

# Legislative Assembly Province of Alberta

No. 33

# **VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

Second Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Wednesday, May 3, 2006

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

# **Speaker's Comment**

The Speaker commented that in the general election of August 30, 1971, 46.4% of the votes went to the Progressive Conservative Party which elected 49 of 75 MLAs. The Social Credit Party received 41.1% of the votes and elected 25 MLAs. The Progressive Conservative Party became the fourth party to elect a government in Alberta.

On March 26, 1975, 62.65% of Albertans elected Progressive Conservatives in 69 out of Alberta's 75 seats. The Social Credit Party received 18.17% of the votes and elected four MLAs.

Four years later on March 14, 1979, voters voted 57.4% Progressive Conservative and elected 74 of 79 MLAs. The Social Credit Party received 19.87% of the votes and elected four MLAs.

On November 2, 1982, 588,485 Albertans gave the Progressive Conservative Party 62.28% of the votes and 75 of 79 seats. The New Democratic Party elected two MLAs with 18.75% of the votes. 947,644 Albertans cast ballots, the largest number to-date.

In the election held on May 8, 1986, only 47.25% of Albertans voted, one of the lowest turnouts in our history. The results gave the Progressive Conservative Party 51.4% of the votes and 61 of 83 seats. The New Democratic Party elected 16 MLAs with 29.22% of the votes.

Less than three years later on March 20, 1989, Albertans returned to the polls and 44.29% of voters gave the Progressive Conservative Party 59 out of 83 seats. The Liberals received 28.68% of the votes and elected eight MLAs, the New Democratic Party received 26.29% of the votes and elected 16 MLAs. 53.6% of Alberta voters voted.

In the election held on June 15, 1993, the turnout was 60.21%, and 991,472 ballots were cast. The Progressive Conservative Party received 44.49% of the votes and elected 51 of 83 Members. The Alberta Liberal Party received 39.73% of the votes and elected 32 MLAs. The New Democratic Party elected no MLAs with 11.01% of the votes. The highest number of candidates to-date participated, 382.

On March 11, 1997, voter turnout was 53.75% and the Progressive Conservative Party elected 63 MLAs out of 83 with 51.17% of the votes. The Alberta Liberal Party elected 18 MLAs with 32.75% of the votes. Two New Democrats were elected with 8.81% of the votes.

For the first time in Alberta's election history, ballots cast surpassed 1,000,000 with 1,015,844 voters participating in the election held on March 21, 2001. The Progressive Conservative Party elected 74 MLAs of 83 with 61.91% of the votes. The Alberta Liberal Party elected seven MLAs with 27.33% of the votes. Voter turnout was 52.83%.

On November 22, 2004, 450 candidates, the largest ever in Alberta's history, contested the election which saw voter turnout at 44.7%. The Progressive Conservative Party elected 62 MLAs of 83 with 46.8% of the votes. The Alberta Liberal Party elected 16 Members with 29.39% of the votes, the New Democratic Party elected four MLAs with 10.2% of the votes, and the Alberta Alliance Party elected one Member with 8.7% of the votes. The voter turnout at 44.7% was the lowest ever in Alberta. In one constituency, Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo, voter turnout was 26.4% and the PC candidate won 63.2% of those votes.

The electoral score to-date: Liberal Governments, four; United Farmers of Alberta Governments, three; Social Credit Governments, nine; Progressive Conservative Governments, 10.

#### **Members' Statements**

Mr. Mitzel, Hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat, made a statement regarding the Lethbridge and Medicine Hat centennials.

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, made a statement recognizing May 1-7, 2006 as Mental Health Week and acknowledging the work done in the Edmonton-Centre constituency and throughout Alberta in support of people with mental illness.

Mr. Johnson, Hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose, made a statement regarding the Wetaskiwin centennial.

Mr. Backs, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning, made a statement regarding the Alberta labour market and the use of temporary foreign workers.

Mr. Griffiths, Hon. Member for Battle-River Wainwright, made a statement congratulating Bill and Elvie Brown of Wainwright on their 70th wedding anniversary on July 22, 2006.

Mr. Hinman, Hon. Member for Cardston-Taber-Warner, made a statement regarding the use of resource revenue to establish a provincial pension plan.

### **Presenting Petitions**

Mr. Bonko, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Decore, presented a petition from 1,140 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.

Ms Pastoor, Hon. Member for Lethbridge-East, presented a petition from 382 Lethbridge and area residents 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.

