



**Legislative Assembly  
Province of Alberta**

Day 17

**ORDER PAPER**

Third Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

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Thursday, April 12, 2007

1:00 p.m.

**Prayers**

ROUTINE

**O Canada (First sitting day of each week)**

**Oral Question Period (1:30 p.m. daily)**

**Introduction of Visitors**

**Introduction of Guests**

**Ministerial Statements**

**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 Bills and Orders

### Second Reading

- Bill 19 Appeal Procedures Statutes Amendment Act, 2007 — Dr. Brown
- Bill 22 Alberta Investment Management Corporation Act (\$) — Hon. Dr. Oberg  
Adjourned debate: Mr. Eggen
- Bill 23 Unclaimed Personal Property and Vested Property Act (\$) — Hon. Dr. Oberg
- Bill 24 Real Estate Amendment Act, 2007 — Mr. Rogers
- Bill 26 Municipal Government Amendment Act, 2007 — Hon. Mr. Danyluk
- Bill 27 Emblems of Alberta Amendment Act, 2007 — Hon. Mr. Goudreau
- Bill 28 Provincial Court Amendment Act, 2007 — Hon. Mr. Stevens
- Bill 29 Farm Implement Amendment Act, 2007 — Rev. Abbott
- Bill 30 Disaster Services Amendment Act, 2007 — Mr. Prins

### Committee of the Whole

- Bill 1 Lobbyists Act — Hon. Mr. Stelmach
- Bill 5 Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2007 — Mr. Rodney
- Bill 7 Private Vocational Schools Amendment Act, 2007 — Mr. Webber
- Bill 8 Vital Statistics Act — Mr. VanderBurg
- Bill 9 Tourism Levy Amendment Act, 2007 (\$) — Hon. Dr. Oberg
- Bill 13 Access to the Future Amendment Act, 2007 — Mr. Rodney
- Bill 14 Pandemic Response Statutes Amendment Act, 2007 — Mrs. Jablonski
- Bill 15 Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution Amendment Act, 2007 — Mrs. Forsyth
- Bill 17 Limitation Statutes Amendment Act, 2007 — Dr. Brown
- Bill 18 Judicature Amendment Act, 2007 — Hon. Mr. Stevens

### Third Reading

- Bill 3 Climate Change and Emissions Management Amendment Act, 2007 — Hon. Mr. Renner
- Bill 6 Post-secondary Learning Amendment Act, 2007 — Mr. Dunford

- Bill 10 Horned Cattle Purchases Act Repeal Act — Mr. Mitzel
- Bill 12 Income and Employment Supports Amendment Act, 2007 — Hon. Ms Evans
- Bill 16 Police Amendment Act, 2007 — Hon. Mr. Lindsay
- Bill 21 Securities Amendment Act, 2007 — Mr. Pham

### **Bills Awaiting Royal Assent**

- Bill 4 Child Care Licensing Act — Hon. Ms Tarchuk

### **Written Questions**

- WQ1.** Mr. Miller to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 18):  
What is the total projected cost to taxpayers of the Government's current schedule for paying off the unfunded liabilities of public sector pension plans, broken down by plan?
- WQ2.** Ms Pastoor to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 17):  
What was the total number of funding applications and the total number of applications approved under the Assistance to Persons with Developmental Disabilities program and the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped program in fiscal years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006?
- WQ3.** Mr. MacDonald to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 17):  
For each of the fiscal years 1997-1998 through 2005-2006, what is the total value of all reductions to Crown royalties under the following categories of "allowed costs" as referenced in Appendix "L" of the Alberta Oil Sands Royalty Guidelines: bonuses paid; corporate; environmental monitoring; hosting and entertainment; municipal taxes; stock option plans?
- WQ4.** Mr. Miller to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 17):  
What was the total value of all Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund investments in tobacco-based companies at the end of fiscal years 2000-2001 through 2005-2006, and for the period April 1, 2006, to March 7, 2007?
- WQ5.** Mr. Martin to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 17):  
For each of the fiscal years 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-2006, and for the period April 1, 2006, to March 6, 2007, what was the total value of psychiatric services contracted by Regional Health Authorities (RHAs), broken down by RHA, and what was the total value of psychiatric services contracted by the Alberta Mental Health Board?

