

# Legislative Assembly Province of Alberta

No. 27

## **VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

Second Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Monday, April 24, 2006

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

The Speaker offered a prayer and a moment of silence was observed in recognition of the deaths of former Members: Mr. Edward William Ewasiuk, Member for Edmonton-Beverley, 1986 to 1993, who passed away on April 14, 2006; and Mr. Frederick Charles Colborne, Member for Calgary and Calgary-Centre, 1944 to 1971, who passed away on April 19, 2006.

The Speaker also asked all Members to remember four brave Canadian soldiers: Lieutenant William Turner, a reservist; Corporal Randy Payne of Canadian Forces Base Wainwright; Corporal Matthew Dinning, a member of 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group in Petawawa, Ontario; and Myles Mansell, a member of the Victoria's 5th Field Regiment, who died this past weekend while on duty in Afghanistan.

A prayer was also offered in recognition of the Honourable Jobie Nutarak, Speaker of Nunavut, who passed away yesterday near Pond Inlet, Nunavut.

#### **Ministerial Statements**

Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, made a statement recognizing National Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Week, April 23-29, 2006.

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, commented on the statement.

#### **Speaker's Comment**

The Speaker commented that by 1935, William Aberhart's "Back to the Bible Hour" had a weekly radio audience of over 350,000 people. In 1935 Alberta had a population of about 750,000.

On August 22, 1935, 81.8% of Alberta's eligible voters, the largest ever, reviewed the platforms of 240 different candidates and gave the Social Credit Party 54.25% of the vote and 56 out of 63 seats. William Aberhart had personally handpicked Social Credit candidates in every constituency but he himself was not a candidate. He became the Premier of Alberta but not an MLA. William Morrison, the Social Credit Member for Okotoks-High River, resigned and William Aberhart was elected an MLA by acclamation on November 4, 1935.

Alberta was to enter a very stormy period. Premier Aberhart led the Social Credit Party into the March 21, 1940 election and emerged with 42.9% of the vote and 36 out of 57 seats. Mr. Aberhart was elected in Calgary.

The political storms were to continue. The press constantly ridiculed Mr. Aberhart, the Lieutenant Governor considered removing him from office, and major opposition came from Ministers within his own Cabinet who felt he was not determined enough in advancing the Social Credit theories of Major C.H. Douglas.

On a trip to Vancouver on May 23, 1943, he died a painful death from cirrhosis of the liver at age 64. So embittered was his family for the years of criticism he endured that they cancelled plans for a state funeral in Alberta and buried him in Vancouver.

#### **Members' Statements**

Mr. Lukaszuk, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Castle Downs, made a statement regarding Corporal Matthew Dinning, Bombardier Myles Mansell, Corporal Randy Payne, and Lieutenant William Turner who were killed this past weekend while on duty in Afghanistan.

Rev. Abbott, Hon. Member for Drayton Valley-Calmar, made a statement recognizing April 23-29, 2006, as National Volunteer Week.

Mr. Johnston, Hon. Member for Calgary-Hays, made a statement recognizing April 23-29, 2006, as the inaugural National Victims of Crime Awareness Week.

Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, made a statement regarding the effectiveness of the "Alberta's Promise" initiative.

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, made a statement regarding the purchase of Crown land for the development of the Edmonton and Calgary ring roads.

#### **Presenting Petitions**

Mr. Prins, Hon. Member for Lacombe-Ponoka, presented a petition from 60 Albertans regarding effective and immediate measures to curtail the substantial increase in teenage smoking in Alberta as reported by Health Canada that include, but are not limited to a tobacco tax increase, legislation to control tobacco sales and marketing, and legislation to make all workplaces completely smoke-free.

Mr. Oberle, Hon. Member for Peace River, presented a petition from 18 Manning and area residents regarding effective and immediate measures to curtail the substantial increase in teenage smoking in Alberta as reported by Health Canada that include, but are not limited to a tobacco tax increase, legislation to control tobacco sales and marketing, and legislation to make all workplaces completely smoke-free.

Dr. Swann, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View, presented a petition from 111 Albertans urging the Government to consider increasing funding in order that all Alberta Works income support benefit levels may be increased.

Mr. Eggen, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Calder, presented a petition from 938 Albertans urging the Government to abandon its plans to implement the "Third Way" health care reforms which will undermine public medicare, defeat legislation allowing expansion of private, for-profit hospitals in Alberta and permitting doctors to work in both the private and public systems which will drain key resources from the public system, oppose any action by the Government to contravene the Canada Health Act, and vote against plans that would force Albertans to pay for private health insurance for services that should be covered by medicare.

Mrs. Jablonski, Hon. Member for Red Deer-North, presented a petition from 482 Albertans urging the Government to introduce legislation to give parents and/or guardians the authority to place children under the age of 18, who are involved with drugs, into mandatory treatment.

Mrs. Jablonski, Hon. Member for Red Deer-North, presented a petition from 98 Albertans urging the Government to introduce legislation allowing parents the authority to place their children into mandatory drug treatment and to fund urgently required youth drug treatment.

## **Introduction of Bills (First Reading)**

Upon recommendation of His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, and notice having been given:

Bill 35 Fuel Tax Act (\$) — Hon. Mrs. McClellan

Notice having been given:

- Bill 36 Securities Transfer Act Mr. Knight
- Bill 37 Miscellaneous (Provincial Treasurer) Statutes Amendment Act, 2006 Hon. Mrs. McClellan

On motion by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Government House Leader, the following Bill was placed on the Order Paper under Government Bills and Orders:

Bill 36 Securities Transfer Act — Mr. Knight

## **Tabling Returns and Reports**

Hon. Mr. Cenaiko, Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security:

Response to Written Question WQ2, asked for by Dr. Miller on March 13, 2006:

What consultations, studies, research, or other information-gathering exercises pertaining to the use of Provincial Protection Officers for traffic safety enforcement on primary highways under the direction of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police were conducted by the Ministry of the Solicitor General and Public Security prior to the implementation of the pilot project?

