



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 38

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

First Session

Twenty-Fourth Legislature

Tuesday, December 9, 1997

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

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, presented a petition from 61 constituents regarding the conversion of the Holy Cross Hospital into a facility to house the homeless in Calgary.

Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, presented a petition from 71 Albertans regarding equitable access to long term care in the publicly funded health care system.

Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, presented a petition from 118 Albertans requesting the provision for a plebiscite vote regarding the Calgary General Hospital, Bow Valley Site, remaining open as a full service acute care hospital.

Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, presented a petition from 259 constituents regarding the designation for "Lang House" in Calgary as a historical site.

Mr. Sapers, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora, presented a petition from 27 residents of the Capital Health Region regarding equitable access to long term care in the publicly funded health care system.

Mr. Sapers, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora, presented a petition from 37 Edmonton residents requesting the addition of a Truquant BR RIA diagnostic blood test for early detection of breast cancer recurrence to the schedule of medical benefits under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan.

Mr. Strang, Hon. Member for West Yellowhead, presented a petition from 47 Edson residents regarding the elimination of the education tax portion of the property tax assessment.

Mr. Strang, Hon. Member for West Yellowhead, presented a petition from 28 Hinton and Grande Prairie residents in support for, and requesting consideration of, the Calgary Education Declaration, dated November 30, 1997.

Mr. Doerksen, Hon. Member for Red Deer-South, presented a petition from over 8,000 constituents requesting legislation to make it illegal in Alberta to ride in the rear of any pick-up truck, or other open bed vehicle without secured seats and approved seatbelts.

Mrs. Soetaert, Hon. Member for Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert, presented a petition from 24 Albertans requesting the de-insuring of induced abortions under the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan Act.

Dr. Nicol, Hon. Member for Lethbridge-East, presented a petition from 170 Albertans regarding the ending of payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

Dr. Nicol, Hon. Member for Lethbridge-East, presented a petition from 86 Albertans regarding the freezing of per pupil grants of public money to private schools at \$1,815 per funded student.

Dr. Nicol, Hon. Member for Lethbridge-East, presented a petition from 2,162 Albertans requesting an environmental impact assessment, with public consultation, on the Lethbridge Hog Slaughtering Plant.

Dr. Massey, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, presented a petition from 182 Albertans regarding the freezing of per pupil grants of public money to private schools at \$1,815 per funded student.

Dr. Massey, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, presented a petition from 226 Albertans regarding the ending of payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

Reading and Receiving Petitions

On request by Mr. Mitchell, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to freeze per pupil grants of public money to private schools at \$1,815 per funded student.

On request by Mr. Mitchell, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to reduce the \$25.00 application fee to access Government records, as legislated under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act regulations, to be more in line with the other provinces.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to ensure that all residents requiring long term care are able to access this service in an equitable manner within the publicly funded system.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to ensure that all residents requiring long term care are able to access this service in an equitable manner within the publicly funded system.

On request by Mrs. Soetaert, Hon. Member for Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

On request by Mrs. Soetaert, Hon. Member for Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

On request by Dr. Massey, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to limit the financial support of private schools at current levels (1996/1997) per pupil funding.

On request by Dr. Massey, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to freeze per pupil grants of public money to private schools at \$1,815 per funded student.

On request by Dr. Massey, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to freeze per pupil grants of public money to private schools at \$1,815 per funded student.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to freeze per pupil grants of public money to private schools at \$1,815 per funded student.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to freeze per pupil grants of public money to private schools at \$1,815 per funded student.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to freeze per pupil grants of public money to private schools at \$1,815 per funded student.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to freeze per pupil grants of public money to private schools at \$1,815 per funded student.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to freeze per pupil grants of public money to private schools at \$1,815 per funded student.

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

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

On request by Ms Paul, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Castle Downs, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to freeze per pupil grants of public money to private schools at \$1,815 per funded student.

On request by Ms Paul, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Castle Downs, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned residents of Alberta, petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier:

Final Report, October 1997: Alberta Growth Summit '97, Edmonton, September 29-30, 1997

Sessional Paper 559/97

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly:

393 submissions from constituents of the Barrhead Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 560/97

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, and behalf of Hon. Mr. Lund, Minister of Environmental Protection:

343 submissions from constituents of the Rocky Mountain House Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 561/97

Hon. Mr. Dunford, Minister of Advanced Education and Career Development, pursuant to the Apprenticeship and Industry Training Act, cA-42.3, s6(2):

Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board, Annual Report 1996-97
Sessional Paper 562/97

Hon. Mr. Dunford, Minister of Advanced Education and Career Development:

Alberta Council on Admissions and Transfer, Twenty-second Annual Report
1996-97

Sessional Paper 563/97

Mr. Doerksen, Hon. Member for Red Deer-South:

Press release by Patti Morris, Red Deer P.A.R.T.Y. Program (Prevent Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth), in support for the petition requesting legislation to make riding in the rear of any pick-up truck, or other open bed vehicle without secured seats and approved seatbelts, illegal in Alberta