- WQ6.** Mr. Martin to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 17):  
For each of the fiscal years 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-2006, and for the period April 1, 2006, to March 6, 2007, what was the total number of psychiatrists contracted to provide clinical services for Regional Health Authorities (RHAs), broken down by RHA, and what was the total number contracted to provide clinical services by the Alberta Mental Health Board?
- WQ7.** Mr. Martin to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 17):  
For each of the fiscal years 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, and 2005-2006, how many days of sick leave were taken by registered nurses, broken down by Regional Health Authorities?
- WQ8.** Mr. Martin to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 17):  
For each of the fiscal years 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, and 2005-2006, how many days of sick leave were taken by licensed practical nurses employed by Regional Health Authorities (RHAs), broken down by RHA?
- WQ9.** Dr. Pannu to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 27):  
How many long-term care facilities and beds were operating in Alberta on December 31 for the years 2001 to 2006 inclusive, broken down by regional health authority and whether the facility is owned/operated publicly, privately, or on a voluntary basis, an example of which appears on page 19 of the Report of the Auditor General on Seniors Care and Programs 2005?
- WQ10.** Dr. Pannu to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 27):  
How many supportive living facilities (including assisted living facilities, lodges, enhanced lodges, seniors complexes, and group homes) and related number of beds were operating in Alberta for each of the fiscal years 2001-02 to 2005-06, and for April 1, 2006 to March 19, 2007, broken down by regional health authority and by whether the facility is owned/operated publicly, privately, or on a voluntary basis?
- WQ11.** Mr. Eggen to ask the Government the following question (Due Day 27):  
What is the total number of barley producers whose information was sent to the accounting firm KPMG for the purpose of assembling the list of eligible voters for the 2007 barley plebiscite of the Canadian Wheat Board?

## **Motions for Returns**

**MR1.** Mr. MacDonald to propose the following motion (Due Day 17):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:

A copy of all documents relating to the Government's review of royalties that concluded in 2006, as referenced by the former Minister of Energy in the Calgary Herald on July 15, 2006, including a list of groups, organizations, companies, or individuals consulted, and the total amount of money paid to each group, organization, company, or individual for their involvement.

**MR2.** Mr. Flaherty to propose the following motion (Due Day 17):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:

Copies of all feasibility reports, studies, proposals, cost-benefit analyses, correspondence, e-mails, and memos regarding the use of public-private partnership (P3) funding arrangements for school construction conducted from fiscal year 2002-2003 to 2005-2006, and for the period April 1, 2006, to March 7, 2007.

**MR3.** Ms Blakeman to propose the following motion (Due Day 18):

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:

A copy of all long-term capital plans for infrastructure related to health facilities approved in fiscal years 2004-2005 to 2005-2006, and for the period April 1, 2006, to March 7, 2007.

## **Motions Other Than Government Motions**

**504.** Mr. Hinman to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider the advisability of investing 50 percent of the budget surplus into the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund and reimbursing the remaining 50 percent to Albertans as a percentage of their personal income taxes and/or property taxes.

**505.** Mr. Amery to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to establish a plan with municipalities to phase out the education portion of property taxes for seniors.

- 506.** Mr. Mason to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to adopt a made-in-Alberta energy policy to be developed through public consultation and debate in the Legislative Assembly and founded on the economic and energy interests of Alberta and Canada rather than those of the United States.
- 507.** Dr. Taft to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to immediately begin assembling land and/or negotiating rights-of-way for a high-speed electric rail line between Edmonton and Calgary, with additional stops as warranted.
- 508.** Mr. Mason to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to amend section 2 of the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act to make donations to leadership campaigns subject to the same contribution limits and disclosure requirements as other political donations.
- 509.** Mr. Agnihotri to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to immediately enter into negotiations with the Federal Government to expand the Provincial Nominee Program into a reliable and permanent source of skilled labour for Alberta, thereby reducing the demand for temporary foreign workers.
- 510.** Mr. Chase to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce amendments to the Election Act to lower the minimum age of electors in provincial elections from 18 years to 16 years.
- 511.** Mr. Chase to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to improve service for families involved in legal proceedings by implementing a fully effective unified family court, as called for by the Unified Family Court Task Force Report.
- 512.** Withdrawn

- 513.** Mr. Elsalhy to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce amendments to the Residential Tenancies Act to protect tenants by prohibiting rent increases during a tenant's first 12 months of occupancy and limiting subsequent rent increases to a maximum of once per year.
- 514.** Mr. Tougas to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation that will set minimum drink prices in licensed establishments, as recommended in the 2006 Report of the Alberta Roundtable on Violence In and Around Licensed Premises, which will help curb the over-consumption of alcohol that may lead to violence.
- 515.** Mr. Mitzel to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to recognize the tradition of hunting and fishing for all Albertans.
- 516.** Withdrawn
- 517.** Mr. Griffiths to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider the advisability of placing all revenue derived from natural resources in the province into a fund to develop a sustainable and environmentally sound economy for future generations.
- 518.** Mr. Johnston to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to work with the Federal Government to provide job security for members of the Canadian Forces Reserves who may get called to active duty for extended periods of time.
- 519.** Dr. Miller to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to reinstate the Designated Community School Program that enables schools to partner with other public and voluntary sector organizations and continue to serve as the hub of vibrant communities.
- 520.** Withdrawn

