

Legislative Assembly Province of Alberta

Day 43

(Issued Wednesday, August 23, 2006 Pursuant to Standing Order 38(4))

ORDER PAPER

Second Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Thursday, August 24, 2006

Prayers

ROUTINE

O Canada (First sitting day of each week)
Introduction of Visitors
Introduction of Guests
Ministerial Statements
Oral Question Period
Members' Statements
Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees
Presenting Petitions
Notices of Motions
Introduction of Bills
Tabling Returns and Reports
Tablings to the Clerk
Projected Government Business (Thursday)

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Motions

16. Moved by Hon. Mrs. McClellan:

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

Adjourned debate: Hon. Mr. Stevens

Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

Bill 39 Energy Statutes Amendment Act, 2006 — Mr. Lindsay

Adjourned debate: Mr. Lindsay

Bill 41 Unclaimed Personal Property and Vested Property Act (\$) — Hon.

Mrs. McClellan

Adjourned debate: Hon. Mr. Renner

Private Bills

Referred to Private Bills Committee

Bill Pr4 Canada Olympic Park Property Tax Exemption Amendment Act, 2006 — Ms DeLong

Written Questions

WQ28. Moved by Mr. Miller on behalf of Mr. Bonko:

What consultations, studies, research, or other information-gathering exercises pertaining to the impact of illegal drugs and alcoholism on workplace performance, productivity, and absenteeism are currently planned or underway under the auspices of the Ministry of Economic Development?

Debate adjourned: Hon. Mr. Ducharme speaking.

WQ30. Mr. Bonko to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 39):

What consultations, studies, research, or other information-gathering exercises pertaining to the impact of divorce on workplace performance, productivity, and absenteeism are currently planned or underway under the auspices of the Ministry of Economic Development?

WQ31. Mr. Flaherty to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 39):

What measurable impacts do the activities of the System Improvement and Reporting Branch of Alberta Education have on enhancing teaching and educational outcomes for students?

WQ32. Mr. Flaherty to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 39): For fiscal years 2000-2001 through 2004-2005, what are the total expenses broken down by project or function in the areas of system improvement and reporting within the System Improvement and Reporting Branch of Alberta Education?

WQ33. Mr. Mason to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 43):

For the fiscal years 2003-2004, 2004-2005, and 2005-2006, what was the total cost of administering the Alberta Health Care Insurance Act, broken down by costs associated with provision of customer services, registration and benefit processing?

WQ34. Mr. Mason to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 43):

For the fiscal years 2003-2004, 2004-2005, and 2005-2006, what was the total cost of administering the Health Insurance Premiums Act, and of that total what percentage was attributable to administering premium subsidies, and what percentage to collecting overdue accounts, including payments to collection agencies?

WQ35. Mr. Martin to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 46): What is the total dollar amount spent by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development on the "Choice Matters" and related campaigns promoting marketing choice for each of the fiscal years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, and 2005-06, what is the estimated amount to be spent in 2006-07, and for each of these years what portion was spent or will be spent on paid advertising?

Motions for Returns

MR27. Mr. Bonko to propose the following motion (Due Day 38):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: Copies of all documents related to the \$150,800 grant provided to Maskalyk Miles as described in the 2004-2005 General Revenue Fund Details of Grants, Supplies, Services, Tangible Capital Assets and Other Payments.

MR28. Mr. Bonko to propose the following motion (Due Day 38):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: Copies of all documents related to the \$188,000 grant provided to Jean Henry Paul as described in the 2004-2005 General Revenue Fund Details of Grants, Supplies, Services, Tangible Capital Assets and Other Payments.

MR29. Mr. Bonko to propose the following motion (Due Day 38):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: Copies of all documents related to the \$103,000 grant provided to Lefebvre Edmond as described in the 2004-2005 General Revenue Fund Details of Grants, Supplies, Services, Tangible Capital Assets and Other Payments.

MR30. Mr. Taylor to propose the following motion (Due Day 39):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: Copies of all documents including, but not limited to, studies, reports, submissions, and correspondence regarding the design, cost, location competition, and curriculum for the proposed Alberta Police and Peace Officer College.

MR31. Mr. Taylor to propose the following motion (Due Day 38):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: Copies of all documents including, but not limited to studies, reports, submissions, proposals, cost-benefit analyses, demographic studies, and correspondence related to the proposal by Mount Royal College to become a university.

MR32. Mr. Taylor to propose the following motion (Due Day 38):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: Copies of all documents including, but not limited to studies, proposals, statistical reports, budgetary analyses, and correspondence used by the Government in developing the new tuition fee policy for post-secondary institutions.

