



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 10

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Third Session

Twenty-Third Legislature

Wednesday, March 1, 1995

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Zariwny, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona, presented a petition from 98 parents of the Garneau Parents Support Group regarding hours of kindergarten instruction.

Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, presented a petition from 30 Calgary residents associated with the Calgary Boys Choir regarding volunteer-based, not-for-profit charitable gaming in Alberta.

Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, presented a petition from 90 Claresholm and Granum residents regarding the closure of hospital beds in southwestern Alberta.

Reading and Receiving Petitions

On request by Ms Abdurahman, Hon. Member for Clover Bar-Fort Saskatchewan, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government to ensure all Alberta school boards provide the opportunity for each eligible child to receive a minimum of 400 hours of Early Childhood Services instruction per year.

We also request the Assembly urge the Government of Alberta to allow Alberta school boards to use money from the Alberta School Foundation Fund to fund 400 hours or more of Early Childhood Services (ECS) determined by the local community, so that there are no ECS user fees for 400 hour programs and so that all Alberta children have an equal opportunity or "level playing field" to succeed and compete in life by having equal access to basic educational resources.

On request by Mr. Zwozdesky, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Avonmore, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government to ensure all Alberta school boards provide the opportunity for each eligible child to receive a minimum of 400 hours of Early Childhood Services instruction per year.

We also request the Assembly urge the Government of Alberta to allow Alberta school boards to use money from the Alberta School Foundation Fund to fund 400 hours or more of Early Childhood Services (ECS) determined by the local community, so that there are no ECS user fees for 400 hour programs and so that all Alberta children have an equal opportunity or "level playing field" to succeed and compete in life by having equal access to basic educational resources.

On request by Mr. Wickman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government to ensure all Alberta school boards provide the opportunity for each eligible child to receive a minimum of 400 hours of Early Childhood Services instruction per year.

We also request the Assembly urge the Government of Alberta to allow Alberta school boards to use money from the Alberta School Foundation Fund to fund 400 hours or more of Early Childhood Services (ECS) determined by the local community, so that there are no ECS user fees for 400 hour programs and so that all Alberta children have an equal opportunity or "level playing field" to succeed and compete in life by having equal access to basic educational resources.

Notices of Motions

Mr. Zwozdesky, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Avonmore, gave oral notice of his intention to move the following motion under Standing Order 40:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly congratulate Cathy Borst and her team-mates on representing our Province at the Canadian Women's Curling Championship during the Scott Tournament of Hearts playoff in Calgary last week.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Mrs. Forsyth, Hon. Member for Calgary-Fish Creek:

Letter, dated November 23, 1994, from Ian Ross, President, St. Philip School Council, to Mrs. Forsyth, Hon. Member for Calgary-Fish Creek regarding an amendment to the School Act mandating fully funded kindergarten instruction
Sessional Paper 674/95

Letter, dated January 17, 1995, from Jackie Taylor, Secretary, Sam Livingston Parent Advisory Council, to Mrs. Forsyth, Hon. Member for Calgary-Fish Creek, regarding an amendment to the School Act mandating fully funded kindergarten instruction

Sessional Paper 675/95

Hon. Mrs. McClellan, Minister of Health:

Letter, dated February 21, 1995, from Hon. Mrs. McClellan, Minister of Health, to the Chairs of the Regional Health Authorities, regarding a detailed accounting of the funding available to the Regional Health Authorities, with attached regional targets, business plan and news releases

Sessional Paper 676/95

Mr. Bracko, Hon. Member for St. Albert:

Letters, dated February 8 and 24, 1995, from Anita Ratchinsky, Mayor, St. Albert, to Mrs. Gordon, Hon. Member for Lacombe-Stettler, regarding gaming, gaming revenue and the further liberalization of gaming activities

Sessional Paper 677/95

Mrs. Hewes, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Goldbar:

Table, average tax bill of families with head 65 Years of age or older, by income group, 1992, Alberta Liberal Caucus, March 1, 1995

Sessional Paper 678/95

Table, average tax bill of families with head under 65 years of age and 65 years of Age and older, by income group, Fraser Institute

Sessional Paper 679/95

Table, Alberta 1994, income and taxes for families headed by someone over and under 65 years of age

Sessional Paper 680/95

Table, comparison of average provincial taxes paid in families headed by a person 65 years of age or older, by income group, Alberta Liberal Caucus, March 1, 1995

