



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 39

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Second Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Monday, May 15, 2006

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

Speaker's Comment

The Speaker commented that while the length of time between Alberta's 26 elections varies, the average length of time is 3.95 years.

The longest period between elections is five years, two months, and three days, the time between the election held June 19, 1930, and the election held August 22, 1935. The second longest time is four years, 11 months, and 10 days, the time between the elections held July 18, 1921, and June 28, 1926.

The shortest time between elections is two years, 10 months, and 12 days, the time between the election held May 8, 1986, and March 20, 1989. The second shortest time is two years, 10 months, and 24 days, the time between the elections of August 5, 1952, and June 29, 1955.

Nine elections were held four years since the previous election and 12 have been held in the third year.

To repeat, the overall length of time between elections in our history is 3.95 years.

Members' Statements

Mr. Groeneveld, Hon. Member for Highwood, made a statement recognizing the 25th anniversary of the Marigold library system.

Dr. Brown, Hon. Member for Calgary-Nose Hill, made a statement regarding the importance of protecting Alberta's grasslands and the national wildlife refuge portion of the Suffield Military Base in southeastern Alberta.

Mr. Lindsay, Hon. Member for Stony Plain, made a statement recognizing May 2006 as Asian Pacific Heritage Month.

Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, made a statement regarding social, political, and spiritual diversity in Alberta.

Mr. Agnihotri, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, made a statement regarding the need for physical barriers between residential areas and portions of the Anthony Henday freeway located in southeast Edmonton.

Mr. Griffiths, Hon. Member for Battle-River Wainwright, made a statement regarding the Government's bullying prevention program.

Presenting Petitions

The petition put forth by Mr. Magnus, Hon. Member for Calgary-North Hill, was not in order to be presented.

Notices of Motions

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Government House Leader, gave oral notice of his intention to move the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, denoted as being effective April 11, 2005, be repealed in their entirety and the Standing Orders tabled in the Assembly on May 15, 2006, and distributed to Members be substituted in their place. The revised Standing Orders come into force on the first day of the next sitting of the Assembly following the adjournment of the 2006 Spring Sitting.

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Government House Leader, gave oral notice of his intention to move the following motion:

Be it resolved that:

1. A Select Special Personal Information Protection Act Review Committee of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta be appointed to review the Personal Information Protection Act as provided in section 63(1) of that Act, consisting of the following Members, namely:

Ady (Chair)	Liepert	Martin
Goudreau (Deputy Chair)	Lindsay	Rodney
Backs	Lougheed	Snelgrove
Johnston	MacDonald	

2. The Chair and Members of the Committee shall be paid in accordance with the schedule of Category "A" Committees provided in the most recent Members' Services Committee Allowances Order.
3. Reasonable disbursements by the Committee for advertising, staff assistance, equipment and supplies, rent, travel, and other expenditures necessary for the effective conduct of its responsibilities shall be paid, subject to the approval of the Chair.
4. In carrying out its duties, the Committee may travel throughout Alberta and undertake a process of consultation with all interested Albertans.
5. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Committee may, with the concurrence of the head of the Department, utilize the services of the public service employed in that Department or the staff employed by the Assembly or the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner.
6. The Committee may, without leave of the Assembly, sit during a period when the Assembly is adjourned.
7. The Committee must submit its report, including any proposed amendments to the Act, within 18 months after beginning its review.
8. When its work has been completed, the Committee must report to the Assembly if it is then sitting. During a period when the Assembly is adjourned, the Committee may release its report by depositing a copy with the Clerk and forwarding a copy to each Member of the Assembly.

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Government House Leader, gave oral notice of his intention to move the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly concur in the report of the Select Special Chief Electoral Officer Search Committee and recommend that Lorne R. Gibson be appointed as Chief Electoral Officer for the Province of Alberta.

