



**Legislative Assembly  
Province of Alberta**

No. 5

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

First Session

Twenty-Fourth Legislature

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Monday, April 21, 1997

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

The Speaker offered a prayer and moment of silence was observed in recognition of the death of former Member, Mr. Tom Donnelly, Hon. Member for Calgary-Millican, 1975 to 1979, who passed away on April 1, 1997.

**Presenting Petitions**

Mr. Marz, Hon. Member for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills, presented a petition from 20 constituents supporting the principle of direct democracy whereby citizens have the right to introduce legislation through petition and referendum.

Mr. Marz, Hon. Member for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills, presented a petition from 51 constituents regarding the banning of VLT (video lottery terminal) gambling in Alberta.

Ms Barrett, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands, presented a petition from 209 Albertans regarding the introduction of legislation to prevent the use of replacement workers during strike action.

## **Reading and Receiving Petitions**

On request by Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned citizens of the Province of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to provide for a plebiscite vote for the residents of Region 4 as outlined in the Provincial Regional Health Authorities Act, on the following question: Should the Calgary General Hospital, Bow Valley Site, remain open as a full service acute care hospital?

## **Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees**

Mr. White, Chairman, Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts, presented the following report:

Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, Twenty-Third Legislature, Fourth Session (Spring and Summer Sittings), February 1996 to August 1996  
Sessional Paper 73/97

## **Notices of Motions**

Hon. Mr. Havelock, Government House Leader, gave oral notice of the following addition to Government Motion 13 appearing on notice on the Order Paper:

4. When the Committee of Supply is called to consider the Main Estimates it shall, on the six (6) calendar days after agreement of the motion establishing the subcommittees, when Main Estimates are under consideration, resolve itself into two (2) of the four (4) subcommittees, both of which shall meet and report to the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, gave oral notice of his intention to move the following motion under Standing Order 40:

Be it resolved that under Standing Order 40, the Legislative Assembly recognize April 21 to 27, 1997 as National Information Rights Week.

## **Tabling Returns and Reports**

Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier:

Report on Alberta's Participation in the Team Canada Mission: Korea, the Philippines, Thailand, January 8 to 20, 1997

Sessional Paper 74/97

Mr. Langevin, Hon. Member for Lac La Biche-St. Paul and Chair, Select Standing Committee on Legislative Offices:

Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the Redwater By-election Held Tuesday, May 21, 1996, by Elections Alberta

Sessional Paper 75/97

Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo:

Letter, dated April 21, 1997, from Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, to Hon. Mr. Smith, Minister Responsible for Freedom of Information, regarding seven questions arising from the 1995-96 Freedom on Information and Protection of Privacy Annual Report tabled in the Assembly by Hon. Mr. Smith, Minister of Labour, on April 16, 1997

Sessional Paper 76/97

### **Speakers' Ruling — Alleged Allegations Against Member for Calgary Currie**

Honourable Members, we have one point of order outstanding from last Thursday, April 17, 1997. After Question Period that day, the Honourable Government House Leader raised a point of order under Standing Order 23(h) and (i) concerning documents purportedly tabled in the Assembly by the Leader of the New Democrats about the HRG Health Resource Group Inc. In speaking to his point of order, the Government House Leader referred to a document dated April 17, 1997 and stated that it made allegations against the Member for Calgary-Currie.

To review briefly what occurred last Thursday, the Leader of the New Democrats tabled a document during Routine Proceedings that appears to have been filed by or on behalf of the HRG Health Resource Group Inc. with the Alberta Securities Commission. The document is entitled "Form 20" and is now Sessional Paper 61/97. During Question Period, the Honourable Minister of Health filed some correspondence between himself and the HRG company and an executive summary of the activities of that company which is now Sessional Paper 70/97.

Whatever the nature or contents of the document referred to by the Government House Leader, it was not one that was tabled in this Assembly. Furthermore, the Chair has checked Hansard and the Leader of the New Democrats did not refer to the Member for Calgary-Currie in her questions, let alone make any allegations.

The Chair wants all Members to know that it will strive to preserve the integrity of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta and will certainly call Members to order if they make allegations against other Members contrary to our Standing Orders and parliamentary tradition. However, in this case there were no such allegations made in the House. Accordingly, there is no point of order.

