



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 22

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Third Session

Twenty-Fourth Legislature

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

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

Presenting Petitions

Dr. Massey, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, presented a petition from 25 Edmonton residents requesting increased funding for public and separate schools to levels which will cover increased costs.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Hon. Mr. Lund, Minister of Environmental Protection:

News release dated March 24, 1999, entitled "Alberta Environmental Protection Issues Fire Ban for Southwest Part of the Province," produced by Alberta Environmental Protection, with attached Ministerial Order 15/99: Fire Control Order and provincial map detailing the fire control area

Sessional Paper 356/99

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

Letter dated July 22, 1998, from Mr. Sapers, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora, to Letters to the Editor, Calgary Herald, regarding "Illustrating Our Point," published in the July 20, 1998 issue of the Calgary Herald expressing concern on the recent salary hike for Cabinet Ministers' Executive Assistants through Order in Council 192/98, with attached background correspondence dated May 20, 1998, to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, and response received from Peter Elzinga, Chief of Staff, Office of the Premier, dated June 29, 1998

Sessional Paper 357/99

Hon. Mr. Smith, Minister of Labour:

Fact sheet graph entitled "Industrial Disputes: Working Days Lost per 1,000 Employees, Annual Average, 1987-1996," dated February 1999, highlighting Alberta's ranking being the lowest of listed G7 countries

Sessional Paper 358/99

Mrs. Soetaert, Hon. Member for Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert:

Letter dated March 2, 1999, from Neil S. Parry, parent of two French Immersion Program students in the Parkland School Division at Queen Street School, to Mr. Jacques, Hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Wapiti, regarding the Education Funding Review and expressing concern for the current funding shortfall allocated to education

Sessional Paper 359/99

Letter dated March 23, 1999, from Mr. David LaSuisse to Pat Waquan, Chair, Poundmaker Lodge Board, calling for a meeting on March 25, 1999 at 6:00 p.m. to be held at the Chateau Louis Hotel in Edmonton

Sessional Paper 360/99

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

Letter dated March 16, 1999, from Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, to Mr. Boutilier, Chair, Environmental Protection Designated Supply Subcommittee, requesting pursuant to Standing Order 56(4) the attendance of Dr. John Waters, M.D., Provincial Health Officer, to attend and respond to questions when the subcommittee convenes

Sessional Paper 361/99

Letter dated March 22, 1999, from Mr. Boutilier, Chair, Environmental Protection Designated Supply Subcommittee, to Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, responding to a request for the appearance of a witness before the Designated Supply Subcommittee on Environmental Protection

Sessional Paper 362/99

Letter dated March 23, 1999, from Dr. Massey, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, to Mr. Severtson, Chair, Education Designated Supply Subcommittee, requesting pursuant to Standing Order 56(4) the attendance of Mr. Jim Dueck, Assistant Deputy Minister of Education, to attend and respond to questions when the subcommittee convenes

Sessional Paper 363/99

Letter dated March 23, 1999, from Mr. Severtson, Chair, Education Designated Supply Subcommittee, to Dr. Massey, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, responding to a request for the appearance of a witness before the Designated Supply Subcommittee on Education

Sessional Paper 364/99

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

Letter dated March 4, 1999, from Judith E.M. Evans to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, and Hon. Mr. Mar, Minister of Education, expressing disappointment with the current funding allocation to public education

Sessional Paper 365/99

Letter dated March 22, 1999, from Bauni Mackay, President, Alberta Teachers' Association, to Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, expressing the concerns of Alberta's teachers with the proposed elimination of the Board of Reference as proposed in Bill 20, School Amendment Act, 1999

Sessional Paper 366/99

Mrs. Sloan, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview:

5 e-mail messages dated March 22-23, 1999, to Mrs. Sloan, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview, expressing opposition to Bill 6, Child Welfare Amendment Act, 1999, with 2 attached e-mail messages dated March 22, 1999, expressing opposition to discrimination based on sexual orientation

Sessional Paper 367/99

Recognitions

Mr. Hlady, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View: S.A.I.T. (Southern Alberta Institute of Technology) Trojan's Women's Basketball Team, winners at the CCAA (Canadian Colleges Athletic Association) National Championships.

Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo: annual fund raising dinner held March 19, 1999 by the Bridge Foundation, as created by Dr. John Wu to address challenges faced by immigrant youth.

Mrs. O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert: Economic Development Edmonton's Ambassador Awards of Excellence ceremony held on March 18, 1999.

Ms Olsen, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Norwood: donation of a watercolour painting by Christopher Lucas to Highlands Junior High School.

