



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 15

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Second Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Monday, March 20, 2006

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

Speaker's Statement

The Speaker made a statement in recognition of the 17th anniversary of Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, Hon. Ms Calahasen, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, Hon. Mr. Cardinal, Minister of Human Resources and Employment, and Hon. Mr. Lund, Minister of Government Services, elected to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta on March 20, 1989.

Speaker's Comment

The Speaker commented that three major plebiscites, one on electrification and two concerning Daylight Saving Time were voted on, province-wide, in conjunction with a provincial general election in 1948, 1967, and 1971.

On August 17, 1948, the plebiscite subject was electrification. 139,991 Albertans or 50.017% voted "yes" to "Are you in favour of the generation and distribution of electricity being continued by the Power Companies?" 139,840 or 49.973% of the people of Alberta voted "yes" to the question "Are you in favour of the generation and distribution of electricity being made a publicly owned utility administered by the Alberta Government Power Commission?"

On May 27, 1967, 236,555 or 48.75% of citizens voted “for” to the question “Do you favour province-wide Daylight Saving Time?” 248,680 or 51.25% voted against the question. The question “Do you favour province-wide Daylight Saving Time?” was asked again on August 31, 1971. 386,846 or 61.47% of Albertans voted “yes” and 242,431 or 38.53% voted against.

As a separate vote a province-wide liquor plebiscite was conducted on October 30, 1957, on the question “Do you approve additional types of outlets for the sale of beer, wine, and spirituous liquors subject to a local vote?” 171,786 or 63.9% voted in favour and 96,961 or 36.1% voted against. The same plebiscite asked the question “Should mixed drinking be allowed in beer parlours in Edmonton and Calgary and the surrounding areas?” 99,150 or 78.5% voted in favour of mixed drinking while 27,203 or 21.5% voted against.

Since 1971, no province-wide plebiscites have been held in Alberta.

Members’ Statements

Mr. Danyluk, Hon. Member for Lac La Biche-St. Paul, made a statement regarding Alberta youth forums.

Ms Pastoor, Hon. Member for Lethbridge-East, made a statement regarding the 50th anniversary of the Alberta Association of Community Living and the recently released book “Hear My Voice, Stories told by Albertans with Developmental Disabilities Who Were Once Institutionalized.”

Mrs. Ady, Hon. Member for Calgary-Shaw, made a statement congratulating the City of Calgary on hosting the 2006 ISU (International Skating Union) World All-round Speed Skating Championships, March 18-19, 2006, and the 2006 ISU World Figure Skating Championships, March 20-26, 2006.

Mr. Knight, Hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Smoky, made a statement congratulating the Alberta 2005 Centennial History Society which collaborated with 34 authors to produce the book “Alberta Formed-Alberta Transformed” and Charley Thomas, Geoff Walker, Rollie Robinson, and Kyle Reynolds from the Grande Prairie Curling Club on winning the 2006 World Junior Curling Championship in South Korea.

Mr. Snelgrove, Hon. Member for Vermilion-Lloydminster, made a statement regarding the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada, Alberta Division.

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, made a statement regarding the importance of Alberta’s public health care system.

Presenting Petitions

Dr. Brown, Chair, Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the following petitions for Private Bills:

of Royal Trust Corporation of Canada for the Burns Memorial Trust Amendment Act, 2006;

of Thomas Wispinski on behalf of the Alberta Catholic Health Corporation for the Mary Immaculate Hospital of Mundare Amendment Act, 2006;

of Edmonton Community Foundation for the Edmonton Community Foundation Amendment Act, 2006;

of Calgary Olympic Development Association for the Canada Olympic Park Property Tax Exemption Amendment Act, 2006.

Tabling Returns and Reports

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

Letter dated March 3, 2006, unsigned, from John Wodak, M.A., Ph.D. of Sherwood Park to Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, expressing concern regarding the Government's proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 182/2006

Acure Health Corporation advertisement providing information concerning medical access insurance

Sessional Paper 183/2006

Dr. Swann, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View:

6 letters dated February 28, 2006, from Edmonton and area residents to Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, expressing opposition to the cancellation of a national child care agreement

Sessional Paper 184/2006

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre:

E-mail message dated March 9, 2006, from Richard Clarke to Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, expressing opposition to the Government's proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 185/2006

E-mail message dated March 3, 2006, from Michele Brown to Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, expressing opposition to private health care and to allowing doctors to work in both the public and the proposed private health care systems

