



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 11

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Third Session

Twenty-Fifth Legislature

Thursday, March 6, 2003

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

Members' Statements

Mrs. O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert, made a statement regarding the Lois Hole Library Legacy Program.

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, made a statement regarding issues faced by women and International Women's Day, March 8, 2003.

Ms Fritz, Hon. Member for Calgary-Cross, made a statement regarding International Women's Day, March 8, 2003.

Dr. Taft, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview, made a statement regarding electronic health information records.

Presenting Petitions

Mrs. Tarchuk, Hon. Member for Banff-Cochrane, presented a petition from 53 Albertans requesting the Government revise the Public Health Act food establishment permit regulation in relation to bed-and-breakfast operations.

Notices of Motions

Pursuant to Standing Order 34(2)(a), Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Deputy Government House Leader, gave oral notice of the following Written Questions and Motions for Returns to be dealt with Monday, March 10, 2003:

Written Questions: WQ1, WQ2, WQ4, WQ7.

Motions for Returns: MR1, MR4, MR5, MR9, MR11.

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

Notice having been given:

Bill 12 Financial Sector Statutes Amendment Act, 2003 — Mr. Magnus

Bill 25 Class Proceedings Act — Mr. Rathgeber

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the following Bills were placed on the Order Paper under Government Bills and Orders:

Bill 12 Financial Sector Statutes Amendment Act, 2003 — Mr. Magnus

Bill 25 Class Proceedings Act — Mr. Rathgeber

Tabling Returns and Reports

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

E-mail message dated March 5, 2003, from Karen Ferrari of Edmonton to Mrs. O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert, expressing concern regarding education funding issues

Sessional Paper 126/2003

Dr. Taft, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Riverview:

Chart dated January 2003, listing price comparisons on learning resource material purchased from the Department of Learning Resource Centre, National Book Service, and a private wholesaler

Sessional Paper 127/2003

Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, on behalf of Dr. Nicol, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition:

E-mail message dated February 26, 2003, from David MacBain of Calgary to Dr. Nicol, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, expressing concern regarding an increase in heating bills

Sessional Paper 128/2003

Letter dated March 4, 2003, from Al Yarmoloy of Claresholm to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, requesting an election be called

Sessional Paper 129/2003

Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie:

Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers newsletter dated September 2002, entitled "Water Use by Alberta's Upstream Petroleum Industry"

Sessional Paper 130/2003

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

E-mail message dated March 4, 2003, from Lyn Palindat, Secretary, Kate Chegwin School Council, to Hon. Dr. Oberg, Minister of Learning, expressing concern regarding Dr. Oberg declining an invitation to participate in public education forum

Sessional Paper 131/2003

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

News release dated February 14, 2003, entitled "High Heating Bill a Reminder of Another Tory Broken Promise" prepared by the Alberta Liberal Caucus

Sessional Paper 132/2003

Copy of a petition signed by 152 Albertans requesting the Government immediately reinstate natural gas rebates

Sessional Paper 133/2002

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

Report in Response to Government Motion No. 9 in Relation to Matters Dealing With Order and Privileges of the Assembly, prepared by the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing, Legislative Assembly of Alberta, dated November 25, 1987 (Sessional Paper 343/87)

Sessional Paper 134/2003

Mr. Mason, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands:

E-mail message dated March 3, 2003, from Jackie Powell of Lacombe to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing concern regarding high utility costs

Sessional Paper 135/2003

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

Newsletter dated May 29, 2002, entitled "The Lobbyist, Workers' Compensation Board of Alberta" prepared by Allan P. Jobson, with several attachments

Sessional Paper 136/2003

Ms Fritz, Hon. Member for Calgary-Cross:

Petition signed by over 1,000 Albertans requesting the Government enact legislation to identify Métis children within the Child Welfare Act

Sessional Paper 137/2003

Projected Government Business

Pursuant to Standing Order 7(5), Ms Carlson, 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, Government House Leader, gave notice of projected Government Business for the week of March 10 to March 13, 2003:

