K. Flaherty

October 4, 1933, to September 24, 2025

The Speaker: Hon. members, as is our custom, we pay tribute to members and former members of the Assembly who have passed away since we last met. Jack Flaherty was elected on November 22, 2004, to serve in the 26th Legislature as the Member for St. Albert, representing the Alberta Liberal Party. Following his election, he was named opposition critic for education.

Mr. Flaherty studied at the University of Alberta. There he earned a bachelor of education degree, a bachelor of physical education degree, a diploma in vocational guidance, and a master's education degree, which he completed in 1968.

His professional career began as a teacher in Edmonton and Red Deer school districts. He later served as a consultant with the Alberta department of education, associate superintendent of student services with the Edmonton public school board, superintendent of schools in Fort McMurray, and regional director of Alberta social services. Together these roles reflected decades of experience in education and public service before he entered provincial politics.

Mr. Flaherty was active in community service through the Rotary Club, served as a school trustee, participated in pastoral care at Sturgeon general hospital, and received the Rotary Club's Paul Harris fellowship award. His long career in education, public service, community leadership, and provincial politics left a lasting contribution to Alberta and the people he served.

Jack Flaherty passed away on September 24, 2025, at the age of 91. In a moment of silent prayer, I ask you to remember Jack Flaherty as you may have known him.

Rest eternal grant unto him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him. Amen.

Dr. Allan Alexander Warrack

May 24, 1937, to July 24, 2026

The Speaker: Allan Alexander Warrack served as the Progressive Conservative Member for Three Hills from 1971 to 1979. He was minister of lands and forests from 1971 to 1975 and minister of utilities and telephones from 1975 to 1979.

Dr. Warrack was born in Calgary and raised in Langdon, southeast of the city. He attended the Olds school of agriculture before graduating with a bachelor of science degree in agriculture from the University of Alberta in 1961. He then studied at Iowa State University, earning a master of science degree in agriculture economics in 1963 and a PhD in economics in 1967.

Before and after his legislative service Dr. Warrack built a distinguished academic and administrative career at the University of Alberta, teaching in the faculties of Agriculture, Arts, and Business. He later served as founding director and associate dean of the master of public management program, beginning in 1986 as vice-president of administration.

Dr. Warrack's wide-ranging interests were reflected in his involvement with a variety of organizations, including the National Research Council Canada, the economics society of Alberta, the Gyro Club of Edmonton, and the Delta Upsilon fraternity. Among the honours he received were the Queen Elizabeth II silver jubilee medal in 1977 and the Alberta centennial medal in 2005.

Dr. Warrack passed away on July 24, 2026, at the age of 89. In a moment of silent prayer, I ask you to remember Allan Warrack as you may have known him.

Rest eternal grant unto him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him. Amen.

Mrs. Connie E. Ostermann

June 23, 1936, to September 26, 2026

The Speaker: Constantine Elaine Connie Ostermann was first elected as the Member for Three Hills on March 14, 1979, representing the Progressive Conservative Party. She was re-elected in 1982, 1986, and 1989, serving four consecutive terms until 1992. Appointed government whip in 1979, she became the first woman in Canada to hold this position and one of the first in the Commonwealth to do so. She went on to serve as minister of consumer and corporate affairs from 1982 to 1986, minister of social services from 1986 to 1989, and minister of career development and employment in 1989.

Born in Acme, Alberta, Mrs. Ostermann moved with her husband to Vulcan in 1956. Two years later they established their own farm east of Carstairs. She became active in public and community service, advocating for improvements to surface rights legislation affecting rural landowners. In 1973 she was appointed a charter member of the Alberta Human Rights Commission, where she served until 1979. She also served as president of the Canadian Association of Statutory Human Rights Agencies from 1976 to 1977. She was also involved with The Catholic Women's League, Home and School Association, and the Calgary German Canadian Club. Among the many honours Mrs. Ostermann received were the Rotary integrity award from the Calgary Rotary Club in 1999, the Alberta centennial medal in 2005, and the Queen Elizabeth II diamond jubilee medal in 2012.

Connie Ostermann passed away on September 26, 2026, at the age of 90. In a moment of silent prayer, I ask you to remember Connie Ostermann as you may have known her.

Rest eternal grant unto her, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her. Amen.

Hon. members, it being the first sitting day of the week, we will now be led in the singing of our national anthem by Nicole Grey. I invite all to participate in the official language of their choice.

Hon. Members:

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

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

The Speaker: The Legislative Assembly is grateful to be situated on Treaty 6 territory. This land has been the traditional region of the Métis people of Alberta, the Inuit, and the ancestral territory of the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulteaux, Iroquois, and Nakota Sioux people. The recognition of our history on this land is an act of reconciliation, and we honour those who walk with us. We also acknowledge that the province of Alberta exists within treaties 4, 7, 8, and 10 territories and the Métis Nation of Alberta.

Hon. members, please be seated.

1:40 Presentation to the Assembly of Member Kyle Campbell Member for Calgary-Shaw

The Speaker: I now invite the hon. Leader of the Official Opposition to proceed to the main doors of the Chamber.

[Preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. Nenshi escorted Member Campbell to the Mace]

Mr. Nenshi: Mr. Speaker, I have the honour and the great pleasure to present to you Mr. Kyle Mark Campbell, the new Member for Calgary-Shaw. He has taken his oath as a member of this Assembly, he has inscribed the roll, and he now seeks the right to claim his seat.

The Speaker: Hon. members, I have received from the Chief Electoral Officer of Alberta the report of the returning officer for the constituency of Calgary-Shaw containing the results of the by-election conducted on September 14, 2026, which states that a by-election was conducted in the constituency of Calgary-Shaw and that Kyle Campbell was duly elected as the Member for Calgary-Shaw.

Let the hon. member take his seat. Welcome. Congratulations.

Introduction of Visitors

The Speaker: Hon. members, in my gallery today I have former MLA Richard Gotfried, who served in this House from May 2015 till May 2023 representing the constituency of Calgary-Fish Creek and for a period served as House leader. He is accompanied by his son Justin Gotfried, who recently got married. Congratulations. Justin is a former constituency manager and now works with Alberta Counsel. Please rise and receive the traditional warm welcome.

We also have former MLA for Edmonton-Mill Woods Sohail Quadri, who served from April 2012 to May 2015. Prior to dedicating his time in politics, he was a local entrepreneur and small-business owner. Please rise, Sohail, and receive the warm welcome.

Introduction of Guests

The Speaker: Hon. members, seated in my gallery today is the family of Dr. Allan Warrack. Please rise as I call your names: his beloved wife, Jean Warrack; his son Daniel Warrack; granddaughter Rebecca Warrack; grandson Gordon Brook; and Gordon's partner, Cindy Pereira. Please receive the traditional warm welcome of this Assembly.

Also in my gallery today is the family of hon. Connie Ostermann. Please rise as I call your names: her loving children Kurt Ostermann, Kim Ostermann, Kelly Ostermann, and Joseph Ostermann; her grandchildren Jesse Ostermann, Tannis Weins, Connie Ostermann, and Monique Ostermann. I would ask that they and the other family and close friends that accompanied them today please rise and receive the warm welcome of this Assembly.

Lastly, I would like to introduce my good friend Jonathan Moser. He's a long-standing member of my constituency association board and a board member of Kids Cancer Care Foundation, an organization my wife started that is near and dear to me. Outside of his volunteer work, Jon owns his public affairs company. Jon is here with Gerald Proctor, a colleague of his. I ask that they both stand and receive the traditional warm welcome of this Assembly.

School groups. The hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview.

Ms Sigurdson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to rise and welcome Grandview Heights grade 9 class along with their teacher, Caitlin Krieger. I got to meet them this morning. They had excellent questions. Please rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

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

Ms Sweet: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's an honour to rise and introduce to you and through you 105 grade 9 students from Steele Heights school with their teacher, Brooklyn Rowe. Would you all please rise and receive the warm welcome of the Assembly.

Member Campbell: Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce to you and through you and all members Sarah Campbell, my wife and source of constant strength; my children Jack and George Campbell, lively and bright; Nicole Kim and Leann Ramsay, sisters of my wife, Sarah Campbell. I will please ask them to rise and receive the warm welcome of this Assembly.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Wapiti.

Mr. Wiebe: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to introduce to you and through you constituents of mine, Andre and Diane Harpe. Andre is also the chair of Alberta Canola. Would you please rise and receive the warm welcome of the Assembly.

Ms Chapman: Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce to you and through you here today, representing 51,000 teachers across Alberta, president of the ATA, Jason Schilling. Jason, please rise and receive the warm welcome of this Assembly.

Mr. Horner: Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to introduce to you and through you and to all members of the Assembly guests from the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association: executive director Lisa MacLean, president Chief Drayton Bussiere, and, from my own constituency, second vice-president Chief David Mohl. I would ask them to please rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

Mr. Stephan: Mr. Speaker, I introduce Nil Chaudhuri, an award-winning vocalist from Hong Kong, accompanied by his son Anusheel. Nil and Anusheel just performed in a retro Bollywood concert in support of rebuilding Edmonton's historic Hindu temple and Edmonton's Navratri festival, attended by thousands. It was all super duper. Please rise and receive the warm welcome of this Assembly.

Member Irwin: What an honour to rise on behalf of the Member for Calgary-Shaw to introduce his fantastic staff team, Austin Morris and Jess Fallis. Austin is a political junkie with experience working on multiple campaigns. Jess is an incredibly hard-working person and one heck of a door-knocker. I know I speak for the MLA for Calgary-Shaw when I say that he is very lucky to have you both. Please rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of the House.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul.

Mr. Cyr: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce my good friend to you, Anna Brockhoff, the chair of the Lakeland Catholic school division, who has travelled all the way from Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul. I ask that she please rise and accept the traditional welcome from this wonderful Assembly. Thank you so much.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Leduc-Beaumont.

Mr. Lundy: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. All members of this Assembly owe a huge debt of gratitude to their constituency office staff. I'm pleased to introduce two of them here today: from the Leduc-Beaumont office my office manager, Sarah Mejia, as well as from Strathcona-Sherwood Park, Christine Mayovsky. As I mentioned, two of the absolute best. Sarah and Christine, please rise and receive the warm welcome from the Assembly.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Camrose.

Ms Lovely: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you and through you and to all members of this Assembly two hard-working Albertans. Mannie Gill has worked tirelessly to help advance Alberta-Indian relations, and Danijel Slisko, who is a proud business owner with nearly 30 years of experience building this province. I ask that they please rise and accept the traditional welcome of this Chamber.

1:50

Mr. Haji: Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to rise and introduce to you and through you to the members of the Assembly two incredible dedicated constituency staff of mine, Kiyomi Coffman and Aziza Ibrahim. I ask both to rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

The Speaker: The Minister of Justice.

Mr. Amery: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's a privilege to rise and introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly members and guests of the Muslim community who are here in recognition of Muslim heritage month. I ask them to please rise and receive the warm welcome of our Assembly.