Sessional Paper 186/2006

E-mail message dated February 2, 2006, from Susan Williams to Dr. Taft, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, expressing concern regarding the effect of the Government's proposed health care reforms on poor and disabled Albertans and requesting the Alberta Liberal Opposition not support the reforms

Sessional Paper 187/2006

2 e-mail messages, the first dated February 27, 2006, from Pat Anderson of Calgary to Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, Dr. Swann, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View, and Dr. Taft, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, and the second dated March 7, 2006, from Pat Anderson of Calgary to Hon. Mrs. Fritz, Minister of Seniors and Community Supports, Dr. Swann, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View, Dr. Taft, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Mason, Hon. Leader of the New Democrat Opposition, Jim Prentice, and The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister, both concerning the Alberta health care system

Sessional Paper 188/2006

E-mail message dated March 10, 2006, from Paula Stein of Edmonton to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, providing comments and expressing opposition to the Government's proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 189/2006

Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods:

Letter dated March 3, 2006, unsigned, from Neil Evans of Edmonton to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing concern regarding a recent incident involving a Legislative Assembly Page

Sessional Paper 190/2006

5 letters dated February 28, 2006, from Albertans and 1 letter dated March 8, 2006, from the Multicultural Health Brokers Cooperative Limited, all to Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, expressing opposition to the cancellation of a national child care agreement

Sessional Paper 191/2006

Mr. Taylor, Hon. Member for Calgary-Currie:

6 letters dated February 28, 2006, from Albertans to Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, expressing opposition to the cancellation of a national child care agreement

Sessional Paper 192/2006

Ms Pastoor, Hon. Member for Lethbridge-East:

Book entitled "Hear My Voice, Stories told by Albertans with Developmental Disabilities Who Were Once Institutionalized" compiled by the Alberta Association of Community Living

Sessional Paper 193/2006

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

6 letters dated February 28, 2006, from Edmonton residents to Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, expressing opposition to the cancellation of a national child care agreement

Sessional Paper 194/2006

Mr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford:

E-mail message dated March 16, 2006, from Sterling Rideout of Edmonton to Mr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, attaching the text of an e-mail message dated March 16, 2006, from Mr. Rideout to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing opposition to the Government's proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 195/2006

Series of recent e-mail messages between Reg and Elsie Roberts, Mr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, and the Alberta Connects web site, discussing concerns raised by Mr. and Mrs. Roberts regarding the Government's proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 196/2006

5 letters dated February 28, 2006, from Albertans to Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, expressing opposition to the cancellation of a national child care agreement

Sessional Paper 197/2006

Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung:

E-mail message dated March 16, 2006, from Stuart Palace of Edmonton to Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, expressing opposition to a recent judicial decision granting bail to four youths charged with manslaughter in the recent death of Stefan Wiliam Conley on an ETS (Edmonton Transit Service) bus

Sessional Paper 198/2006

Letter dated March 1, 2006, from Marlene and Don Schwartz of Edmonton to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing concern regarding funding for persons with developmental disabilities

Sessional Paper 199/2006

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

Letter, undated, unaddressed, from Mary and Ed Gamble expressing concern regarding the effect of the Government's proposed health care reforms on access to health care services

Sessional Paper 200/2006

Mr. Agnihotri, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie:

6 letters dated February 28, 2006, from Albertans to Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, expressing opposition to the cancellation of a national child care agreement

Sessional Paper 201/2006

Tablings to the Clerk

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Cardinal, Minister of Human Resources and Employment, pursuant to the Veterinary Profession Act, cV-2, s6.1(2):

Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, 2005 Annual Report

Sessional Paper 202/2006

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions

The following Written Questions were accepted:

WQ1. Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Mr. Mason:

What is the total number of physicians who have opted out of the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan for each of the 2001 to 2005 fiscal years and from April 1, 2005 to February 22, 2006?

WQ3. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. Agnihotri:

For each of the fiscal years 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005, how many grants awarded by the Wild Rose Foundation were subsequently investigated due to inadequate assurance that grant funds were used as intended?

WQ4. Moved by Mr. Taylor on behalf of Mr. MacDonald:

What was the total cost incurred by the Government for its response to the Acheson Acclaim sour gas blowout that occurred on December 12, 2004, broken down by department?

WQ6. Moved by Mr. Taylor:

For each of the fiscal years 2006-2007 through 2009-2010, how many additional spaces will be created in Alberta's medical schools?

WQ7. Moved by Mr. Taylor:

For each of the fiscal years 2006-2007 through 2009-2010, how many additional spaces will be created in Alberta's nursing programs, broken down by institution and type of program?

