



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 12

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Fourth Session

Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Monday, March 14, 2011

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

Ministerial Statements

Hon. Ms Evans, Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations, made a statement regarding the devastating earthquake and tsunami that took place in Japan on March 11, 2011.

Ms Pastoor, Hon. Member for Lethbridge-East, commented on the statement.

The Speaker requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to allow additional Members to comment on the Ministerial Statement.

Mr. Boutilier, Hon. Member for Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo, Ms Notley, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona, and Dr. Sherman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark, then commented on the statement.

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to extend the Daily Routine beyond 3:00 p.m.

Members' Statements

Mrs. Leskiw, Hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake, read an excerpt from Her Majesty the Queen's Commonwealth Day message regarding the 100th International Women's Day.

Mr. Hehr, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, made a statement regarding the need for a public inquiry into the health care system.

Mr. Quest, Hon. Member for Strathcona, made a statement recognizing March 13-19, 2011, as National Social Work Week.

Mr. Bhullar, Hon. Member for Calgary-Montrose, made a statement regarding Children and Youth Services' Alberta Vulnerable Infant Response Team.

Mr. Elniski, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Calder, made a statement regarding recent fundraising efforts by the Rotary Club of Edmonton and staff and parents of Spruce Avenue School.

Mr. Benito, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods, made a statement regarding Culture and Community Spirit's Community Facility Enhancement Program.

Mr. Campbell, Hon. Member for West Yellowhead, made a statement recognizing the work of the firefighters who responded to the Husky natural gas well fire near Robb on March 7, 2011.

Notices of Motions

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, gave oral notice of her intention to move, pursuant to Standing Order 30, to adjourn the ordinary business of the Assembly to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely the new evidence that has surfaced demonstrating that the government silenced critics of the health care system thereby undermining confidence in public health and contributing to the crisis in Alberta's health care system.

Mr. Anderson, Hon. Member for Airdrie-Chestermere, 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 public importance, namely that given the willingness of multiple health professionals to now come forward under the protection of a full and independent public inquiry, the need for the government to immediately appoint a commission under the Public Inquiries Act to investigate allegations that health care professionals may have been intimidated or faced the loss of employment or professional certification, or had their character or mental health questioned unfairly in order to prevent them from speaking out publicly about deficiencies in the delivery of health care, such as excessive wait times for cancer surgeries leading in a number of cases to unnecessary death, and further, that individuals may have received payments from public health authorities in exchange for their silence.

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

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

Bill 13 Appropriation (Interim Supply) Act, 2011 (\$) — Hon. Mr. Snelgrove

Notice having been given:

Bill 14 Wills and Succession Amendment Act, 2011 — Mr. Drysdale

Bill 15 Victims of Crime Amendment Act, 2011 — Hon. Mr. Oberle

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the following Bill was placed on the Order Paper under Government Bills and Orders:

Bill 14 Wills and Succession Amendment Act, 2011 — Mr. Drysdale

Tabling Returns and Reports

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

E-mail message dated January 7, 2011, from April Gervais to several recipients regarding her family member being denied financial coverage for gender reassignment surgery

Sessional Paper 99/2011

9 recent e-mail messages to several Members of the Legislative Assembly all expressing opposition to proposed funding cuts to the Physician Family Support Program

Sessional Paper 100/2011

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

25 recent e-mail messages from Albertans to Mr. Chase, Hon. Member for Calgary-Varsity, expressing opposition to proposed logging and off-road vehicle use in the Castle Special Management Area

Sessional Paper 101/2011

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

Letter dated March 14, 2011, from Dr. Swann, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Mason, Leader, NDP Opposition, Mr. Taylor, House Leader, Alberta Party, Dr. Sherman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark, and Danielle Smith, Leader, Wildrose Alliance Party, to Hon. Mr. Stelmach, Premier, requesting the appointment of a commission under the Public Inquiries Act to investigate allegations regarding health care staff and professionals being prevented from speaking about issues relating to patient care and health care delivery and whether compensation was provided in exchange for not speaking about these issues

Sessional Paper 102/2011

Edmonton Journal article dated March 9, 2011, entitled "Premier rejects health inquiry"

Sessional Paper 103/2011

Edmonton Journal article dated March 11, 2011, entitled "Health inquiry ordered"