Ministerial Statements

The Speaker: The hon. the Premier of Alberta.

Incident at CFB Wainwright

Ms Smith: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Alberta continues to mourn alongside the Canadian Armed Forces and the families carrying the weight of the tragic incident at CFB Wainwright. The loss of life and injuries are heartbreaking. On behalf of the government of Alberta I extend my deepest condolences to the families who've lost loved ones and wish those who have been injured a full recovery. Our thoughts are also with the military personnel, families, and colleagues facing uncertainty and grief during this incredibly difficult time.

I also want to honour those four brave young soldiers in the Legislature today who paid the ultimate price preparing to defend our country: Private Aidan Goulding, Private Shaun Farrell, Private Hayden Lykkemark, and Sergeant Morgan Wong. These men will forever be heroes of Canada.

To the families grieving loved ones, know that you do not walk this painful road alone. Alberta and all of Canada grieves with you. To the people of Wainwright: thank you. Your community opened its heart, stood on the roadsides with flags and messages of support,

and showed what true Canadian compassion looks like. To the 39 injured soldiers, their friends, families, and Canadians nation-wide, know that these courageous heroes are receiving the highest level of care from Alberta's very best health professionals. To our front-line health care and emergency workers who answered the call with extraordinary speed and dedication, including the 22 ground ambulances, eight aircraft and dedicated medical teams across the Edmonton corridor who were deployed directly into Wainwright and to those who continue to care for those soldiers in Edmonton and Calgary: thank you.

I also want to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to Premier Scott Moe in Saskatchewan for providing vital air ambulance capacity, to Premier Doug Ford in Ontario for sending 19 specialized burn nurses and five OR nurses to supplement our own staffing contingent and provide much-needed capacity to the teams working around clock to care for these patients and to WestJet for stepping up to co-ordinate low-cost compassionate flights and travel support to help loved ones reach the bedside of these soldiers.

In closing, I'd ask all members of this Chamber and all Albertans to please continue to keep our soldiers, their family, and their friends in your thoughts over the coming days, weeks, and months ahead. [Standing ovation]

The Speaker: The Leader of the Official Opposition.

Mr. Nenshi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and through you thank you to the Premier for those beautiful words. October 17 was a difficult day for all of us, and I too want to honour those four young men who lost their lives in training: Sergeant Morgan Wong, Private Shaun Farrell, Private Aidan Goulding, and Private Hayden Lykkemark.

These were soldiers who dedicated themselves to the community, not because they had to but because they chose a life of service. Every single day they chose to serve something greater themselves. They spent time away from their families and from their communities so that they could serve their fellow Canadians. They were training for deployment to Latvia as part of a NATO mission helping to deter Russian aggression and support peace and security throughout eastern Europe.

We could use more people like Sergeant Wong, Private Farrell, Private Goulding, and Private Lykkemark in our communities and throughout our country. Every single one of us, whether our families have been here for thousands of generations or we just arrived here, has the chance to share a little taste of freedom, a little taste of human rights. We benefit from the service and the sacrifice of the members of our Armed Forces.

Our thoughts, of course, today are with their families, their loved ones, their friends, their fellow service members. Our prayers today are with the healing of those injured in this terrible situation. We know that none of these people's lives will ever be the same, but at the same time we are deeply grateful for community. We're grateful for those front-line responders. We're grateful for those health care workers. We're grateful for the community in Wainwright and everywhere that came together to remind those families that in these darkest, darkest days they're in a community that wishes to put its arms around them and look after them and lift them up.

And so, all of those still fighting – for all of those fighting for their lives, for those fighting for the road to recovery, and for those members of the services who fight every day so that people around the world can also have that little taste of freedom, that little taste of human rights that we so much enjoy – please know that all Albertans stand with you. We fight with you, and we offer all of you strength, healing, and our prayers for a full recovery. [Standing ovation]

Statement by the Speaker

Rotation of Questions and Members' Statements

The Speaker: Hon. members, I would like to inform you that there's been a modification to the Oral Question Period and Members' Statements rotations as a result of recent changes in caucus composition in the Assembly. Question 14 on days 1 and 4 of the Oral Question Period rotation and the fifth member's statement on Wednesdays in week 1 and 3 of the Members' Statements rotation are now allocated to the Official Opposition caucus.

Please note that today is day 3 of the Oral Question Period rotation, and this week is week 1 of the Members' Statements rotation. The procedural memo that I sent to all members last Friday contains a copy of the updated Oral Question Period rotation and the projected sitting days calendar, which contains the Members' Statements rotations. I will table both documents for the official records of the Assembly at the appropriate time in the Routine today.

Oral Question Period

The Speaker: The first question goes to the Leader of the Official Opposition.

2026 Provincial Referendum

Mr. Nenshi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This referendum was a colossal waste of time and money. Albertans on all sides are now incredibly angry with the Premier, who, if you believe the polls, is now the least trusted and least popular politician in all of Alberta. The government has done nothing on the actual priorities of Albertans: jobs, the cost of living, health care, education. This referendum was a distraction and it was a division tactic, and it didn't work. Does the Premier regret what she's done?

The Speaker: The hon. the Premier.

Ms Smith: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We should never regret democracy. We should never regret when more than 2 million Albertans participate in a process, when you end up having robust debate, and when you have a vote where we have a decisive result. I am grateful to 75 per cent of Albertans, who voted to remain in Canada and affirm that Alberta will continue to be a strong player in our Confederation, but I also know that the 25 per cent who felt differently – we need to understand why it is that they still feel disenfranchised. We need to make sure that we can give them reason to have hope in Canada again.

Mr. Nenshi: Well, Mr. Speaker, Albertans certainly regret electing this government. One of the Premier's favourite things to do is to blame others for this referendum. She almost pretends that she was an unwilling participant, that others forced her into this referendum. The problem is that nobody believes her. Not a single Albertan believes her. They know that the nearly \$200 million waste of money that was hers and hers alone is a failed ploy to save her political skin. Her caucus didn't want it. Albertans didn't want it. So again, does she regret it?

The Speaker: The hon. Premier.

Ms Smith: Well, Mr. Speaker, when 700,000 people signed a petition saying that they want to have this debate, we feel, under our citizen initiative legislation, that we're obliged to put that question to our fellow Albertans. [interjections] We had nine questions on the ballot, and I'm pleased to see that we have a mandate to move forward on talking with the federal government on the issue of identifying how we can have a stronger economic migrant system for immigration,

how we can make sure that Albertans and Canadians also get first priority on jobs, and how we can address some of the stresses on our system. It was a good exercise.

The Speaker: Let's hear the question and the answer.

The hon. Leader of the Opposition.

2:00

Mr. Nenshi: Again the Premier blames others and refuses to take responsibility.

Meanwhile the Premier also has refused to stop the expensive court case against First Nations. But there's a problem. The government has rewritten this law so many times that maybe the Premier herself has forgotten that if she wins this court case, we automatically get another referendum on separation. Yet she says that there will be no more referenda as long as she's Premier, which, God willing, will not be very long. Does the Premier understand the results of her own litigation?

Ms Smith: Well, Mr. Speaker, that's why question 10 was worded the way it was. There was one petition asking to remain that had been signed by 400,000 people, one petition asking for a binding vote to leave, signed by 300,000 people, and Albertans clearly spoke. They didn't vote for option 2. They voted for option 1. I'm pleased for that. That was the option I was campaigning for. I wanted Albertans to give us a strong mandate on the other questions so that we could continue negotiating with the federal government, and I'm pleased to see that they did give us a mandate on the immigration questions. We're looking forward to moving forward with the federal government on that.

The Speaker: The second set of questions goes to the Leader of the Official Opposition.

Mr. Nenshi: Well, first of all, that is not what the law says, and she needs to read her own law. Second of all, there are so many things to talk about with this referendum. Textbooks are going to be written about this government's political malpractice and incompetence around this referendum.

Alberta Separatism and Government Caucus

Mr. Nenshi: But right now let's hone in on the role of separatists in the UCP government. The Premier's chief of staff says that they're very welcome to her team. The Premier says that she'll take their money but they can't have any leadership or decision-making role. So which is it? Is she still rolling out the Premier's red carpet for the separatists, or will she remove them from her caucus?

The Speaker: Hon. Leader of the Opposition, I'm not sure that was a question about government policy, but the Premier can answer if she wants to.

Ms Smith: Government policy is as it always has been: we support a strong Alberta within a united Canada, and we will pursue, to the extent possible, increased provincial sovereignty over those areas in the Constitution that we've been granted exclusive jurisdiction. That was our position before the referendum and is the position after the referendum. I invite those who felt differently, who voted a different way, to embrace that vision. We can pursue greater autonomy within the political and legal construction of Canada. We've been very successful in doing that so far, Mr. Speaker, and we're going to continue to.

Mr. Nenshi: Well, Mr. Speaker, Shane Getson appeared on a referendum night talk show with separatist leaders before quitting his job and leaving the people of Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland without a

representative. The Member for Red Deer-South has openly admitted to being a separatist and voting for option 2. The Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul admitted to Indigenous leaders that he, too, had separatist leanings. Yet they're all sitting over there in their comfy government chairs. Will the Premier remove the separatists from her caucus?

The Speaker: The Premier.

Ms Smith: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do want to thank Shane Getson for his service to the province, his service to our government, to the incredible work that he did advancing economic corridors. I'll just remind the members opposite what he said in this Legislature: "We want Canada to be strong, to live up to the strong and free promise. If we take bold steps, if we build strength and expand, that would be the future that we should all be fighting for. That's the Canada we want."

I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that every single member on this side of the Chamber supports a strong Alberta within a united Canada. That will be the commitment of every one of our candidates, and that will be the commitment of everyone who represents our party.

Mr. Nenshi: So let me get this straight. The Premier has said that anyone who wants a leadership position with her or anyone who wishes to run for her has to abandon their separatist beliefs, but it doesn't seem that that is grandfathered. During the referendum only 14 of the people opposite plus the Premier said that they would vote to remain in Canada and campaigned on that. That leaves 33 presumed separatists on the government benches. Has the Premier asked them if they're separatists? Does she even know how many they are? Is it a majority of her caucus?

The Speaker: I'm not sure that was about government policy, but go ahead, Premier.

Ms Smith: Mr. Speaker, I know that the member opposite wants to continue to sow division, but what I have said is: let's not judge people by how they voted last Monday; let's judge people based on their actions going forward. On a go-forward, what I would expect is that people would honour the results of democracy. That's why you have direct democracy. Seventy-five per cent of Albertans said that they wanted to remain in Canada, continue to be Canadians, and to make sure that we are pursuing a strong Alberta within a united Canada. That's the position of myself, and that's the position of our caucus.

The Speaker: The hon. Leader of the Official Opposition.