On another matter, the Government House Leader indicated during another point of order that he was having some difficulty in obtaining a copy of the Blues. For the benefit of new Members, "the Blues" are the initial or rough draft of Hansard that is made available for review. If there are small errors, Members may request corrections. There are 2 copies of the Blues provided in the Members' Lounge just behind the Chamber, with other copies in the Speaker's Office, the Legislature Library and Hansard offices at the Legislature Annex. They are ready in hard copy approximately one hour after the comments are made but are available in electronic form a bit earlier. If Members have difficulty in obtaining the Blues, please advise the Chair.

### **Motions Under Standing Order 40**

Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, requested the unanimous consent of the Assembly for consideration of the following motion:

Be it resolved that under Standing Order 40, the Legislative Assembly recognize April 21 to 27, 1997 as National Information Rights Week.

Unanimous consent to proceed was not granted.

### **Temporary Recess**

On motion by Hon. Mr. Havelock, Government House Leader, the Assembly recessed at 2:39 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1997 – 4:00 P.M.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

### **Budget Address**

Hon. Mr. Day, Provincial Treasurer, delivered certain Messages from His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor.

The Speaker read the Messages to the Assembly (the Members standing).

## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **Government Motions**

5. Moved by Hon. Mr. Day:

Be it resolved that the Message of His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, the 1996-97 Supplementary Supply Estimates (No. 2), and all matters connected therewith, be referred to Committee of Supply.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

**6.** Moved by Hon. Mr. Day:

Be it resolved that the Assembly do resolve into Committee of Supply, when called, to consider supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

**7.** Moved by Hon. Mr. Day:

Be it resolved that the Message of His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, the 1997-98 Lottery Fund Estimates, and all matters connected therewith, be referred to Committee of Supply.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

**8.** Moved by Hon. Mr. Day:

Be it resolved that pursuant to Standing Order 58(2.1), the number of days that the Committee of Supply will be called to consider the 1997-98 Lottery Fund Estimates shall be one day.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

**9.** Moved by Hon. Mr. Havelock:

Be it resolved that, pursuant to Standing Order 58(6), the number of days that the Committee of Supply will be called to consider the 1996-97 Supplementary Supply Estimates shall be two days.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

**10.** Moved by Hon. Mr. Havelock:

Be it resolved that the Assembly resolve itself into Committee of the Whole, when called, to consider certain Bills on the Order Paper.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

**11.** Moved by Hon. Mr. Day:

Be it resolved that the Messages of His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, the Estimates and business plans and all matters connected therewith, be referred to Committee of Supply.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Day, Provincial Treasurer then tabled a copy of Budget '97 Post-Election Update, pursuant to the Government Accountability Act, cG-5.5, s3, s4:

Government and Lottery Fund Estimates, 1997-98	Sessional Paper 77/97
Legislative Assembly Estimates, 1997-98	Sessional Paper 78/97
Budget '97, Building Alberta Together: Post-Election Update	Sessional Paper 79/97
News release, Budget '97 - Sticking to a Proven Formula for Fiscal Success	Sessional Paper 80/97
Budget '97 Post-Election Update Speech	Sessional Paper 81/97
Supplementary Estimates (No. 2), 1996-97, General Revenue Fund	Sessional Paper 82/97

12. Moved by Hon. Mr. Day:

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

A debate followed.

Mr. Sapers moved adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

## **Adjournment**

On motion by Hon. Mr. Havelock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 4:41 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1997 — 8:00 P.M.

## **Government Motions**

12. Moved by Hon. Mr. Day:

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

A debate followed.

Hon. Mrs. Black moved adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

## **Consideration of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor's Speech** (Day 2)

Moved by Mr. Shariff and seconded by Ms O'Neill:

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

To His Honour Mr. H. A. "Bud" Olson, the 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.

A debate followed.

Ms Blakeman moved adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

### **Adjournment**

On motion by Hon. Mrs. Black, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 9:41 p.m. until Tuesday, April 22, 1997, at 1:30 p.m.

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Title: Monday, April 21, 1997