Sessional Paper 104/2011

Edmonton Journal article dated March 14, 2011, entitled “Stelmach quashes inquiry calls”

Sessional Paper 105/2011

Ms Notley, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona:

Report dated March 14, 2011, entitled “Castle Special Management Area, Lethbridge Public Opinion Study - Winter 2011” prepared by Citizen Society Research Lab

Sessional Paper 106/2011

Dr. Sherman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark:

Letter dated September 10, 1999, from Ed Rifo, Manager, Security and Facility Safety, Royal Alexandra Hospital, to Dr. Rajneesh Sherman advising Dr. Sherman that he may only enter the Royal Alexandra Hospital site for medical assistance

Sessional Paper 107/2011

Letter dated September 14, 1999, from Robert Bear, MD, Executive Vice-President, Chief Clinical Officer, Capital Health, to Dr. Rajneesh Sherman regarding Dr. Sherman’s privileges at Capital Health facilities

Sessional Paper 108/2011

Letter dated June 5, 2000, from D.E. Chadsey, MD, FRSC, Deputy Registrar, College of Physicians and Surgeons, to Dr. Rajnish K. Sherman regarding the resumption of Dr. Sherman’s active clinical practice of emergency medicine

Sessional Paper 109/2011

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

Letter dated March 12, 2011, from Hon. Mr. Zwozdesky, Minister of Health and Wellness, Deputy Government House Leader, to Dr. Lorne Tyrrell, Chair, Health Quality Council of Alberta, requesting the Health Quality Council of Alberta conduct an independent review to examine wait times for emergency department services and cancer care services

Sessional Paper 110/2011

Tablings to the Clerk

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Stelmach, Premier:

Partial transcript dated March 9, 2011, from the Rutherford Show, CHQR/CHED Radio, with guest Dr. John Cowell, Health Quality Council, with attached 630 CHED web page dated March 9, 2011

Sessional Paper 111/2011

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Hayden, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, pursuant to the Livestock Identification and Commerce Act, cL-16.2, s90(3):

Livestock Identification Services Ltd., Summary of Activities, April 1, 2009 - March 31, 2010 (Fiscal Year 2010), with attached financial statements dated March 31, 2010

Sessional Paper 112/2011

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Dr. Sherman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark:

Court of Queen's Bench Amended Statement of Claim dated August 27, 2002, between Dr. Ciaran J. McNamee and Ciaran J. McNamee Professional Corporation, Plaintiffs, and University of Alberta Hospital, Capital Health Authority, Dr. Robert Bear, and Dr. Tim Winton, Defendants

Sessional Paper 113/2011

Motion for Adjournment for an Emergency Debate

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, requested leave to move, pursuant to Standing Order 30, to adjourn the ordinary business of the Assembly to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely the new evidence that has surfaced demonstrating that the government silenced critics of the health care system thereby undermining confidence in public health and contributing to the crisis in Alberta's health care system.

A debate followed on urgency.

The Speaker ruled that the request for leave was in order. Leave being granted, the Speaker called upon Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, to speak to the motion.

A debate on the motion followed pursuant to Standing Order 30(5).

Consideration of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor's Speech (Day 10)

Pursuant to Standing Order 19(1)(c), at 5:15 p.m. the Speaker interrupted the proceedings to put the question on the following motion:

Moved by Mr. Drysdale and seconded by Mr. Bhullar:

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

To His Honour Colonel (Retired) the Honourable Donald S. Ethell, OC, OMM, AOE, MSC, CD, LLD, 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.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Government Motions

10. Moved by Hon. Mr. Hancock on behalf of Hon. Mr. Stelmach:

Be it resolved that the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne be engrossed and presented to His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor by such Members of the Assembly as are members of Executive Council.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Motion for Adjournment for an Emergency Debate

Debate continued on the motion pursuant to Standing Order 30(5).

Dr. Swann, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, requested the unanimous consent of the Assembly to continue the emergency debate beyond 6:00 p.m.

Unanimous consent was not granted.

Debate continued on the motion.

Adjournment

Pursuant to Standing Order 4(2), the Assembly adjourned at 6:00 p.m. until Tuesday, March 15, 2011, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Monday, March 14, 2011