Mr. Nenshi: Fascinating. Now the Premier doesn't want anyone to judge her government by its terrible record, but only her kind words as of today. We'll have lots of time to talk about the referendum. We're going to keep talking about it, but let's change gears for just a moment.

Investigation of Health Services Procurement

Mr. Nenshi: The corrupt care scandal also refuses to go away. We've had improper contracts, government hiring the entire Mraiche family, inappropriate surveillance of journalists, shady podcasters, and today allegations of money laundering and breach of trust. The net is tightening around this Premier and her government. The only way to clear the air is a public inquiry. Will she finally call one?

The Speaker: The Premier.

Ms Smith: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. The best way to clear the air was to have a judge-led inquiry, which is what we did. We asked

Justice Wyant to look into the allegations. We gave him literally millions of pages of documents, and he gave us a suite of 18 recommendations about how to improve procurement. Four of them have already been enacted. The remaining 14 are going to be enacted by the end of the year. I think that's what people want to see, that we have identified issues that were problematic in the AHS procurement process and we're fixing them.

Mr. Schmidt: Like money laundering? Fixing that?

The Speaker: Order. You'll stand up and apologize for asking about money laundering, please. Yeah. You weren't on the record, but I heard you. You asked about money laundering. Stand up and withdraw your remarks, please.

Mr. Schmidt: Why am I apologizing, Mr. Speaker?

The Speaker: Because you were out of order, sir.

Mr. Schmidt: And now being out of order requires an apology? Yeah. I apologize, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: When the Speaker tells you to apologize, it requires an apology every single time, and you're welcome.

Mr. Nenshi: Mr. Speaker, the Wyant report didn't clear the government in any way, and nobody believes the Premier when she says it did. There was no subpoena authority. There was no testifying under oath. People refused to testify. The only reason to avoid a public inquiry right now is if the government has something more to hide. For two years we've learned more and more about the scandal – drip, drip, drip – and the Premier is giving every indication right here that there is yet more. Perhaps the money laundering allegations are just the tip of the iceberg. What else is the government hiding?

The Speaker: The Premier.

Ms Smith: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will refresh the member opposite's memory. The Wyant report could not have been clearer. It found no evidence that any elected official, staff member, or member of the Alberta public service acted improperly. Anyone who refused to be questioned was from AHS, and we do hope that we have some additional clarity when the Auditor General is able to give his report and recommendations. We've been keeping him up to date on the implementation of the 18 recommendations, and if he has more to add, we'll be looking forward to implementing those, too.

Mr. Nenshi: The very next paragraph of the Wyant report says that he was unable to make any conclusions about the government because they didn't talk to him. The Auditor General's report has been delayed over and over again because the government fired the Auditor General. RCMP investigations notoriously take years, but now it sure sounds like the RCMP is getting closer and closer to getting their man, or maybe woman in this case. The Premier and the government seem to hope that there will be an election before any of these reports come out. Is that why they refuse to have a public inquiry?

The Speaker: The Premier.

Ms Smith: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. The member opposite once again mischaracterized the Auditor General's end of his contractual term, and we have a very capable Auditor General who picked up. He'd been the general counsel within the department and knew the files, and we're looking forward to seeing him finishing

the report. We know that there were issues at AHS through their procurement. We accepted the 18 recommendations of the Wyant report, and we're going to continue to implement them. We're going to allow the RCMP to continue their work and would happily co-operate in any way.

2:10 2026 Provincial Referendum
(continued)

Ms Pancholi: The Premier and the UCP do not have the confidence of Albertans. They spent 150 million taxpayer dollars to convince Albertans to support their 10 questions, and they lost. They lost their four constitutional questions; they had to confuse Albertans to get just barely over 50 per cent on their immigration questions; and on separatism Albertans' strong and clear vote for Canada was a sharp rebuke of the Premier's manufactured separatist agenda. It was a rebuke of a government that has separatists in their caucus, running their party, and setting provincial policy. Will the Premier admit that the UCP gambled everything with this referendum and lost?

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

Mr. Williams: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The government is happy to hear from Albertans. In this case they spoke clearly, along with the government, that we support an Alberta within a strong and united Canada. We will never apologize for our position defending and advocating for Alberta within our Confederation. We're going to continue to advance the cause that we have of defending Albertans' interests every single day within this terrific federation, which we campaigned for very hard.

Ms Pancholi: For two years the Premier has been dancing with the separatists who brought her the UCP leadership. That's why Albertans didn't believe her last-minute attempt to wrap herself in the Canadian flag. She couldn't even convince her own MLAs. The MLA for Red Deer-South openly defied her. He is a proud separatist and is still in her caucus. Out of 47 UCP MLAs only 15 – 15 – could bring themselves to openly declare their support for Canada, and none campaigned on it. The UCP were so busy trying to straddle both sides of the separatism fence that they fell offside of 75 per cent of Albertans. How is this anything but a resounding defeat for the Premier's agenda?

Mr. Williams: Mr. Speaker, this government campaigned for Canada and defending our interests within that Confederation. As a member I campaigned in that member's constituency, door-knocking... [interjections]

The Speaker: Order. You know, we get to heckle in here, but when I can't hear the one that's recognized, then that's a problem.
Go ahead.

Mr. Williams: As an individual I campaigned even in that member's constituency, door-knocking to remain in Canada.

Mr. Nenshi: Not in your own, apparently.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Speaker, to impugn – in my own I campaigned as well, to the Leader of the Opposition, receiving 83 per cent of the vote in my own nomination campaign as an explicit pro-Canada conservative. Their accusations that we wrap ourselves in the flag because we're patriotic Albertans and Canadians at the same time are offensive. We're here honouring those who passed away in Wainwright, and they accuse us...

The Speaker: Order. Order. Time is up. Now, I appreciate that the Leader of the Opposition spoke out of turn, but then you addressed the Leader of the Opposition. All remarks have to come through the chair, from both sides. That's what we do in here.

Ms Pancholi: Mr. Speaker, that minister almost couldn't convince his own riding to vote against separatism. They came this close. The minister of education's riding of Calgary-Bow voted against 8 out of 9 of the UCP's referendum questions, including the one about charging temporary residents fees for education. Same with the Minister of Justice in Calgary-Cross, the Minister of Indigenous Relations in Calgary-North West, and the minister of public safety in Calgary-West. In fact, the ridings of six ministers rejected almost every one of their government's questions, and two of the ministers had their ridings vote in favour of separatism. So will these UCP MLAs listen to their constituents or their Premier? Gosh, what a dilemma. It's almost like their job is on the line.

The Speaker: Order. Order. So now three or four times, on both sides of the House, to be clear, people seem to have forgotten. It's been a long summer. At 35 seconds you're done, and when I stand up, you've got to stop. Since you're addressing the Speaker anyways, you should be watching, so we won't have any of that anymore.

Go ahead, hon. member.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Speaker, I'll be watching for you rising to your feet while I will sit.

In response to the member opposite's question, Albertans have voted over and over again and rejected the disastrous NDP record every single time it counts. They know exactly what the challenge is. They have no problem hearing the voice of Albertans in a referendum. They have no problem rejecting the NDP's history and their disastrous policies within this province. That's why the United Conservative Party is happy to continue asking Albertans what they think every chance we get.

Education Policies

Ms Chapman: One year ago today the UCP government stripped teachers of their Charter rights and sent them back into untenable classroom conditions. They didn't negotiate. They didn't consider binding arbitration. They simply forced a deal, a deal that had already been rejected by teachers because it did not address serious concerns about our kids' classrooms. Teachers have been clear; they want their rights back. So will the minister of education be introducing legislation today to restore teachers' fundamental rights?

The Speaker: The hon. minister of education.

Mr. Nicolaides: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. As Minister of Education and Childcare I am mandated by the Education Act to consider above everything else the educational best interests of the children. That is the paramount consideration in which I must make all decisions, and that is why I supported the use of the notwithstanding clause so that we can get our students back into the classroom where they belong so that their learning and their future success is not held hostage. We can continue to have conversations, as we are, regarding the state of education, but our children don't need to pay the price for it.

Ms Chapman: Given that the educational best interests of children includes classrooms in which they are supported, given that the government has all the wrong priorities and wasted money on a referendum no one asked for instead of investing in our schools and given that it is this government that drove the complexity crisis in our classrooms with their brutal cuts to early intervention funding,

will this minister admit that it will take years to fix the damage his government has done by chronically underfunding our schools?

The Speaker: On this first day it's a good time to remind us all that that was the right way to do something without preambles and say a lot of things, so I just want us all to note that.

Go ahead, hon. minister.

Mr. Nicolaides: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. The educational best interests of students first and foremost requires them to actually be in school. That is the number one consideration. We have to make sure that they are in school. Now, we have admitted, of course, and acknowledged that there are concerns with respect to class sizes and complexity as our education system has welcomed over 90,000 new students in just four short years. That's exactly why we're investing to create new complexity teams. That's exactly why we've hired 2,100 net new teachers, over 1,000 net new EAs, and that's exactly why we're building schools at a record level.

Ms Chapman: Given that the minister cannot repair trust with teachers until he restores their rights but given that the minister claims all that is needed now is time for teachers to appreciate all that he's done for them and given that a year has passed and teachers are more livid than ever about having their rights trampled on, could the minister please inform Albertans how much exactly is the right amount of time to just get over being stripped of your Charter rights?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Mr. Nicolaides: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. My priority is to make sure that our students have the best possible education system. Just look to what's happening in other European jurisdictions to see the state of their education system. We're working aggressively to invest to hire more teachers, as I mentioned a moment ago. We're building schools at record levels. In addition, we're also taking steps to update our curriculum, ensure that every student has their literacy and numeracy skills assessed to ensure that no student falls behind, and we're going to continue moving forward.

Provincial Response to Incident at CFB Wainwright

Mr. Rowsell: Mr. Speaker, our hearts go out to the families, friends, and loved ones of those lost in the tragic incident at CFB Wainwright and to everyone affected. This heartbreaking event reminds us of the sacrifices made by those serving our country. Albertans stand with the military families and first responders during this difficult time. Can the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services please explain how Alberta's government is supporting the emergency response and co-ordinating provincial resources?

Mr. Ellis: Well, Mr. Speaker, thank you to the member for the question. Like all Canadians, our hearts ache for the families, the friends, the loved ones of the service members who lost their lives and those who were severely injured in this devastating tragedy. You know, as it stands, this is one of the worst mass casualty events on Canadian soil for the Canadian military. Now, due to proper preparation, proper planning, Alberta's government was able to step in and work with first responders in a co-ordinated and multiagency emergency response. Immediately following this incident we activated our Emergency Management Cabinet Committee as well as elevating...

The Speaker: Order. Order.

Hon. member.

Mr. Rowsell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the minister for that answer. Given that the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre was elevated to level 3 and further given that the Emergency Management Cabinet Committee was activated to maintain a common operating picture with municipal, health, federal, and military partners, can the same minister please explain how provincial emergency management and wildfire resources are being deployed to support local authorities and ensure a co-ordinated response?

