



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 18

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

First Session

Twenty-Fourth Legislature

Tuesday, May 13, 1997

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

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Yankowsky, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clairview, presented a petition from 183 Edmonton residents regarding the banning of VLT (video lottery terminal) gambling in Alberta.

Mr. Marz, Hon. Member for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills, presented a petition from 21 constituents regarding the banning of VLT (video lottery terminal) gambling in Alberta.

Ms Barrett, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands, presented a petition from 4,412 Albertans regarding the introduction of legislation to prevent the use of replacement workers during strike action.

Notices of Motions

Pursuant to Standing Order 34(2)(a), Hon. Mrs. Black, Deputy Government House Leader, gave oral notice of the following Written Questions and Motions for Returns to be dealt with Wednesday, May 14, 1997:

Written Questions: WQ6, WQ7, WQ8.

Motions for Returns: MR11, MR12.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Hon. Mr. Woloshyn, Minister of Public Works, Supply and Services, pursuant to the Architects Act, cA-44.1, s6(4):

Alberta Association of Architects, Annual Report 1996

Sessional Paper 233/97

Hon. Mr. Lund, Minister of Environmental Protection, pursuant to the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, cE-13.3, s32 (2):

Environmental Protection Security Fund, Annual Report, 1995-96

Sessional Paper 234/97

Ms Fritz, Hon. Member for Calgary-Cross:

23 letters, dated May 5-12, 1997, to Ms Fritz, Hon. Member for Calgary-Cross, in support for Bill 205, Protection from Secondhand Smoke in Public Buildings Act

Sessional Paper 235/97

Hon. Mrs. Black, Minister of Economic Development and Tourism:

Responses to questions raised on April 30, 1997, Department of Economic Development and Tourism, 1997-98 Committee of Supply debate (Subcommittee D)

Sessional Paper 236/97

Hon. Mrs. McClellan, Minister of Community Development:

News release, dated May 13, 1997, entitled "Impact on reinvestment seen on seniors' April benefit cheques"

Sessional Paper 237/97

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

Education Survey, dated March 1997, presented by the Calgary Council of Home and School Associations in cooperation with the Alberta Home and School Councils Association

Sessional Paper 238/97

Mrs. Paul, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Castle Downs:

Parks and Protected Areas: Their Contribution to the Alberta Economy: A Discussion Paper, dated October 1, 1996, prepared by Stephen Dobson and John Thompson, Strategic and Regional Services Division, Alberta Environmental Protection

Sessional Paper 239/97

Mr. Cardinal, Hon. Member for Athabasca-Wabasca:

Map depicting the Northern Alberta Development Council Area, dated 1994
Sessional Paper 240/97

Northwest Transportation Corridor Potential: A Northern Alberta Development Council Position Paper, dated December 1996, prepared by the Northern Development Branch

Sessional Paper 241/97

Ms Olsen, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Norwood:

Protection Against Domestic Abuse, Alberta Law Reform Institute Report No. 74, dated February 1997

Sessional Paper 242/97

Mr. Gibbons, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning:

Innsight: Official Newsletter of the Alberta Hotel Association, Newsletter No. 4-97, dated April 25, 1997, page 1, highlighting the position of the AHA Executive Committee's position on VLT (video lottery terminal) gambling
Sessional Paper 243/97

Oral Question Period

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

Cambridge Environmental Systems Inc.: Management Proxy Circular Solicitation of Proxies, Special Meeting of Shareholders, Schedule B, dated February 3, 1997
- excerpt highlighting payments to Alberta Treasury Branches
Sessional Paper 244/97

Members' Statements

Ms O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert, made a statement regarding Meals on Wheels Week, May 11-16, 1997, and support for the service.

Dr. Pannu, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona, made a statement regarding the unequal funding of public education due to the school-based funding system.

Ms Kryczka, Hon. Member for Calgary-West, made a statement regarding the need for political candidates to take unpaid leave during an election campaign.

