

Legislative Assembly Province of Alberta

No. 28

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Fourth Session

Twenty-Fifth Legislature

Monday, April 19, 2004

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

Recognitions

Mr. McClelland, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford: Holocaust Memorial Day-Yom ha-Shoah, April 18, 2004

Mr. Maskell, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark: Juno Week festivities in Edmonton, March 29 to April 4, 2004, and Alberta artists who were Juno Award nominees and recipients

Mrs. O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert: National Volunteer Week, April 18-24, 2004

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre: National Volunteer Week, April 18-24, 2004

Mr. Broda, Hon. Member for Redwater: Smoky Lake firefighters' curling team on recently winning the Canadian Firefighters' Curling Championship

Mr. Graydon, Hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Wapiti: Grande Prairie Storm junior A hockey team on winning the Alberta Junior Hockey League Championship on April 15, 2004

Dr. Pannu, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona: Mill Woods Welcome Centre for Immigrants

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Lukaszuk, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Castle Downs, presented a petition from 151 Albertans requesting the Legislative Assembly support Bill 204, Blood Samples Act.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Deputy Government House Leader:

Document dated April 19, 2004, entitled "House Leader Agreement, 25th Legislature" concerning Private Members' Business for April 19, 2004

Sessional Paper 234/2004

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre:

2 Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat website documents, the first entitled "Guidelines for Ministers' Offices" and the second entitled "Travel and Hospitality Expenses Reports, Ministers and their exempt staff, Office of the Prime Minister"

Sessional Paper 235/2004

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

Letter dated March 31, 2004, from Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, to Hon. Mrs. Nelson, Minister of Finance, requesting information regarding the use of credit scoring by Alberta insurance companies to calculate automobile insurance rates

Sessional Paper 236/2004

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

Letter dated April 16, 2004, from Elisabeth Ballermann, President, Health Sciences Association of Alberta, to the New Democrat Opposition expressing concern regarding Bill 204, Blood Samples Act

Sessional Paper 237/2004

Media release dated March 22, 2004, entitled "Regarding Bill 204, Blood Samples Act" prepared by the Alberta Community Council on HIV (human immunodeficiency virus)

Sessional Paper 238/2004

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Minister of Community Development:

Report dated February 2003 entitled "Clearwater-Christina Rivers Management Plan" prepared by the Clearwater River Committee

Sessional Paper 239/2004

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Minister of Community Development, on behalf of Hon. Mrs. McClellan, Minister of Agriculture:

Responses to questions raised by Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, on March 17, 2004, Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, 2004-2005 Interim Estimates Committee of Supply debate

Sessional Paper 240/2004

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Unanimous Consent - House Leaders' Agreement

Pursuant to the Agreement among House Leaders (Sessional Paper 234/2004), Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Deputy Government House Leader, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to

- a) waive Standing Order 34(2.1)(a) to allow the amendment in section 4b)iii) of the House Leaders' Agreement dated April 19, 2004, to proceed without the approval of Parliamentary Counsel;
- b) waive Standing Order 34(2) to allow the Assembly, pursuant to section 4c) of the House Leaders' Agreement dated April 19, 2004, to move on to Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders despite some Motions for Returns on the Order Paper being past the due date of 15 sitting days; and
- c) allow the removal from the Order Paper of the Motions for Returns identified in sections 4b)iii(5)(b) of the House Leaders' Agreement dated April 19, 2004.

Written Questions

The following Written Questions were accepted:

WQ47. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Dr. Massey:

What measures has the Government taken to implement the Auditor General's recommendation contained in his 2002-2003 Annual Report to strengthen the processes used by the Ministry of Children's Services for awarding and managing contracts in order to save taxpayers' dollars?

WQ50. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

What measures has the Government taken to implement the Auditor General's recommendation contained in his 2002-2003 Annual Report that the Department of Seniors improve its system for monitoring the performance of management operations that deliver social housing programs for the Ministry?

WQ51. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. MacDonald:

What measures has the Government taken to implement the Auditor General's recommendation contained in his 2002-2003 Annual Report that the Department of Government Services make provision for appropriate recovery facilities and equipment to resume business operations if a service disruption occurs?

WQ52. Moved by Mr. Bonner on behalf of Mr. MacDonald:

What did it cost the Government to recall all licence plates issued with the letters "BSE" and issue new ones?