2:20

The Speaker: The hon. minister of public safety.

Mr. Ellis: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Upon learning of the mass casualty event the PECC was moved to a level 3, which was critical for maintaining real-time situational awareness and resource alignment across jurisdictions. Of course, through the Alberta Emergency Management Agency we maintain constant contact with our local authorities, and of course Alberta Emergency Management and Wildfire immediately deployed resources into the area, offered support, and mobilized all our resources on standby working with local authorities and the Canadian military.

Thank you.

The Speaker: The hon. member.

Mr. Rowsell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the minister for that response. Given Alberta's health care system responded rapidly to the incident at CFB Wainwright and further given that hospitals continue to manage capacity pressures in the east-central corridor, can the Minister of Hospital and Surgical Health Services update us on how our hospitals handle the surge in patient transfers and what ongoing support is being provided to the east-central corridor facilities experiencing remaining capacity pressures?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Hospital and Surgical Health Services.

Member LaGrange: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I continue to send my thoughts and prayers to our soldiers, their families, and all that are affected by this terrible tragedy. In an incredibly difficult situation our front-line care workers stepped up in a really big way, and they are doing and continue to do an exemplary job caring for all of the affected. Thirty-nine patients were treated; 27 still remain in hospital. We will continue to provide additional staff, supplies, supports, and anything that's needed to our health care teams and to our hospitals. Alberta is here for them, and we will continue to be here for them.

Indigenous Relations

Member Arcand-Paul: Mr. Speaker, an important meeting of first ministers was held yesterday with First Nation leaders across Canada, and there was an incredibly notable absence: the Premier of Alberta. It seems a UCP fundraiser in Devon was a top priority for the Premier over this government's treaty obligations, or maybe it was to hang out with bears, but I thought that was my job. Why didn't the Premier attend the First Nations meeting yesterday? Is it because the UCP can't be diplomatic with First Nations, or is it because First Nations overwhelmingly defeated the UCP's separatist ambitions in the referendum?

The Speaker: The hon. the Minister of Indigenous Relations.

Mrs. Sawhney: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The reality is that the first ministers' meeting and the First Nations meeting was held yesterday. Today is the beginning of our legislative session, and it wasn't possible

to be able to attend that meeting. Nonetheless, we had significant representation from my department. My ADM was there as an observer, and we were able to understand the concerns and the issues that were brought forward by First Nation communities from Alberta.

Thank you.

Member Arcand-Paul: Given that there are these things called planes that you can get in and travel quite quickly and given that being an observer is not just an ethos of this government, because this summer we had the honour of celebrating 150 years of Treaty 6, where we lifted the pipe at Edmonton city hall in recognition of our solemn relationship under treaty – the city was there, the NDP caucus was there, but there was a notable absence from this UCP government as they campaigned for a separatist referendum. To the Minister of Indigenous Relations: where was this government to celebrate this momentous occasion on behalf of the province?

Mrs. Sawhney: Mr. Speaker, there was a very important celebration, the 150th anniversary of Treaty 6. I'm very pleased that my government colleagues were able to attend some of these celebrations. I wasn't able to attend the first one because I was travelling. Again, as I said, I was happy that my government colleagues were able to attend the subsequent celebrations, and I would have loved to have been there, but I was on a medical leave and was unfortunately not able to attend.

Member Arcand-Paul: Given that Siksika Nation Chief Crowfoot wrote to the Premier about this minister's dishonourable conduct at an event with the Blackfoot Confederacy during Stampede where she stormed out after being asked why she voted against treaty rights in committee, further given that this same minister skipped several events this summer like the Treaty 6 commemoration event or even truth and reconciliation day with the Prime Minister here in Edmonton, is the Premier even aware that the Crown's actions haven't been very honourable, or is this just Indigenous relations under the UCP?

The Speaker: A point of order is noted at 2:24.

The hon. minister.

Mrs. Sawhney: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll address both of those questions. First of all, the event during the Stampede: anybody who knows me well understands that that is not a plausible narrative. I strive to treat others with respect, with compassion, with kindness. That's how I was raised. That's part of my cultural and religious upbringing.

I've already mentioned that I would have loved to attend the very, very important events that occurred in September, but I was on a medical leave, and I don't think I have to say anything more about my personal health information. The questions have been relentless.

The Speaker: Time is up.

Member Calahoo Stonehouse: Mr. Speaker, 97 per cent of voters at polling stations on First Nations reserves voted to stay in Canada, including 99 per cent of voters on the Siksika Nation. However, the system has yet again failed First Nations. Elections Alberta didn't have enough workers, didn't have enough ballots, probably not enough pens, so voters spent hours and hours waiting in long lines just to defend our treaties. First Nations warned the UCP that they would rock the Indigenous vote and do everything they can to protect our treaties. Why wasn't the . . .

The Speaker: Stop. Order. Order.

It's been a long summer. There's only one member in here that gets to play the new person card, and we know who that is, but the

rest of us will keep an eye on the clock or keep an eye on the Speaker and stop after 35 seconds.

The minister.

Mr. Amery: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for that question. Albertans have spoken, and their message has been absolutely loud and clear. They support Alberta's future within a strong and united Canada. They want greater control over decisions affecting their lives. We heard that in the vote as well. Our government certainly respects the outcome of the democratic process of Albertans, and we're going to honour the decisions while continuing to stand up for Canada. We will work with Elections Alberta to review what happened, and we will come back with solutions.

The Speaker: You know, I'm going to get fussy with everybody right now. When I stand up, that's when you end your sentence, not when you start to end your sentence.

Member Calahoo Stonehouse: Given that First Nations have been speaking out against the Premier's support of separatists since she was elected and given that treaty chiefs have warned again and again that a failure to denounce separatism would damage our Constitution, damage our economy, and undermine our treaties, which are the very foundation of this province, and given that First Nation voters were clearly an afterthought to this Premier, who continues to cater to separatists, well, until last week, how can voters on reserves trust that this next election will be run fairly?

Mr. Williams: Mr. Speaker, Albertans, who we ask the opinion of all the time, spoke loud and clear: 75 per cent of whom want to remain in Canada, as do I, as does this government and this caucus. It's been abundantly clear. We want to build a constructive relationship with our First Nation, Indigenous partners.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to questions of how Elections Alberta runs, of course, as an office of the Legislature, we're happy to refer those questions particularly to committee.

Member Calahoo Stonehouse: Given that the Premier chose to speak at a fundraiser in Innisfail and – you really can't make this up – visit bear park instead of joining fellow Premiers at a historic meeting in over 20 years with first ministers meeting with chiefs from across Canada – it's insulting and hurtful – and given that this Premier's economic plan depends completely on First Nations consultation to advance any of these projects, does this Premier understand that she can't do anything without restoring the confidence of the First Nations? How is she going to do that?

The Speaker: The Minister of Indigenous Relations.

Mrs. Sawhney: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned, our legislative session is beginning today, and it was impossible to attend the meeting that was happening yesterday, but we did have department officials there.

I also want to say, Mr. Speaker, that I've had many, many conversations over the last several weeks with First Nation leadership, and they have indicated a desire to move forward in a productive way to focus on economic opportunities and the issues that matter the most to them. I have an open-door policy, and we are doing everything we can to make sure that we keep those lines of communication open.

Thank you.

The Speaker: The next question belongs to the hon. Member for Livingstone-Macleod.

2:30

Highway 2A Capital Plan

Mrs. Petrovic: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Highway 2A between High River and Aldersyde is an increasingly important transportation corridor that serves residents, commercial traffic, and a growing industrial development. With the help of our minister of transportation, our UCP government has committed to increasing safety and improvements to this highway. To the Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors: can you please provide an update to the Assembly on the agreement recently reached with Foothills county and what improvements Albertans can expect to see as a result?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors.

Mr. Dreeshen: Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Our government is focused on uniting Albertans by building projects that matter to Albertans. I'd like to thank the Member for Livingstone-Macleod for her strong advocacy for these projects. We've signed an agreement with Foothills county to build two new intersections worth \$5 million that'll improve traffic safety in her area. I'm happy and proud to work with that member every day to improve the quality of life for people in her constituency.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Livingstone-Macleod.

Mrs. Petrovic: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the minister for his response. Given that I appreciate the work being done in partnerships with Foothills county and further given that residents and businesses are eager to see these safety improvements move forward, providing clarity on the next stages will help the community to know what to expect next. To the same minister: can you please provide an update on the anticipated construction timeline and when motorists can expect to see shovels in the ground?

The Speaker: The minister.

Mr. Dreeshen: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Engineering and design will happen this winter, with construction to be tendered early in the new year. Overall, this is just a pattern of this government working with municipal governments all across this province. We're currently negotiating with a highway swap with Foothills county as well, and it just shows that regional transportation networks' collaboration with the provincial government and municipal government has the best outcome for motorists and for everybody here in the province to be able to get around, whether you're transporting goods to market or just getting home safely at the end of the day.

The Speaker: The member.

Mrs. Petrovic: Thank you again, Mr. Speaker and to the minister. Given that the area surrounding highway 2A continues to experience significant industrial and commercial growth, with the ongoing development contributing to increased traffic volumes and infrastructure demands, and further given that ensuring the corridor can safely accommodate this growth will be important for the years ahead, to the same minister: what is the long-term vision for managing this corridor to ensure it safely supports continued economic growth in the region?

The Speaker: The minister.

Mr. Dreeshen: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. We are getting projects all across this province built, unlike the NDP leader when he was the mayor of Calgary and couldn't get the green line built or

even the NDP campaign team, who actually went all the way over to British Columbia, who spectacularly destroyed the NDP in B.C. I really hope that campaign team comes back next year for the election here in Alberta because I'd love to see that outcome happen here again.

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

Health Care System

Mr. Haji: In 2023 this Premier did not campaign on expanding private health care, and she signed a public health guarantee, but she has flip-flopped. Now the UCP government has launched a two-tier, American-style dual practice model where physicians will work in both private and public systems and allowing privately based self-referral diagnostics. The Premier didn't even include private health care in her failed referendum questions. Why is this Premier dismantling the fundamentals of the public health care system without ever letting Albertans say a word?

The Speaker: The hon. minister of hospitals.

Member LaGrange: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. An important part of our health care refocusing is making sure that we provide better access to Albertans. It is why we are looking to high-performing jurisdictions that have publicly funded health care but also have that private component. We are going to continue to make sure that our citizens can access quality health care. It's why we have more surgeries, why we have more doctors, family doctors seeing more patients. We're on the right track.

Mr. Haji: Given that the Alberta Next Panel toured the province asking Albertans what matters to them and that improving public health care came up repeatedly at their town halls, given that this government then moved ahead with an American-style privatization model without any mandate at all, is the Premier afraid of Albertans who always make it known that they want public health care and not an American-style, two-tiered private system?