MR33. Mr. Taylor to propose the following motion (Due Day 39):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: Copies of all documents including, but not limited to, memos, talking points, studies, reports, website information, proposals, and correspondence related to the Government's February 2005 commitment to create an additional 15,000 post-secondary spaces over three years, 30,000 spaces over six years, and 60,000 spaces by the year 2020.

MR34. Mr. Taylor to propose the following motion (Due Day 39):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: Copies of all documents including, but not limited to, reports, proposals, and correspondence related to the Government's 2003 decision to enable public colleges to grant baccalaureate degrees.

MR35. Mr. Flaherty to propose the following motion (Due Day 39):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: For fiscal years 2000-2001 through 2004-2005, copies of all strategic plans, priority lists, and lists of current and future projects for the System Improvement and Reporting Branch of Alberta Education.

MR36. Mr. Eggen to propose the following motion (Due Day 46):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: Copy of the final report and recommendations of the Coalbed Methane/Natural Gas in Coal Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Motions Other Than Government Motions

512. Mr. Groeneveld to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to work with provincial governments and the Federal Government to standardize health and slaughter protocols for cattle across the country, thereby increasing interprovincial beef trade.

513. Mr. Bonko to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to create an industrial site reclamation fund, supported by industry, to ensure that all industrial sites, downstream oil and gas operations, and oil sands operations are reclaimed and remediated at industry expense and never default to public liability.

Mr. Griffiths to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to ensure that all budget surpluses or unbudgeted revenue from a given fiscal year be held in a holding account until its allocation is debated by the Legislative Assembly the following fiscal year.

515. Mr. Martin to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to amend the Labour Relations Act to provide for binding first contract arbitration and to prohibit the use of replacement workers during legal strikes and lockouts.

516. Withdrawn

517. Mr. Eggen to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to ensure that any resources allocated for developing carbon dioxide sequestration match those allocated for an absolute reduction in the production of carbon dioxide.

518. Mr. Lindsay to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to restrict the use of cellular phones by motor vehicle operators to hands-free units.

519. Mr. Shariff to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider the advisability of increasing funding of the International Development Program in an effort to enhance Alberta's role in the global economy and more accurately reflect the generosity of our citizens and the prosperity of our province.

520. Withdrawn

521. Mr. Flaherty to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to support skilled labour training in Alberta by partnering with industry and small business to develop, implement, and fund an alternative high school diploma in vocational arts.

522. Dr. Brown to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to adopt a comprehensive watershed-based management strategy in order to protect the sources of domestic water from contamination and to ensure future water quality.

523. Mrs. Jablonski to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider the advisability of implementing a \$6,000 annual tax exemption per child in a family as a means of lowering the tax burden for parents.

524. Ms DeLong to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to establish rules or guidelines for restraining orders in family law matters, particularly when granted on an ex parte basis, so that they do not unwarrantedly separate children from either of their contending parents.

- **525.** Withdrawn
- **526.** Withdrawn
- **527.** Withdrawn
- **528.** Mr. Chase to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to designate the 1,040 square kilometre Castle Wilderness as the Andy Russell I'tai sah kop Wildland Provincial Park/Provincial Park.

- **529.** Withdrawn
- **530.** Withdrawn
- **531.** Rev. Abbott to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to increase the speed limit on every provincial highway by an increment of 10 kilometres per hour.

532. Ms Blakeman to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to work with community coalitions, public health educators, medical professionals, police services, and the Alberta Motor Association to implement a strategy aimed at preventing injuries, disability, and premature death caused by motor vehicle accidents.

533. Mr. Lougheed to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to send Alberta Health Care statements to all Albertans in order to ensure that every individual within the province is aware of his or her use of the health care system.

- **534.** Withdrawn
- **535.** Withdrawn
- 536. Mrs. Mather to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to amend the Family and Community Support Services Act to include youth shelters as a preventative service in order to ensure they receive predictable, stable, long-term funding.

537. Dr. Brown to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to proclaim in force and implement the provisions of the School (Compulsory Attendance) Amendment Act, 2003.

538. Mr. Strang to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation that would allocate rural students more space in universities as recommended by the Alberta College of Physicians and Surgeons and Alberta Faculties of Medicine.

539. Mr. Agnihotri to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider immediately implementing and funding a sport plan for Alberta, as recommended by Alberta's Sport Plan Task Force, with the goal of promoting a healthier population.

540. Withdrawn

541. Mr. Groeneveld to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to continue pursuing initiatives to establish an open grain marketing system for Alberta farmers in order to provide marketing options other than the Canada Wheat Board.

