



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 51

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Fourth Session

Twenty-Fourth Legislature

Monday, November 20, 2000

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

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Yankowsky, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview, presented a petition from 1,007 Albertans requesting that the Government introduce amendments to the Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Act to allow health professionals to opt out of certain medical procedures.

Mr. Tannas, Hon. Member for Highwood, presented a petition from 125 Albertans supporting the building of a Catholic kindergarten to grade 5 school in the Black Diamond or Turner Valley area.

Mr. Tannas, Hon. Member for Highwood, presented a petition from 63 Albertans requesting that the Government introduce amendments to the Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Act to allow health professionals to opt out of certain medical procedures.

Mr. Johnson, Hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose, presented a petition from 445 Albertans requesting that the Government introduce amendments to the Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Act to allow health professionals to opt out of certain medical procedures.

Dr. Pannu, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona, presented a petition from 60 Albertans requesting the introduction of a bill banning the establishment of private for-profit hospitals in Alberta to maintain the integrity of the public, universal health care system.

Reading and Receiving Petitions

On request by Dr. Pannu, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona, the following petition was read and received:

We, the undersigned, petition the Assembly to urge the Government to use its legislative powers to help resolve the labour dispute at the Calgary Herald.

Notices of Motions

Ms Leibovici, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark, gave oral notice of her intention to move the following motion under Standing Order 40:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly address the crisis in access to emergency care in Calgary hospitals.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Hon. Mr. Dunford, Minister of Human Resources and Employment:

Final Report dated October 2000, from the Member of the Legislative Assembly Workers' Compensation Board Service Review Input Committee
Sessional Paper 1129/2000

Final Report dated November 2000, entitled "The WCB (Workers' Compensation Board) Appeal Systems: Are they Working Well?" prepared by the Review Committee of the Workers' Compensation Board Appeal Systems
Sessional Paper 1130/2000

Mr. Cao, Hon. Member for Calgary-Fort:

Letter, undated, from Tracey Roasting and Cindy Lou Wallace, both of Calgary, to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, petitioning the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government to look into safeguarding the canal (irrigation ditch) behind the Ogden community

Sessional Paper 1131/2000

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

Report dated October 2000, entitled "Lost Promise and Potential - Alberta's Statistics on Youth Suicides Programs and Challenges" with attached Ministerial Briefing dated November 8, 2000, prepared by Mrs. Sloan, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview, with the assistance of Edmonton-Riverview constituency office employees Jan Baker and Ken Lister

Sessional Paper 1132/2000

Agenda from meeting held on November 8, 2000, regarding “Lost Promise and Potential” attended by Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Children’s Services, Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, and Hon. Mr. Mar, Minister of Health and Wellness, prepared by Mrs. Sloan, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview

Sessional Paper 1133/2000

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

Statement of Professional Services (invoice) dated March 20, 2000, from the Magnetic Resonance Centre of Edmonton, to Rose Senio in the amount of \$499.00 for an MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) exam

Sessional Paper 1134/2000

Letter dated July 27, 1998, to Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, in response to a request made by Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, requesting assistance in resolving the problem of rotting pine shakes on their condominium in south-west Edmonton

Sessional Paper 1135/2000

Letter dated July 13, 1998, from Hon. Mr. Smith, Minister of Labour, to the Cobblestone Court Condominium Association, Fort Saskatchewan, in response to a request made by Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, responding to questions raised with Mr. Lougheed, Hon. Member for Clover Bar-Fort Saskatchewan, regarding pine shakes

Sessional Paper 1136/2000

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre:

2 documents dated November 9, 2000 and October 3, 2000, entitled “Memo to Owners/Residents” outlining how increased electrical rates are affecting condominium fees and an Edmonton Journal article dated November 20, 2000, entitled “Low-income families face long, cruel winter” regarding escalating heat and power costs

Sessional Paper 1137/2000

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

Document dated March 1999, entitled “The Education Dividend, Why Education Spending is a Good Investment for BC (British Columbia)” prepared by Robert Allen for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives - BC (British Columbia) Office

Sessional Paper 1138/2000

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

Information pamphlet and registration form for “Alberta Unplugged, Deregulation in the Utility Industries” the ASET (Alberta Association of Engineering Technologists) 2001 Annual Convention to be held on May 4 and 5, 2001, in Canmore

Sessional Paper 1139/2000

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

Press release dated November 20, 2000, entitled “Alberta Government to pass law this week to drastically reduce families’ rights in fatality claims including drunk driving and murder of children” prepared by Rick J. Mallett, James H. Brown and Associates

Sessional Paper 1140/2000

Mrs. MacBeth, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition:

Letter dated November 10, 2000, from Loyola G. Keough, Bennett Jones Barristers and Solicitors, to Brian Ploof, Application Officer, Alberta Energy and Utilities Board, regarding anticipated amendments to an ATCO Electric Ltd. Regulated Rate Option Tariff Application

Sessional Paper 1141/2000

Mr. Wickman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford:

2 questionnaires addressed to Mr. Wickman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, regarding concerns relating to victims of brain injuries

Sessional Paper 1142/2000

Letter dated November 16, 2000, from Mr. Wickman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, and Ms Leibovici, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark, to Hon. Mr. Mar, Minister of Health and Wellness, asking if the Department of Health will follow-up on concerns outlined in questionnaires tabled on November 15, 2000, regarding severe hardships faced by Albertans suffering from a brain injury

Sessional Paper 1143/2000

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

Information package entitled “School at the Legislature, Putting Life into Learning” regarding the School at the Legislature program launched today in cooperation with Shaw Communications Inc., Capital City Savings and Credit Union Ltd., and Quality Color Press Inc.