Sessional Paper 564/97

Letter, dated December 8, 1997, from Leona Liski, R.N. Nurse Clinician, Calgary P.A.R.T.Y. Program (Prevent Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth), to Mr. Doerksen, Hon. Member for Red Deer-South, in support for the petition requesting legislation to make riding in the rear of any pick-up truck, or other open bed vehicle without secured seats and approved seatbelts, illegal in Alberta

Sessional Paper 565/97

Letter, dated November 19, 1997, from R.M.G. "Bob" Blair, Sgt., Red Deer City Traffic Services, to Mrs. Dot Egan, regarding changes to provincial legislation pertaining to passengers in pick-up trucks

Sessional Paper 566/97

Fax, dated December 2, 1997, from Kelly Kloss, City Clerk, City of Red Deer, to Hon. Mr. Paszkowski, Minister of Transportation and Utilities, regarding a request for legislation to ban riding in truck boxes

Sessional Paper 567/97

Dr. Massey, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods:

146 memoranda requesting the Government of Alberta to end any and all payments of public money to private schools from revenues collected by or for the Province of Alberta, and supporting increased funding in public education

Sessional Paper 568/97

96 letters, dated October 23, 1997, from parents of children in the public school system, to Hon. Mr. Mar, Minister of Education, opposing increased funding for private schools

Sessional Paper 569/97

Ms Olsen, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Norwood:

71 letters, dated October 31, 1997, from parents of children attending Princeton Elementary School in Edmonton, to Ms Olsen, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Norwood, opposing increased funding for private schools

Sessional Paper 570/97

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar:

Resolutions from the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties, 89th Annual Fall Convention held in Edmonton November 18-20, 1997, highlighting resolutions regarding the health care system

Sessional Paper 571/97

Ms Sloan, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview:

10 letters from community rehabilitation professionals, to Ms Sloan, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview, regarding provision of services to individuals with disabilities

Sessional Paper 572/97

Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie:

163 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 573/97

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

198 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 574/97

Longwoods International report, entitled "Alberta Fiscal Issues Research: May, 1997"

Sessional Paper 575/97

Mr. Sapers, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora:

Report submitted to the Minister of Federal and Intergovernmental Affairs November 20, 1997, entitled "Unity Report on Constituency Consultations," submitted by: Mr. Mitchell, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition; Ms Leibovici, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark; and Mr. Sapers, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora

Sessional Paper 576/97

Results of a survey circulated in the constituency of Edmonton-Glenora, compiling several hundred responses, highlighting the 95% affirmative response to the question "Should there be a fall sitting of the Legislature?"

Sessional Paper 577/97

Mr. White, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Calder:

Report on the Dialogue on Unity debate, from Bob Lickacz, regarding submissions by 24 citizens of Canada

Sessional Paper 578/97

Hon. Mr. Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, cF-18.5, s61(2):

Information and Privacy Commissioner, Annual Report 1996-97

Sessional Paper 579/97

Oral Question Period

During Oral Question Period, Hon. Mr. Smith, Minister of Labour, tabled the following:

Letter, dated November 21, 1997, from Israel Chafetz, Taylor Jordan Chafetz Barristers and Solicitors, to Hon. Mr. Smith, Minister of Labour, regarding Maple Leaf Meats closure in Edmonton

Sessional Paper 580/97

Letter, dated September 16, 1997, from Jack Westgeest, President and Business Manager, UFCW Local 312A (United Food and Commercial Workers), to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, regarding recent comments in the press relating to Maple Leaf Meats; and an attached letter in response by Hon. Mr. Smith, Minister of Labour, dated October 22, 1997

Sessional Paper 581/97

Letter, dated July 31, 1997, from Hon. Mr. Smith, Minister of Labour, to Jack Westgeest, President and Business Manager, UFCW Local 312A (United Food and Commercial Workers) and Mr. Israel Chafetz, Legal Counsel, Maple Leaf Foods, inviting the union and the employer to a meeting on August 5, 1997

Sessional Paper 582/97

Mediator's Report, dated July 15, 1997, by Colin Taylor, Q.C., pursuant to the Labour Relations Code, cL-1.2, s63(1)

Sessional Paper 583/97

Members' Statements

Ms O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert, made a statement regarding the holiday generosity of Albertans to charitable efforts, in particular the food and gifts offered by Elmer Gish School, V.J. Maloney Junior High School, Kinettes of St. Albert, and the Christmas Bureau of Edmonton.

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, made a statement observing the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, December 6, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination - International Human Rights Day, December 20, and the need for an independent human rights commission.

Mr. Broda, Hon. Member for Redwater, made a statement congratulating the Thorhild Boys Bulldog Volleyball Team for placing second to the Cuban national team in a tournament organized by Canada Cuba Culture Tours.

Speaker's Statement — Recognition of Historic Event

I'd like to just pause for a minute or so and ask all Members of the Assembly to join with me in honouring an event. During the spring sitting of this Assembly we made note of a historic event that occurred in this House on April 23, 1997. That evening was the first time in the history of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta that the Presiding Officer and the Table Officers were all women. To commemorate that occasion, I would like all Members of the Assembly to join with me in a presentation to the participants in that historic event.