- 521.** Mr. Marz to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to establish a committee consisting of representatives from the Provincial Government, land owners, and the energy industry to review surface rights compensation.
- 522.** Mr. Backs to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to proclaim into force the Alberta Personal Income Tax (Tools Credit) Amendment Act, 2001, in order to encourage new apprentices in the trades, help Alberta tradesmen defray the high cost of tools, and foster economic and skills development in Alberta.
- 523.** Ms Blakeman to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to ban all point of purchase tobacco advertising displays known as power walls.
- 524.** Withdrawn
- 525.** Mr. MacDonald to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to establish a provincial land bank of unused and available Crown land to ensure the orderly development of affordable housing required to accommodate Alberta's growth.
- 526.** Withdrawn
- 527.** Withdrawn
- 528.** Mr. Rodney to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to enter into an agreement with the Federal Government, First Nations governments, and the City of Calgary for a southwest Calgary ring road with construction to begin in the first six months of 2008.
- 529.** Rev. Abbott to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation requiring any information collected by an automobile event data recorder during a collision to be made available to the public.
- 530.** Withdrawn



- 531.** Mr. Taylor to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider increasing support for students in financial need by extending eligibility to the third and fourth years of study, and increasing the amount of non-repayable aid provided through the Alberta Opportunities Bursary.
- 532.** Withdrawn
- 533.** Dr. Swann to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to require the establishment of an industry-supported clean up fund for downstream oil and gas operations, abandoned gas stations, and other contaminated industrial sites throughout Alberta.
- 534.** 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.
- 535.** Withdrawn
- 536.** Withdrawn
- 537.** Mr. Johnston to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to demonstrate leadership to the private sector and other levels of government by installing hands-free mobile communication devices in all government and private vehicles used for government purposes.
- 538.** Mr. Amery to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to eliminate health care premiums to benefit all Albertans.
- 539.** 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.

- 540.** Ms DeLong to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to create a provincial certification for neutral centres that can, in cases of separation or divorce, be assigned by the courts to document parental compliance with access orders.
- 541.** Mr. Griffiths to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to index the salaries of all government employees to the average weekly earnings index and provide salary adjustments based on supply and demand pressures within one year following a provincial general election.
- 542.** Withdrawn
- 543.** Mr. Flaherty to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to support safe and productive educational environments for teachers and students by providing a clear timeline for priority school construction and maintenance projects.
- 544.** Dr. Pannu to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to reduce tuition to 1999-2000 levels, reduce the interest on student loans to prime, limit increases of mandatory fees, and increase the number of guidance counsellors in high schools in order to affirm the importance of post-secondary education as a long-term personal and economic investment.
- 545.** Mrs. Mather to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider increasing financial support for Family and Community Support Services.
- 546.** Mr. Lougheed to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider the needs of persons with disabilities when developing or revising government services, programs, legislation, and policies.
- 547.** Withdrawn
- 548.** Withdrawn
- 549.** Withdrawn

- 550.** Mrs. Jablonski to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to increase the qualifying income thresholds to allow a greater number of seniors to qualify for benefits under the Alberta Seniors Benefit Program.
- 551.** Mr. Tougas to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce legislation to amend the Gaming and Liquor Act to define the carrying of a knife within a licensed premises as conduct detrimental to the orderly operations of the premises, thereby making such individuals subject to arrest and prosecution.
- 552.** 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.
- 553.** Mr. Miller to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider providing immediate one-time funding for a traffic interchange at 23rd Avenue and Gateway Boulevard in Edmonton to increase the commercial vitality, safety, and quality of life in affected communities.
- 554.** 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 in the province is aware of his or her use of the health care system.
- 555.** Mrs. Jablonski to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to permit Alberta's credit unions to open general insurance broker subsidiaries, as Alberta is the only province which prohibits credit unions from owning a general insurance broker.
- 556.** Withdrawn
- 557.** Withdrawn

- 558.** Mr. Elsalhy to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly recognize the principle that everyone needs a home by urging the Government to establish an interest-free loan program for qualified homeless and hard-to-house individuals that would cover the cost of a damage deposit and/or first month's rent.
- 559.** Mrs. Mather to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to double the number of youth addiction treatment beds over the next five years.
- 560.** Mr. Martin to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to adopt a contracting policy similar to the one recently adopted by the City of Calgary to ensure that all organizations receiving government contracts pay their employees a living wage in order to compensate for the rising cost of living.
- 561.** Dr. Swann to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to enable industry efforts to increase the supply of wind and other renewable power supplies so that every Alberta home and farm can run on renewable or green energy within 10 years.
- 562.** Dr. Miller to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to lobby the Federal Government for legislative amendments that will ensure that individuals charged under the child pornography provision (section 163.1) of the Criminal Code are denied bail.
- 563.** Dr. Taft to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce amendments to the Election Act to require photo identification to vote in provincial elections.
- 564.** Withdrawn
- 565.** Mr. Eggen to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to take immediate steps to make fully funded and regulated junior kindergarten and full-day kindergarten accessible to parents who choose to give their children the broad benefits of early childhood education.