Speaker's Ruling — Amendments to Written Questions and Motions for Returns

Honourable Members, as this session evolves, there will undoubtedly be certain issues that the Chair will want to comment about so that a procedure or process in the Legislative Assembly will be clear to all Members. One issue that the Chair believes requires such clarification concerns amendments to Motions for Returns and Written Questions.

As Members may recall, last Wednesday May 7, 1997, there was some confusion concerning Written Question 2, moved by the Honourable Member for Edmonton-Calder. The Honourable Minister of Environmental Protection had moved certain amendments to the Written Question. These proposed amendments were distributed just before they were moved in the House and seem to have caught the Member for Edmonton-Calder somewhat unawares. In the ensuing discussion of the amendments there were some exchanges between the Chair and the Member about what course of action the Member wanted to pursue. The very short time available to review the proposed amendments may have resulted in some missed communications between the Chair and the Member. Further to last Wednesday's events, the Chair reminds Members that under Standing Order 42, amendments must be in writing. The practice is to have 90 copies prepared for distribution.

In the Chair's view, amendments to Written Questions and Motions for Returns should not catch the mover off-guard. These matters are set down well in advance on the Order Paper and there is ample time to consider amendments. In order to avoid repeating the events of last Wednesday, when amendments are going to be proposed to Motions for Returns and Written Questions, they should be approved by Parliamentary Counsel as to form no later than the Tuesday before they are to be moved. The proposed amendment should be provided to the Member that is moving the Written Question or Motion for Returns so that he or she is able to address it on the respective Wednesday and have time to discuss it with the responsible Minister if necessary. This exchange of information should occur before 11 a.m. on the Wednesday that the Written Question or Motions for Return is to be moved.

The Chair views this matter as so many others, as a learning experience. Through cooperation and the exchange of information on a timely basis, it is sincerely hoped that we can reduce the procedural uncertainties so that Members can devote their time to debating the substance of an issue.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

The following Bill was read a Second time and referred to Committee of the Whole:

Bill 204 Provincial Court Amendment Act, 1997 — Ms Forsyth

Third Reading

On the motion that the following Bill be now read a Third time :

Bill 202 Crown Contracts Dispute Resolution Act — Mr. Jacques

A debate followed.

During debate, Mr. Jacques, Hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Wapiti, tabled the following:

Edmonton Journal article, entitled “Let’s unclog courts, lawyers argue”
Sessional Paper 245/97

Alternative Dispute Resolution Newsletter, prepared by Lang Michener - excerpt
page highlighting the Canadian Bar Association Client-Lawyer Fee Dispute
Mediation program

Sessional Paper 246/97

Debate continued.

The question being put, with Hon. Mr. Kowalski in the Chair, the motion was agreed to. The names being called for were taken as follows:

For the motion: 46

Black	Herard	Melchin
Boutilier	Hierath	Nicol
Broda	Jacques	O'Neill
Burgener	Johnson	Oberg
Cao	Jonson	Paszkowski
Cardinal	Klapstein	Pham
Clegg	Kryczka	Renner
Ducharme	Laing	Severtson
Dunford	Langevin	Smith
Forsyth	Lund	Stevens
Friedel	Magnus	Strang
Fritz	Mar	Tannas

Gordon
Graham
Haley
Havelock

Marz
McClellan
McFarland

Tarchuk
Thurber
West

Against the motion: 12

Barrett
Bonner
Dickson
Gibbons

MacDonald
Mitchell
Olsen
Pannu

Sloan
Soetaert
White
Yankowsky

The following Bill was read a Third time and passed:

Bill 202 Crown Contracts Dispute Resolution Act — Mr. Jacques

Speaker's Statement — Private Members' Public Bills

Hon. Members, particularly new Members, the process that you've all just experienced is a rather unique one. There are few jurisdictions anywhere that follow the model of the British parliamentary form of government anywhere in so-called countries belonging to the Commonwealth that will allow a Private Member to introduce a Bill, and have it taken through to Third Reading and ultimately will become the law of the land. This is very, very unique in this jurisdiction, in this parliament in the Province of Alberta. You've just participated in something that very few parliamentarians anywhere that would follow the British Commonwealth system of government would ever be able to have involvement in and participation in.

