



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 17

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

First Session

Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Monday, May 12, 2008

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

Members' Statements

Mrs. Leskiw, Hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake, made a statement recognizing May 12-18, 2008, as National Nurses Week and May 12, 2008, as International Nurses Day.

Dr. Sherman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark, made a statement recognizing May 12, 2008, as Canada Health Day.

Mr. Hehr, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, made a statement regarding the Professional Association of Residents of Alberta.

Mr. Allred, Hon. Member for St. Albert, made a statement regarding the 2008 David Thompson Brigade, a canoe trip that began on May 10, 2008, in Rocky Mountain House and is expected to end on July 12, 2008, at the Fort William historic site in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Mr. Johnston, Hon. Member for Calgary-Hays, made a statement regarding Corporal Michael Starker, a paramedic with the City of Calgary Emergency Medical Services and a reservist with the 15 Field Ambulance Regiment, who was recently killed in the line of military duty in Afghanistan.

Mr. Cao, Hon. Member for Calgary-Fort, made a statement congratulating the recipients of the 2008 Alberta Child Care Professional Awards of Excellence presented by Alberta Children and Youth Services on May 9, 2008, in Calgary.

Presenting Petitions

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, presented a petition from 4 Edmonton residents urging the Government to take immediate steps to prevent the 43-hectare Qualico gravel pit operation proposed for southwest Edmonton from going ahead as it will have significant adverse effects, such as lower property values and a decline in quality of life due to noise, pollution, and heavy truck traffic.

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, presented a petition from 99 Albertans urging the Government to commission an independent and public inquiry into the Alberta Government's administration of or involvement with the Local Authorities Pension Plan, the Public Service Pension Plan, and the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund.

Mr. Taylor, Hon. Member for Calgary-Currie, presented a petition from 20 Albertans urging the Government to commission an independent and public inquiry into the Alberta Government's administration of or involvement with the Local Authorities Pension Plan, the Public Service Pension Plan, and the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund.

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, presented a petition from 20 Albertans urging the Government to commission an independent and public inquiry into the Alberta Government's administration of or involvement with the Local Authorities Pension Plan, the Public Service Pension Plan, and the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund.

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, presented a petition from 20 Calgary residents urging the Government to commission an independent and public inquiry into the Alberta Government's administration of or involvement with the Local Authorities Pension Plan, the Public Service Pension Plan, and the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund.

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, presented a petition from 20 Edmonton and area residents urging the Government to commission an independent and public inquiry into the Alberta Government's administration of or involvement with the Local Authorities Pension Plan, the Public Service Pension Plan, and the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund.

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, presented a petition from 37 Edmonton and area residents urging the Government to introduce legislation to have midwife-attended homebirths funded by Alberta Health Care.

Mr. Kang, Hon. Member for Calgary-McCall, presented a petition from 20 Albertans urging the Government to commission an independent and public inquiry into the Alberta Government's administration of or involvement with the Local Authorities Pension Plan, the Public Service Pension Plan, and the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund.

Mr. Chase, Hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, presented a petition from 20 Edmonton and area residents urging the Government to commission an independent and public inquiry into the Alberta Government's administration of or involvement with the Local Authorities Pension Plan, the Public Service Pension Plan, and the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund.

Mr. Chase, Hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, presented a petition from 34 Calgary and area residents requesting the Legislative Assembly pass legislation that will prohibit emotional bullying and psychological harassment in the workplace.

Ms Pastoor, Hon. Member for Lethbridge-East, presented a petition from 20 Edmonton and area residents urging the Government to commission an independent and public inquiry into the Alberta Government's administration of or involvement with the Local Authorities Pension Plan, the Public Service Pension Plan, and the Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund.