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

Notice having been given:

Bill 43 Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2006 — Hon. Mr. Stevens

Tabling Returns and Reports

Mrs. Tarchuk, Chair, Select Standing Committee on Legislative Offices, pursuant to the Election Act, cE-1, s4(3):

The Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the 2004 Provincial Enumeration and Monday, November 22, 2004 Provincial General Election of the Twenty-sixth Legislative Assembly

Sessional Paper 567/2006

The Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the Senate Nominee Election, Monday, November 22, 2004

Sessional Paper 568/2006

Hon. Mr. Graydon, Minister of Gaming:

Photograph of Mr. Tougas, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark, and others at Afton School in Edmonton

Sessional Paper 569/2006

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

E-mail message dated April 4, 2006, from 6 Albertans to several Members of the Legislative Assembly expressing opposition to the Government's proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 570/2006

Letter dated March 15, 2006, from Stan Nykiel, Board Member, Coalition of Seniors Advocates Association, to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing opposition to the privatization of the health care system and encouraging the Government to improve the public system instead

Sessional Paper 571/2006

Copy of an e-mail message, undated, from Jonathan Hyatt of Calgary to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Health and Wellness, and Mr. Taylor, Hon. Member for Calgary-Currie, expressing opposition to the privatization of the health care system and encouraging the Government to improve the public system instead

Sessional Paper 572/2006

E-mail message dated March 28, 2006, from Tim Cambridge to Mr. Taylor, Hon. Member for Calgary-Currie, urging the Government to abandon any plans to privatize the health care system

Sessional Paper 573/2006

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

Program from the Calgary Meals on Wheels "Cuisine and Concours d'Elegance" 4th Annual Fundraising Gala held on May 13, 2006

Sessional Paper 574/2006

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

E-mail message dated May 12, 2006, from Carl Ulrich of Edmonton to Mr. Hancock, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Whitemud, expressing opposition to Bill 20, Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Amendment Act, 2006
Sessional Paper 575/2006

E-mail message dated May 10, 2006, from William Dascavich of Edmonton to the "Letters Editor" expressing concern regarding a lack of adequate staff at a sub-acute health care facility in Edmonton where a relative of Mr. Dascavich is a patient

Sessional Paper 576/2006

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

3 recent e-mail messages from Paul Sereda of Calgary, Rod E. McConnell of Edmonton, and Rheanna M. Sand to all Members of the Legislative Assembly expressing opposition to Bill 208, Protection of Fundamental Freedoms (Marriage) Statutes Amendment Act, 2006

Sessional Paper 577/2006

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

Copy of a memorandum dated December 2, 1982, unsigned, from Hon. Fred D. Bradley, Minister of the Environment, to Hon. E.P. Lougheed, Chairman, Finance, Priorities, and Coordination Committee, providing a progress report concerning the acquisition of Calgary and Edmonton transportation and utility corridors

Sessional Paper 578/2006

Copy of a memorandum dated February 25, 1983, unsigned, from Hon. Fred D. Bradley, Minister of the Environment, to Hon. E.P. Lougheed, Chairman, Finance, Priorities, and Coordination Committee, updating Hon. Mr. Lougheed concerning the purchase of the "Carma Edmonton lands"

Sessional Paper 579/2006

Copy of a memorandum dated September 18, 1981, unsigned, from Hon. John W. (Jack) Cookson, Minister of the Environment, to Hon. E.P. Lougheed, Chairman, Members Priorities Committee, attaching a document, undated, entitled "Calgary and Edmonton R.D.A. Transportation and Utility Corridor Land Purchases" prepared by Alberta Environment

Sessional Paper 580/2006

Copy of a memorandum dated January 5, 1983, unsigned, from Hon. Fred D. Bradley, Minister of the Environment, to Hon. E.P. Lougheed, Chairman, Finance, Priorities, and Coordination Committee, requesting the Committee's approval to purchase certain parcels of land in the "northeast energy corridor"

Sessional Paper 581/2006

Copy of a memorandum dated October 9, 1980, unsigned, from Hon. John W. (Jack) Cookson, Minister of the Environment, to Hon. E.P. Lougheed, Premier, President of Executive Council, concerning Edmonton and Calgary R.D.A. purchases and special warrants

