



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 19

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Second Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Monday, April 3, 2006

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

Speaker's Statement - Rotation of Questions and Members' Statements

Honourable Members, before we move on to the next point in the Routine, changes in the composition of one caucus within the Assembly has required some changes to the rotation for Oral Question Period and for Members' Statements.

The rotation for Oral Question Period and the rationale for that rotation is found in the Chair's ruling of March 8, 2005, which can be found on pages 90 and 91 of Hansard for that day. The Chair does not plan to repeat that whole ruling and will now indicate how that rotation is going to be altered.

As Members know, the independent Member from Cardston-Taber-Warner is entitled to the fifth question every fourth day in the Assembly. The Chair can see no reason why the Member for Strathmore-Brooks should not be entitled to the same place in the rotation. On our schedule of House activities today, Monday, April 3, 2006, is day two in the rotation. The fourth day from today will be Thursday, April 6, at which time the Member for Strathmore-Brooks will be entitled to ask the fifth question of the day. So that no one is confused, the Member for Cardston-Taber-Warner is entitled to a question on Wednesday, April 5.

To be clear, on day one of the rotation the Official Opposition will be entitled to the first three questions and the Members of the Third Party will be entitled to the fourth question. The Member for Strathmore-Brooks will have the fifth question, the Official Opposition the sixth, eighth, 10th, 13th, 15th, and 17th questions. Members from the Government Caucus will be entitled to the seventh, ninth, 12th, 14th, and 16th questions. The Third Party Caucus will continue to be entitled to the 11th and 18th questions.

Members should be alerted that day one of the rotation will not be the same as day four. On day four the sixth question goes to a Member of the Government Caucus while on day one, which will be this coming Thursday, the sixth question goes to a Member of the Official Opposition.

The Chair will be tabling charts to demonstrate the operation of the new rotation and will be providing the charts to Members along with the new Projected Sitting Days Calendar.

With respect to Members' Statements there was an arrangement that was agreed to by House Leaders on March 16, 2005, concerning the operation and rotation of Members' Statements. In keeping with this rotation, the Member for Strathmore-Brooks will be entitled to two Member's Statements over the next five weeks. His first Member's Statement will be Thursday, April 13, 2006.

Speaker's Comment

The Speaker commented that in the Spring of 1930, a Bill was placed before the Legislative Assembly to ratify an agreement which John Edward Brownlee, Alberta's fifth Premier, called "probably the most important piece of legislation that would ever come within the experience of Members now sitting in the House." On April 3, 1930, the Alberta Natural Resources Act received Royal Assent, the corresponding federal statute being enacted on May 30 of the same year.

The Act reads in part: "In order that the Province may be in the same position as the original Provinces of Confederation are... the interest of the Crown in all Crown lands, mines, minerals... and royalties derived therefrom within the Province, and all sums due or payable for such lands, mines, minerals or royalties, shall... belong to the Province."

For many Albertans the settlement also constituted a moral victory insofar as "the inferior constitutional status" of Alberta "had been an important factor in a continuing feeling of alienation" amongst our population.

In practical terms the agreement provided for the transfer of about 40.5 million hectares of land, 1.21 million hectares of tar sands, 202,300 hectares of petroleum rights, and several million hectares of coal leases.

Financially the arrangement stipulated that the Dominion Government pay to the Province an annual sum of \$562,500 until its population reached 800,000, after which it was to pay an annual sum of \$750,000 until its population reached 1.2 million. Finally, it was to remit an annual sum of \$1.125 million in perpetuity. In addition, legislation was passed in the Alberta Legislative Assembly that same session to provide for the administration of the natural resources that were now under provincial auspices.

Members' Statements

Mr. McFarland, Hon. Member for Little Bow, made a statement congratulating Casey Scheidegger, Katie Wilson, Jessie Scheidegger, and Jayme Coutts on winning the 2006 Optimist Juvenile Girls Provincial Curling Championship and for representing Alberta in the finals of the 2006 Optimist Under-18 International Championship held in Calgary, March 30 to April 2, 2006.

Dr. Brown, Hon. Member for Calgary-Nose Hill, made a statement regarding British parliamentary democracy and the merits of the single-member plurality system.

Mr. Johnson, Hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose, made a statement regarding the recent opening of the Chester Ronning Centre for the Study of Religion and Public Life at the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus in Camrose.

Mr. Liepert, Hon. Member for Calgary-West, made a statement congratulating Stephen Ames of Calgary on winning the Players Tournament at TPC (Tournament Players Club) Sawgrass on April 2, 2006, in Ponte Verde, Florida.

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, made a statement regarding the sale of land adjacent to Anthony Henday Drive in Edmonton.

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, made a statement recognizing March 27, 2006, as World Theatre Day.

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Martin, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview, presented a petition from 1,330 Albertans requesting the Government increase infrastructure development funding for Highway 63.

