



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 18

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Third Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Monday, April 16, 2007

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

Members' Statements

Mr. Mitzel, Hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat, made a statement recognizing April 15-21, 2007, as National Soil Conservation Week.

Mr. Lukaszuk, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Castle Downs, made a statement recognizing April 15, 2007, as Holocaust Memorial Day (Yom ha-Shoah).

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, made a statement recognizing April 15-21, 2007, as National Volunteer Week.

Mr. Zwozdesky, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Creek, made a statement recognizing the success of the 2007 Ford World Men's Curling Championship, held from March 31 to April 8, 2007, in Edmonton.

Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, made a statement regarding the need to nurture people who work in the areas of teaching, nursing, caregiving, and social work.

Mr. Johnson, Hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose, made a statement congratulating the Camrose Kodiaks hockey team on winning the 2007 Alberta Junior Hockey League Championship in Camrose on April 15, 2007.

Presenting Petitions

Rev. Abbott, Hon. Member for Drayton Valley-Calmar, presented a petition from 73 Albertans urging the Government to immediately introduce a bill to create a buffer zone of at least one mile distance from any major water body, such as a river, lake, or creek, from which any intensive/confined feeding operation, including swine, beef cattle, dairy, elk, bison, or poultry is prohibited from locating, in order to protect and preserve Alberta's fresh water sources.

Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, presented a petition from 78 Edmonton and area residents urging the Government to ensure that the remuneration paid to employees working with people with disabilities is standardized across the sector, regardless of whether these workers are employed by government, community-based, or private providers; ensure these employees are fairly compensated and that their wages remain competitive with other sectors to reflect the valuable and crucial service they provide; improve employees' access to professional development opportunities (training and upgrading); and introduce province-wide service and outcomes-focussed level-of-care standards.

Tabling Returns and Reports

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

2 letters dated March 22, 2007, from Mr. MacDonald, Chair, Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts, to Sheila Weatherill, C.M., President and Chief Executive Officer, Capital Health Authority, and Jack Davis, President and Chief Executive Officer, Calgary Health Region, inviting Ms Weatherill and Mr. Davis to a meeting of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts on September 12, 2007, to discuss the most recent financial statements of each of the health authorities, and letter dated March 29, 2007, from Patti Grier, Vice President, Government Relations and Assistant Corporate Secretary, Office of the President and Chief Executive Officer, Calgary Health Region, confirming receipt of Mr. MacDonald's letter

Sessional Paper 239/2007

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

Letter dated April 15, 2007, from Don Savard to Dr. Swann, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View, expressing opposition to proposed seismic testing and oil sands development under Marie Lake

Sessional Paper 240/2007

Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods:

Copy of a presentation dated October 30, 2006, entitled "A Crisis of Human Capital" presented by the Alberta Association of Services for Children and Families

Sessional Paper 241/2007

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

Copy of a petition signed by 34 Albertans who would like the accused killer of Joshua Hunt tried and sentenced as an adult

Sessional Paper 242/2007

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

Copies of excerpts from real estate transaction contracts

Sessional Paper 243/2007

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Health and Wellness:

Alberta Association of Registered Occupational Therapists, 2005-2006 Annual Report

Sessional Paper 244/2007

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Health and Wellness, pursuant to the Public Health Act, cP-37, s7(2):

Public Health Appeal Board, Annual Report 2006

Sessional Paper 245/2007

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Health and Wellness, pursuant to the Health Professions Act, cH-7, s4(2):

Alberta College of Social Workers, Annual Report 2006

Sessional Paper 246/2007

College of Dental Technologists of Alberta, 2005-2006 Annual Report

Sessional Paper 247/2007

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

Letter dated March 30, 2007, unsigned, from Azra Narveen Ahmad of Edmonton to Mr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, expressing concern regarding a discrepancy between the market rate and the rate outlined in the fixed rate rental subsidy program to be charged for a two-bedroom apartment

Sessional Paper 248/2007

Program from the Jim Shewchuk Award ceremony sponsored by the United Way, Alberta Capital Region and the Edmonton and District Labour Council

Sessional Paper 249/2007

Tablings to the Clerk

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Knight, Minister of Energy:

Document entitled "Royalty Review 2006, List of Consultant Studies and Software"

Sessional Paper 250/2007

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions

The following Written Questions were accepted:

WQ1. Asked for by Mr. Miller:

What is the total projected cost to taxpayers of the Government's current schedule for paying off the unfunded liabilities of public sector pension plans, broken down by plan?

WQ4. Asked for by Mr. Miller:

What was the total value of all Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund investments in tobacco-based companies at the end of fiscal years 2000-2001 through 2005-2006 and for the period April 1, 2006 to March 7, 2007?

WQ5. Asked for by Mr. Martin:

For each of the fiscal years 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-2006, and for the period April 1, 2006 to March 6, 2007, what was the total value of psychiatric services contracted by Regional Health Authorities (RHAs), broken down by RHA, and what was the total value of psychiatric services contracted by the Alberta Mental Health Board?

WQ6. Asked for by Mr. Martin:

For each of the fiscal years 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, 2005-2006, and for the period April 1, 2006 to March 6, 2007, what was the total number of psychiatrists contracted to provide clinical services for Regional Health Authorities (RHAs), broken down by RHA, and what was the total number contracted to provide clinical services by the Alberta Mental Health Board?