Sessional Paper 582/2006

Copy of a memorandum dated November 23, 1981, unsigned, from Hon. Fred D. Bradley, Minister of the Environment, to Hon. E.P. Lougheed, Chairman, Finance, Priorities, and Coordination Committee, requesting the Committee's approval to purchase certain parcels of land under the Government Land Purchases Fund

Sessional Paper 583/2006

Memorandum dated September 10, 1985, from Gordon Coombs, Secretary of Priorities Committee, to Hon. T. Chambers, Minister of Public Works, Supply, and Services, outlining decisions made by the Priorities, Finance, and Coordination Committee at its September 9, 1985 meeting concerning the Edmonton/Calgary R.D.A. land purchase

Sessional Paper 584/2006

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

E-mail message dated May 11, 2006, from Alan and Shirley Rimer to Dr. Morton, Hon. Member for Foothills-Rocky View, expressing opposition to Dr. Morton's publicly held views concerning the rights of homosexuals

Sessional Paper 585/2006

E-mail message dated May 4, 2006, from Peter Pratt of Edmonton to the Edmonton Journal, expressing opposition to an editorial published in the Edmonton Journal on May 4, 2006, concerning Bill 208, Protection of Fundamental Freedoms (Marriage) Statutes Amendment Act, 2006

Sessional Paper 586/2006

Dr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora:

Copy of a petition signed by 69 Edmonton and area residents urging the Government to discontinue its proposed health care reforms

Sessional Paper 587/2006

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

Program from the 2nd Annual Edmonton Region Canadian Mental Health "Stop and Smell the Flowers" 2006 Dinner and Carpe Diem Auction Fundraiser held on May 13, 2006

Sessional Paper 588/2006

E-mail message dated May 4, 2006, from Rodney Rea of Edmonton to several Members of the Legislative Assembly expressing concern regarding funding for adults with developmental disabilities

Sessional Paper 589/2006

2 e-mail messages from Susan Saksida, the first dated November 8, 2005, to Arthur Hagan, Government of Alberta, and the second dated November 16, 2005, to Dr. Taft, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, providing a summary of a meeting held on November 3, 2005, with Peter Blandy and Dennis Gartner, both from the Government of Alberta concerning improper Special Insurance Broker filings

Sessional Paper 590/2006

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

Proposed Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta

Sessional Paper 591/2006

Tablings to the Clerk

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Government House Leader:

Report dated May 11, 2006, entitled "Number of Times Closure/Time Allocation Used by the Alberta Government During the Past Five Years" prepared by the Office of the Government House Leader

Sessional Paper 592/2006

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Renner, Minister of Municipal Affairs, pursuant to the Special Areas Act, cS-16, s19(2):

Special Areas Trust Account, Financial Statements, December 31, 2005

Sessional Paper 593/2006

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions

The following Written Questions were accepted:

WQ20. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. Tougas:

For each of the fiscal years 1998-99 through 2004-05, what is the total number of Community Initiatives Program grants awarded without matching funds being provided by the grant recipient broken down by recipient and amount of unmatched grant?

A debate followed.

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

For the motion: 30

Ady	Hancock	Oberle
Blakeman	Jablonski	Ouellette
Brown	Lukaszuk	Pastoor
Calahasen	Lund	Rodney
Cao	MacDonald	Rogers
Cenaiko	Magnus	Stevens
Doerksen	Martin	Strang
Ducharme	Melchin	VanderBurg
Eggen	Miller (Edmonton-Glenora)	Webber
Fritz	Miller (Edmonton-Rutherford)	Zwozdesky

Against the motion: 7

Abbott	Griffiths	Johnston
Amery	Haley	Snelgrove
Goudreau		

WQ21. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. Tougas:

For each of the fiscal years 1998-99 through 2004-05, what is the total number of Community Initiatives Program grant applications that were rejected?

A debate followed.

