

Legislative Assembly Province of Alberta

No. 27

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Third Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Tuesday, May 8, 2007

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

Members' Statements

Mr. Johnson, Hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose, made a statement regarding the Caring for Our Watersheds: Battle River awards presentation held on April 14, 2007, in Camrose.

Mr. Griffiths, Hon. Member for Battle-River Wainwright, made a statement regarding the Paperny Films documentary entitled "The Week the Women Left" which will be filmed in Hardisty.

Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, made a statement regarding rent increases faced by seniors.

Mr. Rodney, Hon. Member for Calgary-Lougheed, made a statement recognizing May 7 to 13, 2007, as Mental Health Week.

Mr. Mason, Hon. Leader of the New Democrat Opposition, made a statement regarding the Government's response to Alberta's housing crisis.

Mr. VanderBurg, Hon. Member for Whitecourt-Ste. Anne, made a statement regarding nuclear energy.

Presenting Reports by Standing and Special Committees

Ms DeLong, Chair, Select Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the following report:

Mr. Speaker, the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills has had certain Bills under consideration and wishes to report as follows:

The Committee advises that its consideration of the following Private Bill will be deferred to June 5, 2007:

Bill Pr1 CyberPol - The Global Centre for Securing Cyberspace Act — Mr. Cenaiko

The Committee recommends that the following Private Bill not proceed:

Bill Pr2 Crest Leadership Centre Act — Mr. Marz

Mr. Speaker, I request concurrence of the Assembly in this recommendation.

The question being put, concurrence in the report was granted.

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, presented a petition from 419 Albertans urging the Government to take immediate, meaningful measures to help low-income and fixed-income Albertans, Albertans with disabilities, and those who are hard-to-house maintain their places of residence and cope with the escalating and frequent increases in their monthly rental costs.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Mr. Mason, Hon. Leader of the New Democrat Opposition:

Excerpt from the Boardwalk Real Estate Investment Trust Annual Report 2006 entitled "Letter to Unitholders"

Sessional Paper 373/2007

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

E-mail message dated May 6, 2007, from Giancarlo Grande of Edmonton to Hon. Mr. Stelmach, Premier, expressing concern regarding his inability as an AISH (Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped) recipient to afford further rent increases

Sessional Paper 374/2007

E-mail message dated May 7, 2007, from Linton Delainey of Sherwood Park to Mrs. Mather, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, requesting Mrs. Mather table two letters dated April 10, 2007, from Ms Delainey to Hon. Mr. Stelmach, Premier, and His Worship Mayor Stephen Mandel regarding the urgent need for a province-wide regional governance plan

Sessional Paper 375/2007

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

Copy of a presentation by the KNM Group regarding a proposal to construct a process equipment manufacturing facility in Tofield

Sessional Paper 376/2007

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

E-mail message dated April 30, 2007, from Debbie Shabelski, Manager, Affordable Housing Task Force, to Stacey Wickman, Edmonton-Rutherford Constituency, advising that five copies of the Affordable Housing Task Force Report can be provided to the constituency office rather than the 50 initially requested

Sessional Paper 377/2007

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

Letter dated May 8, 2007, from Mr. Chase, Hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, to Hon. Mr. Danyluk, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, regarding the response given by Hon. Mr. Danyluk to a question raised by Mr. Chase during Oral Question Period on May 7, 2007, and regarding Sessional Paper 331/2007 Sessional Paper 378/2007

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

Report entitled "Canadian Housing Observer, Average Rent for Two-Bedroom Apartments, Canada, Province and Metropolitan Areas, 1992-2005" prepared by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, with attached document entitled "Alberta Statistics"

Sessional Paper 379/2007

2 reports dated December 2006 entitled "Private Apartment Vacancy Rates by Bedroom Type, Alberta" and "Private Apartment Average Rents by Bedroom Type, Alberta," both prepared by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Sessional Paper 380/2007

Letter dated February 21, 2007, from Delores Austin of Edmonton to Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, regarding the need for more affordable housing in Edmonton

Sessional Paper 381/2007

Letter dated April 24, 2007, from Marilyn Caskey to Hon. Mr. Danyluk, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, regarding her rent increase and the lack of skilled workers to build affordable housing

Sessional Paper 382/2007

Letter dated May 1, 2007, from Roberta Baert of Edmonton to Hon. Mr. Stelmach, Premier, regarding the shortage of affordable housing for people on fixed incomes

