



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 31

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

First Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Monday, May 2, 2005

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

Speaker's Comment

The Speaker commented that on May 2, 1923, Florence Lassandro, née Filumena Costanzo, was hung for the murder of Constable Stephan Lawson at the Fort Saskatchewan jail. She was the first and only woman to be hanged in Alberta.

In 2003, the Calgary Opera and the Banff Centre commissioned and produced an operatic version of her involvement in a sordid tale of booze smuggling and crime in the Crowsnest Pass. The opera, *Filumena*, opened Canada's National Arts Centre's two-week festival of Alberta culture, *Alberta Scene*, in Ottawa, last Thursday.

Members' Statements

Mr. Herard, Hon. Member for Calgary-Egmont, made a statement regarding two recent Government announcements, the first concerning Dr. Stuart Kauffman who was appointed iCore (Alberta Informatics Circle of Research Excellence) Chair, Biocomplexity and Informatics, University of Calgary and the second concerning over \$500,000 in scholarships to be awarded to graduate students in a variety of fields.

Mr. Mitzel, Hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat, made a statement regarding Emergency Preparedness Week, May 1-7, 2005.

Mr. Johnson, Hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose, made a statement regarding nominees and recipients of the Leaders of Tomorrow Awards from the Wetaskiwin-Camrose constituency.

Mr. Danyluk, Hon. Member for Lac La Biche-St. Paul, made a statement regarding National Nursing Week, May 9-15, 2005.

Mr. Chase, Hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, made a statement regarding the 25th annual Canoffer Group fundraising banquet held on April 16, 2005 and the 10th annual Chrysalis Achievement Awards held on April 17, 2005, both in Calgary.

Mr. Hinman, Hon. Member for Cardston-Taber-Warner, made a statement regarding the traditional definition of marriage.

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Backs, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning, presented a petition from 104 Albertans urging the Government to prohibit the importation of temporary foreign workers in oil sands facilities and on pipelines until several Albertan and Canadian groups have been accessed.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Mr. Martin, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview, on behalf of Mr. Mason, Hon. Leader of the New Democrat Opposition:

Report dated May 2005, entitled “Building the Best Way: Albertans have their say on the future of health care” prepared by the Alberta NDP (New Democratic Party) Opposition

Sessional Paper 381/2005

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

Document dated April 29, 2005, entitled “Current Grid West Membership Information” with attached EUB (Alberta Energy and Utilities Board) Utilities Branch contact information and organizational chart

Sessional Paper 382/2005

Mr. Backs, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning:

2 proposed amendments to Bill 15, Workers’ Compensation Amendment Act, 2005

Sessional Paper 383/2005

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions

The following Written Questions were accepted:

WQ28. Moved by Mr. Miller on behalf of Mr. Bonko:

What is the total dollar amount of public property lost due to theft in the Department of Sustainable Resource Development for the 2003-2004 fiscal year?

WQ29. Moved by Mr. Flaherty:

What consultations, studies, research, or other information-gathering exercises pertaining to full-day kindergarten are currently planned or underway under the auspices of the Ministry of Education?

The following Written Questions were accepted as amended:

WQ25. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. Taylor:

What is the rate of default on Alberta student loans for students attending or graduating from all eligible institutions in Alberta, broken down by institution over each of the fiscal years 1994-95 to 2003-04 inclusive?

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Advanced Education, moved the motion be amended to read:

What is the rate of default on Alberta student loans for students *who have completed their studies*, broken down by *last post-secondary sector attended* over each of the *academic* years 1994-95 to 2002-03 inclusive?

WQ26. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. Taylor:

What is the total number and percentage of Alberta Student Loan Program applicants receiving the maximum allowable loan over each of the academic (or administrative) years 2000 to 2003-04 inclusive, broken down by year, learning institution, and program of applicant?