WQ53. Moved by Mr. Bonner:

What measures has the Government taken to implement the Auditor General's recommendation contained in his 2002-2003 Annual Report that the Department of Infrastructure require grant recipients to formally accept the terms and conditions of construction grants including roles and responsibilities, consequences for failing to adhere to the terms and conditions, reporting requirements, and the Ministry's right to audit the grant recipient's use of taxpayers' money?

WQ55. Moved by Mr. Bonner:

What measures has the Government taken to implement the Auditor General's recommendation contained in his 2002-2003 Annual Report that the Department of Infrastructure protect the spending of taxpayers' dollars by strengthening its monitoring process for construction grants?

WQ56. Moved by Mr. Bonner on behalf of Mr. MacDonald:

How much money in total was distributed to utility customers in January 2004 through the Government's natural gas rebate program?

WQ57. Moved by Mr. Bonner:

What measures has the Government taken to implement the Auditor General's recommendation contained in his 2002-2003 Annual Report that the Department of Infrastructure protect the spending of taxpayers' dollars by implementing a process to ensure that contracts with construction managers protect the Ministry's interests as the fund provider and are cost-effective?

WQ58. Moved by Mr. Bonner:

What measures has the Government taken to implement the Auditor General's recommendation contained in his 2002-2003 Annual Report that the Department of Infrastructure make all construction grant payments through the Consolidated Cash Investment Trust Fund bank account?

WQ59. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

How many times has Alberta Health and Wellness exercised its right under section 12(1) of the Nursing Homes Act to inspect Alberta nursing homes in the last five years; how many inspections of Jubilee Lodge Nursing Home in Edmonton occurred as a result of this legislation; and when and why did inspections of Jubilee Lodge Nursing Home occur and what were the results?

The following Written Question was accepted as amended:

WQ54. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

Which communities is the Solicitor General working with to establish regional police forces?

Hon. Mrs. Forsyth, Solicitor General, moved the motion be amended to read:

Which communities is the Solicitor General working with to establish regional police *services*?

The following Written Question was rejected:

WQ49. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

Which reports, consultation groups, and stakeholder reviews have indicated to the Government that money allocated to the Lottery Fund is best spent by the Government rather than being returned to the local communities where the gambling revenues came from?

During debate on Written Question WQ49, Hon. Mr. Stevens, Minister of Gaming, tabled the following:

3 letters from Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, to Hon. Mr. Stevens, Minister of Gaming, and the Community Initiatives Program supporting requests by community organizations for funding from the Community Initiatives Program

Sessional Paper 241/2004

14 letters from non-profit organizations to Hon. Mr. Stevens, Minister of Gaming, and the Community Initiatives Program, expressing appreciation for financial support provided by the Community Initiatives Program

Sessional Paper 242/2004

The following Written Questions were ordered to stand:

WQ48, WQ66, WQ67, WQ68, WQ69, WQ70, WQ71, WQ74, WQ75, WQ76, WQ77, WQ78, WQ79, WQ82, WQ83, WQ84, WQ85, WQ86, WQ87, WQ88.

Motions for Returns

The following Motions for Returns were accepted as amended:

MR19. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Dr. Massey:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: The total number and costs of extra-provincial and international trips taken by Government Members of the Legislative Assembly who are not members of Executive Council between March 13, 2001 and February 17, 2004, broken down for each Member outlining the trip destination, the costs for meals, accommodations, entertainment, travel, telecommunications, dry cleaning, and gifts for each destination.

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the motion be amended to read:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:

The total number and costs of international trips taken by Government Members of the Legislative Assembly who are not members of Executive Council between *April 1, 2001 and March 31, 2004*, broken down for each Member outlining the trip destination *and categorized by accommodation, travel, hosting, and miscellaneous expenses.*

MR23. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. MacDonald:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: The total number and costs of extra-provincial and international trips taken by the Minister of Energy between March 13, 2001 and February 17, 2004, broken down by the trip destination, meals, accommodations, entertainment, airfare/ground travel, telecommunications, dry cleaning, and gifts for each trip.

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Deputy Government House Leader, moved the motion be amended to read:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:

The total number and costs of international trips taken by *Members of Executive Council* between *April 1, 2001 and March 31, 2004*, broken down by the trip destination *and categorized by accommodation, travel, hosting, and miscellaneous expenses*.