Sessional Paper 383/2007

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

Western GeoPower Corporation website article, undated, entitled "South Meager Geothermal Project"

Sessional Paper 384/2007

National Resources Canada website article, undated, entitled "About Earth and Geothermal Energy"

Sessional Paper 385/2007

Hon. Mr. Liepert, Minister of Education:

Document entitled "Accumulated Operating Surplus (Deficit) as at August 31, 2006 (of Alberta school boards)"

Sessional Paper 386/2007

Letter dated May 8, 2007, from Hon. Mr. Liepert, Minister of Education, to Frank Bruseker, President, Alberta Teachers' Association, responding to Mr. Bruseker's letter dated May 2, 2007, concerning the establishment of a task force to research and consider options to address the teachers' pre-1992 pension liability

Sessional Paper 387/2007

Hon. Mr. Groeneveld, Minister of Agriculture and Food:

Response to Written Question WQ11, asked for by Mr. Eggen on May 7, 2007:

What is the total number of barley producers whose information was sent to the accounting firm KPMG for the purpose of assembling the list of eligible voters for the 2007 barley plebiscite of the Canadian Wheat Board?

Sessional Paper 388/2007

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

Letter, undated, unaddressed, unsigned, from James Arnott expressing concern regarding the Government's reluctance to impose rent controls

Sessional Paper 389/2007

Letter, undated, unaddressed, unsigned, from Pat Arnott expressing concern regarding her rent increase

Sessional Paper 390/2007

Tablings to the Clerk

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of Employment, Immigration and Industry, pursuant to the Engineering, Geological and Geophysical Professions Act, cE-11, s12(4):

APEGGA (Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta), Annual Report 2006

Sessional Paper 391/2007

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Motions

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, requested the unanimous consent of the Assembly to consider the following motion:

Be it resolved that, pursuant to Standing Order 4(2), the Legislative Assembly convene at 7 p.m. for Hours 10 to 12 of Committee of Supply on Tuesday, May 8, and that the ministries called for consideration will now be Treasury Board, Health and Wellness, and Municipal Affairs and Housing; at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 9, 2007, for Government Business; and that Hours 13 to 15 of Committee of Supply scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, May 10 be rescheduled to the afternoon of May 16, 2007, and that a revised Committee of Supply schedule be tabled forthwith.

Unanimous consent to proceed was not granted.

19. Oral notice having been given Monday, May 7, 2007, Hon. Mr. Hancock moved the following motion:

Be it resolved that, pursuant to Standing Order 4(2), the Legislative Assembly convene at 8 p.m. for night sittings on Tuesday, May 8, and Wednesday May 9, 2007.

Hon. Mr. Renner moved that the motion be amended as follows:

- (a) by striking out "8 p.m. for night sittings on Tuesday, May 8," and substituting "7 p.m. for Hours 10 to 12 of Committee of Supply on Tuesday, May 8, and that the ministries called for consideration will now be Treasury Board, Health and Wellness, and Municipal Affairs and Housing;";
- (b) by striking out "and Wednesday May 9, 2007" and substituting "convene at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 9, 2007, for Government Business";
- (c) by adding the following after "Government Business":
 "; that Hours 13 to 15 of Committee of Supply scheduled for the afternoon of Thursday, May 10, 2007, be rescheduled to the afternoon of May 16, 2007, and that a revised Committee of Supply schedule be tabled forthwith".

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 unanimously.

Committee of Supply (Hours 7 to 9 — Main 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. Rogers reported as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions, for the Departments of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Health and Wellness, reports progress thereon, and requests leave to sit again.

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

Adjournment

Pursuant to Government Motion 19 agreed to in the Assembly on May 8, 2007, and on motion by Hon. Mr. Renner, Deputy Government House Leader, that it be called 6:00 p.m., it was agreed at 5:49 p.m. that when the Assembly reconvened at 7:00 p.m. it would be in Committee of Supply and the Deputy Speaker left the Chair.

TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2007 — 7:00 P.M.

Committee of Supply (Hours 10 to 12 — Main Estimates)

(Assembly in Committee)

And after some time spent therein, the Acting Speaker assumed the Chair and Dr. Brown reported as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions, for the Departments of Treasury Board, Health and Wellness, and Municipal Affairs and Housing, reports progress thereon, and requests leave to sit again.

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

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at $10:02~\rm p.m.$ until Wednesday, May 9, 2007, at $1:00~\rm p.m.$

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

Title: Tuesday, May 8, 2007