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

For the motion: 24

Ady	Fritz	Ouellette
Blakeman	Hancock	Pastoor
Brown	Lukaszuk	Rodney
Calahasen	MacDonald	Stevens
Cenaiko	Martin	Strang
Doerksen	Melchin	VanderBurg
Ducharme	Miller (Edmonton-Glenora)	Webber
Eggen	Miller (Edmonton-Rutherford)	Zwozdesky

Against the motion: 13

Abbott	Haley	Magnus
Amery	Jablonski	Oberle
Cao	Johnston	Rogers
Goudreau	Lund	Snelgrove
Griffiths		

WQ22. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. Tougas:

For each of the fiscal years 1998-99 through 2004-05, what is the total number of Community Facility Enhancement Program grant applications that were rejected?

A debate followed.

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

For the motion: 25

Ady	Hancock	Pastoor
Blakeman	MacDonald	Rodney
Brown	Martin	Rogers
Calahasen	Melchin	Stevens
Cao	Miller (Edmonton-Glenora)	Strang
Cenaiko	Miller (Edmonton-Rutherford)	Tarchuk
Doerksen	Oberle	VanderBurg
Ducharme	Ouellette	Zwozdesky
Fritz		

Against the motion: 12

Abbott	Haley	Lund
Amery	Jablonski	Magnus
Goudreau	Johnston	Prins
Griffiths	Lukaszuk	Webber

WQ23. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Mr. Tougas:

For each of the fiscal years 1998-99 through 2004-05, what is the total number of Community Facility Enhancement Program grants awarded without matching funds being provided by the grant recipient broken down by recipient and amount of unmatched grant?

WQ24. Moved by Dr. Miller on behalf of Mr. Taylor:

What is the total cost broken down by function (projected staff costs, consultant and legal fees, facility and hosting expenses, travel costs, etc.) of the review of Alberta's Advanced Education system known as "A Learning Alberta"?

WQ25. Moved by Dr. Miller on behalf of Mr. Taylor:

For each of the fiscal years 2000-2001 through 2004-2005 inclusive, what was the total dollar value of all Alberta Student Loan Program disbursements, all Alberta Student Loan Relief Benefit payments, and all Alberta Student Loan Relief Completion payments?

WQ27. Moved by Mr. Miller on behalf of Mr. Bonko:

What steps are the Ministry of Economic Development taking to work with the Government of British Columbia and the Federal Government to allow all Alberta exports safer and faster access to Prince Rupert Port in British Columbia?

The following Written Question was accepted as amended:

WQ19. Moved by Mr. MacDonald:

For each of the fiscal years 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2003-2004, and 2004-2005, how many applications received by the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board to drill natural gas wells in Alberta were rejected?

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

For each of the fiscal years 2003-2004, 2004-2005, *and 2005-2006*, how many applications received by the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board to drill natural gas wells in Alberta were rejected?

A debate followed on the amendment.

The question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

The question being put, the motion as amended was agreed to. With Mr. Shariff in the Chair, the names being called for were taken as follows:

For the motion: 36

Ady	Lukaszuk	Pastoor
Amery	Lund	Prins
Blakeman	MacDonald	Rodney
Brown	Magnus	Rogers
Calahasen	Martin	Stelmach
Cenaiko	Marz	Stevens
Chase	Melchin	Strang
Doerksen	Miller (Edmonton-Glenora)	Swann
Ducharme	Miller (Edmonton-Rutherford)	Tarchuk
Fritz	Mitzel	VanderBurg
Hancock	Oberle	Webber
Johnston	Ouellette	Zwozdesky

Against the motion: 5

Abbott	Goudreau	Haley
Cao	Griffiths	

The following Written Questions were rejected:

WQ17. Moved by Mr. MacDonald:

What groups or individuals did the Ministry of Energy consult with in its latest royalty review?

WQ18. Moved by Mr. MacDonald:

What consultations, studies, research, or other information-gathering exercises did the Ministry of Energy conduct in relation to its latest royalty review?

WQ26. Moved by Mr. Miller on behalf of Mr. Bonko:

What consultations, studies, research, or other information-gathering exercises pertaining to the impact of problem gambling on workplace performance, productivity, and absenteeism are currently planned or underway under the auspices of the Ministry of Economic Development?