Member LaGrange: Mr. Speaker, it is not American style; it is European style. The European style: we know they are getting quicker access to health care. I was there. I saw it first-hand. They are getting in quicker for surgeries, quicker into emergency rooms. That's what we want.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, we have a lot to be proud of. We have increased the number of physicians from 10,600, when the members opposite were in power, to over 14,600 doctors ready to ...

The Speaker: The hon. member.

Mr. Haji: Given that the Premier has put 10 questions to Albertans on the Constitution, on immigration, on separation in the name of direct democracy but given that not one question asked whether Albertans support a private health care system even though Albertans consistently say that health care is one of their top concerns and given that the government wasted untold millions on the referendum instead of addressing overcrowded emergency rooms, will the Premier agree that she has no mandate from Albertans to dismantle public health care, and will she stop her privatization scheme today?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Member LaGrange: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are going to continue to refocus the health care system. We are going to continue to provide better access. While the NDP would like to continue to navel-gaze and think everything is fine, we know that it can be

better. We are achieving better results. We have actually achieved record numbers of surgeries. We went from roughly about 285,000 to over 330,000 surgeries last year. We're going to surpass that this year, and we're going to have more done in clinically approved times.

The Speaker: The next question belongs to the hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul.

Cold Lake Area Schools

Mr. Cyr: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I recently toured Assumption school in Cold Lake, a school experiencing significant enrolment growth. I saw students learning on a stage and in a chapel due to a lack of space. I also saw our government's investments working. The principal showed me that class size funding has put additional teachers in the classrooms. To the Minister of Education and Childcare: what is our government doing to ensure growing communities like Cold Lake have the school spaces they need for our students to succeed?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Education and Childcare.

Mr. Nicolaides: Yes, Mr. Speaker. It's true. Over the past few years we've welcomed 90,000 new students into our education system. I know the member is seeing some of that pressure in Cold Lake and in other parts of his riding. To help alleviate that pressure, we've instituted the schools now program, which is an ambitious plan to build and modernize over 100 schools and add 200,000 spaces. As part of that, I know we are working on a project to replace the Art Smith aviation and Northstar elementary school with a new school that's currently in the planning phase and will add several hundred new spaces to students when completed.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul.

Mr. Cyr: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister for that response. Given the importance of ensuring students have access to high-quality educational opportunities that prepare them for future success and further given the value of strengthening connections between K to 12 education, postsecondary learning, and workforce development, to the Minister of Education and Childcare: will the minister work with colleagues across government to explore innovative approaches that will connect students to future career pathways while delivering a stronger value for Alberta taxpayers' dollars?

Thank you.

Mr. Nicolaides: Absolutely, Mr. Speaker. We are working carefully and closely with a range of partners both within government and outside of government to ensure that we strengthen opportunities for our students to participate in hands-on learning opportunities and connect with employment options as well. Specifically, one initiative to note is collegiate programming. We've provided about \$32 million this year alone to help support our school divisions establish collegiate-related programming in their school divisions. We've had tremendous uptake, and I know there's a lot of interest from our school divisions for these opportunities.

The Speaker: The hon. member.

Mr. Cyr: Thank you again, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister. Given that the Lakeland Catholic enrolment grew approximately 40 per cent between 2020 and 2025 and given that Lakeland Catholic's number one capital priority is a new Catholic collegiate school from grade 10 to grade 12, to the same minister:

can the minister please provide an update on the government's consideration of a Lakeland Catholic collegiate school in Cold Lake?

2:40

Mr. Nicolaides: Absolutely, Mr. Speaker. The member is correct that Lakeland Catholic has identified the construction of a new Catholic collegiate high school as its number one capital priority. Of course, we have received capital requests from all of our school divisions, and we are in the process now of evaluating all of those projects. We will have more to say in upcoming Budget '27 about which projects we're able to move ahead with, but I do greatly appreciate and thank the member for bringing forward the concerns from Lakeland Catholic. We are exploring it as other projects across the province as well.

2026 Provincial Referendum

(continued)

Member Irwin: Last week Albertans overwhelmingly rejected separatism and made it clear that we are proud Canadians. I'm proud of every Albertan who stood up for Canada. I'm proud of the incredible Forever Canadian team. I'm proud of every NDP MLA and volunteer who spent countless hours on the doors. But what I'm not proud of is this Premier. She's the reason we had a referendum. She's the one who wrote the questions. Hundreds of millions of dollars were wasted on a distraction from the very real issues. So my question to the Premier is simple: does she regret taking Alberta down this ridiculous referendum rabbit hole?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Finance.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I can't believe that that member is not proud of the Premier. I'm proud of the Premier. I'm proud of this government, who just did its sixth consecutive balanced budget. The NDP: how many balanced budgets did they have when they were in power? Oh, wait. None. I'm proud of the Premier right now, who's been able to make sure that our economy is on track. Unlike the former NDP Finance minister who said that the Alberta advantage is dead, it's very much alive underneath this Premier.

Member Irwin: Given that this Premier recently stated that any UCP members intent on turning her party, quote, into a vehicle for the independence movement should join a different party yet many UCP members are still pushing for separatism such as Mitch Sylvestre, a UCP constituency association president and CEO of the Alberta Prosperity Project, a separatist organization, and Chris Scott, running for director on the UCP board and leader of Let's Talk Alberta, also a separatist organization, Premier, have these separatists been kicked out of your party, and if not, why not?

Mr. Williams: Through you, Mr. Speaker . . . [interjections]

The Speaker: Order. Order. Order. Let's hear it, please.

Mr. Williams: I did not hear a question on government business. However, I will address this question of associations, as distinct as they might be. Members opposite are constitutionally a part of a party that has for a decade attacked this province under the boss, the mother ship in Ottawa, with Avi Lewis attempting to destroy this Confederation for a decade and pretending like they are not the cause of the constitutional and identity crisis that so many Albertans feel, alienated from their own country and province.

Mr. Speaker, we accept the very strong results from this referendum. We will continue to work as a united party within a united Canada.

Member Irwin: Given that it's more clear than ever that Albertans are opposed to becoming America's 51st state and given that we do not forget that while other Premiers across Canada were standing up for our country, this Premier spent tens of thousands of taxpayers' dollars to fly to Florida and hang with Trump, will this Premier commit to no more trips to Mar-a-Lago, no more hobnobbing with her MAGA pals like, you know, Kevin O'Leary, and will she pledge right here, right now that she will never allow Alberta to become America's 51st state?

Mr. Williams: Mr. Speaker, what is the member opposite talking about? Nobody wants to become the 51st state, no one on this side of the House; no one on that side of the House. The only individuals bringing in American-style politics in this Chamber are the members opposite, who continue to try and rehash decisions made by Albertans in a vote of the people. We accept those. We agree with them. We need to deal with the challenges that we're facing here in the province, continue to defend Alberta within a united Canada. We want to work with the federal government as we had over the 18 months to get Pacific link added to the national priorities interest, making sure we continue to advance Albertans' interests. Members opposite refuse to.

AI Data Centre Projects

Mr. Ip: Mr. Speaker, when it comes to placating the separatist fringe within her party, this Premier won't think twice about spending hundreds of millions on a pointless referendum. She'll gamble with the fate of the country to rally support for ideas Albertans don't want and she didn't campaign on, but when thousands across the province voice concerns about the risks AI data centres pose to their communities, it's crickets from the UCP. When will this government stop prioritizing its radical base and big-tech billionaires and start listening to Albertans instead?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Technology and Innovation.

Mr. Glubish: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to be perfectly clear. This government has no intention of defending big-tech billionaires. We want to defend Albertans and focus on Albertans' priorities. When it comes to AI data centres, responsibly developed projects have the ability to deliver enormous wealth creation for Albertans, to put food on the table for Alberta families, to create jobs, and to attract investment, something the members opposite know nothing about. Now, I do agree that there are examples in the United States of irresponsible projects. We agree that those types of projects should not proceed in Alberta. We're designing systems to protect against that.

The Speaker: Minister, I know you're enthusiastic, but when I stand up, that's not the middle of your sentence. It has to be past the end of your sentence.

Mr. Ip: Given that hundreds turned out to protest the Meta AI data centre in Sturgeon county and thousands of citizens in Olds, Lacombe, Rocky View county, and Vulcan county have mobilized to protect their land, water, and jobs and given that communities across Alberta are asking for more consultation and more time to weigh what building AI data centres could mean for their homes, towns, and lives, besides Kevin O'Leary, American corporate interests, and Donald Trump, who is this government actually listening to?

Mr. Glubish: Mr. Speaker, we're listening to Albertans. Albertans have told us that they want to make sure that any type of industrial development is done responsibly, and we agree. That is why

Alberta has the highest standards in North America when it comes to what responsible AI data centre development looks like. When you look at the Meta data centre, it's happening in the Alberta Industrial Heartland, right where all the refineries are, right where all the petrochemical sites are. This is where heavy industrial development should happen. This is what responsible looks like. In Alberta we will do it responsibly. If the NDP were in power, they would shut everything down.

Mr. Ip: Given that Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation had to go to court over an AI data centre for which they were not consulted, given that this is one of many instances where this UCP has failed to consult First Nations on matters affecting their treaty rights and protected lands and given that the Premier refuses to withdraw her appeal of the ruling that her government ignored its duty to consult on the separation petition, even after Albertans voted overwhelmingly to remain in Canada, will anyone across the aisle admit that this government has no interest in respecting treaty rights?

Mr. Glubish: Well, Mr. Speaker, absolutely, yes, we do respect treaty rights, and when it comes to AI data centre development, we've made it perfectly clear that consultation and engagement with First Nations is part of the process. It's a necessary part, and nobody gets to cut any corners. I won't comment on an ongoing court case because the members opposite know that would be inappropriate, but what I will say is that no data centre is going to be built in Alberta unless they have followed all of our rules, they have done it to Alberta's standard. We're not here to cater to tech billionaires; we're here to cater to Alberta's priorities. We are going to do this responsibly. If the NDP were in power, they would do nothing. They would kill . . .

The Speaker: Order. Order. That's the second reminder that when I stand up, you've got to stop talking.

Mr. Glubish: I sat down when you stood up.

The Speaker: No, you didn't, hon. member.

Hon. members, as you will recall . . . [interjections] Order. As you will recall, except for the new guy, the new member, I typically allow a brief pause in the proceedings at the end of Oral Question Period to allow members leaving the Chamber to do so before we continue with the daily Routine. Starting today, I will ask the table to set a 30-second timer for this purpose, so that 30 seconds doesn't become 75 seconds. The timer will ring at the end. Now you have 30 seconds.