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Advanced Education, moved the motion be amended to read:

What is the total number and percentage of Alberta Student Loan Program applicants receiving the maximum allowable loan over each of the academic (or administrative) years 2000 to 2003-04 inclusive, broken down by year, *undergraduate or lower program category, and graduate/professional program category*?

WQ27. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. Taylor:

What is the total number of Alberta Student Loan Program applicants who have appealed their award over each of the academic/administrative years 2000-01 to 2003-04 inclusive, broken down by year, learning institution, reason for appeal, and whether the appeal was successful?

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Advanced Education, moved the motion be amended to read:

What is the total number of Alberta Student Loan Program applicants who have appealed their award over each of the academic/administrative years 2000-01 to 2003-04 inclusive, broken down by year, reason for appeal, and whether the appeal was successful?

WQ30. Moved by Mr. Flaherty on behalf of Dr. Taft:

What is the total dollar amount spent by the Department of Municipal Affairs on the investigation into Calgary's Ward 10 election process following the October 2004 municipal election?

Hon. Mr. Stevens, Deputy Government House Leader, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Renner, Minister of Municipal Affairs, moved the motion be amended to read:

As of March 31, 2005, what is the total dollar amount spent by the Department of Municipal Affairs on the *provincial inspection* into Calgary's Ward 10 election process following the October 2004 municipal election?

The following Written Question was rejected:

WQ24. Moved by Mr. MacDonald:

How much additional revenue from synthetic crude oil and bitumen royalties does the Ministry and Department of Energy estimate will be collected per year once the royalty rate for oil sands projects increases to 25% for the years 2005 to 2015?

The following Written Question was not moved and was removed from the Order Paper:

WQ31. Dr. Pannu to ask the Government the following question:

What is the total budgetary allocation for the international health symposium to be held in Calgary from May 3 to 5, 2005 from all Government departments and/or health authority budgets?

The following Written Question was ordered to stand:

WQ32.

Motions for Returns

The following Motions for Returns were accepted:

MR29. Moved by Mr. Elsalhy:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of all documents pertaining to the Government's decision to transfer responsibility for the Alberta SuperNet project from the Ministry of Innovation and Science to the Ministry of Restructuring and Government Efficiency.

MR31. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. Taylor:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of all documents currently in the possession of the Ministry of Advanced Education including, but not limited to reports, studies, statistical data, and correspondence pertaining to income-contingent student loan repayment systems.

MR32. Moved by Mr. MacDonald on behalf of Mr. Chase:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A financial statement detailing the private sector loan interest rate compared to that of the Government for the proposed Anthony Henday Drive P3 project.

MR33. Moved by Mr. MacDonald on behalf of Mr. Chase:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A list of all projects that are potential P3 projects being considered by the Government.

MR35. Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Dr. Pannu:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
An itemized list detailing the honoraria, speaking fees, travel, and other expenses being paid to each of the speakers and presenters to the international health symposium being held in Calgary from May 3 to 5, 2005.

MR36. Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Dr. Pannu:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Details and costs of the construction upgrades at the Canmore Nordic Centre for the calendar year 2004 and to March 21, 2005.

MR39. Moved by Mr. Martin:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all contracts and agreements signed between or on behalf of the Government and the P3 consortium selected to construct the Southeast Edmonton ring road.

MR41. Moved by Mr. Martin:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all documents that compare the cost of constructing the southeast Edmonton ring road using a private-public partnership versus the use of conventional public financing for its construction.

The following Motion for Returns was accepted as amended:

MR27. Moved by Mr. Flaherty:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of all documents including, but not limited to, letters, faxes, memos, meeting notes, reports, contracts, and competing bids related to the October 2004 agreement between the Government and Microsoft Inc. for the provision of Microsoft Office software to Alberta's educational institutions.

