



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 4

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Fourth Session

Twenty-Fifth Legislature

Monday, February 23, 2004

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

Recognitions

Mrs. O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert: University of Alberta on being ranked number 1 in an international survey of post-doctoral students conducted by the British Journal of Scientists

Mr. Rathgeber, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Calder: Black History Month, February 2004

Mr. Vandermeer, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning: Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) in Alberta and Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, first recipient of the CNIB's Vision Award

Mr. Hutton, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora: Recent survey conducted by KPMG confirming Canada's status as one of the most business-friendly jurisdictions in the world and Alberta's status as a jurisdiction with low labour costs compared to other major economic powers

Mrs. Jablonski, Hon. Member for Red Deer-North: Phil Rauch, social justice advocate, who passed away on February 17, 2004

Mr. Bonner, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glengarry: University of Alberta Golden Bears hockey team on being the first team in the Canada West Conference to complete their season undefeated

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar: City of Edmonton firefighters for their extraordinary efforts fighting three major fires during an extremely cold week in late January

Tabling Returns and Reports

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Minister of Community Development:

Letter dated February 23, 2004, from Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Minister of Community Development, to Pierre Lueders congratulating him on winning the gold medal at the 2004 two-man World Bobsleigh Championship in Königssee, Germany on February 22, 2004

Sessional Paper 36/2004

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

News release dated February 12, 2004, entitled "Review of study confirms responsible gaming efforts on the right track" prepared by the Government of Alberta

Sessional Paper 37/2004

Excerpt of a final report dated January 2004, entitled "VLT (Video Lottery Terminal) Gambling in Alberta: A Preliminary Analysis" prepared by Garry J. Smith, Ph.D. and Harold J. Wynne, Ph.D.

Sessional Paper 38/2004

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

Letter dated January 27, 2003, from Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar and Chair, Standing Committee on Public Accounts, to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, inviting Mr. Klein to meet with the Committee during the Third Session of the 25th Legislature

Sessional Paper 39/2004

Letter dated January 29, 2003, from Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar and Chair, Standing Committee on Public Accounts to all Members of Executive Council seeking their opinions regarding the format for scheduling Ministerial appearances at the Committee

Sessional Paper 40/2004

Copy of a CFCN Television web page containing a poll querying whether Government travel expenses should be available to the public

Sessional Paper 41/2004

Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie:

7 letters from registered nurses in Alberta to Members of the Legislative Assembly expressing concern regarding the current contract negotiations between the Provincial Health Authorities of Alberta and the United Nurses of Alberta
Sessional Paper 42/2004

E-mail message dated June 13, 2003, from Lori Nash of Edmonton to Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, expressing concern regarding the high cost of automobile insurance
Sessional Paper 43/2004

E-mail message dated October 30, 2003, from Andrea Robbins of St. Albert to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, with an associated attachment, expressing concerns regarding the Government's fall 2003 proposal to cap soft tissue injury automobile insurance claims at \$4,000
Sessional Paper 44/2004

E-mail message dated February 18, 2003, from Annette Le Faive of Calgary to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing concern regarding proposed development in the Evan-Thomas Provincial Recreation Area
Sessional Paper 45/2004

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions

The following Written Questions were ordered to stand:

WQ1, WQ2, WQ3, WQ4, WQ5, WQ6, WQ7, WQ8, WQ9, WQ10, WQ11, WQ12, WQ13, WQ14, WQ15, WQ16, WQ17, WQ18, WQ19, WQ20, WQ21, WQ22, WQ23, WQ24.

Motions for Returns

The following Motions for Returns were ordered to stand:

MR1, MR2, MR3, MR4, MR5, MR6, MR7, MR8, MR9, MR10, MR11, MR12, MR13, MR14, MR15, MR16, MR17, MR18, MR19, MR20, MR21, MR22, MR23, MR24, MR25, MR26, MR27, MR28, MR29, MR30, MR31, MR34.

Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 201 Safety Codes (Barrier-free Design and Access) Amendment Act, 2004 —
Mr. Lougheed

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

Bill 202 Environmental Protection and Enhancement (Vapour Control Equipment)
Amendment Act, 2004 — Mr. Masyk

A debate followed.

Hon. Dr. Taylor 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 5:05 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2004 — 8:00 P.M.

Motions Other Than Government Motions

501. Moved by Mr. Griffiths:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to eliminate the education portion of property taxes and fund education through general revenue, thereby freeing up financial resources for municipalities to adequately provide required services.

A debate followed.

Mr. McFarland, Hon. Member for Little Bow, moved the motion be amended as follows:

- (a) by striking out “to eliminate” and substituting “to phase-out”;
- (b) by striking out “and fund education through general revenue,” and substituting “over a 10 year period, gradually supplementing the loss from alternative sources,”.

A debate followed on the amendment.

The question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

Debate continued on the main motion.

Pursuant to Standing Order 8(3), debate adjourned.

Consideration of Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor's Speech (Day 2)

Moved by Mr. Griffiths and seconded by Mr. Herard:

That an humble address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor as follows:

To Her Honour Mrs. Lois E. Hole, C.M., the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Alberta:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly, now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present session.

A debate followed.

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

Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 1 Alberta Centennial Education Savings Plan Act (\$) — Hon. Mr. Klein

A debate followed.

Mr. Mason 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 4 Blind Persons' Rights Amendment Act, 2004 — Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Stevens, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 10:08 p.m. until Tuesday, February 24, 2004, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Monday, February 23, 2004