- 566.** Mr. Agnihotri to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider doubling the funding of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts in order to support the innovative individuals and institutions required to sustain and expand Alberta's economic and cultural vitality.
- 567.** Rev. Abbott to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider the feasibility of hiring additional police officers and special constables to reduce theft, vandalism, and other crimes in rural Alberta.
- 568.** Mr. Johnson to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider covering contractors working on farms under the Alberta Occupational Health and Safety Code.
- 569.** Withdrawn
- 570.** 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.
- 571.** Withdrawn
- 572.** Mr. Backs to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider the advisability of taxing all bitumen produced in Alberta at a level that will encourage the full processing of this resource in Alberta.
- 573.** Mr. Eggen to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to table a detailed plan to significantly increase the number of high quality, licensed, not-for-profit child care spaces in the province in order to reduce the burden placed on Alberta families faced with lengthy wait lists and the high cost of child care.
- 574.** Mr. Martin to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to table a clear plan to relieve infrastructure pressures facing municipalities, school boards, and health regions using traditional financing methods to avoid the cost over-runs, lack of public oversight, and sub-standard quality associated with many P3 projects.

- 575.** Mr. Bonko to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider providing additional resources to community policing services, including linking funding to population growth rates, in order to create safer and more cohesive communities.
- 576.** 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.
- 577.** Mr. MacDonald to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce amendments to the Employment Standards Code to increase the minimum vacation time for full-time employees from two weeks to three weeks per year.
- 578.** Withdrawn
- 579.** Mr. Cao to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to work toward accepting the Canadian Forces' vehicle operators' certificates and trades qualifications in order to allow these individuals to enter the workforce in an expedient manner after discharge.
- 580.** Withdrawn
- 581.** Mr. Eggen to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to implement measures to ensure that the approval of all major industrial projects is conditional on a cumulative impact assessment which would determine and mitigate each project's impact on health infrastructure, municipal infrastructure, housing, the environment, and the overall economy.
- 582.** Mr. Hinman to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider the advisability of returning 10 percent of provincial income and corporate taxes to the municipalities they were collected from.

- 583.** Ms Pastoor to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to create an independent advocacy centre for dependent adults to provide information, and legal and advocacy services for residents of continuing care facilities and their families.
- 584.** Ms Pastoor to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to increase the number of, and resources available to, those workers who help provide Alberta's homeless citizens with critical social services, including housing.
- 585.** Withdrawn
- 586.** 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.
- 587.** Mr. Bonko to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider dedicating a percentage of all provincial gaming and tobacco tax revenues to alcohol, drug, and tobacco addiction and cessation programs.
- 588.** Mr. Rodney to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to begin construction of the South Calgary Hospital by 2008, with a completion date of 2010, which will serve to decrease hospital wait times to 60 minutes and decrease the number of EMS (Emergency Medical Services) red alerts in Calgary.
- 589.** Withdrawn
- 590.** Mr. Taylor to propose the following motion:  
Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce amendments to the Municipal Government Act to encourage preservation of the original character of historically significant or heritage neighbourhoods.

## **Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders**

### **Second Reading**

Bill 204 Emblems of Alberta (Franco-Albertan Recognition) Amendment Act, 2007 / Loi modificative de 2007 sur les emblèmes de l'Alberta (reconnaissance du fait franco-albertain) — Mr. Oberle (Time remaining: 64 minutes)

Debate adjourned: Mr. Cao speaking.

Bill 205 Environmental Protection and Enhancement (Conservation and Reclamation) Amendment Act, 2007 — Mr. Strang

Bill 207 Child Care Accountability and Accessibility Act — Mrs. Mather

Bill 208 School (Restrictions on Fees and Fund-raising) Amendment Act, 2007 — Mr. Flaherty

### **Committee of the Whole**

Bill 203 Service Dogs Act — Mr. Lougheed (Due Day 19)

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## **NOTICES**

### **Leave to Introduce a Bill**

Bill 2 Conflicts of Interest Amendment Act, 2007 — Dr. Brown

Bill 11 Telecommunications Act Repeal Act — Mr. Dunford

Bill 31 Mental Health Amendment Act, 2007 — Rev. Abbott

Bill 32 Animal Health Act — Hon. Mr. Groeneveld

### **Government Motions**

15. Hon. Mr. Hancock to propose the following motion:

- A. Be it resolved that the temporary amendments to the Standing Orders that were approved by the Assembly on March 12, 2007, be amended as follows:
  - 1 Standing Order 3.1 is struck out and the following is substituted:  
3.1(1) The Assembly shall be called into session each year for a Spring Sitting commencing the first Monday of February, unless otherwise provided by order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, and concluding the first Thursday in June.



(2) Unless otherwise ordered, the Assembly shall meet for a Fall Sitting each year commencing on the first Monday in November and concluding on the first Thursday in December.

(3) The Assembly shall stand adjourned for a constituency week every 4th week during the Spring Sitting which, where possible, shall be aligned with school holidays or other holiday breaks, unless varied by a calendar agreed to by the House Leaders of the Government, Official Opposition and other recognized parties in consultation with Members not within a recognized party, which shall be filed with the Clerk on or before January 15 each year.

(4) If a Fall Sitting commences prior to the first Monday in November, the Assembly shall stand adjourned for a constituency week every 4th week.

(5) Nothing in this Standing Order precludes the Government from advising the Speaker that the public interest requires the Assembly to meet on a certain date, and the Speaker shall give notice that the Assembly shall meet at that time to transact its business as if it had been duly adjourned to that time.