Motions Other Than Government Motions

503. Moved by Ms Barrett:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce a Medicare Protection Act which enshrines in legislation the five principles of the Canada Health Act, ensures that all medically necessary services continue to be funded solely through public health care insurance and prohibits within Alberta the provision of medically necessary services for which a fee is charged to the patient or to a non-public insurer.

A debate followed.

The question being put, with Mr. Tannas in the Chair, the motion was defeated. The names being called for were taken as follows:

For the motion: 14

Barrett	MacDonald	Sapers
Bonner	Mitchell	Sloan
Dickson	Nicol	Soetaert
Gibbons	Olsen	White
Leibovici	Pannu	

Against the motion: 42

Boutilier	Herard	McFarland
Broda	Hierath	Melchin
Burgener	Jacques	O'Neill
Cao	Johnson	Oberg
Clegg	Jonson	Paszkowski
Ducharme	Klapstein	Pham
Dunford	Kryczka	Renner
Forsyth	Laing	Severtson
Friedel	Langevin	Stevens
Fritz	Lund	Strang
Gordon	Magnus	Tarchuk
Graham	Mar	Thurber
Haley	Marz	West
Havelock	McClellan	Yankowsky

504. Moved by Mr. Mitchell:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to evaluate its health care policy against the provisions of the Canada Health Act.

A debate followed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 8(2)(c), debate adjourned, Mr. Cao speaking.

Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

The following Bills were read a Second time and referred to Committee of the Whole:

Bill 5 Persons With Developmental Disabilities Community Governance Act — Mr. Shariff

Bill 12 Mines and Minerals Amendment Act, 1997 — Mr. Boutilier

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Havelock, Government House Leader, that it be called 5:30 p.m., it was agreed at 5:17 p.m. that when the Assembly reconvened at 8:00 p.m. they would be in Committee of Supply, and the Speaker left the Chair.

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1997 — 8:00 P.M.

Committee of Supply (Day 17 — Main Estimates)

(Assembly in Committee)

And after some further time 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, reports as follows, and requests leave to sit again:

Resolved that a sum not exceeding the following be granted to Her Majesty for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1998, for the Department and purposes indicated:

Community Development

\$252,105,000	Operating Expense
\$110,000	Capital Investment

The Committee of Supply has also had under consideration certain resolutions (reported from the Designated Supply Subcommittees), reports as follows, and requests leave to sit again:

Resolved that a sum not exceeding the following be granted to Her Majesty for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1998, for the Departments and purposes indicated:

Environmental Protection

\$272,057,000	Operating Expense
\$6,444,000	Capital Investment

Family and Social Services

\$1,357,149,000	Operating Expense
\$240,000	Capital Investment

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

Government Bills and Orders

Third Reading

The following Bills were read a Third time and passed:

Bill 4 Meat Inspection Amendment Act, 1997 — Hon. Mr. Stelmach

Bill 9 Election Amendment Act, 1997 — Hon. Mr. Havelock

Committee of the Whole

According to Order, the Assembly resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, and the Deputy Speaker left the Chair.

(Assembly in Committee)

And after some time spent therein, the Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill 1 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 1997
— Hon. Mr. Klein

Mr. Clegg, Acting Chairman of Committees, tabled copies of all amendments considered by the Committee of the Whole on this date for the official records of the Assembly.

Amendment to Bill 1 (Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo) — Defeated
Sessional Paper 247/97

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Havelock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 10:21 p.m. until Wednesday, May 14, 1997, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Tuesday, May 13, 1997