Notices of Motions

Mr. Mason, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood, gave oral notice of his intention to move, pursuant to Standing Order 30, to adjourn the ordinary business of the Assembly to discuss a matter of urgent importance, namely the tailings ponds created by the oil sands industry and the potential for an environmental disaster due to them.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Mr. Mason, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood:

Page 8 from the Total E&P Canada Limited booklet entitled "Innovative Technology" describing new technologies to be used to recover bitumen from oil sands at the Joslyn North Mine Project

Sessional Paper 145/2008

Diagram illustrating the bitmin process

Sessional Paper 146/2008

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre:

Program from the Ironworkers Local 720 Pin and Award Banquet held on May 10, 2008, in Edmonton

Sessional Paper 147/2008

News release dated March 19, 2007, entitled "Radio Ads Highlight Need for Strong Environmental Laws" prepared by the Alberta Liberal Caucus

Sessional Paper 148/2008

2 e-mail messages dated March 13, 2007, between Leigh Anne McCrowe, Manager, Administration, Alberta Liberal Caucus, and Scott Ellis, Director and Senior Financial Officer, Legislative Assembly Office, regarding the approval of text for a series of radio ads and copy of the text for the radio ads

Sessional Paper 149/2008

Copies of an invoice dated March 26, 2007, issued by Corus Radio Edmonton to the Alberta Liberal Caucus and a Government of Alberta Direct Purchase Order dated March 14, 2007, both regarding the purchase of radio advertising on the CHED AM radio station during the weeks of March 19 and 26, 2007

Sessional Paper 150/2008

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

Document entitled "Canadian Parks for Tomorrow: 40th Anniversary Conference Program" held at the University of Calgary from May 8-12, 2008

Sessional Paper 151/2008

Program from the CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind) Visions Luncheon 2008 presented by the Transalta Corporation and Westjet on May 9, 2008, in Calgary

Sessional Paper 152/2008

Leaflet from the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Calgary presentation entitled "Spiritual Solutions to Ending Homelessness: A Panel Discussion" held on May 10, 2008, in Calgary

Sessional Paper 153/2008

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

Booklet dated May 2008 entitled "How to Fill in the Blanks . . . A Nursing Care Plan for Nursing in Alberta" prepared by the United Nurses of Alberta

Sessional Paper 154/2008

E-mail message dated April 17, 2008, from Bob and Lin McDonough of Calgary to Dr. Taft, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, regarding the need for an additional PET (positron emission tomography) scanner in Calgary and requesting the Government provide funding for the scanner

Sessional Paper 155/2008

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, on behalf of Dr. Taft, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition:

Pages 20, 25, and 26 from the Suncor Energy Incorporated 2007 Annual Report regarding royalties and tailings management

Sessional Paper 156/2008

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

10 letters, undated, from Edmonton residents to a Member of the Legislative Assembly suggesting changes be implemented to Alberta labour laws
Sessional Paper 157/2008

Ms Pastoor, Hon. Member for Lethbridge-East, on behalf of Dr. Taft, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition:

Letter dated March 11, 2008, from Shawny Adrian, Edmonton Christian School student to Dr. Taft, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, expressing concern regarding wait times in local hospital emergency departments
Sessional Paper 158/2008

Motion for Adjournment for an Emergency Debate

Mr. Mason, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood, moved, pursuant to Standing Order 30, to adjourn the ordinary business of the Assembly to discuss a matter of urgent importance, namely the tailings ponds created by the oil sands industry and the potential for an environmental disaster due to them.

A debate followed on urgency.

The Speaker ruled that the request for leave was not in order.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions

The following Written Questions were accepted:

WQ2. Asked for by Ms Pastoor:

What was the total cost of implementing the InterRAI MDS (Minimum Data Set) system for continuing care facilities and home care, including hardware, software technical installation, and staff training between January 1, 2002, and December 31, 2007, broken down annually and by health region?

WQ3. Asked for by Mr. Hehr:

What percentage of the 15 percent surcharge collected from provincial statutory offences has the Victims of Crime Fund received from the Ministry of Solicitor General and Public Security since its inception to February 4, 2008?

WQ4. Asked for by Mr. Hehr:
What is the total number of successful claimants who requested compensation through the Victims of Crime Fund since its inception to February 4, 2008?

WQ5. Asked for by Mr. Hehr:
What is the total number and value of any overpayments made by the Ministry of Solicitor General and Public Security from the Victims of Crime Fund from its inception to February 4, 2008?

WQ6. Asked for by Mr. Hehr:
What is the total number of litigants, broken down by year, dealt with by the Calgary Mental Health Diversion Project since its inception in April 2001 to February 4, 2008, and what is the total amount of annual funding provided to the Calgary Mental Health Diversion Project by the Alberta Health and Wellness Health Innovation Fund from April 1, 2004, to February 4, 2008?