Mr. Johnson, Hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose: Wetaskiwin Credit Union's 60th anniversary celebrated March 20-21, 1999.

Dr. Pannu, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona: contribution of the Environmental Law Centre Alberta Society, nonprofit charitable organization created in 1982.

Ms Kryczka, Hon. Member for Calgary-West: Ryan Blais, Melissa Prefontaine, Blake Robson, and Rhonda Sandau, medal winning athletes competing at the 1999 Canada Winter Games held in Corner Brook, Newfoundland, February 20 to March 6, 1999.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions

The following Written Questions were accepted:

WQ47. Moved by Mrs. Sloan:

What statistics and standards were used to determine that 80% of participants in employment and training initiatives are either off welfare or working and receiving a supplement to their earnings, as outlined in the 1997-98 Family and Social Services Annual Report?

WQ58. Moved by Mrs. Sloan:

What are the reasons for appeal and breakdown of decisions reached in the 485 appeals heard by the Child Welfare Citizen's Appeal Panel during the 1997-98 fiscal year?

WQ59. Moved by Mrs. Sloan:

What investigations have been completed, or are presently being undertaken, to determine the reasons for the increase in the Child Welfare caseload from 7,605 in 1993-94 to 11,258 in 1997-98?

WQ61. Moved by Mrs. Sloan:

What is the definition of "priority placement" for pregnant women who are at an increased risk of having a Fetal Alcohol Syndrome child?

WQ63. Moved by Mrs. Sloan:

What are the medical protocols at the Herb Jamieson-Hope Mission Single Men's Hostel?

The following Written Questions were accepted as amended:

WQ25. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

How many maintenance enforcement accounts were in arrears or did not receive the full amount of court-ordered support at any point in time during the 1997-98 fiscal year?

Hon. Mr. Havelock, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, moved the motion be amended to read:

How many maintenance enforcement accounts were in arrears or did not receive the full amount of court-ordered support *as at December 31, 1997?*

WQ49. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

How many staff positions were vacant on the first and fifteenth of each month in the offices of the Maintenance Enforcement Program in the period January 1, 1996 to February 16, 1999?

Hon. Mr. Havelock, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, moved the motion be amended to read:

How many staff positions were vacant in the offices of the Maintenance Enforcement Program *on a quarterly basis for the period December 31, 1995 to February 28, 1999?*

WQ62. Moved by Ms Olsen:

What expenditures were made to the members of, and on behalf of, the Judicial Compensation Commission in the period January 1, 1998 to February 16, 1999?

Hon. Mr. Havelock, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, moved the motion be amended to read:

What *aggregate* expenditures were made to, *and on behalf of, the members of* the Judicial Compensation Commission in the period January 1, 1998 to February 16, 1999?

WQ67. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

On the first and fifteenth of each month in the period January 1, 1996 to February 16, 1999, how many individuals occupying permanent or contract positions were on long-term disability or absent due to a Workers' Compensation Board claim in the offices of the Maintenance Enforcement Program?

Hon. Mr. Havelock, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, moved the motion be amended to read:

At the end of each month in the period January 1, 1996 to February 16, 1999, how many individuals occupying permanent or contract positions were on disability due to a Workers' Compensation Board claim in the offices of the Maintenance Enforcement Program?

The following Written Question was rejected:

WQ28. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

How many active files in the Maintenance Enforcement Program relate to creditors or to debtors where the payee or payor is resident in a jurisdiction not named in the Declaration of Reciprocating States Regulation?

The following Written Questions were ordered to stand:

WQ71, WQ72, WQ89, WQ90, WQ119, WQ122, WQ123, WQ124, WQ125, WQ126, WQ127, WQ128, WQ129, WQ130, WQ131, WQ132, WQ133, WQ154, WQ155, WQ156, WQ171, WQ172, WQ173, WQ174, WQ175, WQ176, WQ177, WQ178, WQ179, WQ196, WQ197, WQ198, WQ199, WQ204.

Motions for Returns

The following Motion for Returns was accepted as amended:

MR14. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mrs. Soetaert:

Copies of all reports and comparisons of the costs and/or benefits of the privatization of provincial highway maintenance and preservation completed between January 1, 1994 and February 16, 1999.

Hon. Mr. Dunford, Minister of Advanced Education and Career Development, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Paszkowski, Minister of Transportation and Utilities, moved the motion be amended to read:

Copies of *summary* reports and comparisons of the costs and/or benefits of the *outsourcing of primary* highway maintenance *completed since January 1, 1994*.