Monday, March 10	5:15 p.m.	- Throne Speech Engrossed and Presented to Her Honour
	9:00 p.m.	- Government Bills and Orders Second Reading Bill 21, 22, 23, 24 And as per the Order Paper
Tuesday, March 11	Aft.	- Government Bills and Orders Interim Supply Messages Second Reading Bill 12, 18, 22, 23, 24 Third Reading Bill 4, 5 And as per the Order Paper
	Eve.	- Government Bills and Orders Committee of the Whole Bill 3, 6, 10, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21 And as per the Order Paper
Wednesday, March 12	Aft.	- Government Bills and Orders Second Reading Bill 14, 20, 25

Committee of the Whole

Bill 14, 20

Third Reading

Bill 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13

And as per the Order Paper

Eve. - **Government Bills and Orders**

Committee of Supply

Interim Estimates
(Day 1 of 2)

Third Reading

Bill 3

And as per the Order Paper

Thursday, March 13

Aft. - **Government Bills and Orders**

Committee of Supply

Interim Estimates
(Day 2 of 2)

Revert to Introduction of Bills

Appropriation Interim Supply Act

And as per the Order Paper

Point of Order

During a purported point of order, Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, tabled the following on behalf of Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier:

Edmonton Journal article dated December 11, 2002, entitled "High living costs spark exodus to Alberta: 90,000 B.C.-ers migrate here between 1996-2001: Lotusland No More"

Sessional Paper 138/2003

Speaker's Statement - Time Limits in Debate

Before beginning the debate on the motion brought forward by the Honourable Leader of the Third Party, the Chair would like to review some procedural issues surrounding this motion. First, this motion is unique as it does not appear as a Government Motion or a Private Members' Motion. It has its own category on the Order Paper as matters of privilege are extremely important to the life of a Legislature. The last privilege motion the Chair recalls being debated in this Assembly was moved on May 12, 1994. Since then, the time limits of debate have changed through amendments to the Standing Orders. Now, under Standing Order 29(1), there is one set of speaking times for Government Bills and Motions and another set of time limits given for debate on Private Members' Motions and Bills under Standing Order 29(3). As this is a hybrid motion for which there is no existing provision the Chair must make a decision as provided for in Standing Order 2. Accordingly, the Chair finds that each Member speaking on the motion will be limited to 10 minutes. In reaching this decision, the Chair was influenced by the provisions for debating a matter of urgent public importance under Standing Order 30 where every Member is limited to 10 minutes. Like here, the Assembly is setting aside the ordinary business to debate something of great importance. For greater clarity, there will be no question and comment period after a Member speaks.

As a follow-up to the many questions from Members since yesterday's ruling, let me reiterate that there is nothing in the ruling that precludes consultations prior to a Bill going on notice. Putting a Bill on notice presumes that the Bill is in its final form. At that point it is the Members of the House who are to have first knowledge of the contents of the Bill. This occurs at First Reading.

As a consequence of the House's Standing Order 15(6), the Assembly now has a motion before it, if moved, that needs to be disposed of.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Motions Under Standing Order 15(6)

Moved by Dr. Pannu:

That the matter of the question of privilege raised on March 4, 2003 by the Member for Edmonton-Strathcona regarding the Energy Ministry media briefing on Bill 19, Gas Utilities Statutes Amendment Act, 2003, prior to it being introduced in the Legislature, be referred to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing to review the procedure to be followed in such cases, in light of the Speaker's ruling of March 7, 2000, and the ruling of Speaker Milliken of the House of Commons of March 19, 2001 and the subsequent report of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs.

A debate followed.

The question being put, the motion was defeated.

Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 16 Agricultural Dispositions Statutes Amendment Act, 2003 — Hon.
Mr. Cardinal

A debate followed.

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

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Deputy Government House Leader, that it be called 5:30 p.m., the Assembly adjourned at 5:03 p.m. until Monday, March 10, 2003, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Thursday, March 6, 2003