Debate on the following Written Question was adjourned:

WQ28. Moved by Mr. Miller on behalf of Mr. Bonko:

What consultations, studies, research, or other information-gathering exercises pertaining to the impact of illegal drugs and alcoholism on workplace performance, productivity, and absenteeism are currently planned or underway under the auspices of the Ministry of Economic Development?

A debate followed.

Debate adjourned, Hon. Mr. Ducharme speaking.

The following Written Questions were ordered to stand:

WQ28 (debate adjourned), WQ30, WQ31, WQ32, WQ33, WQ34, WQ35.

Motions for Returns

The following Motions for Returns were ordered to stand:

MR27, MR28, MR29, MR30, MR31, MR32, MR33, MR34, MR35, MR36.

Adjournment

Pursuant to Standing Order 4(1), the Acting Speaker adjourned the Assembly at 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Motions Other Than Government Motions

511. Moved by Dr. Swann:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to immediately commission and regularly update an inventory of all ground and surface (including glacial) water supplies in order to responsibly manage and sustain this resource in the public interest.

A debate followed.

The question being put, the motion was defeated.

Government Bills and Orders

Unanimous Consent

Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Government House Leader, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to waive Standing Order 32(2) to shorten the 10-minute interval for division bells to five minutes.

Second Reading

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

Bill 42 Appropriation Act, 2006 (\$) — Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky on behalf of Hon. Mrs. McClellan

A debate followed.

Hon. Mr. Stevens moved adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

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

Bill 40 Post-secondary Learning Amendment Act, 2006 — Hon. Mr. Herard

A debate followed.

Mr. Taylor, Hon. Member for Calgary-Currie, moved the motion be amended by deleting all the words after “that” and substituting the following:

Bill 40, Post-secondary Learning Amendment Act, 2006, be not now read a Second time because the Assembly is of the view that tuition fee policies for public post-secondary institutions must remain in the statute itself, rather than Cabinet regulations, to ensure that any future changes are subject to full public debate in the Assembly.

A debate followed on the amendment.

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

For the amendment: 7

Elsalhy	Pannu	Taft
Flaherty	Swann	Taylor
Hinman		

Against amendment: 28

Abbott	Griffiths	Pham
Ady	Hancock	Rogers
Brown	Herard	Snelgrove
Calahasen	Lukaszuk	Stelmach
Cao	Lund	Stevens
Cenaiko	Melchin	Strang
Doerksen	Mitzel	VanderBurg
Ducharme	Oberle	Webber
Fritz	Ouellette	Zwozdesky
Goudreau		

Debate continued on the main motion.

Pursuant to Standing Order 61(3), at 10:45 p.m., the Acting Speaker immediately put the question on the Appropriation Bill standing on the Order Paper for Second Reading, which was agreed to.

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

Bill 42 Appropriation Act, 2006 (\$) — Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky on behalf of Hon. Mrs. McClellan

Debate resumed on the motion for Second reading of Bill 40, Post-secondary Learning Amendment Act, 2006.

Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, moved the motion be amended by deleting all the words after “that” and substituting the following:

Bill 40, Post-secondary Learning Amendment Act, 2006, be not now read a Second time, but that it be read a Second time this day six months hence.

A debate followed.

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

For the amendment: 5

Elsalhy	Pannu	Taylor
Flaherty	Swann	

Against the amendment: 28

Abbott	Griffiths	Pham
Ady	Herard	Rodney
Brown	Johnston	Rogers
Calahasen	Lukaszuk	Snelgrove
Cao	Lund	Stelmach
Cenaiko	Melchin	Stevens
Doerksen	Mitzel	Strang
Ducharme	Oberle	Webber
Fritz	Ouellette	Zwozdesky
Goudreau		

The question for Second Reading of Bill 40, Post-secondary Learning Amendment Act, 2006 being immediately put, the motion was agreed to.

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

Bill 40 Post-secondary Learning Amendment Act, 2006 — Hon. Mr. Herard

Bill 42 Appropriation 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 11:12 p.m. until Tuesday, May 16, 2006, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Monday, May 15, 2006