2:50

Members' Statements

Incident at CFB Wainwright

Ms Goehring: We are deeply saddened by the tragic incident at CFB Wainwright. Four lives were lost: Sergeant Morgan Wong, Private Shaun Farrell, Private Aidan Goulding, and Private Hayden Lykkemark. Thirty-nine additional service members suffered injuries, and many are still recovering. Stories are coming to light regarding the extraordinary heroism and bravery of those present, of young people risking their lives to protect their peers. On behalf of my colleagues all of our thoughts are with the brave Canadian Armed Forces members affected, their family, their loved ones, and the broader military community. I extend my deepest gratitude to the military personnel, first responders, and all those who have worked tirelessly to provide care, assistance, and support under such difficult and overwhelming circumstances. We recognize that an event of this

magnitude affects not only those directly involved but also families, colleagues, friends, and the wider military community.

In the days and weeks ahead we encourage everyone to be gentle with themselves and one another and to remember that no one has to navigate these challenging times of uncertainty alone. Please remember that support is available. Reach out to the Edmonton MFRC for support. The CFB Wainwright support fund has been established to help address immediate and emerging needs for affected family, military, and loved ones. Support Our Troops together with the True Patriot Love Foundation and the Edmonton Military Family Resource Centre are working to ensure that all those impacted can access assistance as they navigate the difficult days and months ahead.

Those wishing to pay their respects may lay wreaths at the city hall cenotaph or the Field of Honour at Beechmount Cemetery.

To the community of Wainwright, the military community, my military family, and the people of Alberta who stepped up in support: we thank you, and you remain in our hearts. [Standing ovation]

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Grande Prairie.

2026 Provincial Referendum

Mr. Dyck: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. In a very historic referendum Albertans have spoken, and their message is very clear. Albertans voted overwhelmingly to remain a province of Canada, sending a powerful message about our love for our province, pride in our country, and the drive to build a better future together. I want to thank every single Albertan who exercised their democratic right to vote. We are proud Albertans and we are proud Canadians, and we believe our province's best days still lie together.

But this vote doesn't mean Alberta will stop standing up for itself. Far from it, Mr. Speaker. Our United Conservative government will continue leading in defending our constitutional rights, fighting for a fair deal in Ottawa, and ensuring Alberta's energy, agriculture, forestry, and all our natural resources remain the economic engines that will drive the country's prosperity and economy in the future. We're seeing real results in this. From advancing major pipeline projects like Pacific link to attracting billions of dollars in investment and removing federal barriers to growth, Alberta is helping lead a new era of Canadian prosperity.

Mr. Speaker, Albertans may have disagreed on a path forward, but we share something far more important. We share a deep love for this province and a desire to see our families, our communities, and country of Canada succeed. Now is the time to unite and move forward together. Albertans chose their future. A strong Alberta is the cornerstone that makes for a stronger Canada. Today we are continuing to build our province and our country, a future where Alberta's voice is heard, your rights are respected, and our prosperity helps drive the success of our province and the country of Canada. Strong and free together.

Thank you.

The Speaker: The hon. Leader of the Official Opposition.

2026 Provincial Referendum

Mr. Nenshi: Well, Mr. Speaker, welcome back. I trust the members opposite had a nice, restful break. The members on this side did not. We were busy saving Canada from its greatest existential threat, which surprisingly was not Trump, was not Quebec but was this Premier and this UCP government. And now look what we've got, a Premier and a government whose entire political agenda is in shambles after taking a thumping defeat from Albertans last week. The Premier was so certain – so certain – she could stoke division and anger in the manner of her great mentor Donald Trump, but as

it turned out, Albertans were much smarter than she gives them credit for, as always. This referendum was, in fact, decisive. The Premier has no mandate on any of her questions.

So in the clear light of day last Tuesday morning the Premier and the government faced a very clear choice. She could pivot. She could focus on things Albertans actually care about like jobs, the cost of living, health care, education or she could double down on her culture war garbage and try to divide Albertans even more. We see lots of ads for gambling in Alberta, but nobody made any money on that bet because we know what she chose. This session Albertans will hear about the government's bogeymen: DEI, vaccines, even children's report cards. What we won't hear is anything that actually improves Albertans' lives.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues opposite have a real choice. How much longer will they put up with this Premier, now the least trusted and least popular politician in Alberta, focusing on all her wrong priorities? Calgary-Shaw was a wake-up call. The referendum was a wake-up call. How long will government MLAs keep hitting the snooze button?

The Speaker: The hon. Deputy Government House Leader.

Mr. Williams: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise only to advise the Assembly that pursuant to Standing Order 7(9) the daily Routine may continue past 3 p.m. today.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Airdrie-East.

Airdrie Health Centre

Ms Pitt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Airdrie is one of Alberta's fastest growing cities. Thousands of families have chosen to build their lives and more people arrive here every year. That is why my constituents are pleased to see our government's new partnership with Covenant Health to bring the first phase of health care services to Airdrie in just four years. We will have access to a broad range of services in our own community, including primary care, surgical services, dialysis, lab services, physiotherapy, pharmacy, optometry, diagnostic services, and a birthing centre that is expected to support 1,000 deliveries every year.

As Airdrie continues to grow, the new health centre, which will be located in Airdrie's southwest in Southwinds neighbourhood across from the fully funded new high school, is expected to support more than 30,000 patients for urgent medical needs annually. Meanwhile the surgical and ambulatory care centre will provide approximately 10,000 procedures every year, helping families receive the care they need closer to home.

For generations parents in Airdrie have had to leave our city to welcome a child into the world. Now, for the first time, babies will have "Airdrie" written on their birth certificates. That may seem like a small detail, Mr. Speaker, but for a community that has waited decades for this moment, it speaks to how far Airdrie has come. I celebrate with them. Airdrie has grown from a commuter community into a city in its own right, and its health care infrastructure needs reflect that reality.

This new health centre will significantly expand local capacity, reduce pressure in surrounding communities, and make it easier for families to access care. Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, it will give residents the confidence that the services they need will be available when they need them the most. This project is an investment in Airdrie's future, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact that it will have on all of our families.

Nurse Practitioners

Member Batten: Nurse practitioners of Alberta reflect the values of a strong, publicly funded health care system: accessibility,

compassion, prevention, and patient-centred care. Today more than 1,000 nurse practitioners provide primary care, diagnose and treat illnesses, prescribe medications, order and interpret diagnostic tests, and help Albertans manage chronic disease. They support patients through every stage of life. Whether working in Calgary or Edmonton, Lethbridge or Medicine Hat, Grande Prairie or Fort McMurray, or working with the First Nations and Métis communities, continuing care, community clinics, or emergency settings, nurse practitioners provide vital care and services Albertans need. Their work is especially important for patients with complex and chronic conditions. Nurse practitioners build relationships with their patients, provide continuity of care, and help patients navigate our complex health care system.

3:00

Alberta's nurse practitioners have long advocated to use their full scope of care. They have called for better support, fair compensation, reduced administrative barriers, and expanded opportunities to establish and sustain community-based practices with the aim of improving Alberta's access to quality health care.

Today as we address the health workforce shortages and the growing patient needs, investing in nurse practitioners is an essential part of the team-based solution to our health care challenges. Supporting nurse practitioners improves access to primary care. It reduces wait times in emergency departments and surgeries and ensures better health outcomes for Albertans.

To all our nurse practitioners across Alberta: thank you for your expertise, your compassion, your leadership, and your unwavering commitment to the health and well-being of Albertans.

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

Northeast Edmonton AI Data Centre Project

Ms Sweet: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to highlight an important planning proposal currently under review in my riding in northeast Edmonton. The application would allow for a large-scale AI data centre within city limits and near residential communities. While we recognize the growing role of artificial intelligence and advanced data in our economy, many of my constituents are raising important questions about the potential energy costs and demand on the grid since it will be only tens of kilometres away from the new Meta site. They have further concerns for the long-term environmental and health impacts of this project and if there is any benefit to the local community for long-term jobs and the actual economic development through the value chain. My constituents are also concerned about affordability and the impact on rising utility costs such as skyrocketing electricity bills.

For generations the farmland in northeast Edmonton has fed our community, supported family farms, and strengthened the local economy. As our city continues to grow, decisions about the future of this land matter deeply to those who live in my riding. As this proposal moves through the review process, it is essential that residences, businesses, and stakeholders learn more and share their perspective as this discussion continues. Thoughtful planning requires balanced economic development with environmental stewardship and community well-being. I am asking the government to develop a plan around buffer zones to ensure we protect our local communities as the northeast continues to grow. We don't need another situation like Olds.

Notices of Motions

The Speaker: The hon. Leader of the Official Opposition.

Mr. Nenshi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to give notice that at the appropriate time under Standing Order 42, I intend to move the following motion.

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly does not have confidence in the government due to its decision to hold a divisive and costly referendum on October 19, 2026, which has damaged the economy, promoted separatism from Canada, and undermined Alberta's treaty relationships with First Nations.

Introduction of Bills

Bill 33

Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2026 (No. 2)

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Justice.

Mr. Amery: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to rise and move first reading of Bill 33, Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2026 (No. 2). If passed, this bill would emphasize merit in public-sector hiring practices and enhance protection against intimate content abuse. Bill 33 would also make amendments to Alberta's justice system to ensure that it is fair, equitable, efficient, and more easy to navigate.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I move first reading of Bill 33.

Thank you.

[Motion carried; Bill 33 read a first time]

Tabling Returns and Reports

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-West Henday.

Member Arcand-Paul: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have the requisite copies of the letter from Chief Crowfoot of the Siksika Nation regarding this summer's interaction for the Premier's awareness.

The Speaker: Okay. Any other tablings? Oh. Sorry. Calgary – my goodness – Edgemont.

Ms Hayter: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to table the five required copies of notes and letters sent to my office by constituents regarding the Stand Up for a Stronger Alberta: Your guide to the 2026 referendum.

The Speaker: Sorry, Calgary-Edgemont; I was grabbing my own tabling instead of watching for you. Sorry about that.

I have a tabling. I received a copy from the Ethics Commissioner inquiring about the status of some investigations and his response, dated October 2026, advising that the investigations have been suspended.

In addition, as I noted earlier this afternoon, I am tabling the requisite copies of revised Oral Question Period Rotation and the projected sitting days calendar, both of those, as explained earlier, effective today.

And now we are at points of order. One point of order today at 2:24 p.m., called by the Deputy Government House Leader.

Point of Order

Allegations against a Member

Mr. Williams: Mr. Speaker, I rise on 23(h), allegations made against another member. I rise lamentably. The member opposite was speaking at the time and said, quote, Premier's dishonourable conduct. Though that was a reference to another individual speaking, to repeat unparliamentary language or allegations against an hon. member, explicitly trying to call them dishonourable, is clearly unparliamentary. To make the point, later on in that same member's

question, referring to the Premier, says that the Premier, quote, hasn't been very honourable, unquote.

Mr. Speaker, I do not rise casually. I hope that the member opposite can apologize and withdraw. We can move forward instead of continuing to rehash the same question. Hon. members are patently not dishonourable. These are allegations against another member that, if continued, will cause disorder in the House.

Thank you.

The Speaker: The hon. Opposition House Leader.