(6) Nothing in this Standing Order precludes the Assembly from adjourning prior to the adjournment dates in suborders (1) and (2) if so ordered by the Assembly.

(7) Sittings may be extended beyond the adjournment dates in suborders (1) and (2) on passage of a Government Motion, which shall be decided without debate or amendment.

(8) The Government shall be called to provide the Assembly with a budget and estimates for the ensuing fiscal year on the 2nd Thursday in February unless, prior to the commencement of the Spring Sitting, the Government House Leader has provided to the Clerk notice of an alternate date, in which case the budget shall be provided to the Assembly on such date.

2 Standing Order 4 is amended

(a) by striking out suborder (2) and substituting the following:

(2) Notwithstanding suborder (1), evening sittings may be scheduled on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, or any combination thereof, upon passage of a Government Motion, which may be made on one day's notice and is subject to debate.

(b) by adding the following after suborder (2):

(2.1) Notwithstanding suborders (1), (2), (4) and (5), during the 2007 Spring Sitting, the Assembly shall meet for consideration of main estimates in Committee of Supply in the evening on the following dates and shall sit from 7 p.m. to 10:15 p.m.:

May 14 to 16, inclusive;

May 28 to 30, inclusive;

(c) in suborders (4) and (5) by striking out "7 p.m." and substituting "8 p.m.";

(d) by striking out suborder (6) and substituting the following:

(6) Notwithstanding suborders (4) and (5), on afternoons when there is an evening sitting of Committee of Supply, the Speaker or Chair, as the case may be, leaves the chair until 7 p.m.

- (7) When the Committee of Supply meets during an evening sitting, the Committee shall rise and report at 10 p.m.
- 3 Standing Order 7 is amended by adding the following after suborder (1.1):  
 (1.2) If the items in the daily Routine are completed prior to 1:30 p.m., the Assembly shall proceed to Oral Question Period, and any matters outstanding shall be taken up prior to the calling of Orders of the Day.
- 4 Standing Order 8 is amended by adding the following after suborder (3):  
 (3.1) On Monday afternoon, if the Assembly is in Committee of the Whole, the Committee shall rise and report prior to 4:55 p.m.
- 5 Standing Order 34 is amended by striking out suborders (3) and (3.1) and substituting the following:  
 (3) The Government House Leader shall give the Assembly one day's notice of any Written Questions or Motions for Returns that are to be dealt with.  
 (3.1) On the Wednesday preceding the consideration of Written Questions and Motions for Returns, the Government House Leader may, by notice to the Clerk, indicate Written Questions and Motions for Returns that the Government will be accepting.  
 (3.2) The Clerk shall read the number, text and name of the sponsor of any Written Question or Motion for Returns of which notice of acceptance has been given pursuant to suborder (3.1) when this item of business is called.
- 6 Standing Order 53 is amended by renumbering it as Standing Order 53(1) and adding the following after suborder (1):  
 (2) The Government shall respond to a report of the Public Accounts Committee within 150 days of the date on which the Committee reports.
- B. Be it further resolved that the following temporary amendments be made to the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta to give further effect to the March 7, 2007, House Leaders' Agreement:
- 1 Standing Order 8(7) is amended by striking out clause (c) and substituting the following:  
 (c) A Public Bill Other Than a Government Bill shall be called in Committee of the Whole within 8 sitting days of the day the Bill receives second reading unless the Bill has been referred to a Policy Field Committee, in which case the Bill shall be called within 8 sitting days of the day on which the Policy Field Committee reports.
- 2 Standing Order 32 is amended  
 (a) in suborder (3) by adding "Subject to suborder (3.1)," before "When a division is called";  
 (b) by adding the following after suborder (3):  
 (3.1) After the first division is called in Committee of Supply during the vote on the main estimates under Standing Order 59.04, the interval between division bells shall be reduced to one minute for any subsequent division.

3 The following is added after Standing Order 52:

Policy Field Committees

52.01(1) Four Policy Field Committees, consisting of 11 Members each, shall be established to consider the following subject areas:

- (a) Standing Committee on Community Services – mandate to relate to the areas of health, education, children’s services, seniors, supports for the disabled, tourism, parks, recreation and culture;
- (b) Standing Committee on Government Services – mandate to relate to the areas of government services, government organization, personnel administration, expenditure management, capital planning, revenue, justice, international and intergovernmental affairs, trade, aboriginal affairs, policing and security;
- (c) Standing Committee on Managing Growth Pressures – mandate to relate to the areas of post-secondary education, technology, human resources, labour, immigration, rural development, municipal affairs, affordable housing, libraries, infrastructure and transportation;
- (d) Standing Committee on Resources and Environment – mandate to relate to the areas of energy, the environment, agriculture, sustainable resources and forestry.

(2) The Chair of a Policy Field Committee shall be a member of the Government caucus, and the Deputy Chair shall be a member of the Official Opposition.