Sessional Paper 681/95

Oral Question Period

During Oral Question Period, Mr. Mitchell, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, filed the following:

Letter, dated February 22, 1995, from Simon Lewis, Producer, Neon Forest Productions, to Achievement Testing Program Teachers, regarding the Achievement Testing Program Video

Sessional Paper 682/95

During Oral Question Period, Ms Abdurahman, Hon. Member for Clover Bar-Fort Saskatchewan, filed the following:

Order in Council 570/94, Department of Public Works, Supply and Services Act (section 17(1)), approving the sale of certain land to Double Diamond Cattle Co. Inc for \$259,000, appendix indicating official location of property and certificate of title

Sessional Paper 683/95

Order in Council 691/93, Department of Public Works, Supply and Services Act (section 17(1)), approving the sale of certain land to Noel and Leslie Dowler for \$233,200, appendix indicating official location of property and related land title searches

Sessional Paper 684/95

Speaker's Ruling — Unparliamentary Language

Yesterday, February 28, 1995, the Honourable Member from Edmonton-Gold Bar rose on a point of order concerning remarks made by the Premier. After an intervention by the Government House Leader, the Chair undertook to review the Blues before deciding upon the point of order.

To review the circumstances giving rise to the point of order, during Question Period yesterday, the Honourable Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar tabled a graph from the Fraser Institute, a letter and a report from another individual and asked questions relating to taxation of seniors and seniors' benefits. Following Question Period, the Premier supplemented the answer he gave during Question Period. In supplementing his earlier answer, the Premier stated "The document that she tabled, by the way, which was attached to a letter from a Mr. Con Duemler, I have to say was misleading at best."

It was the Honourable Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar's contention that the Premier's comments were directed at her and not the Institute that produced the document. With respect, I must disagree with the Honourable Member. As the Chair has indicated on several occasions, most recently February 16, 1995, there must be an allegation that a Member deliberately or intentionally misled the House for the use of the word "mislead" to be out of order. The Chair does not find that the allegation was made by the Premier. The Chair would like to add, once again, that the term is one that is often associated with "lying" which is distinctly unparliamentary. The Chair would again caution Members about exercising great restraint in using this term.

As far as the Government House Leader's comments about withdrawing his remarks, the Chair would point out that Hansard did not record, nor did the Chair hear, any remarks by him during the exchange on the supplementary answer.

Motions Under Standing Order 40

Mr. Zwozdesky, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Avonmore, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly for consideration of the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly congratulate Cathy Borst and her team-mates on representing our Province at the Canadian Women's Curling Championship during the Scott Tournament of Hearts playoff in Calgary last week.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to unanimously.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions

The following Written Questions were accepted:

Q149. (Mr. Sapers):

Excluding instances involving settlement of private insurance claims, provincial workers' compensation (WCB) cases, and out-of-province WCB cases, how many Albertans accessed Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) in private clinics during the periods April 1, 1990 to March 31, 1991; April 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992; April 1, 1992 to March 31, 1993; and April 1, 1993 to March 31, 1994?

Q150. (Mr. Sapers) :

How many Albertans accessed hospital-based Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) during the periods April 1, 1990 to March 31, 1991; April 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992; April 1, 1992 to March 31, 1993; and April 1, 1993 to March 31, 1994?

Q151. (Mr. Sapers):

How many Albertans in need of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) were on a waiting list for access to a publicly funded MRI during the periods April 1, 1990 to March 31, 1991; April 1, 1991 to March 31, 1992; April 1, 1992 to March 31, 1993; and April 1, 1993 to March 31, 1994?

The following Written Questions were ordered to stand:

Q146, Q147, Q148, Q152, Q153, Q154, Q155, Q156, Q157, Q158.

Motions for Returns

The following Motion for Return was accepted:

M180. Moved by Mr. Zwozdesky:

All specific details, terms and conditions of the take-over and/or sale of ACCESS Television Network negotiated by the Government between July 1, 1993 and February 13, 1995.

The following Motion for Return was accepted as amended:

M166. Moved by Mr. Sapers:

Copies of all information submitted to the Minister of Health by all seventeen Regional Health Authorities from July 1, 1994 until February 13, 1995.

Hon. Mrs. McClellan, Minister of Health, moved the Motion for Return be amended to read as follows:

Copies of all *public* information submitted to the Minister of Health by all seventeen Regional Health Authorities from July 1, 1994 until February 13, 1995.