Ms Gray: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I do not have the benefit of the Blues, but for clarity, for the record of the events and the proceedings in this Chamber, I would like to submit that the member said, dealing with the House leader, second point first, "Is the Premier even aware that the Crown's actions haven't been very honourable?" I believe calling into question the Crown's actions would be parliamentary in this place, not talking about a member, not even talking about the government but referring, in this case, to the government as a whole, not the caucus.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, the comments at the beginning, that the Government House Leader referred to first, I would simply like to suggest in my argument to you that you will find inside the letter that was tabled today, on page 1, third paragraph, from the chief of the Siksika Nation,

Before I could fully explain the topic, you responded with defensiveness, storming out of the Confederacy's event before so much as acknowledging the other Nations present. In the course of that exchange you called me "naive" and told me it was my responsibility to have contacted you about your vote against consultation. Your conduct took me, and everyone who witnessed it, entirely by surprise.

Continues with,

To address the Chief as "naive" before the assembled leadership of the Blackfoot Confederacy is beneath the office you hold,

and continues on page 3 with,

Raising your voice at me in front of my own people and while a guest in our community, was inappropriate. It reflected poorly on the office you hold and did nothing to advance the respectful dialogue that should exist between our two governments.

With respect to the Deputy Government House Leader's arguments in this case, I believe that the member was making the clear point that the chief of the Siksika Nation strongly objected to the behaviour at the event and may have been unparliamentary in the course of that, but I leave it to your judgment, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: Well, here's what the Blues say. "[The] Siksika ... Chief," I'm paraphrasing that, but just to shorten it up a little bit, "wrote to the Premier about this minister's dishonourable conduct at an event with the Blackfoot Confederacy during Stampede, where she stormed out after being asked why she voted against the treaty rights in committee." All members of this House are honourable – I think we can all agree on that – and must be referred to as such. I think that the letter complaining to the Premier – as you say, it was tabled – would be the words of the chief, but it seems like the member in their question seemed to add in the word "dishonourable" themselves, and even if they didn't, the point could have been made. It wasn't even calling the government dishonourable. It actually says the phrase: this minister is dishonourable. You can't call another member of the House dishonourable, so, as such, I will ask you to withdraw and apologize for that.

3:10

Member Arcand-Paul: I apologize and withdraw.

The Speaker: While I don't really care for points of order, if you're ruled against, that's the right way to conduct yourself, and I compliment you on that.

Motions under Standing Order 42

The Speaker: The hon. the Opposition Leader.

Nonconfidence Motion

Mr. Nenshi: Thanks very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to bring this resolution forward for an emergency debate on whether or not the House has confidence in this government.

Mr. Speaker, over the course of the summer my colleagues and I, along with 15,000 volunteers across Alberta, spoke with Albertans in every corner of this province. We knocked on over 500,000 doors. We had direct contact with 1.5 million Albertans, and the single most common question I heard every single day was: how did we get here? How did it come to this?

How did we get to a place where health care was quietly privatized on September 1, so now you need a credit card instead of a health care card to get surgery to relieve your pain? How did we get to a place where public education, Peter Lougheed's dream of Alberta having the best public education system in the world, was replaced with the worst-funded public education system in Canada? How did we get to a place where despite record oil and gas production – it has never been higher – Alberta has the highest unemployment rate outside of Atlantic Canada? How do we get to a place where teachers' human rights, the human rights of health care professionals, the human rights of parents and vulnerable children, are thrown away as though they don't matter at all?

How do we get to a place where Treaty rights are treated like they're not worth the paper they're written on? How did we get to a place where, for the first time in Alberta's history, every single First Nation in Alberta has voted nonconfidence in this Premier and this government? How do we get to a place where so many Albertans working hard every single day can't make it to the end of the month? How did we get to a place where poverty is higher than it's ever been? How did we get to a place where 1 in 3 families in Calgary say they don't have enough to eat every month, that they suffer in food insecurity?

These, Mr. Speaker, are urgent questions. For two and a half years this government has been focused solely on getting to this referendum. They've been focused solely on separatism and on creating new battlegrounds for fights with Alberta, and after this referendum, their political agenda is in shambles. They no longer have the ability to move forward on the things that they were planning for this year. The House has not had the opportunity to talk about this. The House has not had the opportunity to talk about the existing litigation against First Nations and the implications that has on a future referendum. Albertans have not had a chance to hear this House talk about what we're going to do with the results of that referendum. The Premier herself has been all over the map on this, from, "We have a strong mandate," to, "We have no mandate at all," to, "We're proceeding with caution," to, "We may or may not bring legislation on any of these items."

It's time for this House, after our long summer break, to have a conversation about the strong message that Albertans have sent us. They've told us to get back to work. They've told us to prioritize the real things that they're working on every single day. But, instead, all we hear from this government, all we heard from the House leader when he talked about what he wanted to bring forward in this session, were things that don't actually match where Albertans are: endless

anti-woke garbage, but nothing that makes Albertans' lives any better.

This is urgent. The Court of King's Bench has ruled twice that the Stay Free Alberta petition is, in fact, unconstitutional. The government continues to fight that in court. The government continues to spend taxpayer dollars on this. The Premier herself will not come clean to Albertans about what is really happening.

We know that the Premier and this government have lost the confidence of Albertans. The number one sign I saw during all of those rallies that no UCP member ever came to was a sign with one word on it, and that one word was "enough." Albertans have had enough of this government. They've lost confidence in this government, and I believe it is urgent that the government seek the confidence of this House before this session continues.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Speaker, this motion, I think, is so disconnected from reality. This is an absurd presentation. That somehow this government or referendum has damaged the economy of this country or this province is outlandish.

Mr. Speaker, I'll get into that. First, I need to say clearly and firmly that Albertans have voted. We have a mandate to continue being strong, patriotic Canadians on both sides of the aisle, and this government will focus on exactly what has happened over the last 18 months, and we stand happily on that record.

Mr. Speaker, over the last 18 months we have had a new Alberta energy agreement that has already attracted hundreds of billions in new investment in pipelines, electricity generation, and more. The destructive federal net-zero electricity regulations? Gone. Economic disastrous oil and gas production cap? Gone. Why is that? Because of this Premier and this government. Enbridge, Trans Mountain, South Bow, Pembina, ATCO have all announced expansions to new projects with the largest pipeline build-out we've seen in decades. In boardrooms and oil fields Albertans are feeling abuzz about an economic opportunity, but somehow we see economic damage, according to members opposite with their fear tactics.

Pacific link, Mr. Speaker, a new billion-dollars-a-day oil pipeline from the west coast of B.C. fast-tracked already in the provincial-national interest program: that's a big win. Mr. Speaker, British Columbians electing just the other day a Conservative government that campaigned explicitly on Pacific link and access through B.C. to the coast for Canada: win. Support is continuing to grow for the northern shield energy corridor with Premier Ford, another win for the province of Alberta, all during the last 18 months. The list goes on. Pembina, Kinetico, Morgan Stanley infrastructure partner, \$4.6 billion for the greenlight electricity centre: another win for this government in the last 18 months. Federal investment to the tune of billions of military infrastructure, manufacturing, high-speed rail, affordable housing, and so much more: win, win, win.

Under the Premier's leadership Alberta is booming with five consecutive balance surpluses. The latest fiscal update is on track for a sixth again this year, paying down at the same time \$15 billion in debt, doubling the heritage trust fund over the last five years. Since the Premier gained office, we can see that more than 305,000 jobs have been added to the province of Alberta, creating five times faster jobs than the rest of the provinces. On top of that, Mr. Speaker, nearly 80 per cent of all new jobs in the last year were created right here in the province of Alberta country-wide. It's staggering, yet somehow economic damage is being accused over the last 18 months. Get connected to reality, members opposite. This is the truth.

Albertans can see with their eyes wide open that the sky is blue and conservatives are leading this country in economic growth, and asking them questions at the polls does not deteriorate from that. It allows us to continue to be strong and free, strong Canadians, proud of who we are.

Mr. Speaker, we're leading the country in GDP growth, average weekly earnings, new housing starts, workforce participation, private-sector investment and expansion, as mentioned. We still have WestJet, CAE, Lufthansa Technik, De Havilland building out the aviation centre. In logistics we have Amazon, Walmart, Coca-Cola, Dollarama, all building out billions of dollars in and around Calgary and Edmonton. Linde: \$2 billion investment into integrated clean hydrogen and atmospheric gases.

If you're exhausted, Mr. Speaker, so am I, but it goes on. Dow Chemical, \$11 billion on its Path2Zero facility expansion; Venture Capital, half a billion dollars and 73 deals in 2025. Agrifood: the work that the minister of agriculture has been doing is incredible, with mustard seed milling facility expansion, dozens more continuing.

Mr. Speaker, all this to say what? All this to say, in contrast: what was the record during the NDP four years? I just listed 18 months of win after win after win. Accusing us with some sophistry of economic damage, quote, unquote, in this so-called emergency.

3:20

Albertans have spoken. We're happy to hear it. We endorse the campaign that we have for Canada, along with the members opposite, but the notion that somehow we've damaged the economy when the NDP record, which was exhausting – 10 years of support for a Liberal-NDP alliance by the NDP nationally and provincially. They let their bosses in Ottawa, Justin Trudeau and Mr. Singh, run roughshod over Alberta, and under the NDP there were 13 consecutive quarters of people leaving Alberta for other provinces, unprecedented disaster, and population decline.

Billions in investment fled. This is fact, Mr. Speaker. The record bears this out: a job crisis devastating families all across, from downtown Calgary to northern Alberta; a job-killing carbon tax that even Mr. Carney couldn't support and reversed immediately upon getting into office; \$90 billion racked up in debt. Yes, a simple four-year term: \$90 billion.

Well, we're paying down even more every single year. We're reversing course over the last decade of the NDP, and this says nothing about the Indigenous partnership with the AIOC that we pioneered and every single jurisdiction in the country is following, including the federal Liberals, where we have over 43 Indigenous partnerships with individuals continuing.

Mr. Speaker, the economic damage is with members opposite, not this side of the House.

[Unanimous consent denied]

Orders of the Day Government Motions

The Speaker: The hon. Deputy Government House Leader.

Committee Membership Changes

44. Mr. Williams moved on behalf of Mr. Schow:
Be it resolved that the membership of the Assembly's committees be replaced as follows:
 - (a) on the Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund that Ms de Jonge replace Mr. Wright;
 - (b) on the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices that Mrs. Johnson replace Mr. Wright as deputy chair, that Mrs. Johnson replace Mr. Wright, that Ms Armstrong-Homeniuk replace Mrs. Sawyer, and that Mr. Sinclair replace Mr. Cyr;
 - (c) on the Standing Committee on Private Bills that Mr. Bouchard replace Mrs. Johnson as chair, that

- Mr. Horner replace Mrs. Johnson, that Mr. Singh replace Mr. Dyck, and that Mr. Jones replace Ms Armstrong-Homeniuk;
- (d) on the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing that Ms de Jonge replace Mr. Singh, that Mr. Horner replace Mr. Bouchard, and that Mr. Jones replace Mr. Getson;
 - (e) on the Standing Committee on Public Accounts that Mr. van Dijken replace Mr. Lundy as deputy chair, that Mr. Bouchard replace Mr. Lundy, that Mr. Sinclair replace Ms de Jonge, and that Mr. Dyck replace Mrs. Sawyer;
 - (f) on the Special Standing Committee on Members' Services that Mr. Lundy replace Mr. Getson;
 - (g) on the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future that Mr. Cyr replace Mr. Wright;
 - (h) on the Standing Committee on Families and Communities that Mr. Jones replace Mrs. Sawyer and that Mr. Sinclair replace Mr. Getson; and
 - (i) on the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship that Mr. Horner replace Mr. Cyr.

