

Legislative Assembly Province of Alberta

No. 4

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Third Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:00 p.m.

Speaker's Statement - Members' Anniversaries

The Speaker made a statement in recognition of the 15th anniversary of Mr. McFarland, Hon. Member for Little Bow, who was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta on March 5, 1992.

Members' Statements

Mr. Rogers, Hon. Member for Leduc-Beaumont-Devon, made a statement recognizing February 2007 as Black History Month.

Mr. Doerksen, Hon. Member for Red Deer-South, made a statement regarding the success of the Red Deer College Kings Men's Volleyball Team.

Mr. Chase, Hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, made a statement regarding P3 projects in Alberta.

Dr. Swann, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View, made a statement regarding the need for the Government to address climate change.

Mr. Johnston, Hon. Member for Calgary-Hays, made a statement recognizing the Wheelchair Curling Championship held in Calgary from March 2-4, 2007, and the team from Calgary who will compete in the National Championship to be held in Ottawa in April.

Mr. Mitzel, Hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat, made a statement regarding the community of Warner and the Warner Hockey School on being selected as a finalist in this year's Kraft Hockeyville Challenge.

Speaker's Statement - Amendments to the Standing Orders

We have an interesting situation that's already developed. Under the Standing Orders that were passed and approved last night, it says that Oral Question Period should begin at 1:30 p.m., so we're ahead of schedule. Let me make some comments. Under the Standing Orders the Speaker may deal with that.

Honourable Members, you have on your desk green sheets of paper, and these green sheets of paper incorporate the Standing Orders that were changed and approved last night along with the existing ones. The ones that are new are the italicized parts so that you can follow through them. As all Members know, we started today at 1:00 p.m. and we'll rise tonight at 6:00 p.m. according to the rules we have.

The order of business, of course, is that the daily Routine will remain exactly the same. We went through the daily Routine today, save Oral Question Period, which the Standing Orders that were passed last night said will commence at 1:30 p.m. There will be some discretion, obviously, that will have to be dealt with, with respect to this matter, and if we arrive at this point in the agenda in the ensuing days, then we will begin Oral Question Period ahead of schedule. There also maybe a situation where in the Routine we will arrive at situations where Honourable Members may be in one of the points in the Routine, particularly Members' Statements, where the Chair would not want to interrupt an Honourable Member if he or she has not concluded their Members' Statement, and we might just begin in a few seconds or after the fact.

Tomorrow I'll make mention of the Written Questions and Motions for Returns change that was made last night as we approach that item of business tomorrow, but essentially, what will happen is if members of Executive Council have accepted a Written Question or a Motion for Return, they will advise, the Clerk will notify, and there'll be no further discussion of that particular Written Question or Motion for Return. It will simply be dealt with by a member of Executive Council in the ensuing days and ensuing weeks. If, however, a Written Question or Motion for Return demands an amendment or a rejection, then that will, of course, be dealt with on the subsequent Monday afternoon.

This afternoon when we get into Orders of the Day, and we'll be getting into Committee, so Committee will not rise at 5:30 p.m., it will rise at 6:00 p.m., and of course, in our provisions it says that the vote must be taken by 5:15 p.m. Effective today the vote will be taken at 5:45 p.m., and because the Government House Leader has provided no advance notice and hasn't gone through the process yet of dealing with the House sitting tonight, it's impossible for the House to sit tonight unless there's unanimous consent of the Honourable Members that's requested and given some time this afternoon to do that.

This is the start of the changes that are occurring in the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta, and there was a good discussion on it last night. Not all Members agreed with the direction being taken by the majority of Members. The Hansard deals with that. Applying these rules may require some flexibility. Most of all, it will require the goodwill and the cooperation of all Members, particularly in these early days, and the Chair would look forward to that, and he looks forward to working with all Members as we apply these rules in a courteous, respectful, and professional manner.

Tabling Returns and Reports

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

Report, undated, entitled "Alberta Needs Students" prepared by the University of Alberta Students' Union

Sessional Paper 57/2007

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

Copies of 12 recent letters from Alberta women to Hon. Mr. Stelmach, Premier, urging the Government to provide the Gardasil vaccine to all women in Alberta aged 9 to 26, free of charge, to prevent transmission of the human papilloma virus (HPV), which is known to cause cervical cancer

Sessional Paper 58/2007

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

Report dated July 10, 2006, entitled "Water Management Framework: Instream Flow Needs and Water Management System for the Lower Athabasca River" prepared by Alberta Environment and Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Sessional Paper 59/2007

Letter dated September 13, 2006, from Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, to Hon. Mrs. McClellan, Minister of Finance, expressing opposition to government grants provided to Alberta golf courses and suggesting the grants would have been better used to fund junior kindergarten

Sessional Paper 60/2007

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

Several letters and related documents dating back to December 2002 from Fay Becic of Edmonton regarding her dealings with Legal Aid Alberta

Sessional Paper 61/2007

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

Copy of a petition signed by 95 Albertans who would like the accused killer of Joshua Hunt tried and sentenced as an adult

Sessional Paper 62/2007

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Message From His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor

Hon. Mr. Snelgrove, President of the Treasury Board, delivered a Message from His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor.

The Speaker read the Message to the Assembly (the Members standing).

The President of the Treasury Board then tabled a copy of the Interim Supply Estimates:

2007-08 Interim Supply Estimates, Offices of the Legislative Assembly, Government

Sessional Paper 63/2007

Government Motions

10. Moved by Hon. Mr. Snelgrove:

Be it resolved that the Message from His Honour, the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, the 2007-08 Interim Supply Estimates, and all matters connected therewith, be referred to Committee of Supply.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

11. Moved by Hon. Mr. Snelgrove:

Be it resolved that, pursuant to Standing Order 61(9), the number of days that Committee of Supply will be called to consider the 2007-08 Interim Supply Estimates shall be two days.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Committee of Supply (Day 1 — Supplementary Supply Estimates)

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

(Assembly in Committee)

And after some time spent therein, the Deputy Speaker assumed the Chair and Mr. Mitzel reported as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions of the 2006-07 Supplementary Supply Estimates (No. 2), General Revenue Fund, 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 Departments and purposes indicated:

Advanced Education and Technology

Expense and Equipment / Inventory Purchases	\$107,100,000
Agriculture and Food	
Expense and Equipment / Inventory Purchases	\$50,000,000
Finance	
Expense and Equipment / Inventory Purchases	\$46,570,000
Health and Wellness	
Expense and Equipment / Inventory Purchases	\$147,000,000
Municipal Affairs and Housing	
Expense and Equipment / Inventory Purchases	\$42,846,000
Infrastructure and Transportation	
Capital Investment transferred to Service Alberta	(\$530,000)
Service Alberta	
Capital Investment	\$530,000

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

Consideration of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor's Speech (Day 2)

Moved by Mr. Ducharme and seconded by Mr. Johnston:

That an humble address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor as follows:

To His Honour the Honourable Norman L. Kwong, CM, AOE, the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Alberta:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly, now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present session.

A debate followed.

Ms Blakeman moved adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

Adjournment

Pursuant to Standing Order 4(3), the Assembly adjourned at 6:00 p.m. until Wednesday, March 14, 2007, at 1:00 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

Title: Tuesday, March 13, 2007