I would ask that the Deputy Chairman of Committees, Mrs. Judy Gordon, the Clerk Assistant, Louise Kamuchik, and the Parliamentary Counsel, Ms Shannon Dean come forward and stand to my right. I would ask that senior pages would come forward with the presentation items and stand to my left.

What we have, Hon. Members, is a plaque to commemorate this very historic event. What it says is: "Women at the Table, April 23, 1997." It's a picture of the three of them, and on that day also, a copy of the Votes and Proceedings. I would ask page Joel Scheuerman to present one to Mrs. Gordon. I would ask page Kathy Hagedorn to present one to Mrs. Kamuchik. I would ask page Melanie Ramsum to present one to Ms Dean.

Hon. Members, there's also one additional copy of this commemorative plaque, and we will display it on an interim basis in the Members' Lounge pending the identification of a more suitable location in the Legislative Assembly for the history of the province of Alberta.

So, congratulations to all three. Thank you all very much.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Motions

23. Moved by Hon. Mr. Klein:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly of Alberta be guided by the input received from Albertans during the public consultation process, “Dialogue on Unity”, and on behalf of the people of Alberta concur with the principles embodied in the elements of the Calgary Framework, recognizing that the Calgary Framework is not an amendment to the Constitution Acts of 1867 to 1982, and that the specific wording of any amendment to those Acts must be approved by Albertans in a referendum in accordance with the Constitutional Referendum Act.

A debate followed.

During debate on Government Motion 23, the following documents were tabled:

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

248 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled “My Canada Is...”

Sessional Paper 584/97

Mr. Melchin, Hon. Member for Calgary-North West:

543 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled “My Canada Is...”

Sessional Paper 585/97

Ms Sloan, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview:

456 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled “My Canada Is...”

Sessional Paper 586/97

Mr. Bonner, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glengarry:

197 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled “My Canada Is...”

Sessional Paper 587/97

Mr. Marz, Hon. Member for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills:

668 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled “My Canada Is...”

Sessional Paper 588/97

Mrs. Laing, Hon. Member for Calgary-Bow:

261 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 589/97

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

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Havelock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 5:26 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1997 — 7:00 P.M.

Government Motions

23. Moved by Hon. Mr. Klein:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly of Alberta be guided by the input received from Albertans during the public consultation process, "Dialogue on Unity", and on behalf of the people of Alberta concur with the principles embodied in the elements of the Calgary Framework, recognizing that the Calgary Framework is not an amendment to the Constitution Acts of 1867 to 1982, and that the specific wording of any amendment to those Acts must be approved by Albertans in a referendum in accordance with the Constitutional Referendum Act.

A debate followed.

During debate on Government Motion 23, the following documents were tabled:

Ms Tarchuk, Hon. Member for Banff-Cochrane:

479 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 590/97

Mr. Ducharme, Hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake:

274 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 591/97

Mr. White, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Calder, on behalf of Mr. Wickman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford:

342 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 592/97

Hon. Ms Calahasen, Minister without Portfolio Responsible for Children's Services:
142 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire
entitled "My Canada Is...", and transcripts of unity forum meetings held in
Grouard, High Prairie, and Slave Lake
Sessional Paper 593/97

Mr. Klapstein, Hon. Member for Leduc:
381 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire
entitled "My Canada Is..."
Sessional Paper 594/97

Mrs. Burgener, Hon. Member for Calgary-Currie:
300 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire
entitled "My Canada Is..."
Sessional Paper 595/97

Mr. Langevin, Hon. Member for Lac La Biche-St. Paul:
201 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire
entitled "My Canada Is..."
Sessional Paper 596/97

Hon. Mr. Dunford, Minister of Advanced Education and Career Development:
445 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire
entitled "My Canada Is..."
Sessional Paper 597/97

Mr. Pham, Hon. Member for Calgary-Montrose:
195 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire
entitled "My Canada Is..."
Sessional Paper 598/97

Mr. Thurber, Hon. Member for Drayton Valley-Calmar:
245 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire
entitled "My Canada Is..."
Sessional Paper 599/97

Mr. Lougheed, Hon. Member for Clover Bar-Fort Saskatchewan:
330 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire
entitled "My Canada Is..."
Sessional Paper 600/97

Mr. Doerksen, Hon. Member for Red Deer-South:

531 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 601/97

Mr. Friedel, Hon. Member for Peace River:

235 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 602/97

Ms Haley, Hon. Member for Airdrie-Rocky View:

441 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 603/97

Mr. Shariff, Hon. Member for Calgary-McCall:

155 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 604/97

Hon. Mrs. McClellan, Minister of Community Development:

341 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 605/97

Mr. Herard, Hon. Member for Calgary-Egmont:

391 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 606/97

Mr. Hierath, Hon. Member for Cardston-Taber-Warner:

326 submissions from constituents on the Dialogue on Unity questionnaire entitled "My Canada Is..."

Sessional Paper 607/97

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

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Havelock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 10:06 p.m. until Wednesday, December 10, 1997, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Tuesday, December 9, 1997