

Legislative Assembly Province of Alberta

No. 22

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

First Session

Twenty-Fourth Legislature

Wednesday, May 21, 1997

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

Reading and Receiving Petitions

On request by Ms Barrett, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly of Alberta to urge the Government of Alberta to introduce legislation that would prevent the use of replacement workers during strike action.

Notices of Motions

Hon. Mrs. Black, Deputy Government House Leader, gave oral notice of her intention to seek the Assembly's unanimous consent, when Written Questions are called, to waive Standing Order 34(2)(a) in order to add Written Question No. 13 to the list of Written Questions to be dealt with today.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Mr. Mitchell, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition:

Letter, dated May 16, 1997, from Mr. Mitchell, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, regarding the intention of Health Resources Group to contract with the Calgary Regional Health Authority

Sessional Paper 281/97

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

Letter, dated May 16, 1997, from Sandra G. Haggins to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, regarding the level of public education funding, and in particular the financial difficulties of the Calgary Public School Board

Sessional Paper 282/97

Mr. Mitchell, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition:

Sun Healthcare Group Inc., Form 10-K, filed March 28, 1997

Sessional Paper 283/97

Ms Sloan, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview:

Letter, dated May 4, 1997, from Don Cameron, to Ms Sloan, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview, regarding the funding model proposed for handicapped children's services

Sessional Paper 284/97

Hon. Mr. Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly:

Memorandum, dated May 20, 1997, from Ms Forsyth, Hon. Member for Calgary-Fish Creek, to Hon. Mr. Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, requesting Bill 204, Provincial Court Amendment Act, come up for Third Reading on Tuesday, May 27, 1997

Sessional Paper 285/97

Oral Question Period

During Oral Question Period, Hon. Mr. Day, Provincial Treasurer, tabled the following:

Public Accounts 1985-86, schedules 2.3, 2.4, 2.15, and 2.16, highlighting Ridley Grain Ltd. non-interest bearing participating series A debenture and the valuation adjustment of the long-term investment write-off

Sessional Paper 286/97

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions

On motion by Hon. Mrs. Black, Deputy Government House Leader, unanimous consent of the Assembly was granted to waive Standing Order 34(2)(a) to allow Written Question No. 13 to be added to the list of Written Questions to be dealt with today.

The following Written Questions were accepted:

WQ13. Moved by Ms Carlson:

How many companies were required to submit monitoring reports to Alberta Environmental Protection between January 1, 1996 and December 31, 1996, what was the average number of records that each company submitted, how many staff (full time equivalents) were responsible for reviewing the data and in how many cases were infringements identified?

WQ16. Moved by Ms Carlson:

How many unannounced spot checks of pulp mills were conducted between January 1, 1993 and December 31, 1996, to assess compliance with the Government's standards and, in each case, what was the date of inspection, what items were checked, what infringements were discovered and what action was taken or penalty imposed, if any?

WQ17. Moved by Ms Carlson:

How many routine audits of records submitted by industrial companies did Alberta Environmental Protection conduct between January 1, 1993 and December 31, 1996, how many unreported releases and how many other infringements were identified as a result of these audits, and in each case what was the nature of the infringement, what action was taken and what penalty was imposed, if any?

WQ18. Moved by Ms Carlson:

How many times did the Natural Resources and Sustainable Development Policy Committee meet between the period January 1, 1996 and February 11, 1997, how many of those meetings were completely in camera, how many presentations were made to the Committee, and how many of these presentations were made in camera?

Hon. Mr. Lund, Minister of Environmental Protection, tabled the following:

Response to Written Question No. 18

Sessional Paper 287/97

WQ23. Moved by Ms Carlson:

With reference to Measuring Up, Second Annual Report on the Performance of the Government of Alberta, June 1996, p. 84, showing that the number of hours exceeding the guideline for sulphur dioxide at industrial monitoring stations has increased each year since 1991, what measures were taken between January 1, 1992 and December 31, 1996 when the guideline was exceeded by each company on each occasion?

The following Written Questions were accepted as amended:

WQ14. Moved by Mr. White:

What are the estimated or recorded volumes of coniferous and deciduous timber, respectively, harvested from private land each year between January 1, 1994 and December 31, 1996 and what percentage was exported as uncut logs each year?

Hon. Mr. Lund, Minister of Environmental Protection, moved the motion be amended to read:

What are the estimated or recorded volumes of coniferous and deciduous timber, respectively, harvested from private land each *timber* year between *May 1, 1993* and *April 30, 1996* and what percentage *of unprocessed logs were exported* each *timber* year?

WQ15. Moved by Mr. White:

How many inspections of timber harvesting on private land were carried out between January 1, 1995 and December 31, 1996, in how many cases was logging found to have caused environmental or other damage, and what action was taken, if any?