WQ7. Asked for by Mr. Martin:

For each of the fiscal years 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, and 2005-2006, how many days of sick leave were taken by registered nurses, broken down by Regional Health Authorities?

WQ8. Asked for by Mr. Martin:

For each of the fiscal years 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2004-2005, and 2005-2006, how many days of sick leave were taken by licensed practical nurses employed by Regional Health Authorities (RHAs), broken down by RHA?

The following Written Question was accepted as amended:

WQ2. Moved by Mr. Bonko on behalf of Ms Pastoor:

What was the total number of funding applications and the total number of applications approved under the Assistance to Persons with Developmental Disabilities program and the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped program in fiscal years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006?

Hon. Mr. Melchin, Minister of Seniors and Community Supports, moved the motion be amended to read:

What was the total number of applications and the total number of applications approved under the Persons with Developmental Disabilities program and the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped program in fiscal years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006?

The following Written Question was rejected:

WQ3. Moved by Mr. MacDonald:

For each of the fiscal years 1997-1998 through 2005-2006, what is the total value of all reductions to Crown royalties under the following categories of “allowed costs” as referenced in Appendix “L” of the Alberta Oil Sands Royalty Guidelines: bonuses paid; corporate; environmental monitoring; hosting and entertainment; municipal taxes; stock option plans?

The following Written Questions were ordered to stand:

WQ9, WQ10, WQ11.

Motions for Returns

The following Motions for Returns were rejected:

MR1. Moved by Mr. MacDonald:

A copy of all documents relating to the Government’s review of royalties that concluded in 2006, as referenced by the former Minister of Energy in the Calgary Herald on July 15, 2006, including a list of groups, organizations, companies, or individuals consulted, and the total amount of money paid to each group, organization, company, or individual for their involvement.

MR2. Moved by Mr. Flaherty:

Copies of all feasibility reports, studies, proposals, cost-benefit analyses, correspondence, e-mails, and memos regarding the use of public-private partnership (P3) funding arrangements for school construction conducted from fiscal year 2002-2003 to 2005-2006, and for the period April 1, 2006 to March 7, 2007.

MR3. Moved by Mrs. Mather on behalf of Ms Blakeman:

A copy of all long-term capital plans for infrastructure related to health facilities approved in fiscal years 2004-2005 to 2005-2006, and for the period April 1, 2006, to March 7, 2007.

The following Motions for Returns were ordered to stand:

None appearing on the Order Paper.

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 204 Emblems of Alberta (Franco-Albertan Recognition) Amendment Act, 2007 — Mr. Oberle

A debate followed.

Mr. Griffiths, Hon. Member for Battle-River Wainwright, moved the motion be amended by deleting all the words after “that” and substituting the following:

Projets de loi et ordres émanant du gouvernement

Deuxième lecture

Sur la motion destinée à ce que le projet de loi suivant reçoive une deuxième lecture:

Projet de loi 204 Loi modificative de 2007 sur les emblèmes de l'Alberta (reconnaissance du fait franco-albertain) — M. Oberle

Un débat a suivi.

Il a été proposée par M. Griffiths que la motion de deuxième lecture du Projet de loi 204, Loi modificative de 2007 sur les emblèmes de l'Alberta (reconnaissance du fait franco-albertain) soit amendée en supprimant tous les mots suivant le mot “que” et en les remplaçant par:

Bill 204, Emblems of Alberta (Franco-Albertan Recognition) Amendment Act, 2007, be not now read a Second time but that it be read a Second time this day six months hence.

A debate followed on the amendment.

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

For the motion: 27

Abbott
Ady
Brown
Cao
Danyluk
DeLong
Dunford
Evans
Forsyth

Fritz
Griffiths
Herard
Horner
Jablonski
Johnson
Lindsay
Lougheed
Lund

Mar
Mitzel
Oberg
Oberle
Prins
Rogers
Snelgrove
Stevens
VanderBurg

Against the motion: 10

Agnihotri
Bonko
Ducharme
Elsalhy

Flaherty
MacDonald
Mather

Contre la motion: 10

Miller (Edmonton-Glenora)
Pannu
Swann

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

Bill 205 Environmental Protection and Enhancement (Conservation and Reclamation) Amendment Act, 2007 — Mr. VanderBurg on behalf of Mr. Strang

A debate followed.

Pursuant to Standing Order 8(1), debate adjourned, Mr. Martin speaking.

Projet de loi 204, Loi modificative de 2007 sur les emblèmes de l'Alberta (reconnaissance du fait franco-albertain) ne soit pas lu pour la deuxième fois maintenant, mais qu'il soit lu une deuxième fois dans six mois à compter d'aujourd'hui.

Un débat a suivi sur l'amendement.

M. Marz au fauteuil présidentiel, la question ayant été posée, la motion fut acceptée. Les noms appelés ont été relevés comme suit:

En faveur de la motion: 27

Motions Other Than Government Motions

504. Moved by Mr. Hinman:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to consider the advisability of investing 50 percent of the budget surplus into the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund and reimbursing the remaining 50 percent to Albertans as a percentage of their personal income taxes and/or property taxes.

A debate followed.

The question being put, the motion was defeated.

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Stevens, Deputy Government House Leader, that it be called 6:00 p.m., the Assembly adjourned at 5:54 p.m. until Tuesday, April 17, 2007, at 1:00 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Monday, April 16, 2007