Consideration of Bills by Policy Field Committees

52.02 A Policy Field Committee shall review any Bill referred to it.

Consideration of regulations by Policy Field Committees

52.03 A Policy Field Committee may review any regulation, amendment to a regulation or prospective regulation within its mandate in order to determine whether the attention of the Assembly should be drawn to any regulation, amendment to a regulation or prospective regulation on the grounds that it

- (a) imposes a charge on the public revenue not specifically provided for by statute;
- (b) prescribes a payment to be made by any public authority that is not specifically provided for by an Act of the Legislative Assembly;
- (c) may not be challenged in the courts;
- (d) makes unusual use of the authority provided for in the parent Act;
- (e) has an unexpected effect where the parent Act confers no express authority for that effect;
- (f) purports to have retrospective effect where the parent statute confers no express authority to have a retrospective effect;
- (g) has been insufficiently promulgated, is outside the scope of the parent Act, has not been enacted properly, or has been made without the necessary statutory authority;
- (h) is not clear in meaning;
- (i) is in any way prejudicial to the public interest.

Orders of the Assembly take priority

52.04 An order of the Assembly that a Bill, regulation or some other subject matter stands referred to a Policy Field Committee shall take priority over any other hearing or inquiry.

Referral of annual reports to Policy Field Committees

52.05(1) The annual reports of each Government department, provincial agency, Crown-controlled organization, board and commission shall be deemed to be permanently referred to a Policy Field Committee.

(2) Each Policy Field Committee may

- (a) examine each annual report referred to it and report to the Assembly whether the report is satisfactory;
- (b) consider in more detail and report to the Assembly, on each annual report it considers unsatisfactory;
- (c) investigate and report to the Assembly on any lateness in the tabling of annual reports;
- (d) report to the Assembly each year whether there are any bodies which do not table annual reports in the Assembly and which should present such reports.

Public hearings on regulations

52.06(1) A Policy Field Committee may conduct a public hearing on any Bill, regulation or prospective regulation under review.

(2) A Policy Field Committee shall be required, prior to reporting that the attention of the Assembly be drawn to any regulation or prospective regulation, to inform the Government department or authority concerned of its intention to so report.

Policy Field Committee inquiries

52.07(1) A Policy Field Committee shall inquire into, consider and report on any matter referred to it by the Assembly.

(2) A Policy Field Committee may on its own initiative, or at the request of a Minister, inquire into any matter concerned with the structure, organization, operation, efficiency or service delivery of any sector of public policy within its mandate.

(3) An Order of the Assembly that a Policy Field Committee undertake an inquiry shall take priority over any other inquiry, but a Policy Field Committee shall not inquire into any matters which are being examined by a Special Committee.

(4) All inquiries must be concluded and a substantive report presented to the Assembly no later than 6 months after the commencement of the inquiry.

(5) Funding for the purposes of undertaking an inquiry, in addition to the committee's regular allocation, is subject to the prior approval of the Members' Services Committee.

Additional powers of the Policy Field Committee

52.08 In addition to any other powers of Policy Field Committees, the Committees may examine any matter within their mandate and recommend to the Assembly on the need for legislation in that area.

Response to reports

52.09(1) The Government shall respond to a Policy Field Committee's report on any matter other than a report on a Bill within 150 days from the date on which the Policy Field Committee reports.

(2) No motion concurring in the report of a Policy Field Committee to which the Government must respond under suborder (1) shall be voted upon until that response is tabled in the Assembly.

4 The following is added after Standing Order 55:

55.01 Reports of the Officers of the Legislature shall stand referred to the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices unless otherwise ordered.

5 The following Standing Orders are added after Standing Order 59:

Application of Standing Orders during main estimates

59.01(1) The Standing Orders of the Assembly shall be observed in the Committee of Supply's consideration of main estimates except as follows:

- (a) a Member may speak more than once;
- (b) no Member may speak for more than 10 minutes at one time;
- (c) Standing Order 5, concerning quorum, shall not apply until the main estimates are voted upon.

(2) Notwithstanding suborder (1)(b), and provided that the Chair has been notified, a Minister and a private Member may combine their respective speaking times for a total of 20 minutes, with both taking and yielding the floor over the combined period.

(3) During Committee of Supply consideration of the main estimates, officials of the Government may be admitted to the floor of the Assembly to advise the Minister whose estimates are under consideration.

Hours of main estimates

59.02(1) Subject to suborder (2), the Committee of Supply shall be called to consider the main estimates for not more than 75 hours.

(2) During the 2007 Spring Sitting, the Committee of Supply shall be called to consider the main estimates for approximately 60 hours, with the time for consideration concluding upon the completion of 4 rotations of the 15-hour cycle outlined in Standing Order 59.03.

(3) Subject to the Official Opposition designations as provided for in Standing Order 59.03(2), the schedule for consideration of main estimates shall be determined by the House Leaders of the recognized parties and shall be tabled in the Assembly at least one sitting day prior to the Committee of Supply being called to consider main estimates.

(4) If the House Leaders fail to reach an agreement, the Government House Leader shall schedule the appearances of departments for estimates consideration by the Committee of Supply.

