



**Legislative Assembly  
Province of Alberta**

No. 39

## **VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

Second Session

Twenty-Fifth Legislature

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Wednesday, November 20, 2002

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

### **Recognitions**

Mr. Marz, Hon. Member for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills: Lud Prudek, Stan Price, and James Helm, inductees into the Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame

Mr. Danyluk, Hon. Member for Lac La Biche-St. Paul: Tom Maccagno, recipient of a Canada Recreation Fisheries Award

Dr. Massey, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods: National Child Day, November 20, 2002

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre: Count of Homeless Persons

Mrs. O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert: 13th McDonald's McHappy Day

Mrs. Jablonski, Hon. Member for Red Deer-North: National Child Day, November 20, 2002

### **Presenting Petitions**

Mr. Horner, Hon. Member for Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert, presented a petition from 77 Albertans requesting the Government remove abortion from the list of insured health services.

Dr. Pannu, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona, presented a petition from 83 Albertans requesting the Government not delist services, raise health care premiums, introduce user fees or further privatize health care.

Mr. Johnson, Hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose, presented a petition from 40 Albertans requesting the Government remove abortion from the list of insured health services.

## **Notices of Motions**

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, gave oral notice of his intention to move, pursuant to Standing Order 30, that the Assembly adjourn to discuss a matter of urgent importance, namely the issue of urban and rural split, particularly in the context of the electoral district distribution, which is listed as a priority in the interim report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission where it is proposed that the City of Edmonton lose one district.

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, gave oral notice of his intention to move the following motion under Standing Order 40:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly move immediately to amend the Standing Orders to allow Committee Chairs to be elected by secret ballot by all Members of the Legislative Assembly so that democracy, transparent government and parliamentary reform may be brought to Alberta as well.

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

Notice having been given:

Bill 33 North Red Deer Water Authorization Act — Hon. Dr. Taylor

## **Tabling Returns and Reports**

Hon. Mr. Boutilier, Minister of Municipal Affairs:

Resolution, undated, from Starland County, resolving that the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties urge the Government of Canada to delay any vote on the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, and further urging the Government of Alberta to pursue all legal and legislative options available to counteract ratification

Sessional Paper 554/2002

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

Letter dated May 29, 2002, from His Worship Mayor Bill Smith, City of Edmonton, to Mr. Cenaiko, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, expressing support from all members of the Edmonton City Council for Bill 212, Traffic Safety (Seizure of Vehicles in Prostitution Related Offences) Amendment Act, 2002

Sessional Paper 555/2002

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

36 letters from Albertans to Mr. Marz, Hon. Member for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills, requesting that abortion be de-insured as a procedure paid for by Alberta Health Care

Sessional Paper 556/2002

Letter, undated, signed by 140 square dancers requesting the Government declare square dancing as the official folk dance of Alberta

Sessional Paper 557/2002

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre:

E-mail message dated October 18, 2002, from Jason Morris of Edmonton to Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, expressing concern regarding the Kyoto Protocol and the actions of the Alberta Government regarding the Kyoto Protocol

Sessional Paper 558/2002

Mrs. O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert:

Letter, undated, from Chad Axling of St. Albert to Mrs. O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert, requesting that the Bighorn Wildland Recreation Area be designated as a wildland park

Sessional Paper 559/2002

Dr. Pannu, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona:

Letter dated July 22, 2002, from James McCracken, Chief Elected Official, Municipal District of Northern Lights No. 22, to Hon. Mr. Mar, Minister of Health and Wellness, expressing concern regarding the Peace Health Region Board's budget cuts to active care beds in Grimshaw and the elimination of the preventative dental program

Sessional Paper 560/2002

Copy of information from the Lakeland Regional Health Authority web site regarding a proposed reduction in health regions

Sessional Paper 561/2002

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

Booklet entitled "A Celebration and Reflection of 100 Years of Quality Craftmanship" prepared by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America Local 1325

Sessional Paper 562/2002

### **Point of Privilege**

The Speaker indicated he would hear comments concerning the purported question of privilege raised by Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar under Standing Order 15 on November 19, 2002, concerning an advertisement by an MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly) Review Committee which appeared in the Edmonton Journal on July 31, 2002.

The Speaker heard from Hon. Mr. Stevens, Deputy Government House Leader, who acknowledged the word "Government" should have preceded "MLA Committee" in the advertisement.

The Speaker ruled that the point of privilege was resolved.

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

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, requested leave to move, pursuant to Standing Order 30, that the Assembly adjourn to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely the issue of urban and rural split, particularly in the context of the electoral district distribution, which is listed as a priority in the interim report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission where it is proposed that the City of Edmonton lose one district.

A debate followed on urgency.

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

### **Motions Under Standing Order 40**

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, requested the unanimous consent of the Assembly for consideration of the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly move immediately to amend the Standing Orders to allow Committee Chairs to be elected by secret ballot by all Members of the Legislative Assembly so that democracy, transparent government and parliamentary reform may be brought to Alberta as well.

Unanimous consent to proceed was not granted.

## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **Message From Her Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor**

Hon. Mrs. Nelson, Minister of Finance, delivered a Message from Her Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor.

The Speaker read the Message to the Assembly (the Members standing).