Sessional Paper 1144/2000

Speaker’s Statement - Content of Members’ Statements

The Chair would like to follow-up on an intervention made last Thursday, November 16, 2000, after the Member’s Statement by the Member for Edmonton-Calder.

The Chair intervened at that time because, in the Chair's view, the statement by the Honourable Member for Edmonton-Calder could be construed as an unparliamentary attack upon another Member. Therefore, this seems like an appropriate time to review the rules as they apply to Members' Statements so that all Members are clear.

The Chair indicated at page 1928 of last Thursday's Hansard, that when the Standing Orders were amended in 1993 to provide for Members' Statements, it was intended that they would proceed without interruption. In fact, the Chair ruled on June 5, 1997 at page 1056 of Hansard for that day, that a point of order would not be entertained during a Member's Statement.

To be clear, the Chair has never meant to imply that all the rules about parliamentary language and order and decorum in the Assembly could be abandoned during Members' Statements. Standing Orders 23 (h)(i) and (j) still apply to Members' Statements as they do to all proceedings in the Assembly.

It is a tribute to Members of this Assembly that we have gone for over 7 years without the Chair having to address the content of Members' Statements.

All Members should be aware of the rules for the Canadian House of Commons on Statements by Members. When those rules were established in 1983, Speaker Sauvé noted that "personal attacks are not permitted." This rule has continued according to the book *House of Commons: Procedure and Practice* at pages 363 to 364. Certainly, as one of the authors of the 1993 amendments to our Standing Orders, the Chair wants to stress that it was intended this and similar rules about decorum would apply to Members' Statements.

This Chair wants to ensure that the greatest leeway possible is given to Members during Members' Statements. Those statements must conform to the general rules of decorum that we follow in the Assembly. Last Thursday, the Chair believes this line was crossed in the remarks by the Honourable Member for Edmonton-Calder, especially his concluding remark about the "spending habits of this particular member" in speaking of the Provincial Treasurer. The Chair believes this clarifies the matter and sincerely hopes that we will not have to revisit the subject of the content of a Member's Statement again.

Recognitions

Mrs. O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert: Rick Hansen Centre being renamed the Steadward Centre for Personal and Physical Achievement, after Bob Steadward who founded the centre in 1978

Mrs. Sloan, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview: National Child Day, November 20, 2000, and the challenges and problems faced by Alberta youth, such as suicide

Mr. Tannas, Hon. Member for Highwood: Alberta Rotary Club Polio Plus Project, a fund-raising program to end the scourge of polio among children in partnership with UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), the World Health Organization, and national health departments of 125 countries

Mr. Dickson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo: Tribute held in Calgary on October 19, 2000, recognizing the accomplishments of Hon. Chief Justice Moore, upon his retirement

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre: Snack in the Shack Program providing lunches for children during the summer months when they no longer have access to school lunch programs

Mr. Wickman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford: Numerous concerns faced by victims of brain injuries and the hope that these concerns will soon be addressed by the Government

Mrs. Soetaert, Hon. Member for Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert: The Villeneuve Historical Society, headed by Monique Altman, and their efforts over the last 3 years in compiling a history book entitled "A View to the Past"

Speaker's Statement - Special Hansard

The Speaker advised the Members that a special Hansard issue was being prepared to cover the debates of November 16, 2000, on Bill 26, Holocaust Memorial Day and Genocide Remembrance Act.

Motions Under Standing Order 40

Ms Leibovici, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark, requested the unanimous consent of the Assembly for consideration of the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly address the crisis in access to emergency care in Calgary hospitals.

Unanimous consent to proceed was not granted.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 20 Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2000 — Hon. Mr. Hancock

A debate followed.

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

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.

The following Bill was reported with some amendments:

Bill 3 Statute Revision Act — Hon. Mr. Hancock

Mr. Shariff, Hon. Member for Calgary-McCall, 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 3 (Minister of Justice and Attorney General) — Agreed to

Sessional Paper 1145/2000

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 5:20 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2000 — 8:00 P.M.

Committee of Supply (Day 2 — Supplementary Estimates)

According to Order, the Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

(Assembly in Committee)

Pursuant to Government Motion 24 agreed to by the Assembly on November 14, 2000, and Standing Order 59(3), at 11:45 p.m. the Committee of Supply adjourned to rise and report.

The Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr. Shariff reported as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions of the 2000-01 Supplementary Supply Estimates for the General Revenue 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, 2001, for the Departments and purposes indicated:

Health and Wellness

\$293,593,000 Operating Expense and Capital Investment

Municipal Affairs

\$21,773,000 Operating Expense and Capital Investment

Justice

\$1,450,000 Operating Expense and Capital Investment

Government Services

\$1,500,000 Operating Expense and Capital Investment

Mr. Speaker, I wish to table a list of those resolutions pertaining to the 2000-2001 Supplementary Supply Estimates, General Revenue Fund voted upon by the Committee of Supply pursuant to Standing Orders

Sessional Paper 1146/2000

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

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to revert to the Introduction of Bills.

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

Bill 28 Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2000 (No. 2) (\$) — Hon. Dr. West

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 11:50 p.m. until Tuesday, November 21, 2000, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Monday, November 20, 2000