(5) On the first day of consideration of the main estimates by the Committee of Supply, the first member of Executive Council to speak shall move that the main estimates in their entirety be considered by the Committee.

(6) During the consideration of the main estimates, the Committee of Supply shall meet for a minimum of 3 hours at one time unless there are no Members who wish to speak prior to the conclusion of the 3 hours.

(7) If the Committee of Supply meets for more than 3 hours at one time, the time in excess of 3 hours shall be available to any Member who wishes to speak and is recognized by the Chair.

(8) The time spent in Committee of Supply beyond 3 hours any afternoon shall not be included in the calculation of the time for a 15-hour cycle.

(9) During the Committee of Supply's consideration of the main estimates, the Chair shall interrupt

- (a) at 5:45 p.m.,
- (b) at 10 p.m. if there is an evening sitting, or
- (c) when there are no Members who wish to speak prior to the times indicated in (a) or (b),

and shall order the Committee to rise and report, and the Committee shall immediately rise and report progress without motion put.

(10) Standing Order 5 does not apply to a report to the Assembly from the Committee of Supply under suborder (9).

(11) When an amendment to a department's estimates is moved in Committee of Supply, the vote on the amendment stands deferred until the date scheduled for the vote on the main estimates.

15-hour cycles, hourly allotments to caucuses

59.03(1) In this Standing Order, "cross-ministry" means the estimates of 2 or more departments to be considered by the Committee of Supply during consideration of the main estimates.

(2) The schedule for cross-ministry appearances shall be designated by the Official Opposition in consultation with the Third Party.

(3) The first 60 hours for consideration of the main estimates shall proceed through 4 rotations of a 15-hour cycle whereby

- (a) a caucus is allotted a particular block of hours during which time that caucus is entitled to designate which estimates are to be considered, and
- (b) only the designated Minister or member of the Executive Council acting on the Minister's behalf and members of the caucus that has been allotted that time will be recognized to speak unless there are no members of that caucus who wish to speak.

(4) The 15-hour cycle shall be allotted as follows:

Hours 1 to 6 - Official Opposition

Hours 7 to 9 - Third Party

Hours 10 to 12 - Private Members - Government Caucus

Hours 13 to 15 - cross-ministry appearances with the following allotments:

- (i) the first 2 hours shall be divided between the Official Opposition, who shall have 90 minutes, and the Third Party, who shall have 30 minutes, and
- (ii) during the last hour any Member may speak.

(5) During each 15-hour cycle, where the members of a caucus are allotted a particular block of time and those Members no longer wish to speak, then consideration for the entire block of time scheduled for that day is deemed to have occurred and any Member may be recognized by the Chair until the Committee rises and reports.

(6) Following the completion of the 4th 15-hour cycle of estimates consideration, the schedule for the remaining hours in Committee of Supply shall be determined by the House Leaders of the recognized parties in consultation with Members of the other parties or independent Members.

Voting - main estimates

59.04(1) On the date scheduled or at the end of 75 hours of consideration, there shall be one vote on the main estimates unless

- (a) additional votes are required on amendments pursuant to Standing Order 59.02(11) prior to calling the vote on the main estimates;
- (b) on at least one day's notice a Member has provided written notification to the Chair and the Clerk of his or her desire that the estimates of a particular department be voted upon separately, in which case that department's estimates shall be voted separately and the final vote for the main estimates shall consist of the estimates of any departments not yet voted upon.

(2) The votes under suborder (1) shall be taken without debate or amendment except as provided in Standing Order 59.02(11).

(3) The Government House Leader shall give notice of the date for the vote on the main estimates not later than the completion of the 4th 15-hour cycle of estimates.

(4) Notwithstanding suborders (1) and (3), for the 2007 Spring Sitting the vote on the main estimates may be scheduled with a minimum of one sitting day's notice to occur any time after the completion of the 4th rotation of the 15-hour cycle, unless otherwise ordered.

(5) On the date for the vote on the main estimates and prior to the vote on the main estimates, the Chair shall put the question to approve the estimates of the Legislative Assembly, as approved by the Special Standing Committee on Members' Services, and the estimates of the Officers of the Legislature, which shall be decided without debate or amendment.

(6) At 5:45 p.m. on the date scheduled for the vote on the main estimates, if the vote has not been taken earlier, the Chair shall interrupt the proceedings, and the Committee of Supply shall commence voting and, if required, continue beyond the normal adjournment hour until all matters have been voted upon, at which time the Committee shall immediately rise and report.

Tabling of responses

59.05(1) Ministers must table answers to questions asked in Committee of Supply within 2 weeks.

(2) The vote on the main estimates under Standing Order 59.04 shall not be held until the answers have been tabled in the Assembly as required under suborder (1).

