

Legislative Assembly Province of Alberta

No. 45

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Third Session

Twenty-Sixth Legislature

Thursday, June 14, 2007

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

Speaker's Statement - Members' Anniversaries

The Speaker made a statement recognizing the seventh anniversary of Mr. Mason, Hon. Leader of the New Democrat Opposition, who was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta on June 12, 2000, and the 14th anniversary of several Members who were elected to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta on June 15, 1993.

Members' Statements

Mr. Doerksen, Hon. Member for Red Deer-South, made a statement recognizing fathers and Father's Day, June 17, 2007.

Mr. Coutts, Hon. Member for Livingstone-Macleod, made a statement regarding Climate Change Central.

Mr. Zwozdesky, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Creek, made a statement regarding the Ukrainian Shumka Dancers and the recent unveiling of the Shumka Stage at Louise McKinney Park in Edmonton.

Mr. VanderBurg, Hon. Member for Whitecourt-Ste. Anne, made a statement regarding programs run by the Government and the City of Edmonton to assist low-income seniors.

Mr. Agnihotri, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, made a statement regarding parks and protected areas.

Mr. Backs, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Manning, made a statement regarding multiculturalism and recognizing June 21, 2007, as National Aboriginal Day and June 27, 2007, as Canadian Multiculturalism Day.

Royal Assent

Pages of the Assembly

While awaiting the arrival of His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker called upon Jennifer Huygen, Head Page, to read a letter from the Pages who will not be returning for the next sitting of the Legislature.

His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, having entered the Assembly and being seated on the Throne,

The Speaker addressed His Honour in the following words:

May it please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly has, at its present sitting, passed certain Bills to which, and in the name of the Legislative Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Clerk of the Assembly then read the title of the Bills that had been passed as follows:

- 26 Municipal Government Amendment Act, 2007
- 29 Farm Implement Amendment Act, 2007
- 30 Disaster Services Amendment Act, 2007
- 32 Animal Health Act
- 33 Town of Bashaw and Village of Ferintosh Water Authorization Act
- 39 Engineering, Geological and Geophysical Professions Amendment Act, 2007
- 44 Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2007

To these Bills, Royal Assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

In Her Majesty's name, His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to these Bills.

His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor then retired from the Assembly.

Deputy Speaker's Statement - Pages of the Assembly

On behalf of the Speaker and Members, Mr. Marz, Deputy Speaker, made a statement recognizing the Pages who would not be returning for the next sitting of the Legislature.

Presenting Petitions

Mr. Miller, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, presented a petition from 30 Edmonton residents 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.

Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, presented a petition from 42 Edmonton and area residents urging the Government to complete, as soon as possible, the overpasses and interchanges at the locations where the Anthony Henday Drive (Edmonton ring road) intersects Lessard Road, Callingwood Road (62nd Avenue), and Cameron Heights Drive.

Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, presented a petition from 60 Edmonton and area residents 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.

Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, presented a petition from 152 Albertans 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.

Ms Pastoor, Hon. Member for Lethbridge-East, presented a petition from 176 Albertans 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.

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, presented a petition from 9 Edmonton residents 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.

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

Upon recommendation of His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, and notice having been given:

Bill 46 Alberta Utilities Commission Act (\$) — Hon. Mr. Knight

Notice having been given:

Bill 214 Healthy Futures Act — Ms Blakeman

Tabling Returns and Reports

Hon. Mr. Snelgrove, President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Service Alberta:

Report dated June 13, 2007, entitled "A Presentation to the Alberta Residential Tenancies Advisory Committee" prepared by Vince Brescia

Sessional Paper 642/2007

Mr. Oberle, Hon. Member for Peace River, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Health and Wellness:

E-mail message dated June 13, 2007, from Kayla England to Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Health and Wellness, requesting information regarding seismic activity on northern Alberta lakes

Sessional Paper 643/2007

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

4 recent letters from Sir Winston Churchill High School students expressing support for allowing children aged 12 to 15 years to work

Sessional Paper 644/2007

13 recent letters from Sir Winston Churchill High School students expressing opposition to allowing children aged 12 to 15 years to work

Sessional Paper 645/2007

3 recent letters and 1 undated from Calgary residents to Mr. Chase, Hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, expressing concern regarding a lack of funding for workers who care for school-aged children

Sessional Paper 646/2007

E-mail message dated May 17, 2007, from Carla Tetz of Calgary to Mr. Chase, Hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, expressing concern regarding the high cost of rent in Calgary

Sessional Paper 647/2007

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

Copy of a petition signed by 368 Albertans requesting the Government not allow sour gas drilling in the Mount Bacchus area

Sessional Paper 648/2007

Copy of a petition signed by 140 Albertans requesting the Government limit or suspend sour oil and gas exploration and development in the Nisku area

Sessional Paper 649/2007

Letter, undated, unsigned, from Eric Musecamp, President and Founder, Farmworkers Union of Alberta, unaddressed, regarding the June 18, 2006, death of farm worker Kevan Chandler

Sessional Paper 650/2007

E-mail message dated June 11, 2007, from Darlene Dunlop attaching the text of a letter addressed to the Government from Eric Musekamp, President and Founder, Farmworkers Union of Alberta, regarding Farm Worker Day, August 20, 2007

Sessional Paper 651/2007

Letter, undated, unsigned, from Wendy Kurchak to Dr. Swann, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View, expressing concern regarding comments made by Hon. Mr. Liepert, Minister of Education, concerning the operating costs of Calgary school boards during a recent CBC Calgary interview

Sessional Paper 652/2007

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

E-mail message from Janis Honey of Edmonton to several addressees expressing concern regarding the teachers' unfunded pension liability

