



**Legislative Assembly  
Province of Alberta**

No. 38

## **VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

Second Session

Twenty-Fourth Legislature

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Thursday, April 2, 1998

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

### **Reading and Receiving Petitions**

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 to introduce amendments to the Legislative Assembly Act in such a manner as to make it mandatory for the Government to hold two sittings of the Legislature each year, in the Spring and the Fall.

### **Notices of Motions**

Ms Barrett, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands, gave oral notice of her intention to move, pursuant to Standing Order 30, that the Assembly adjourn to discuss a matter of urgent importance, namely the Supreme Court of Canada ruling in the Delwin Vriend case in which the Justices unanimously agreed that Alberta's human rights legislation violates the Charter of Rights and Freedoms by failing to protect the fundamental rights of Albertans on the basis of sexual orientation.

## **Introduction of Bills (First Reading)**

Notice having been given:

Bill 40 Senatorial Selection Amendment Act, 1998 — Hon. Mr. Hancock

Bill 41 Agriculture Statutes (Livestock Identification) Amendment Act, 1998 —  
Hon. Mr. Stelmach

## **Tabling Returns and Reports**

Hon. Mrs. McClellan, Minister of Community Development:

Information bulletin dated April 2, 1998, entitled “April 6 marked as Tartan Day”  
Sessional Paper 500/98

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

Letter dated April 2, 1998, from Robin L. McClung (great-niece of Nellie McClung) to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, in regards to Delwin Vriend, expressing concern regarding the possible use of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms’ “notwithstanding clause” and requesting inclusion of sexual orientation into human rights legislation

Sessional Paper 501/98

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

Supreme Court of Canada decision, dated April 2, 1998, in the matter of Vriend v. Alberta

Sessional Paper 502/98

7 letters dated March 16, 1998 to April 2, 1998, from Albertans to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing concern regarding the possible use of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms’ “notwithstanding clause” and requesting inclusion of sexual orientation into human rights legislation

Sessional Paper 503/98

Letter dated March 31, 1998, from Ian T. Kroll, Psychiatrist, to groups affected by the Supreme Court ruling (Vriend v. Alberta), expressing concern regarding the possible use of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms’ “notwithstanding clause” and submitting background information regarding sexual orientation public policies

Sessional Paper 504/98

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs:

Metis Settlements Appeal Tribunal (MSAT), Annual Report 1997

Sessional Paper 505/98

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre:

20 letters dated March 23 to 31, 1998, to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing concern regarding the possible use of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms' "notwithstanding clause" and requesting inclusion of sexual orientation into human rights legislation

Sessional Paper 506/98

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

Confidential memorandum, dated March 26, 1998, from Arlene Weldner, Senior Operating Officer, Acute Care Division, Calgary Regional Health Authority, to an undisclosed recipient regarding the approved 3.5% adjustment to salary ranges for management and exempt out-of-scope staff effective April 1, 1998

Sessional Paper 507/98

## **Oral Question Period**

During Oral Question Period, Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, tabled the following:

Edmonton Journal article, dated January 6, 1993, page 5, entitled "Protection for gay rights linked to Klein victory: Promise was made to get vote out, GALA (Gay and Lesbian Awareness Association) says"

Sessional Paper 508/98

## **Members' Statements**

Mr. Johnson, Hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose, made a statement regarding the April 4 and 5, 1998, Augustana University College Department of Music's performance by J.S. Box Monumental Mass in D Minor in Edmonton and Camrose, and recognizing the musical heritage of Augustana University College.

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, made a statement regarding the Alberta labour market environment, and in particular the labour difficulties experienced by health care professionals.

Mr. Coutts, Hon. Member for Livingstone-Macleod, made a statement regarding the Boundary Commission Anniversary Trail Ride (commemorating the 1870 expedition to establish the 49th parallel border) to be completed July 25, 1998, and extending an invitation to the Fort Macleod celebration.

## Projected Government Business

Pursuant to Standing Order 7(5), Mr. Sapers, Official Opposition House Leader, asked a question pertaining to the order of Government Business to be brought before the Assembly for the following week.

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Deputy Government House Leader, gave notice of projected Government Business for the week of April 6 to April 9, 1998:

- |                  |        |  |
|------------------|--------|--|
| Monday, April 6  | Aft.   | - <b>Government Bills and Orders</b><br><b>Second Reading</b><br>Bills 34, 35, 37, 38, 21, 40<br>And as per Order Paper  |
|                  | Eve.   | - <b>Government Bills and Orders/<br/>Private Bills</b><br><b>Committee of the Whole</b><br>Bills Pr1, Pr2, Pr4,<br>23, 28, 33, 36, 24, 27<br>And as per Order Paper   |
| Tuesday, April 7 | (4:30) | - <b>Government Bills and Orders/<br/>Private Bills</b><br><b>Third Reading</b><br>Bills Pr1, Pr2, Pr4<br>And as per Order Paper<br><b>Second Reading</b><br>Bill 40<br><b>Committee of the Whole</b><br>Bill 27<br>And as per Order Paper |
|                  | Eve.   | - <b>Government Bills and Orders</b><br><b>Committee of the Whole</b><br>Bills 2, 27<br>And as per Order Paper,<br>based on progress Monday,<br>and in consultation with<br>the Opposition parties   |

Wednesday, April 8	Eve.	<p>- <b>Government Bills and Orders</b></p> <p><b>Committee of the Whole</b></p> <p>Bills 25, 27</p> <p>And as per Order Paper, based on progress Monday and Tuesday, and in consultation with the Opposition parties</p>
Thursday, April 9	Aft.	<p>- <b>Government Bills and Orders</b></p> <p><b>Second Reading</b> or</p> <p><b>Committee of the Whole</b> or</p> <p><b>Third Reading</b></p> <p>And as per Order Paper, based on progress Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; and in consultation with the Opposition parties</p>

### **Motion for Adjournment for an Emergency Debate**

Ms Barrett, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands, requested leave to move, pursuant to Standing Order 30, that the Assembly adjourn to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely the Supreme Court of Canada ruling in the Delwin Vriend case in which the Justices unanimously agreed that Alberta's human rights legislation violates the Charter of Rights and Freedoms by failing to protect the fundamental rights of Albertans on the basis of sexual orientation.

A debate followed on urgency. The Speaker heard from: Ms Barrett, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands; Mr. Mitchell, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition; and Hon. Mr. Hancock, Deputy Government House Leader.

The Speaker ruled that the request for leave was not in order.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

### Government Bills and Orders

#### Second Reading

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

Bill 21 Alberta Health Care Insurance Amendment Act, 1998 — Hon. Mr. Jonson

A debate followed.

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

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

Bill 37 Health Statutes Amendment Act, 1998 — Hon. Mr. Jonson

A debate followed.

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

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

Bill 35 Colleges, Technical Institutes and Universities Statutes Amendment Act,  
1998 — Hon. Mr. Dunford

A debate followed.

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

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

Bill 34 Municipal Government Amendment Act, 1998 — Mr. Klapstein

### Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 5:21 p.m. until Monday, April 6, 1998, at 1:30 p.m.

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Hon. Ken Kowalski,  
Speaker

Title: Thursday, April 2, 1998