# **Tabling Returns and Reports**

Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, on behalf of Hon. Mrs. Fritz, Minister of Seniors and Community Supports:

Report dated May 2006 entitled "Continuing Care Health Service Standards" prepared by Alberta Health and Wellness

Sessional Paper 460/2006

Report dated May 2006 entitled "Supportive Living Accommodation Standards" prepared by Alberta Seniors and Community Supports

Sessional Paper 461/2006

Report dated May 2006 entitled "Long-Term Care Accommodation Standards" prepared by Alberta Seniors and Community Supports

Sessional Paper 462/2006

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

Page 1363 of the Alberta Gazette, Part I, June 29, 1996, concerning the sale or disposition of three parcels of land

Sessional Paper 463/2006

Alberta Government Services Land Titles Office image of document registered as 962155947

Sessional Paper 464/2006

Land Title Certificate for portion of legal description SW 8-52-25-W4 Sessional Paper 465/2006

Letter dated May 1, 2006, from Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, to Hon. Mr. Lund, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation, requesting the Government initiate an independent judicial inquiry into all Government land deals related to the construction of the Edmonton and Calgary ring roads

Sessional Paper 466/2006

Hon. Mr. VanderBurg, Minister of Government Services:

Alberta Vital Statistics, Annual Review 2003

Sessional Paper 467/2006

Alberta Vital Statistics, Annual Review 2004

Sessional Paper 468/2006

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

Letter dated May 3, 2006, from Dr. Morton, Hon. Member for Foothills-Rocky View, to Hon. Mr. Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, requesting early Committee of the Whole consideration of Bill 208, Protection of Fundamental Freedoms (Marriage) Statutes Amendment Act, 2006

Sessional Paper 469/2006

# **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

Committee of Supply (Day 18 — 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 assumed the Chair and Mr. Johnson 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, 2007, for the Department and purposes indicated:

#### **Sustainable Resource Development**

Expense and Equipment / Inventory Purchases	\$229,636,000
Capital Investment	\$33,200,000

The question being put, the report and the request for leave to sit again were agreed to.

#### Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Renner, Deputy Government House Leader, it was agreed at 5:15 p.m. that when the Assembly reconvened at 8:00 p.m. it would be in Committee of Supply and the Acting Speaker left the Chair.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2006 - 8:00 P.M.

#### Committee of Supply (Day 19 — Main Estimates)

(Assembly in Committee)

And after some time spent therein, the Deputy Speaker assumed the Chair and Dr. Brown 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, 2007, for the Department and purposes indicated:

#### Justice and Attorney General

Expense and Equipment / Inventory Purchases \$342,436,000

Mr. Speaker, I would like to table copies of an amendment proposed by Dr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora, during Committee of Supply consideration:

Amendment to the Estimates of the Department of Justice and Attorney General (Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora) — Defeated

Sessional Paper 470/2006

The question being put, the report and the request for leave to sit again were agreed to.

## **Government Bills and Orders**

#### Second Reading

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

Bill 31 Health Information Amendment Act, 2006 — Dr. Brown

#### **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 Bills were reported with some amendments:

Bill 14 Health Professions Statutes Amendment Act, 2006 - Mr. Mitzel

Bill 25 Securities Amendment Act, 2006 - Mr. Knight

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

Amendment to Bill 14 (Hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat) — Agreed to

Sessional Paper 471/2006

Amendment to Bill 25 (Hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Smoky) — Agreed to Sessional Paper 472/2006

#### Second Reading

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

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

#### **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 Bills were reported:

- Bill 26 Mandatory Testing and Disclosure Act Mr. Magnus
- Bill 33 Alberta Personal Income Tax Amendment Act, 2006 (\$) Hon. Mrs. McClellan
- Bill 34 Alberta Corporate Tax Amendment Act, 2006 (\$) Hon. Mrs. McClellan

Progress was reported on the following Bills:

- Bill 29 Environmental Protection and Enhancement Amendment Act, 2006 Mr. Mitzel
- Bill 31 Health Information Amendment Act, 2006 Dr. Brown

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

Amendment to Bill 31 (Hon. Member for Calgary-Nose Hill) — Adjourned debate

Sessional Paper 473/2006

Amendment to Bill 29 (Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View) - Defeated

Sessional Paper 474/2006

Amendment to Bill 29 (Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View) — Adjourned debate

Sessional Paper 475/2006

# Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Stevens, Deputy Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 3:48 a.m., Thursday, May 4, 2006, until 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

Title: Wednesday, May 3, 2006