Sessional Paper 653/2007

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, on behalf of Dr. Taft, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition:

Document dated August 16, 2006, entitled "Funding to the Horse Racing Industry"

Sessional Paper 654/2007

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

Report dated May 7, 2007, entitled "Glass Houses: A Critical Analysis of Democracy in the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, Based on the Procedures and Practices of the Senate of Canada" prepared by David Taylor

Sessional Paper 655/2007

Program from the City of Edmonton's 56th annual Salute to Excellence Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, held on June 13, 2007

Sessional Paper 656/2007

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

Letter dated April 29, 2007, from Mike and Marilyn Quaedvlieg of Edmonton to Mike and Patti Beaudry of Edmonton providing three-months' notice of a rent increase

Sessional Paper 657/2007

Letter dated May 1, 2007, from Alliance Realty Management to Linda Retallach of Edmonton providing three-months' notice of a rent increase

Sessional Paper 658/2007

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

Letter, undated, from Eric Lindstrom of Edmonton, unaddressed, expressing concern regarding affordable housing for low-income people

Sessional Paper 659/2007

Letter, undated, from Eric Lindstrom of Edmonton, unaddressed, expressing concern regarding affordable housing and social programs

Sessional Paper 660/2007

Letter dated June 8, 2007, from John A. LeBlanc of Edmonton to Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, expressing concern regarding the education portion of taxes paid by seniors

Sessional Paper 661/2007

Letter dated March 16, 2007, from Ype B. Bouma of Edmonton to Mr. Elsalhy, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, expressing concern regarding road safety in Alberta, with related attachments

Sessional Paper 662/2007

Hon. Mr. Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to Standing Order 114:

Legislative Assembly Office, 2006 Annual Report and 2006 Annual Report of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Alberta Branch

Sessional Paper 663/2007

Tablings to the Clerk

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

Responses to questions raised by Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, on June 7, 2007, Department of Energy, 2007-08 Main Estimates debate

Sessional Paper 664/2007

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Melchin, Minister of Seniors and Community Supports:

Responses to questions raised by Dr. Pannu, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona, Mr. Lougheed, Hon. Member for Strathcona, and Dr. Brown, Hon. Member for Calgary-Nose Hill, on June 5, 2007, Department of Seniors and Community Supports, 2007-08 Main Estimates debate

Sessional Paper 665/2007

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Ms Tarchuk, Minister of Children's Services:

Response to Written Question WQ16, asked for by Mrs. Mather on June 11, 2007:

What is the rate of recidivism for sexually-exploited children apprehended under the Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution Act since its implementation?

Sessional Paper 666/2007

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Hancock, Minister of Health and Wellness:

Pursuant to the Pharmaceutical Profession Act, cP-12, s7(4), Alberta College of Pharmacists, Annual Report 2006/2007

Sessional Paper 667/2007

Pursuant to the Health Professions Act, cH-7, s4(2):

Alberta College of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists, 2006 Annual Report

Sessional Paper 668/2007

Alberta College of Optometrists, Annual Report to Government 2006 Sessional Paper 669/2007

Alberta College of Medical Laboratory Technologists, 2006 Annual Report Sessional Paper 670/2007

Projected Government Business

Pursuant to Standing Order 7(6), Ms Blakeman, Official Opposition House Leader, asked a question pertaining to the order of Government Business to be brought before the Assembly for the following week.

Hon. Mr. Renner, Deputy Government House Leader, advised that in anticipation of the Assembly adjourning later this day, there was no projected Government business to report.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills and Orders

Third Reading

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

Bill 43 Appropriation Act, 2007 (\$) — Hon. Mr. Snelgrove

A debate followed.

Mr. Mason, Hon. Leader of the New Democrat Opposition, moved that the motion be amended by deleting all the words after "that" and substituting the following:

Bill 43, Appropriation Act, 2007, be not now read a Third time because the Legislative Assembly believes that the expenditures contained therein fail to deliver on the Government's promise to manage pressures created by Alberta's over-heated economy, particularly regarding infrastructure, health, education, and housing.

A debate followed on the amendment.

The question being put, the amendment was defeated.

Debate continued on the main motion.

The following Bill was read a Third time and passed:

Bill 43 Appropriation Act, 2007 (\$) — Hon. Mr. Snelgrove

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 Bill was reported:

Bill 14 Pandemic Response Statutes Amendment Act, 2007 — Mrs. Jablonski

The following Bill was reported with some amendments:

Bill 18 Judicature Amendment Act, 2007 — Hon. Mr. Stevens

Ms Haley, Acting Chair of Committees, tabled copies of an amendment considered by Committee of the Whole on this date for the official records of the Assembly.

Amendment to Bill 18 (introduced by the Hon. Member for Calgary-Nose Hill on June 13, 2007) — Agreed to

Sessional Paper 671/2007

Third Reading

The following Bills were read a Third time and passed:

- Bill 5 Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2007 Hon. Mr. Hancock on behalf of Mr. Rodney
- Bill 10 Horned Cattle Purchases Act Repeal Act Mr. Lund on behalf of Mr. Mitzel
- Bill 12 Income and Employment Supports Amendment Act, 2007 Hon. Ms Evans
- Bill 14 Pandemic Response Statutes Amendment Act, 2007 Hon. Mr. Renner on behalf of Mrs. Jablonski
- Bill 17 Limitation Statutes Amendment Act, 2007 Mrs. Fritz on behalf of Dr. Brown
- Bill 18 Judicature Amendment Act, 2007 Mrs. Fritz on behalf of Hon. Mr. Stevens

Adjournment

Pursuant to Government Motion 28 agreed to by the Assembly on June 12, 2007, and on motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski, Speaker

Title: Thursday, June 14, 2007