The following Written Question was accepted as amended:

WQ1. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Ms Pastoor:
What were the salaries of contracted employees and/or consultants employed by the Ministry and Department of Seniors and Community Supports during the 2006-2007 fiscal year, broken down by amount and position title?

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

What were the *salary ranges* of contracted employees employed by the Ministry and Department of Seniors and Community Supports during the 2006-2007 fiscal year, broken down by *salary range* and position title?

The Clerk of the Assembly advised that pursuant to temporary Standing Order 34(3.1), the following Written Questions were deemed to stand and retain their places:

WQ7, WQ8, WQ9, WQ10, WQ11, WQ12, WQ13, WQ14.

Motions for Returns

The following Motion for Returns was accepted:

MR2. Proposed by Ms Pastoor:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of all documents including, but not limited to, reports, studies, statistical data, correspondence, presentations, and evaluations pertaining to the July 2006 elimination of the Persons with Developmental Disabilities Provincial Board.

The following Motion for Returns was accepted as amended:

MR1. Moved by Mr. Chase on behalf of Ms Pastoor:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of all documents including, but not limited to, reports, studies, economic analyses, correspondence, presentations, and evaluations pertaining to indexing Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) benefits to the average weekly earnings as reported by Statistics Canada.

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

A copy of documents including, but not limited to, reports, studies, economic analyses, correspondence, presentations, and evaluations pertaining to *the indexation of* Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) benefits.

The following Motion for Returns was rejected:

MR3. Moved by Mr. Chase on behalf of Dr. Taft:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of all documents used by the Government to project that royalties will increase by approximately \$1.4 billion in 2010 as forecasted by the New Royalty Framework.

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to consider the following Motion for Returns on Monday, May 26, 2008:

MR4. Moved by Ms Blakeman on behalf of Dr. Taft:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A complete list of attendees from government and industry at all meetings regarding potential changes to the Crown agreements with Suncor and Syncrude.

The Clerk Assistant advised that pursuant to temporary Standing Order 34(3.1), the following Motions for Returns were deemed to stand and retain their places:

MR4 (Unanimous consent received to consider MR4 on Monday, May 26, 2008), MR5.

Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders

Third Reading

The following Bill was read a Third time and passed:

Bill 201 Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Heritage Act — Mr. Mitzel

Second Reading

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

Bill 203 Election Statutes (Fixed Election Dates) Amendment Act, 2008 —
Mr. Allred

Debate continued on the amendment introduced by Mr. Marz, Hon. Member for Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills, on May 5, 2008, that the motion be amended by striking out all the words after “that” and substituting the following:

Bill 203, Election Statutes (Fixed Election Dates) Amendment Act, 2008, be not now read a Second time but that it be read a Second time this day six months hence.

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

For the amendment: 36

Ady	Hancock	Sarich
Allred	Hayden	Snelgrove
Amery	Horner	Stevens
Benito	Johnston	
Berger	Klimchuk	
Bhardwaj	Knight	
Bhullar	Lukaszuk	
Blackett	Marz	
Campbell	Mitzel	
Cao	Oberle	
Danyluk	Olson	
DeLongDoerksen	Ouellette	
Drysdale	Rodney	
Fritz	Rogers	
Goudreau		
Groeneveld		

Weadick
Xiao

Against the amendment: 5

Blakeman
Chase

Mason
Pastoor

Taylor

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 5:15 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 12, 2008 — 7:30 P.M.

Motions Other Than Government Motions

504. Moved by Mr. Rogers:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to provide support, in conjunction with its federal and municipal counterparts, to Port Alberta at the Edmonton International Airport with the aim to foster economic growth in the Capital Region and Alberta.

A debate followed.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Committee of Supply (Main Estimates)

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

(Assembly in Committee)

And after some time spent therein, the Acting Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr. Xiao reported as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions of the Department of International and Intergovernmental Relations, 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.

Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 1 Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement Implementation Statutes Amendment Act, 2008 — Hon. Mr. Stelmach

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

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

Bill 3 Fiscal Responsibility Amendment Act, 2008 — Hon. Mr. Snelgrove

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

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

Bill 4 Alberta Enterprise Corporation Act — Hon. Mr. Snelgrove on behalf of Hon. Mr. Horner

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

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 10:39 p.m. until Tuesday, May 13, 2008, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Monday, May 12, 2008