The following Motions for Returns were defeated:

M164. Moved by Dr. Percy:

Copies of any agreement or amended agreements between 497072 Alberta Ltd. and Telexel Holding Limited concluded between January 1, 1994 and February 13, 1995.

A debate followed.

During debate Hon. Mr. Dinning, Provincial Treasurer, filed the following:

Letter, dated February 28, 1995, from Hon. Mr. Dinning, Provincial Treasurer, to Dr. Percy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Whitemud, regarding Telexel Holding Ltd.'s earn-out obligation to 496072 Alberta Ltd., a subsidiary to the AGT Commission

Sessional Paper 685/95

The question being put, the motion was defeated.

M172. Moved by Dr. Percy:

Any studies or reports prepared by, or on behalf of, the Government between January 1, 1993 and February 13, 1995 pertaining to reform of federal-provincial fiscal arrangements, including the fiscal transfer system, social policy reform and the tax collection agreements.

A debate followed.

The question being put, the motion was defeated. The names being called for were taken as follows:

For the motion: 24

Abdurahman	Hanson	Percy
Bracko	Henry	Sapers
Bruseker	Hewes	Sekulic
Carlson	Kirkland	Soetaert
Chadi	Langevin	Taylor (Redwater)
Collingwood	Leibovici	Van Binsbergen
Dalla-Longa	Massey	Wickman
Dickson	Nicol	Zwozdesky

Against the motion: 42

Ady	Fritz	Mirosh
Brassard	Gordon	Oberg
Burgener	Haley	Paszkowski
Calahasen	Havelock	Pham
Cardinal	Hlady	Rostad
Clegg	Jacques	Severtson
Coutts	Jonson	Smith
Day	Kowalski	Stelmach
Dinning	Laing	Tannas
Doerksen	Lund	Taylor (Cypress-Medicine Hat)
Dunford	Magnus	Thurber
Evans	Mar	Trynchy
Fischer	McClellan	Woloshyn
Forsyth	McFarland	Yankowsky

M173. Moved by Dr. Percy:

Copies of any studies or reports prepared by interdepartmental divestiture committees between April 1, 1993 and March 31, 1994 leading to the sale of the Province's investment in Gainers Inc., Alberta Intermodal Services, Northern Lite Canola and Smoky River Coal Limited.

M175. Moved by Mr. Henry:

Copies of all reports, summations or results that were produced by the Department of Health as a result of information collected in the January 25, 1994 memo addressed to Superintendents of School Districts, Directors of Private Schools, and Directors of Early Childhood Services regarding the survey of health services provided for children.

M181. Moved by Dr. Percy:

Copies of any studies or reports prepared by or on behalf of the Government since January 1992 regarding the feasibility of privatizing the Alberta Treasury Branches.

The following Motions for Returns were ordered to stand:

M159, M160, M161, M162, M163, M165, M167, M168, M169, M170, M171, M174, M176, M177, M178, M179, M182, M183, M184.

Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

On the motion that the following Bill be now read a Second time and referred to Committee of the Whole:

Bill 203 Family Day Amendment Act, 1995 — Mrs. Forsyth

A debate followed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 19(1)(c), debate adjourned, Hon. Mr. Smith speaking.

Consideration of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor's Speech

Pursuant to Standing Order 19(1)(c), at 5:15 p.m., the Speaker interrupted the proceedings to put the question on the following motion:

Moved by Mr. Brassard and seconded by Mr. Amery:

That an humble address be presented to His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor as follows:

To His Honour the Honourable Gordon Towers, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Alberta:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly, now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present session.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Government Motions

16. Moved by Hon. Mr. Evans on behalf of Hon. Mr. Klein:

Be it resolved that the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne be engrossed and presented to His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor by such Members of the Assembly as are Members of Executive Council.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Evans, Deputy Government House Leader, that it be called 5:30 p.m., the Assembly adjourned at 5:17 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 1995 — 8:00 P.M.

Government Bills and Orders

Third Reading

The following Bill was read a Third time and passed:

Bill 7 Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 1995 — Hon. Mr. Dinning

Committee of Supply

(Day 2 of Main Estimates Consideration)

(Assembly in Committee)

And after sometime spent therein, the Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr. Clegg reported as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions of the Department of Labour, reports progress thereon, and requests leave to sit again.

The question being put, the report and the request for leave to sit again were agreed to.

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Evans, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 10:09 p.m. until Thursday, March 2, 1995 at 1:30 p.m.

Title: Wednesday, March 1, 1995