542. Mr. Agnihotri to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to expedite immigrants' transition into the workforce by establishing a comprehensive provincial Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition Program.

543. Mr. Chase to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to commence twinning Highway 63 immediately.

544. Withdrawn

545. Mr. Johnson to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to investigate and introduce legislation to regulate the payday loans industry.

547. Dr. Pannu to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to request the Federal Government to not cancel existing commitments to child care in Alberta and to consider enhancing funding for high quality, licensed, notfor-profit child care centres.

548. Mr. Strang to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to require Albertans applying for any class of Alberta Driver's Licence to have a valid first aid certificate.

549. Withdrawn

550. Mr. Elsally to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to establish an independent, publicly accountable commission with a mandate to determine fair, market-value compensation for land owners whose property is being expropriated for public purposes.

551. Mr. Hinman to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce right of recall legislation to ensure that elected representatives are accountable to the electorate.

552. Withdrawn

553. Mr. Mason to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to maintain the current prohibition against physicians who have opted into the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan from billing patients for services covered by that plan.

554. Mr. Miller to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to enter immediately into negotiations with the Alberta Teachers' Association regarding the unfunded liability in the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund to ensure Alberta teachers' pension contributions are reduced to the national average.

555. Withdrawn

556. Withdrawn

558. Mr. Flaherty to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to develop province-wide standards for the provision of essential student support services including minimum numbers of guidance counsellors, vocational counsellors, and psychologists.

559. Mr. Backs to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to establish a children's recreation tax credit to encourage families, especially those who are disadvantaged, to enroll their children in physical and cultural extracurricular activities.

560. Ms DeLong to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider limiting ex parte orders granted on an ex parte basis in family law cases to 14 days.

561. Mr. Danyluk to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to dedicate the necessary resources to the development of supportive, long-term, and low-cost transitional housing for youth across Alberta.

Mrs. Jablonski to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to develop, implement, and oversee regulations and standards for long-term care facilities that do not receive public funding, similar to those in place for long-term care facilities that do receive public funding.

Mr. Prins to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to examine the funding formula for kindergarten to grade 12 accredited independent schools and independent post-secondary institutions with the intent of moving towards a more equitable funding formula, similar to the one used in Alberta's public education system.

564. Mr. Rodney to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to extend the provincial continuum of youth treatment services to ensure young Albertans experiencing problems with crystal-methamphetamine, other drugs, tobacco, and gambling have easy access to appropriate programs and resources.

566. Mr. Rodney to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to institute an aggressive awareness and action campaign targeting youth and young adults who engage in binge drinking and are at high risk for negative physical, mental, emotional, and societal consequences.

567. Withdrawn

568. Dr. Miller to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to establish diversion programs within the criminal justice system in order to accommodate the specific social, legal, and health needs of mentally ill prisoners.

569. Ms Blakeman to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to include midwifery services as insured services under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan.

570. Mr. Hinman to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to cap future budget expenditures at the 2005/2006 spending level with an index for inflation and population growth.

571. Withdrawn

572. Mr. Elsalhy to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to establish an independent, publicly accountable board, consisting of environmental experts and other qualified scientists, to advise the Government on all policy decisions with possible environmental implications.

573. Withdrawn

574. Withdrawn

575. Withdrawn

576. Mr. Bonko to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to place a moratorium on grizzly bear hunting in Alberta until an independent, scientific survey of the bear population is completed and demonstrates that a viable population can be maintained.

577. Withdrawn

578. Mr. MacDonald to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to extend the minimum length of vacation time for full-time employees who have worked 12 consecutive months for the same employer from two weeks to three weeks per year.

579. Mr. Taylor to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to support quality, accessibility, and affordability within the public post-secondary education system by introducing legislation that would eliminate the current \$3 billion limit on the value of the Access to the Future Fund.

580. Mr. Cao to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Act to place the punitive fines awarded in cases of death or severe disability into a trust fund which would benefit the dependent partner and/or children of the victim, rather than placing the funds into the General Revenue Fund or a non-government organization.

581. Withdrawn

582. Mr. Snelgrove to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to encourage the formation of a Canadian association of provincial legislators.

583. Withdrawn

584. Mr. Tougas to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to institute a five-year moratorium on new casino development.

585. Ms Pastoor to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to require that all contracts between Regional Health Authorities and all continuing care service providers be made public.

586. Mr. Mason to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to strengthen the prohibition against private payment for services covered under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan and to prohibit de-listing services from the plan without broad consultation from health care stakeholders.