Pursuant to the House Leaders' Agreement dated April 19, 2004, and the unanimous consent of the Assembly agreed to concerning section 5 of the Agreement, the following Motions for Returns were considered dealt with:

MR65, MR67, MR68, MR84, MR85, MR86, MR87, MR129, MR130, MR131, MR132, MR133, MR169, MR170, MR171, MR172, MR173, MR181, and MR182.

The following Motion for Returns was rejected:

MR18. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Ms Carlson:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing: The total dollar amount spent by the Office of the Premier on contracts for information technology services, broken down by company and total dollar amount for each, for the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

The following Motions for Returns were ordered to stand:

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MR24, MR25, MR26, MR27, MR28, MR29, MR30, MR31, MR34, MR35, MR36,
MR37, MR38, MR39, MR40, MR41, MR42, MR44, MR45, MR46, MR47, MR48,
MR49, MR52, MR53, MR55, MR56, MR57, MR58, MR59, MR60, MR61, MR62,
MR64, MR66, MR69, MR70, MR71, MR72, MR73, MR75, MR78, MR79, MR80,
MR81, MR82, MR83, MR88, MR89, MR90, MR91, MR92, MR93, MR94, MR95,
MR96, MR97, MR98, MR99, MR100, MR101, MR102, MR103, MR104, MR105,
MR108, MR109, MR110, MR111, MR112, MR113, MR114, MR115, MR116,
MR117, MR118, MR119, MR120, MR121, MR122, MR123, MR128, MR134,
MR135, MR136, MR137, MR138, MR139, MR140, MR141, MR142, MR143,
MR146, MR147, MR148, MR149, MR150, MR151, MR152, MR153, MR154,
MR155, MR156, MR157, MR158, MR159, MR160, MR161, MR162, MR164,
MR165, MR166, MR167, MR168, MR174, MR175, MR176, MR177, MR178,
MR179, MR180, MR183, MR184, MR185, MR186, MR187, MR188, MR189,
MR190, MR191, MR192, MR193, MR194, MR195, MR196, MR197, MR198,
MR199, MR200, MR201, MR202, MR203, MR204, MR205, MR207, MR208,
MR209, MR210.
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Speaker's Statement

The Speaker noted that the House Leaders' Agreement for which the Assembly provided unanimous consent will not set a precedent with respect to any matters therein and will therefore not bind this Speaker or any subsequent Speakers on similar items of business.

Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 204 Blood Samples Act — Mr. Lukaszuk

A debate followed.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to. With Hon. Mr. Kowalski in the Chair, the names being called for were taken as follows:

For the motion: 38

Abbott Graham O'Neill Ouellette Ady Haley Amery Hlady Pham **Boutilier** Horner Shariff Stelmach Calahasen Hutton Stevens Cao Jablonski Cenaiko Jacobs Strang Danyluk Johnson Tarchuk DeLong Taylor Jonson VanderBurg Doerksen Kryczka Dunford Lougheed Vandermeer Friedel Lukaszuk Woloshyn Goudreau Magnus

Against the motion: 3

Blakeman Bonner Mason

The following Bills were read a Second time and referred to Committee of the Whole:

Bill 203 Canada Pension Plan Credits Statutes Amendment Act, 2004 — Ms Kryczka

Bill 204 Blood Samples Act — Mr. Lukaszuk

Adjournment

Pursuant to Standing Order 4(1), the Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 5:37 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2004 — 8:00 P.M.

Motions Other Than Government Motions

506. Moved by Mr. Strang:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to take measures to establish a tourism levy to be dedicated to the Province's tourism marketing framework to promote the tourism industry in Alberta.

A debate followed.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

507. Moved by Mr. VanderBurg:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to add a fish and wildlife surcharge onto existing fines and penalties related to illegal hunting and fishing practices, with the proceeds allocated directly to a conservation fund to support programs that restore and protect game species and species at risk in Alberta.

A debate followed.

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

Committee of Supply (Day 7 — Main Estimates)

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

(Assembly in Committee)

And after some time spent therein, the Acting Speaker assumed the Chair and Mr. Lougheed reported as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions, 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, 2005, for the Department and purposes indicated:

Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development

\$25,784,000 Operating Expense and Equipment / Inventory Purchases

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

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 10:27 p.m. until Tuesday, April 20, 2004, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

Title: Monday, April 19, 2004