Mr. Williams: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I made any mistakes, I ask the table to highlight to me anything I need to amend.

[The Deputy Speaker in the chair]

The Deputy Speaker: Does the Assembly agree to the – sorry. First day.

The Opposition House Leader.

Ms Gray: Thank you very much. I think this is an excellent motion, and I encourage all members to support.

The Deputy Speaker: I knew you were going to say that, which is why I just called the vote for efficiency's sake.

[Government Motion 44 carried]

Provincial Fiscal Policies

30. Mr. Horner moved:

Be it resolved that the Assembly approve in general the business plans and fiscal policies of the government.

[Adjourned debate February 26: Mr. Sabir]

Member Campbell: Madam Speaker, it's my honour to rise today to speak to the business plans and fiscal policies of the government and to address the members of this Assembly as I deliver my maiden speech.

The best co-worker I ever had is sitting in this room. While the competition is fierce from the folks here on the floor, this person is not elected. Global oil markets crashed the year I graduated university. I took a summer job at a garden centre. Surrounded by flowers and greenery, the beauty of all those blossoms was outshone by the person I worked beside. I have been working beside that person for 12 years now. It is my honour to introduce to you my wife, Sarah Campbell, who has always been by my side through thick and thin and supporting in the limelight or behind the scenes. Our dynamic duo has doubled throughout our marriage. Our fantastic, lively boys join us today. Jack and George have been kind enough to lend out their father and know that the road ahead will see many changes from our normal family routine.

The legacy of our province doesn't just live in our buildings or monuments but also in our stories. Those stories began with the First Nations who live on this land, and we now add my family's

stories to the legacy of Alberta. Veterans from the War of 1812, Danes, Scots, Hungarians, Germans, and Americans all moved to western Canada over the last 100 years, culminating in my iteration of the Campbell family.

Most Albertans have a similar story. We are, after all, either immigrants or descendants of immigrants. My family's story reminds me of how much Alberta has gained from those who came here seeking a better life. Raised by a brilliant statistician and a tough prairie woman, I learned to think in charts and graphs and set to tasks with diligence. I learned from the example of my parents what a life of quiet service looks like. They are people of faith and principle who always put family first. They embody the teaching: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." I love to coach my children's athletics, I'm an enthusiastic contributor to and buyer from the school bake sale, and I support causes of personal import.

Through example my parents and grandparents taught me that when you see something that needs doing, you roll up your sleeves and get to work. My grandparents in Vulcan had no local ambulance, so they founded a volunteer service. The volunteer fire hall was run from their home, their wall phone doubling as the emergency line. Personal calls, understandably, had to be kept short. When Albertans pull together, we accomplish remarkable things.

Sometimes, Madam Speaker, a life of quiet service must find a louder voice. I felt that call to protect what has invested in me and protected my family. At 20 years old my knees began to ache. Stairs quickly turned painful. My fingers grew weak and stiff. Within six weeks I was taking 26 Advil a day to contain the rapid onset of rheumatoid arthritis. Twenty minutes of great difficulty each day resulted in me putting on my socks. With great pain I could lift my arms to button a shirt or put on a jacket.

During this time I met an elderly woman bent over with arthritis, fingers gnarled into near uselessness. I saw my future in that woman, but the miracle of public health care stepped in. A provincial program shouldered the staggeringly high cost of monthly therapeutic injections. This medical care brought my symptoms under control, allowing me to attend university, start a career, and build a family. Alberta saved a young man from a crippling disease.

The second time health care saved me was more disturbing than the first. It began with these words: "I'm sorry. You have cancer." Treatment saved my life and changed my family forever. Now when my boys participate in the Terry Fox Run, they run for dad.

I caught COVID twice during treatment. This actually made me grateful that I was diagnosed with cancer in 2023. Had my cancer only arrived a few years earlier, I would have been another COVID death statistic. Chemotherapy made my immune system nonfunctional, and the medication that saved my life had not yet been discovered at the onset of the pandemic. I was looking at chocolates in the card beside my bed in Rockyview General hospital in an isolation room due to the dangerous contraction of COVID. I saw someone enter covered head to toe in protective clothing. All I could see were two eyes looking at me, two eyes wishing I could get up from that bed for a hug, two eyes full of emotion, as if they were about to lose their entire world. That was the 14th of February 2024, and that someone covered in protective clothing was my valentine, my wife, my light on a difficult journey. Chocolates and card from her.

3:30

Great skill and compassion were the hallmarks of our health care workers, but they were clearly overburdened. I spent weeks waiting for the start of my life-saving treatment, knowing the cancer was gaining ground on me and with mounting medical complications. I too often waited for hours in emergency waiting rooms. My final

hospitalization had me feverish, heart racing, and struggling to stay conscious. Hours spent in a waiting room, waiting for a bed to open up upstairs, unaware that I had been fighting for my life. My doctor called me twice from her personal time off with urgent test results. There was no one to cover her absence.

Ten months after my last treatment I read a news report that lit a fire in me. The UCP government decided that Popsicles and ginger ale for kids with cancer were budget items worth slashing. A minuscule price tag but a meaningful gesture for those fighting for their lives. Only in the face of public outrage did this government reverse their choice. I cannot forget such callous decision-making.

My multigenerational story of life in Alberta would have been broken were it not for our public health care system. The most expensive part of my care for my family was merely the cost of parking; I accessed life-saving care with my paper health care card. A credit card has no place in public health care. Twice has my life been saved by Alberta health care.

The second Albertan institution that invested in me was found in the town of Okotoks. Here I received a wonderful education. After high school I applied to attend one U.S. university and was pleasantly surprised that my Alberta academic standing was boosted by half a letter grade in their scoring process. This was because Alberta was internationally recognized as having exceptionally high standards and outcomes. I wonder if that same Alberta advantage will still exist for my boys.

The lack of educational investment in Calgary-Shaw has been disturbing and heart wrenching. My hardest day of door-knocking came from hearing so many back-to-back stories of parents whose children are falling through the gaping cracks in our school system. I asked my wife at the end of that day the same question I ask you now. Who will care for these children? One year ago this UCP government unanimously legislated away the rights of Alberta's teachers to silence their voices.

The biggest crack of all is the sheer lack of schools. Of the 34 new school requests in Calgary 10 are in Calgary-Shaw, a community where the demand for schools has reached double digits. Not a single school to meet that demand is currently under construction. Communities that were built 15 years ago still have vacant fields, maybe even a sign promising a future school site. Too many families have moved to Calgary-Shaw thinking a school was coming soon only to watch your children grow up and, in some cases, graduate without that promise ever being fulfilled. Class sizes are out of control, complex learners are lacking consistent supports, and, to top it all off, parents have to pay an additional \$500 per student per year to have their children bused up to 45 minutes out of their community to overfilled, distant classrooms.

Let me take you on a school tour I received: a new build, completed this year, fresh walls, new hallways, and classrooms meant to welcome children from kindergarten to grade 9. But let's walk in a little farther. Our first stop is the gymnasium, a place where children should be running, jumping, and playing. Instead, the small auxiliary gym has been divided in half to create two classrooms, each with 60 students in them. Let's walk to the gym teacher's office, except it's no longer an office; it's a classroom with 25 students. Now let's open the door to a storage room, a room meant for supplies, not students. You will find that 27 children are learning in it. Let's visit a grade 1 classroom: 29 little children just beginning their educational journey sharing one classroom. Finally, let's visit the library, a place where children should discover the world through books. Instead, those bookshelves are makeshift

barriers, dividing the room in two. A class on either side is being conducted in the same open-air space.

Now that I've had an opportunity to size up this Chamber, I figure our school boards could fit half a dozen classrooms in here and share the room with a couple hundred students. We'd better get used to sharing our desks.

For seven and a half years this government has held a majority in this Chamber, ample opportunity to build the schools our growing communities deserve. Madam Speaker, is it because we don't have the money to build more schools? Is it because we don't have the money to hire more teachers?

Public education in Alberta is more than just a budget line; it's how we invest in Alberta's future. A childhood in the Boy Scouts taught me to build a fire, navigate the wilderness, and to leave a campsite better than how you found it. We have a responsibility to leave Alberta's institutions stronger than we found them. Our children are growing up in an educational system that places them at a disadvantage, and they will grow to adulthood saddled with a legacy of financial mismanagement that has marred their education.

Eight months and one day ago this government tabled a budget with a \$9.4 billion deficit, all during record-high oil and gas revenue. In a moment when we should be taking our greatest strides, we are struggling to keep the lights on. Under this UCP government Alberta will always be precariously wealthy. We will continue to be blown over by the winds of global commodity markets. The reliance on global instability is a poor substitute for disciplined fiscal strategy.

Under normal circumstances my story would include hard times, but I wouldn't have felt the need to stand here, standing up for the sick, standing up for our children, standing for a stable future. I've walked through the doors of strong public services and cannot bear to see those doors closed behind me. I live with freedom thanks to these institutions.

The future of Alberta is growing in Calgary-Shaw, which is the deep south of the city of Calgary. It's growing every day with the fringe of the city. You can hear it in the laughter as new parks open. You hear it in the joyful families who welcome new life into our beautiful province. In many ways Calgary-Shaw is a reflection of Alberta itself: ambitious, growing, full of young families and people drawn by the promise of opportunity. It's a place where people come to build a future and where the future of our province is already taking shape. Our responsibility is to make sure the schools, health care, infrastructure, and opportunities keep pace with the families who are building that future.

Alberta has invested in me in more ways than I can count, so I stand here as part of its legacy, a testament to what is possible when we care for people we serve in a way they deserve. I stand here today to fight for and protect the people, the community, and the institutions that protected me. Our legacy as stewards of this province must match the quality of the people that call it home. That's what I believe. It's what helped me survive. It's helped me thrive. It's what led me to stand before you today proud, honoured, humbled to serve as the MLA for Calgary-Shaw.

Thank you. I move to adjourn debate.

[Motion to adjourn debate carried]

The Deputy Speaker: The hon. deputy whip.

Mr. Yao: Madam Speaker, I move that the Assembly be adjourned until tomorrow at 1:30 p.m.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 3:40 p.m.]

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