Hon. Mr. Lund, Minister of Environmental Protection, moved the motion be amended to read:

In response to direct public requests, how many inspections on private land were conducted after timber harvesting activity had occurred between January 1, 1995 and December 31, 1996, in how many cases was environmental or other damage found, and what action was taken, if any?

The following Written Question was ordered to stand:

WQ36.

Motions for Returns

The following Motions for Returns were accepted:

MR22. Moved by Ms Carlson:

The names and locations of all landfills that received an unannounced spot check by Alberta Environmental Protection staff between September 1, 1996 and January 31, 1997, indicating the date of inspection, the items checked, any infringements discovered and the penalty imposed, if any.

MR24. Moved by Ms Carlson:

A description of the regional consultation process adopted to compile The Status of Alberta Wildlife, a Wildlife Management Division Report, that was published in December 1996, as well as a list of experts consulted, their qualifications, and copies of any written recommendations received.

The following Motions for Returns were accepted as amended:

MR19. Moved by Dr. Nicol:

Copies of all agreements between the Government and Petroleum Information Canada Limited or Petroleum Information Corporation, of Houston, Texas, regarding the handover, maintenance, marketing and profit sharing agreement of the public lands mapping division.

Hon. Mr. Lund, Minister of Environmental Protection, moved the motion be amended to read:

Copies of all agreements between the Government and Petroleum Information Canada Limited or Petroleum Information Corporation, of Houston, Texas, regarding the handover, maintenance, marketing and profit sharing agreement of the *Land Administration Division's Plan Distribution Service*.

MR20. Moved by Dr. Nicol:

Copies of all documents showing the annual revenues generated by the public lands mapping division for the 10 years prior to the division being handed over to the Canadian subsidiary of Petroleum Information Corporation of Houston, Texas.

Hon. Mr. Lund, Minister of Environmental Protection, moved the motion be amended to read:

Copies of *financial statements* showing the annual revenues generated by the *Land Administration Division's Plan Distribution Service* for the 10 years prior to *the Service* being handed over to the Canadian subsidiary of Petroleum Information Corporation of Houston, Texas.

MR21. Moved by Ms Carlson:

A list showing the number of domestic residences owned by the Province in each provincial park, where permanent termination of the lease was announced in 1996 or 1997 or will be announced in 1997, giving the name of the park and date of termination, showing the number of domestic residences remaining in each park, and indicating whether the lessee is an employee of the Government or a private contractor.

Hon. Mr. Lund, Minister of Environmental Protection, moved the motion be amended to read:

A list showing the number of domestic residences owned by the Province in each provincial park, where permanent termination of the lease was announced in 1996 or 1997 or will be announced in 1997, giving the name of the park, showing the number of domestic residences remaining in each park, and indicating whether the lessee is an employee of the Government or a private contractor.

The following Motions for Returns were ordered to stand:

MR25, MR26, MR27, MR28, MR29, MR30, MR31, MR32, MR33, MR34, MR35, MR37, MR38, MR39, MR40, MR41, MR42, MR43, MR44, MR45, MR46, MR47, MR48, MR49, MR50, MR51, MR52, MR53, MR54, MR55, MR56, MR57, MR58, MR59, MR60, MR61.

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:

Bill 206 Occupiers' Liability Amendment Act, 1997 — Mr. Renner

A debate followed.

Mr. Hierath, Hon. Member for Cardston-Taber-Warner, moved the motion be amended by deleting all the words after the word "that", and substituting the following:

Bill 206, Occupiers' Liability Amendment Act, 1997, be not now read a Second time, but that it be read a Second time this day six months hence.

Debate continued on the amendment.

The question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

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

Bill 207 Alberta Health Care Accountability and Entitlement Act — Mr. Mitchell

A debate followed.

Hon. Mr. Jonson, Minister of Health, moved adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Deputy Government House Leader, that it be called 5:30 p.m., it was agreed at 5:24 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.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1997 — 8:00 P.M.

Committee of Supply (Day 1 — Lottery Fund Estimates)

(Assembly in Committee)

And after some further time spent therein, the Acting Speaker assumed the Chair and Mrs. Gordon reported as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions of the Lottery Fund, 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 purposes indicated:

Agricultural Initiatives

\$22,530,000

Cultural Initiatives

\$29,679,000

Recreation Initiatives

\$17,091,000

Community Facility Enhancement Program

\$31,000,000

Health and Wellness Initiatives

\$10,550,000

Science and Environmental Initiatives

\$750,000

New Initiatives

\$11,700,000

Total Lottery Fund Payments

\$123,300,000

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

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

Unanimous consent of the Assembly was granted to revert to Introduction of Bills.

Upon recommendation of His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, and notice having been given:

Bill 14 Appropriation Act, 1997 — Hon. Mr. Day

Government Bills and Orders

Committee of the Whole

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

(Assembly in Committee)

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

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

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

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Havelock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 10:59 p.m. until Thursday, May 22, 1997, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

Title: Wednesday, May 21, 1997