Dr. Swann, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View, presented a petition from 53 Albertans urging the Government to consider increasing funding in order that all Alberta Works income support benefit levels may be increased.

Tabling Returns and Reports

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

Edmonton Journal article dated October 3, 1987, entitled “Land price \$6M too high, memo says” prepared by Jac MacDonald, Journal Staff Writer
Sessional Paper 247/2006

Alberta Government Services Land Titles Office image of document registered as 892001585
Sessional Paper 248/2006

Alberta Government Services Land Titles Office image of document registered as 882132658
Sessional Paper 249/2006

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre:

E-mail message dated March 13, 2006, from L.E. Wagner to Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, expressing opposition and offering alternatives to the Government’s proposed health care reforms
Sessional Paper 250/2006

Letter dated March 17, 2006, unsigned, from Sarah Wall of Edmonton to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing support for the public health care system and opposition to the Government’s proposed health care reforms
Sessional Paper 251/2006

Letter dated March 11, 2006, from Mieke Wharton-Meijer of Edmonton to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing opposition to the consultation process offered to Albertans by the Government to comment on proposed health care reforms
Sessional Paper 252/2006

E-mail message dated March 1, 2006, from Tena Wiebe to Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, urging the Government to improve the existing public health care system rather than developing a private system
Sessional Paper 253/2006

Letter dated February 21, 2006, from Marlene Williams of St. Albert to Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, expressing concern regarding the effect of the Government’s proposed health care reforms on seniors and persons with chronic illnesses, disabilities, and low incomes
Sessional Paper 254/2006

E-mail message dated February 24, 2006, from Kellogg and Katherine Wilson to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing opposition to the Government’s proposed health care reforms
Sessional Paper 255/2006

E-mail message dated March 11, 2006, from Warren Woodcox of Edmonton to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing concern regarding the difficulties he encountered in dealing with private health insurance providers and urging the Government to maintain and improve the public health care system

Sessional Paper 256/2006

Letter dated March 5, 2006, from Geraldine Young to Mr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, proposing ideas to improve the public health care system

Sessional Paper 257/2006

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

Letter, undated, unsigned, from Carolyn Pogue of Calgary to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing support for the public health care system and opposition to the Government's proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 258/2006

Mr. Martin, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview:

Letter dated January 25, 2006, from Rick Gilson of Grande Prairie to Mr. Martin, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview, requesting an increase in funding for the development of athletic facilities in Alberta

Sessional Paper 259/2006

Letter, undated, from Dorian Despins of Grande Prairie to Mr. Martin, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview, encouraging the Government to continue improving the public health care system instead of developing a private system

Sessional Paper 260/2006

Mr. Eggen, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Calder:

7 recent e-mail messages from Albertans to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing concern regarding several policies outlined in the Government's Health Policy Framework

Sessional Paper 261/2006

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

Letter dated March 8, 2006, from Lorna Berlinguette of Edmonton to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, urging the Government to develop an action plan concerning the issue of violence against women and girls

Sessional Paper 262/2006

Letter dated March 12, 2006, from Evan and Marian Addy of Edmonton to Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, expressing concern regarding the Government's proposed health care reforms and suggesting a province-wide referendum be held to determine if the reforms should be implemented

Sessional Paper 263/2006

Mr. Chase, Hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity:

12 letters from Albertans to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, and Mr. Chase, Hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, and 1 letter, undated, unaddressed, unsigned, from Martin Cowan, all expressing opposition to the Government's proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 264/2006

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

Program from the Magic Moments Children's Benefit Dinner and Auction held on March 24, 2006, at the Fantasyland Hotel

Sessional Paper 265/2006

E-mail message, undated, from J. Thompson to Mr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, attaching the text of comments made by J. Thompson to the Alberta Health and Wellness website concerning the Government's Health Policy Framework

Sessional Paper 266/2006

Letter, undated, unsigned, from Pat Seale of Edmonton to the Communications Branch, Alberta Health and Wellness, outlining the costs and benefits of the Government's proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 267/2006

Letter, undated, unsigned, from Daniel Langdon to Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, urging the Government not to proceed with its proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 268/2006

2 letters, undated, from Tobias Jeserich and Lonnie Tanner, both of Edmonton, to Members of the Legislative Assembly, and 1 letter dated March 11, 2006, from Linda Whitlock of Edmonton to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, all regarding funding for persons with developmental disabilities

Sessional Paper 269/2006

Hon. Mr. Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly:

Revised Legislative Assembly of Alberta Projected Sitting Days Calendar and Oral Question Period Rotation for the Second Session of the 26th Legislature

Sessional Paper 270/2006

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions

The following Written Questions were rejected:

WQ10. Moved by Mr. Martin:

What was the average portion of the total cost for a resident in an assisted living facility that was publicly paid for and what portion was privately paid for in the fiscal years 2003/2004 and 2004/2005?