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Minister of Education, moved the motion be amended to read:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of the October 2004 agreement between the Government and Microsoft Inc. for the provision of Microsoft Office software to Alberta's educational institutions *and related documents including requests for quotations, a list of vendor applicants, and other materials.*

The following Motions for Returns were rejected:

MR28. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. Taylor:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of all documents including reports, studies, statistical data, stakeholder submissions, meeting agendas, and correspondence prepared or received by the Ministry of Advanced Education (formerly Learning) between January 1, 2002 and February 28, 2005, relating to legislation or regulations governing Alberta's post-secondary tuition fees.

MR30. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. Taylor:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of all documents pertaining to the Government's approval for the University of Phoenix to offer accredited baccalaureate or masters level degrees in Alberta including, but not limited to, all submissions by the University of Phoenix to the Private Colleges Accreditation Board (PCAB), written decisions, or recommendations by the PCAB to the Ministry of Advanced Education/Learning, correspondence between Ministry officials and representatives of the University of Phoenix, and the Ministerial Order or Order in Council granting the approval.

MR34. Moved by Mr. Miller:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all appeals received by the Alberta Pension Administration Corporation for the fiscal years 1994-95 through 2003-04 inclusive.

MR37. Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Mr. Mason:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of all memos and reports submitted to the Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations or his office by Murray Smith or any official at the Alberta Office in Washington acting on Mr. Smith's behalf since Mr. Smith's appointment.

MR38. Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Dr. Pannu:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of the minutes from the Private Colleges Accreditation Board meetings for the calendar years 2000-2004 and January 1 to March 21, 2005 and the Campus Alberta Quality Council from January 1 to March 21, 2005.

MR40. Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Dr. Pannu:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all correspondence, memos, letters, reports, minutes, e-mails, and studies concerning Columbia College for the calendar years 2001-2004 and from January 1 to March 21, 2005.

MR42. Moved by Mr. Martin:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all correspondence, including letters and e-mails, between the Workers' Compensation Board and the Ministry of Human Resources and Employment pertaining to the case of Ana Guitierrez.

MR43. Moved by Mr. Martin:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of the Government MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly) committee report reviewing labour relations practices in the construction industry including “merfing” and “salting,” submitted to the Minister of Human Resources and Employment in late 2003 or early 2004.

The following Motions for Returns were ordered to stand:

None appearing on the Order Paper.

Adjournment

Pursuant to Standing Order 4(1), the Acting Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2005 — 8:00 P.M.

Motions Other Than Government Motions

507. Moved by Mr. Mason (Revised as per the Speaker’s Ruling of April 26, 2005):

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to take immediate steps to improve the quality of care provided to Albertans living in long-term care facilities by improving staffing ratios, introducing enhanced standards for long-term care facilities, and implementing more frequent and rigorous facility inspections.

Mr. Snelgrove, Hon. Member for Vermilion-Lloydminster, moved that the motion be amended:

- (a) by striking out “immediate” and substituting “further”;
- (b) by striking out “improving staffing ratios, introducing enhanced” and substituting “reviewing staffing levels and”;
- (c) by striking out “implementing more frequent and rigorous facility inspections” and substituting “ensuring that frequent and rigorous facility inspections continually occur”.

A debate followed on the amendment.

The question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

A debate followed on the motion as amended.

The question being put, the motion as amended was agreed to.

Committee of Supply (Day 14 — 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 resumed the Chair and Mr. Webber 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, 2006, for the Department and purposes indicated:

International and Intergovernmental Relations

Expense and Equipment / Inventory Purchases	\$10,079,000
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The question being put, the report and the request for leave to sit again were 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.

The following Bills were reported:

Bill 31 Real Estate Amendment Act, 2005 — Hon. Mr. Lund

Bill 34 Insurance Amendment Act, 2005 — Mr. Oberle

Third Reading

The following Bill was read a Third time and passed:

Bill 16 Business Corporations Amendment Act, 2005 — Dr. Brown

Second Reading

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

Bill 35 Employment Pension Plans Amendment Act, 2005 — Dr. Brown

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 11:25 p.m. until Tuesday, May 3, 2005, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Monday, May 2, 2005