WQ9. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

How many of the patients who had qualified to be put on the list for surgery in the Alberta Hip and Knee Replacement Project were unable to have their surgery completed at the Health Resource Centre in Calgary due to other health issues that these patients had that could not be treated by this particular private clinic during the fiscal year 2004-2005?

The following Written Question was accepted as amended:

WQ8. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

How many physicians have been recruited to work in Alberta municipalities with populations equal to or less than 15,000 residents for the fiscal years 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, and April 1, 2005 to February 23, 2006?

Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, moved the motion be amended to read:

What was the percentage increase in the number of physicians working in Alberta municipalities with populations equal to or less than 15,000 residents for the fiscal years 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, and April 1, 2005 to February 23, 2006?

The following Written Question was rejected:

WQ5. Moved by Mr. Taylor on behalf of Mr. MacDonald:

What is the exact dollar amount paid to each group or individual by the Ministry of Energy pertaining to its latest royalty review?

The following Written Questions were ordered to stand:

WQ10, WQ11, WQ12, WQ13.

Motions for Returns

The following Motions for Returns were accepted:

MR14. Moved by Mr. Taylor:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all documents including, but not limited to, studies, budgetary analyses, submissions, proposals, memos, and other correspondence related to the decision to increase the minimum debt level required for eligibility for the Alberta Student Loan Relief Program from \$5,000 to \$7,140 per annum.

MR16. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Detailed breakdown of all expenses incurred by the Minister of Health and Wellness, her staff and/or designate on trips during the 2004-2005 fiscal year including, but not limited to, travel, accommodation, meals, receptions and hosting, as well as incidental and miscellaneous expenses.

The following Motions for Returns were accepted as amended:

MR5. Moved by Mr. Eggen:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all studies, briefing notes, backgrounders, feasibility studies, or environmental assessments prepared by or for the Ministry of Environment from January 1, 2003 to February 22, 2006 that analyze the injection of CO₂ for storage purposes.

Hon. Mr. Melchin, Minister of Energy, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Boutilier, Minister of Environment, moved the motion be amended to read:

Copies of all studies, feasibility studies, or environmental assessments prepared by or for the Ministry of Environment from January 1, 2003 to February 22, 2006 that analyze the injection of CO₂ for storage purposes.

MR6. Moved by Mr. Eggen:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all studies, briefing notes, backgrounders, feasibility studies, or environmental assessments prepared by or for the Ministry of Energy and/or the Ministry of Environment from January 1, 2003 to February 22, 2006 that analyze the injection of CO₂ for the extraction of oil.

Hon. Mr. Melchin, Minister of Energy, moved the motion be amended to read:

Copies of all studies, feasibility studies, or environmental assessments prepared by or for the Ministry of Energy and/or the Ministry of Environment from January 1, 2003 to February 22, 2006 that analyze the injection of CO₂ for the extraction of oil.

The following Motions for Returns were rejected:

MR1. Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Mr. Mason:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all submissions received by the Alberta Public Affairs Bureau Review Committee between May 26, 2005 and February 22, 2006.

- MR2.** Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Mr. Mason:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all minutes of the Alberta Public Affairs Bureau Review Committee meetings from May 26, 2005 to February 22, 2006.
- MR3.** Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Mr. Mason:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all correspondence (including e-mails), contracts, proposals, briefing notes, or memoranda prepared for or by the Government and/or the Calgary Health Region pertaining to the Health Resource Centre or Network Health Inc. between January 1, 2002 and February 22, 2006.
- MR4.** Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Mr. Mason:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copy of the report of the Alberta Public Affairs Bureau Review Committee announced on May 26, 2005.
- MR7.** Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Mr. Mason:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all documents, including legal opinions, briefing notes, backgrounders, or memoranda prepared by or for the Ministry of Health and Wellness from January 1, 2003 to February 22, 2006 that analyze whether the Government's Third Way initiative violates either existing provincial legislation or the Canada Health Act.
- MR8.** Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Mr. Mason:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of the results, data, and analysis of all public opinion polls, focus groups, surveys and questionnaires undertaken by or on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Wellness from January 1, 2004 to February 22, 2006.
- MR9.** Moved by Mr. Eggen:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all reports, briefing notes, backgrounders, or memoranda regarding grizzly bear populations in Alberta prepared by or for the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Development from January 1, 2004 to February 22, 2006.

MR10. Moved by Mr. Martin:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of the agenda and minutes of the February 20, 2004 meeting involving the Minister of Seniors and Community Supports and the MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly) for Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo referenced on page 30 of the October 2005 Report of the Auditor General on Alberta Social Housing Corporation - Land Sales Systems.