WQ11. Moved by Mr. Martin:

What was the average portion of the total cost for a resident in a long-term care facility that was publicly paid for and what portion was privately paid for in the fiscal years 2003/2004 and 2004/2005?

WQ12. Moved by Mr. Martin:

For the fiscal years 2003/2004 and 2004/2005, what was the average cost per resident per month at a designated assisted-living facility?

WQ13. Moved by Mr. Martin:

For the fiscal years 2003/2004 and 2004/2005, what was the average cost per resident per month at a designated long-term care facility?

The following Written Questions were ordered to stand:

None appearing on the Order Paper.

Motions for Returns

The following Motions for Returns were rejected:

MR20. Moved by Mr. Martin:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A list of payments made by a Regional Health Authority or the Ministry of Health and Wellness to all facilities in Alberta whose designation changed from “long-term care facility” to “assisted living facility” between April 1, 2001 and February 22, 2006.

MR21. Moved by Mr. Martin:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A list of facilities in Alberta whose designation changed from “long-term care facility” to “assisted living facility” between April 1, 2001 and February 22, 2006.

MR22. Moved by Dr. Miller on behalf of Ms Blakeman:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
For each of the fiscal years 1997-98 through 2004-05 and April 1, 2005 to March 9, 2006, all reports, studies, papers, or analyses prepared or received by the Ministries of Health and Wellness or Environment related to the health impacts of industrial activities in Alberta.

The following Motions for Returns were ordered to stand:

MR23, MR24.

Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders

Committee of the Whole

According to Order, the Assembly resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, and the Speaker left the Chair.

(Assembly in Committee)

The following Bill was taken under consideration:

Bill 201 Human Tissue Gift (Notification Procedure) Amendment Act, 2006 —
Mr. Liepert

During Committee of the Whole consideration of Bill 201, Human Tissue Gift (Notification Procedure) Amendment Act, 2006, Ms Haley, Hon. Member for Airdrie-Chestermere, moved that the Chair do now leave the Chair.

The motion was agreed to and the Chair left the Chair.

The Deputy Speaker assumed the Chair.

Committee of the Whole

According to Order, the Assembly resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, and the Deputy Speaker left the Chair.

(Assembly in Committee)

And after some time spent therein, the Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

The following Bill was reported:

Bill 203 Railway (Alberta) (Heritage Railway) Amendment Act, 2006 —
Mr. Johnson

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.

The question being put, the motion was defeated. With Mr. Marz in the Chair, the names being called for were taken as follows:

For the motion: 15

Agnihotri	Flaherty	Miller (Edmonton-Rutherford)
Backs	MacDonald	Pastoor
Blakeman	Martin	Swann
Bonko	Mather	Taylor
Elsalhy	Miller (Edmonton-Glenora)	Tougas

Against the motion: 31

Abbott	Johnson	Ouellette
Ady	Knight	Prins
Amery	Liepert	Rodney
Brown	Lindsay	Snelgrove
Cenaiko	Lougheed	Stevens
Forsyth	McFarland	Strang
Fritz	Melchin	Tarchuk
Graydon	Mitzel	VanderBurg
Haley	Morton	Webber
Herard	Oberle	Zwozdesky
Horner		

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Deputy Government House Leader, that it be called 5:30 p.m., the Assembly adjourned at 5:14 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2006 — 8:00 P.M.

Motions Other Than Government Motions

505. Moved by Mr. Webber (Amended):

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to *recognize the positive and critical role that grandparents play in the lives of their grandchildren and to encourage access when it is in the best interest of the child.*

A debate followed.

Mr. Chase, Hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, moved the motion be amended by striking out “recognize the positive and critical role that grandparents play in the lives of their grandchildren and to encourage access when it is in the best interest of the child” and substituting “protect the rights of grandparents by introducing legislation to make it less onerous and burdensome for them to gain access to their grandchildren”.

A debate followed on the amendment.

The question being put, the amendment was defeated.

Debate continued on the main motion.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Government Bills and Orders

Committee of the Whole

According to Order, the Assembly resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, and the Deputy Speaker left the Chair.

(Assembly in Committee)

And after some time spent therein, the Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

The following Bill was reported:

Bill 23 Provincial Parks Amendment Act, 2006 — Hon. Mr. Mar

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill 16 Peace Officer Act — Mr. Johnston

Mr. Johnson, Acting Chair of Committees, tabled copies of an amendment considered by Committee of the Whole on this date for the official records of the Assembly.

Amendment to Bill 16 (Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora) — Defeated
Sessional Paper 271/2006

Second Reading

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

Bill 15 International Interests in Mobile Aircraft Equipment Act — Hon.
Ms Calahasen

Bill 20 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2006
— Mrs. Jablonski

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Stevens, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 10:30 p.m. until Tuesday, April 4, 2006, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Monday, April 3, 2006