Sessional Paper 399/2006

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Minister of Education:

Return to Order of the Assembly MR49, asked for by Mr. Flaherty on November 28, 2005:

Copies of relevant documents available within the Ministry of Education that pertain to the plan to phase in a method for equating diploma examinations as referenced on page 28 of the Ministry of Learning's 2003-04 Annual Report.

Sessional Paper 400/2006

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

Letter dated March 29, 2006, from R. and J. Poulin of Edmonton to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing concern regarding the Government's proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 401/2006

Alberta History magazine dated Autumn 2005 entitled "A Century of Alberta Premiers"

Sessional Paper 402/2006

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

Program from the 11th Annual Chrysalis Achievement Awards held on April 23, 2006, in Calgary

Sessional Paper 403/2006

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

Letter dated April 9, 2006, from Grace Wheatley to Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, expressing concern regarding the minimum wait-time to receive a rent supplement from Capital Region Housing

Sessional Paper 404/2006

Ms Pastoor, Hon. Member for Lethbridge-East:

32 letters from Albertans to several addressees requesting increased funding for long-term care facilities

Sessional Paper 405/2006

### **Tablings to the Clerk**

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Cardinal, Minister of Human Resources and Employment, pursuant to the Workers' Compensation Act, cW-15, s24.1(6):

Report dated March 2006 entitled "The Status of Research on Occupational Causation of Selected Primary Site Cancers in Part-time Firefighters" prepared for the Alberta Workers' Compensation Board

Sessional Paper 406/2006

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Boutilier, Minister of Environment:

Response to Written Question WQ4, asked for by Mr. Taylor on behalf of Mr. MacDonald on March 20, 2006:

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?

Sessional Paper 407/2006

Return to Order of the Assembly MR5, asked for by Mr. Eggen on March 20, 2006:

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 CO<sub>2</sub> for storage purposes.

Sessional Paper 408/2006

## ORDERS OF THE DAY

## **Written Questions**

The following Written Question was accepted:

**WQ29.** Moved by Dr. Swann on behalf of Mr. Bonko:

What measures has the Government taken to work collectively with the Federal Government and the Alberta China Office to address human rights concerns in China, specifically in regards to Falun Gong supporters?

The following Written Question was rejected:

**WQ15.** Moved by Mr. Taylor on behalf of Mr. Miller:

What is the total cost incurred to administer the \$400 Alberta 2005 Resource Rebate Program?

The following Written Questions were ordered to stand:

WQ14, WQ16, WQ17, WQ18, WQ19, WQ20, WQ21, WQ22, WQ23, WQ24, WQ25, WQ26, WQ27, WQ28, WQ30, WQ31, WQ32.

#### **Motions for Returns**

The following Motion for Returns was rejected:

MR26. Moved by Mr. Martin on behalf of Mr. Mason:

Copies of all documents including legal opinions, briefing notes, backgrounders, or memoranda that analyze the impact of income trusts and income trust conversions on Alberta Government revenues from January 1, 2002 to April 1, 2006.

The following Motions for Returns were ordered to stand:

MR23, MR24, MR25, MR27, MR28, MR29, MR30, MR31, MR32, MR33, MR34, MR35.

## 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 206 Designation of Child Access Exchange Centres Act — Ms DeLong

Mrs. Jablonski, Hon. Member for Red Deer-North, moved that the motion be amended by deleting all the words after the word "that" and substituting the following:

Bill 206, Designation of Child Access Exchange Centres Act, be not now read a Second time, but that it be read a Second time this day six months hence.

The question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

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

Bill 207 Traffic Safety (Driver Disqualification and Seizure of Vehicles Arising From Drug Offences) Amendment Act, 2006 — Mrs. Jablonski

### Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Government House Leader, that it be called 5:30 p.m., the Assembly adjourned at 5:22 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2006 — 8:00 P.M.

#### **Motions Other Than Government Motions**

#### **507.** Moved by Dr. Taft:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to support improved health, educational, and social outcomes for children by providing increased, dedicated funding for school nutrition programs for at-risk children in Alberta.

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: 12

AmeryFlahertyMiller (Edmonton-Rutherford)BacksHancockPastoorBonkoMarSwannCaoMasonTaft

Against the motion: 25

Ady Jablonski Oberle **Boutilier** Knight Ouellette Coutts Lindsay Prins DeLong Lougheed Rogers Doerksen Magnus Snelgrove Evans McFarland Stevens Tarchuk Goudreau Mitzel Groeneveld Morton Zwozdesky

Haley

#### **Government Bills and Orders**

#### **Second Reading**

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

Bill 24 Fiscal Responsibility Amendment Act, 2006 — Hon. Mrs. McClellan

A debate followed.

Dr. Taft moved adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

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

- Bill 30 Persons with Developmental Disabilities Community Governance Amendment Act, 2006 Dr. Brown
- Bill 33 Alberta Personal Income Tax Amendment Act, 2006 (\$) Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky on behalf of Hon. Mrs. McClellan
- Bill 34 Alberta Corporate Tax Amendment Act, 2006 (\$) Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky on behalf of Hon. Mrs. McClellan

## Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 11:32 p.m. until Tuesday, April 25, 2006, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

Title: Monday, April 24, 2006