587. Dr. Pannu to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to recognize that income contingent loan repayment policies have demonstrably led to higher tuition and higher rates of student debt and prohibit the introduction of such forms of tuition financing in Alberta.

588. Withdrawn

589. Mr. Johnson to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to encourage and provide assistance for youth cultural sports exchange programs to increase awareness of, and interaction with, other cultures around the world.

590. Mr. Cao to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to create additional short-term internship positions within the Government for qualified immigrants who seek work experience for the first time in Canada, thereby encouraging private corporations and the Federal Government to do the same.

591. Mr. Taylor to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to improve the affordability of public post-secondary educational opportunities by converting the Alberta Student Loan Program into a needs-based bursary program so that students graduate with no provincial student loan debt.

592. Dr. Morton to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to request Alberta's current unelected Senators to resign their positions immediately to allow Alberta's four elected Senators to be appointed.

594. Mr. Griffiths to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to conduct an audit of all Government regulations in order to eliminate those that unnecessarily impede business development and growth.

595. Mr. Martin to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to establish a Seniors' Advocate, who would be an Officer of the Legislature, and whose office would be responsible for ensuring seniors receive the best possible services from the Government by investigating complaints of elder abuse and advocating legislative and policy changes to improve the quality of seniors' lives in Alberta.

596. Mrs. Mather to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to make the Children's Advocate an independent Officer of the Legislature.

597. Withdrawn

598. Ms Pastoor to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to improve the availability of palliative care to families throughout Alberta by declaring palliative care a core health service to be provided by all Health Regions without additional patient charges.

- **599.** Withdrawn
- **600.** Withdrawn
- 601. Withdrawn
- **602.** Withdrawn

603. Dr. Swann to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to establish enforceable regulations, including strict timelines, for the reclamation of abandoned oil and gas wells to reduce the public's environmental risk and liability.

604. Dr. Taft to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to establish clear, written policies to prohibit any inappropriate interference by MLAs (Member of the Legislative Assembly), including by Ministers of the Crown, with enforcement cases at the Alberta Securities Commission.

605. Withdrawn

606. Mr. Eggen to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to prevent exposing Alberta consumers to California electricity markets by prohibiting the bulk export of electricity out of the country.

- **607.** Withdrawn
- **608.** Mr. Miller to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to prohibit the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund from holding any investments in the tobacco industry.

609. Dr. Miller to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to hire more specialized Crown Prosecutors to work directly with police services throughout the process of investigating and prosecuting gang-related crimes.

- **610.** Withdrawn
- Mr. Tougas to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to establish an independent committee comprised of health experts, Aboriginal leaders, and other stakeholders, to develop a specialized health plan for Aboriginal peoples with a particular focus on diabetes, substance abuse, HIV (human immunodeficiency virus), and low-weight births.

Mr. Lindsay to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to limit the availability of taxpayer funded abortions to one per Albertan except in situations where the pregnancy is the result of an unlawful act or the abortion is medically necessary.

Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

- Bill 210 Election (Fixed Election Dates) Amendment Act, 2006 Dr. Taft
- Bill 211 Traffic Safety (Mandatory Motorcycle Training) Amendment Act, 2006 Mr. Lindsay
- Bill 215 Labour Relations Code (First Collective Agreement) Amendment Act, 2006
 Mr. Backs

Committee of the Whole

- Bill 207 Traffic Safety (Driver Disqualification and Seizure of Vehicles Arising From Drug Offences) Amendment Act, 2006 Mrs. Jablonski (Due Day 35)
- Bill 208 Protection of Fundamental Freedoms (Marriage) Statutes Amendment Act, 2006 Dr. Morton (Due Day 39)

NOTICES

Government Motions

24. Hon. Mrs. McClellan to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Message from His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, the 2006-07 Supplementary Supply Estimates for the General Revenue Fund and Lottery Fund, and all matters connected therewith, be referred to Committee of Supply.

25. Hon. Mrs. McClellan to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that pursuant to Standing Order 58(9), the number of days that Committee of Supply will be called to consider the 2006-07 Supplementary Supply Estimates for the General Revenue Fund and Lottery Fund shall be two days.

Leave to Introduce a Bill

Bill 44 Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2006 (No. 2) (\$) — Hon. Mrs. McClellan

Due Dates Under Standing Order 34(3) for Written Questions Accepted and Motions for Returns Agreed to

- Day 45 WQ1, WQ6, WQ7, WQ8, WQ9, MR6, MR14, MR16.
- Day 57 WQ29.
- Day 69 WQ20, WQ21, WQ22, WQ23, WQ24, WQ25, WQ27.

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

Title: Thursday, August 24, 2006