



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 42

Special Sitting for the Attendance of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

First Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Tuesday, May 24, 2005

Members of the Legislative Assembly and invited guests assembled at 12:15 p.m.

Preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the Speaker entered the Chamber. Her Majesty took Her place upon the Throne.

The Speaker invited Mr. Paul Lorieau to lead Members and guests in the singing of the Royal Anthem, God Save the Queen.

Speaker's Statement

Your Majesty, it is an honour on behalf of all Members of Alberta's Legislative Assembly to welcome You to this Chamber.

The men and women who sit in this parliament and all who have served remain earnest in their desire to express their loyalty and devotion to the people of this great province, their beloved country, and to their Queen.

Alberta is a land of peace. Freedom, tolerance, prosperity, and unbounded opportunity are words that reflect much of our history.

We are fortunate in God's grace to have been blessed with a beautiful landscape, with abundant natural resources, and with a population drawn from all corners of the globe. Our citizens have created a province known for its vision, its energy, and its spirit.

Our public policies, the laws of Alberta, have been the product of passion, fairness, reason, and debate.

Our Assembly is and has always been in a partnership with the Crown. Safeguarding the rights of all of our citizens, Your Majesty's representatives, our Lieutenant Governors, have well reflected the values that have been the personal hallmarks of Your reign: devotion to duty, an abiding concern for all, courage, stability, a sense of continuity, and above all grace and dignity.

It is with humility and pride that we welcome Your Majesty.

It's now my honour to invite the Premier of Alberta, Hon. Ralph Klein, to address Your Majesty and all here present.

Premier's Statement

Your Majesty, members of the Royal household, honourable members of the judiciary, former Lieutenant Governor, former Premiers, Mr. Speaker, honourable Ministers, Leader of the Official Opposition, Members of the Legislative Assembly, and distinguished guests all:

On behalf of the Government of Alberta it is my very great privilege to welcome Her Majesty the Queen to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

Albertans have long looked forward to this Royal visit as a highlight of our province's centennial celebrations. Her Majesty's presence during this special year is an honour graciously bestowed upon all people of this province, one that is deeply felt and appreciated by all Albertans. It is truly a centennial gift to be treasured.

Albertans take great pride in this country's ties to the Monarchy and its membership in the Commonwealth and all it stands for. This is as true for the young Albertans who are preparing to continue the work of building this province as it is for those who began that great work 100 years ago.

Today students from Granum School – and Her Majesty had the opportunity of meeting them – and from St. Matthew Lutheran School, which are also celebrating their centennials this year, are here to greet the Queen and to hear Her address to the Legislative Assembly. It will be the first time ever that a reigning Monarch has addressed this Legislature, and it gives me great joy that some of Alberta's young people, who represent the very best of this province, will have the opportunity to hear Her Majesty's inspiring message.

The Speaker then invited Her Majesty to address the Assembly.

Address From Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II

Mr. Speaker, Premier, ladies and gentlemen, Prince Philip and I are very pleased to be back in Alberta in this centennial year as you celebrate not only your historic past but also the dynamism of your community today as well as the great opportunities that lie ahead.

When looking back on the story of Alberta, we see it extend well before 1905. It is, indeed, the story of Canada. Your First Nations peoples inhabited the prairies over 10,000 years ago, living in harmony with nature then as they do now. By the 1800s these first citizens along with the Métis were joined by explorers, homesteaders, and railway workers from all over the world. They had a dream: to build homes in a land where freedom reigned. They created a spirit of belonging to a bountiful country under the principles of peace, order, and good government and the unifying influence of the Crown. It is a fitting homage to these ancestors that your motto is *Fortis et Liber*, strong and free.

Je suis heureuse d'apprendre que le gouvernement de la province souligne cette année en instituant un programme du centenaire laissé en héritage. Il investit dans les parcs, les lieux historiques et les installations récréatives de l'Alberta. Ces projets prometteurs illustrent l'importance que les Albertains accordent à une excellente qualité de vie, aux perspectives économiques encourageantes et aux réussites dans les domaines de l'agriculture, de l'énergie et de l'industrie. Il témoigne aussi de votre gratitude envers les générations d'aînés et d'ancêtres, dont le travail acharné a permis d'édifier l'Alberta d'aujourd'hui.

Among the early settlers who came here so many decades ago to build a new life, there were thousands of families with children who were themselves destined to become the nation builders of the future. Today I'm speaking on air across the province, including schools in communities from Lethbridge to Fort Vermilion, from Wainwright to Grande Cache.

Just half an hour ago at the Provincial Museum, now called the Royal Alberta Museum, I enjoyed the opportunity to meet some of the young people of Alberta who were touring that showcase of living heritage. I hope that all young people in the province will take the opportunity of the centennial to learn of the way in which their own communities have flourished over the last hundred years.

Alors que les Albertains et tous les Canadiens voient leur histoire comme un récit coloré du passé, nous estimons qu'elle est aussi le fondement du présent et de l'avenir.

Au cours de cette visite, puisque nous rendons hommage au dynamisme de ceux qui ont bâti ce grand pays, il convient de se rappeler que nous pouvons effectivement faire une différence pour ceux qui viendront après nous. Si nous nous efforçons dans notre vie et à notre manière d'améliorer le monde qui nous entoure, alors nous pourrions à bon droit être fière de notre contribution.

During a previous visit 32 years ago I said: "I want the Crown in Canada to represent everything that is best and most admired in the Canadian ideal. I will continue to do my best to make it so during my lifetime, and I hope you will all continue to give me your help in this task." I would like to repeat those words today as together we continue to build a country that remains the envy of the world.

May God bless you on this happy hundredth birthday, and I send to you all my warmest good wishes for the years to come.

Speaker's Statement

Your Majesty, through Your actions and through Your words, Your Majesty has conferred a signal recognition on Alberta's Legislative Assembly. Since 1905 its Members have sought to serve their sovereign, this province, and the dominion of Canada faithfully and well. We face our future ever mindful of our heritage and our history and especially of our duty to future generations as yet unborn. We thank You for Your belief in us as a people.

God bless Alberta. God bless Canada. God save the Queen.

The Speaker invited Mr. Paul Lorieau to lead Members and guests in the singing of our National Anthem, O Canada.

Preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Speaker, and Hon. Premier Klein left the Chamber.

Adjournment

Pursuant to Government Motion 7 agreed to by the Assembly on March 7, 2005, and on motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Tuesday, May 24, 2005