Hon. Mrs. Nelson, Minister of Finance, tabled the following budget-related documents, pursuant to the Government Accountability Act, cG-7, s8(1):

Budget 2002, Second Quarter Fiscal Update, 2002-03 Quarterly Budget Report  
Sessional Paper 563/2002

Budget 2002, Second Quarter Activity Report, 2002-03 Quarterly Budget Report  
Sessional Paper 564/2002

The Minister of Finance then tabled a copy of the Supplementary Supply Estimates, pursuant to the Government Accountability Act, cG-7, s8(1):

2002-03 Supplementary Estimates, General Revenue Fund  
Sessional Paper 565/2002

### **Government Motions**

**29.** Moved by Hon. Mrs. Nelson:

Be it resolved that the Message of Her Honour, the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, the 2002-03 Supplementary Supply Estimates for the General Revenue Fund, and all matters connected therewith, be referred to Committee of Supply.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

**30.** Moved by Hon. Mrs. Nelson:

Be it resolved that, pursuant to Standing Order 58(9), the number of days that Committee of Supply will be called to consider the 2002-03 Supplementary Estimates for the General Revenue Fund shall be one day.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

**31.** Moved by Hon. Mr. Stevens on behalf of Hon. Mr. Hancock:

Be it resolved that:

1. A Select Special Ethics Commissioner and Ombudsman Search Committee of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta be appointed, consisting of the following Members, namely:

Tarchuk (Chair)	Friedel	Pannu
Ducharme (Deputy Chair)	Graham	Taft
Blakeman	O'Neill	Tannas

for the purpose of inviting applications for the positions of Ethics Commissioner and Ombudsman and to recommend to the Assembly the applicants it considers most suitable for appointment to those positions.

2. The Chair and members of the Committee shall be paid in accordance with the schedule of Category "A" Committees provided in the most current Members' Services Committee Allowance Order.
3. Reasonable disbursements by the Committee for advertising, staff assistance, equipment and supplies, rent, travel, and other expenditures necessary for the effective conduct of its responsibilities shall be paid, subject to the approval of the Chair.
4. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Committee may, with the concurrence of the head of the department, utilize the services of members of the public service employed in that department or the staff employed by the Assembly.
5. The Committee may, without leave of the Assembly, sit during a period when the Assembly is adjourned.
6. When its work has been completed, the Committee shall report to the Assembly if it is then sitting. During a period when the Assembly is adjourned, the Committee may release its report by depositing a copy with the Clerk and forwarding a copy to each Member of the Assembly.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

**32.** Moved by Hon. Mr. Jonson:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly of Alberta affirm its support for an amendment to the Constitution of Canada to provide for an elected Senate which would represent the interests of all provinces through equal representation and through effective powers;

and further, that the Legislative Assembly of Alberta urge the Government of Alberta to undertake consultations with all provincial governments on this amendment;

and further, that pending such an amendment the Legislative Assembly of Alberta calls upon the Prime Minister to summon to the Senate, to fill vacancies relating to Alberta, only those who are Senate nominees pursuant to the Senatorial Selection Act of Alberta;

and further, that the Assembly confirm the recommendations of the Report of the Select Special Committee on Upper House Reform, which were unanimously endorsed by this Assembly on May 27, 1985 and again on March 10, 1987.

Prior to speaking to Government Motion 32, Mr. Bonner, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glengarry, rose on a procedural question relevant to dividing the motion by separating paragraph 3 from the main motion.

The Chair did not intervene to divide the motion.

A debate followed on the main motion.

Mr. Mason, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands, moved that the motion be amended as follows:

- (a) In the first paragraph, by striking out “to provide for an elected Senate which would represent the interests of all provinces through equal representation and through effective powers;” and substituting “to abolish the Senate;”
- (b) By striking out everything after “consultations with all provincial governments on this amendment;”

A debate followed (on amendment).

The question being put, the amendment was defeated.

Debate continued on the main motion.

Hon. Mr. Stevens, Minister of Gaming, moved adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

## **Adjournment**

On motion by Hon. Mr. Stevens, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 5:23 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2002 — 8:00 P.M.

## **Government Motions**

**32.** Moved by Hon. Mr. Jonson:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly of Alberta affirm its support for an amendment to the Constitution of Canada to provide for an elected Senate which would represent the interests of all provinces through equal representation and through effective powers;

and further, that the Legislative Assembly of Alberta urge the Government of Alberta to undertake consultations with all provincial governments on this amendment;

and further, that pending such an amendment the Legislative Assembly of Alberta calls upon the Prime Minister to summon to the Senate, to fill vacancies relating to Alberta, only those who are Senate nominees pursuant to the Senatorial Selection Act of Alberta;

and further, that the Assembly confirm the recommendations of the Report of the Select Special Committee on Upper House Reform, which were unanimously endorsed by this Assembly on May 27, 1985 and again on March 10, 1987.

Debate continued on the main motion.

Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, on behalf of Mr. Mason, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands, moved that the motion be amended as follows:

By striking out “and further, that pending such an amendment the Legislative Assembly of Alberta calls upon the Prime Minister to summon to the Senate, to fill vacancies relating to Alberta, only those who are Senate nominees pursuant to the Senatorial Selection Act of Alberta;”

A debate followed (on amendment).

The question being put, the amendment was defeated.

Debate continued on the main motion.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

## **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 31 Security Management Statutes Amendment Act, 2002 — Hon. Mr. Hancock



## **Adjournment**

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 9:59 p.m. until Thursday, November 21, 2002, at 1:30 p.m.

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Hon. Ken Kowalski,  
Speaker

Title: Wednesday, November 20, 2002