The following Motions for Returns were rejected:

MR9. Moved by Ms Leibovici:

All deficit elimination plans submitted by Regional Health Authorities between April 1, 1998 and February 17, 1999.

MR10. Moved by Ms Leibovici:

The report of the Long Term Care Review Policy Advisory Committee which was submitted to the Minister of Health in 1998.

Debate on the following Motion for Returns was adjourned:

MR16. Moved by Mr. Wickman on behalf of Mr. Sapers:

Copies of correspondence, memoranda, studies, and reports prepared by or for, as well as sent to, Alberta Treasury for the period January 1, 1994 to February 16, 1999, pertaining to financial transactions involving West Edmonton Mall Property Inc., Triple Five Corporation Limited, Toronto Dominion Bank, Nomura Canada, Nomura Asset Capital Corporation, TD Trust Company, 606881 Alberta Ltd., 333856 Alberta Ltd., 218703 Alberta Ltd., 298936 Alberta Ltd., 342322 Alberta Ltd., the West Edmonton Mall and Alberta Treasury Branches.

A debate followed.

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

The following Motions for Returns were ordered to stand:

MR16 (debate adjourned), MR35, MR36, MR37, MR39, MR40, MR41, MR51, MR52, MR53, MR54, MR55, MR60, MR64, MR65, MR66, MR68, MR69, MR70, MR73, MR74, MR75, MR76, MR78, MR79, MR80, MR81, MR82, MR83, MR84, MR85, MR86, MR87, MR88, MR91, MR92, MR93, MR94, MR95, MR96, MR97, MR98, MR99, MR100, MR101, MR102, MR103, MR104, MR105, MR106, MR107, MR108 (debate adjourned), MR109, MR111, MR110, MR112, MR113, MR114, MR115, MR116, MR117, MR118, MR120, MR121, MR134, MR135, MR136, MR137, MR138, MR139, MR140, MR141, MR142, MR143, MR144, MR145, MR146, MR147, MR148, MR149, MR150, MR151, MR152, MR153, MR157, MR158, MR159, MR160, MR161, MR162, MR163, MR164, MR165, MR166, MR167, MR168, MR169, MR170, MR180, MR181, MR182, MR183, MR184, MR185, MR186, MR187, MR188, MR189, MR190, MR191, MR192, MR193, MR194, MR195, MR200, MR201, MR202, MR203, MR205.

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Havelock, Deputy Government House Leader, it was agreed at 5:28 p.m. that when the Assembly reconvened at 8:00 p.m. it would be in Committee of Supply, and the Speaker left the Chair.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1999 — 8:00 P.M.

Committee of Supply (Days 10 and 11 — Main Estimates)

(Assembly in Subcommittees)

And after some time spent therein, the Deputy Speaker assumed the Chair and Dr. Massey reported as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions of the Department of Transportation and Utilities (Subcommittee B), reports progress thereon, and requests leave to sit again.

The Committee of Supply has also had under consideration certain resolutions of the Department of Advanced Education and Career Development (Subcommittee A), reports progress thereon, and requests leave to sit again.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to table copies of a motion agreed to this day by the Committee of Supply, changing the membership of the Designated Supply Subcommittees, for the official records of the Assembly:

Moved by Mr. Dickson, that the membership to the Designated Supply Subcommittees be changed as follows:

Environmental Protection, Ms Olsen to replace Mr. White
Sessional Paper 368/99

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to table copies of a motion defeated this day by the Committee of Supply, proposed by Mr. Dickson, Official Opposition House Leader:

Motion pursuant to Standing Order 56(4) and 66, and the Legislative Assembly Act, cL-10.1, s14, requesting that the Committee of Supply summon the prescribed witness to attend before the Designated Supply Subcommittee on Environmental Protection on March 25, 1999 at 6:00 p.m.
— Defeated

Sessional Paper 369/99

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to table copies of a motion defeated this day by the Committee of Supply, proposed by Mr. Dickson, Official Opposition House Leader:

Motion pursuant to Standing Order 56(4) and 66, and the Legislative Assembly Act, cL-10.1, s14, requesting that the Committee of Supply summon prescribed witnesses to attend before the Designated Supply Subcommittee on Education on March 26, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. — Defeated
Sessional Paper 370/99

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

Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 18 Engineering, Geological and Geophysical Professions Amendment Act,
1999 — Mr. Klapstein

Third Reading

The following Bill was read a Third time and passed:

Bill 11 Public Sector Pension Plans Amendment Act, 1999 — Hon. Mr. Hancock
on behalf of Hon. Mr. Day

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned
at 10:54 p.m. until Thursday, March 25, 1999, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Wednesday, March 24, 1999