- (3) Suborder (2) does not apply to questions asked in Committee of Supply within 2 weeks of the date for the vote on the main estimates.
- 6 The following sections of the Standing Orders shall have no force and effect for consideration of main estimates for the balance of the 26<sup>th</sup> Legislature:
- (a) 60(1);
  - (b) 61(1)-(7) and (9);
  - (c) 62(1) and (2);
  - (d) 65(1)(b).
- 7 Standing Order 62(1) is struck out and the following is substituted:  
62(1) In this Standing Order and Standing Order 64, “normal adjournment hour” means 6 p.m.
- 8 Standing Order 68 is amended by striking out suborder (2) and substituting the following:
- (2) The report of a committee is the report as determined by the committee as a whole or a majority of it but shall include any dissenting or minority reports concerning the report or parts of it.
- 9 The following is added after Standing Order 74:  
Referral of Bill to a committee after First Reading  
74.1(1) Immediately after a Bill has been read a first time,
- (a) with respect to a Government Bill a member of the Executive Council
  - (b) with respect to a Public Bill Other Than a Government Bill the sponsor
- may move a motion, without notice, to refer the Bill to a Policy Field Committee.
- (2) The Member moving the referral motion may be permitted to give a succinct explanation of the motion.
- (3) Any motion made pursuant to this Standing Order shall be decided without debate or amendment, and if the motion is decided in the negative the said Bill shall be ordered for Second Reading.
- (4) This Standing Order does not apply to appropriation or Private Bills.  
Proceedings on Bills referred to a committee after First Reading  
74.2(1) When a Bill is referred to a Policy Field Committee after First Reading, the committee may conduct public hearings on the subject matter of the Bill and report its observations, opinions and recommendations with respect to the Bill to the Assembly.
- (2) Upon the concurrence of a committee report that a Bill be proceeded with, the Bill shall be placed on the Order Paper for Second Reading.
- 10 The following is added after Standing Order 78:  
Referral of Bills to a Policy Field Committee after Second Reading  
78.1(1) Immediately after a Bill has been read a second time,
- (a) with respect to a Government Bill, a member of the Executive Council
  - (b) with respect to a Public Bill Other Than a Government Bill, any Member
- may move a motion, without notice, to refer the Bill to a Policy Field Committee, which shall be decided without debate or amendment.



(2) This Standing Order does not apply to appropriation or Private Bills.

Public hearings after Second Reading

78.2(1) When a Bill is referred to a Policy Field Committee after Second Reading, the committee may conduct public hearings on the content of the Bill.

(2) No public hearings may be conducted under suborder (1) if the Bill has been subject to committee consideration after First Reading.

Report of Policy Field Committee on Bills

78.3(1) A Policy Field Committee to which a Bill has been referred by the Assembly after Second Reading shall be empowered to report the same with or without amendments or to report that the Bill not proceed.

(2) The report may contain a written statement of the committee's conclusions if the Bill was the subject of a public hearing.

Procedure on report from Policy Field Committee

78.4 When a Bill is reported pursuant to Standing Order 78.3, the following procedure shall apply:

- (a) any Bill reported shall be considered committed to Committee of the Whole Assembly unless otherwise ordered;
- (b) when a report recommends that the Bill not proceed, a motion to concur in that report shall be put immediately and decided without debate, and if agreed to, the Bill shall be dropped from the Order Paper but if negated, the Bill shall stand committed to the Committee of the Whole.

C. Be it further resolved that the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing shall, without further motion, review and consider

- (a) the amendments to Standing Orders resulting from the March 7, 2007, House Leaders' Agreement by comparing the reforms to the practices in other Assemblies, examining whether the reforms afford open discussion of public policy where Albertans can participate and whether the reforms maximize oversight and accountability;
- (b) the need for additional amendments or reforms to the Assembly's rules and practices to further objectives of open, public discussion of public policy, the role of the Assembly in overall government accountability and the work/life balance of Members; and
- (c) following the 2007 Spring Sitting the operation of Standing Orders 59.01 to 59.05 and the process used for Committee of Supply in 2007,

and shall report to the Assembly with its recommendations no later than February 2008 with respect to the matters in clauses (a) and (b) and no later than the conclusion of the 2007 Fall Sitting with respect to the matters in clause (c).

D. Be it further resolved that the Policy Field Committees referenced in Part B of this motion be designated as Category A Committees for the purposes of the Members' Services Committee Allowances Order, RMSC 1992, c.M-2.

- E. And be it further resolved that
- 1 The amendments in this motion come into force on passage.
  - 2 The amendments in this motion and the amendments approved by the Assembly on March 12, 2007, as amended, shall have effect until the dissolution of the 26th Legislature.

## **Projected Government Business**

Thursday, April 12

### **Government Bills and Orders**

#### **Third Reading**

Bill 12, 15, 16, 21, 22

And as per the Order Paper

### **Time Remaining for Consideration of Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders Pursuant to Standing Order 8(3), on Thursday, April 12, 2007**

No time remaining.

### **Written Questions and Motions for Returns for Monday, April 16, 2007**

#### Written Questions

Accepted: WQ1, WQ4, WQ5, WQ6, WQ7, WQ8.

For consideration: WQ2, WQ3.

#### Motions for Returns

For consideration: MR1, MR2, MR3.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,  
Speaker

Title: Thursday, April 12, 2007