MR11. Moved by Mr. Martin:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copy of the memo from the Deputy Minister to the Minister of Seniors and Community Supports referenced on page 30 of the October 2005 Report of the Auditor General on Alberta Social Housing Corporation - Land Sales Systems.

MR12. Moved by Mr. Taylor on behalf of Mr. Miller:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copy of the final report submitted by the accounting firm KPMG to the Alberta Securities Commission (ASC) auditing ASC employee computer systems.

MR13. Moved by Mr. Taylor on behalf of Mr. Miller:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copy of the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund ethical investment policy.

MR15. Moved by Mr. Taylor:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of all documents including, but not limited to, studies, reports, proposals, presentations, and correspondence related to the design, mandate, and implementation of the Campus Alberta Quality Council, including any correspondence between the Ministry of Advanced Education (formerly Learning) and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) or other accreditation organizations.

MR17. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copy of all cost-benefit analyses for the implementation of private insurance for non-emergency health services.

MR18. Moved by Ms Blakeman:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
For each of the fiscal years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005, a list of all groups and individuals representing either specific private health care related companies or any association, group, or organization representing the interests of the private health care industry who have met with the Premier, the Minister of Health and Wellness, the Assistant Deputy Ministers of Health and Wellness, or any Alberta Standing Policy Committee.

MR19. Moved by Mr. Taylor on behalf of Mr. Miller:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copy of the report completed by Bearing Point Canada regarding employee complaints at the Alberta Securities Commission that allege senior management engaged in favouritism and fostered an oppressive work environment.

The following Motions for Returns were ordered to stand:

MR20, MR21, MR22.

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 205 Continuing Care Standards Act — Ms Pastoor

A debate followed.

Mr. Backs 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 5:28 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2006 — 8:00 P.M.

Acting Speaker's Statement - Motion Other Than Government Motion 505

Honourable Members, before proceeding to the debate on Motion 504, the Chair wants to comment about Motion other than Government Motion 505 which, in the ordinary course of events, would be considered by the Assembly on the evening of Monday, April 3, 2006.

The Hon. Member from Calgary-Foothills, who is proposing the motion, asked late last week, that he be allowed to amend it. The request arrived in the Speaker's Office last Thursday but did not make it in today's Order Paper. Under Standing Order 39.1(2), notice of the amendment must appear on the Order Paper not less than 4 sitting days before the motion is moved. All Members should have the proposed amended Motion 505 on their desks.

As the motion will not be debated until 2 weeks from today, the Chair would ask for unanimous consent to waive Standing Order 39.1(2).

The Acting Speaker requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to waive Standing Order 39.2(2) to allow for less than 4 sitting days' notice of the amendment to Motion Other Than Government Motion 505.

Although Motions Other Than Government Motions appear only in Monday's Order Paper, the Chair will arrange to have the amended Motion appear in tomorrow's Order Paper.

Motions Other Than Government Motions

504. Moved by Rev. Abbott (Amended):

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to *encourage* municipalities to provide minimum standards of fire, rescue, *and recovery* services.

A debate followed.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Government Motions

12. Moved by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky on behalf of Hon. Mr. Hancock:

Be it resolved that when the Assembly adjourns on Thursday, March 23, 2006, at the regular hour of 5:30 p.m., it shall stand adjourned until Monday, April 3, 2006, at 1:30 p.m.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

13. Moved by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky on behalf of Hon. Mr. Hancock:

Be it resolved that when the Assembly adjourns on Thursday, April 13, 2006, at the regular hour of 5:30 p.m., it shall stand adjourned until Monday, April 24, 2006, at 1:30 p.m.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

14. Moved by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky on behalf of Hon. Mr. Hancock:

Be it resolved that when the Assembly adjourns to recess the Spring Sitting of the Second Session of the 26th Legislature, it shall stand adjourned until a time and date as determined by the Speaker after consultation with the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Government Bills and Orders

Third Reading

The following Bills were read a Third time and passed:

- Bill 1 Alberta Cancer Prevention Legacy Act (\$) — Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky on behalf of Hon. Mr. Klein
- Bill 3 Protection Against Family Violence Amendment Act, 2006 — Mrs. Jablonski

Second Reading

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

- Bill 10 Engineering, Geological and Geophysical Professions Amendment Act, 2006 — Mr. Danyluk

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 9:54 p.m. until Tuesday, March 21, 2006, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Monday, March 20, 2006