



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 8

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Fifth Session

Twenty-Seventh Legislature

Tuesday, February 21, 2012

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

Members' Statements

Mr. Zwozdesky, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Creek, made a statement recognizing Vern Davis for his 50-year involvement with Edmonton minor hockey.

Mr. Taylor, Hon. Member for Calgary-Currie, made a statement thanking constituency association volunteers and members, staff, and family for their support during his career as a Member of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Xiao, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, made a statement recognizing February 21, 2012, as International Mother Language Day.

Mrs. Forsyth, Hon. Member for Calgary-Fish Creek, made a statement regarding the Health Quality Council of Alberta review into the bullying and intimidation of health care professionals.

Mr. Doerksen, Hon. Member for Strathmore-Brooks, made a statement regarding the Alberta Works program.

Mr. Kang, Hon. Member for Calgary-McCall, made a statement regarding an Eid Milad un-Nabi celebration held at the Jack Singer Concert Hall in Calgary on February 12, 2012.

Notices of Motions

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, gave oral notice of the intention to introduce the following Bill:

Bill 6 Property Rights Advocate Act — Hon. Mrs. McQueen

Tabling Returns and Reports

Hon. Mr. Denis, Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security:

Red Deer Advocate web site article dated September 24, 2010, entitled “Smith wants provincial registry”

Sessional Paper 62/2012

Mr. Kang, Hon. Member for Calgary-McCall:

Document, undated, entitled “CETA - Services and Investment - Provincial and Territorial Governments - First Offer - Annex/Reservations”

Sessional Paper 63/2012

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

24 Hours article dated January 27, 2011, entitled “Seniors under leaky roof”

Sessional Paper 64/2012

Document, undated, entitled “Alberta Health Facility Review Complaint” prepared by Bev Munro

Sessional Paper 65/2012

6 recent photographs taken at Ward 7 at the Edmonton General Hospital long-term care facility

Sessional Paper 66/2012

Government of Alberta web site home page printed on February 21, 2012

Sessional Paper 67/2012

Copies of 6 recent Enmax, Epcor, and Direct Energy utility bills from Alberta residents, 3 with accompanying letters

Sessional Paper 68/2012

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

Newsletter dated January 20, 2012, entitled “The President’s Letter” prepared by Dr. Linda M. Slocombe, President, Alberta Medical Association

Sessional Paper 69/2012

10 letters, undated, from Albertans to the Government of Alberta and the Government of Canada expressing concern regarding the treatment and lack of resources for the mentally ill

Sessional Paper 70/2012

Mr. Anderson, Hon. Member for Airdrie-Chestermere:

Item stating “Repeal Bill 26 (Traffic Safety Amendment Act, 2011) - .05 Law”
and “Say ‘No’ to Alison Redford”

Sessional Paper 71/2012

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

Letter dated February 5, 2012, from Lynn Whittingham of Calgary to Mr. Taylor, Hon. Member for Calgary-Currie, and e-mail message dated January 30, 2012, from Marie-Andr e M nard of Calgary to Mr. Taylor, Hon. Member for Calgary-Currie, and Hon. Ms Redford, Premier, both expressing concern regarding Spray Lakes Sawmills’ intention to clear cut in West Bragg Creek

Sessional Paper 72/2012

E-mail message dated February 14, 2012, from Barbara Boettcher of Calgary to Mr. Taylor, Hon. Member for Calgary-Currie, expressing concern regarding proposed clear cutting in the Castle wilderness area

Sessional Paper 73/2012

Speaker’s Statement - Unparliamentary Language

Honourable Members, the Chair would like to comment on an unfortunate trend in the use of language in this Assembly this sitting. In the Chair’s view, the language spoken has become increasingly intemperate. For instance, in recent sitting days, Members have used words accusing other Members of not being honest, of being untrustworthy, shifty, misleading, corrupt and the list goes on. And we could add the words that were used today as well.

The Chair is well aware that there is a certain event to be held before May 31st which may be causing Members to use more intemperate language. The Chair is well aware that this is a place of strong emotions. That is as it should be as Members should be passionate about what they believe. However, the institution of Parliament has existed for centuries and Members have been subject to the rules to ensure that civility is maintained. This is not a new institution that just started three weeks ago. Centuries have gone into the development of a place that should require civility.

Erskine May, 24th edition, at page 444 states the standard:

Good temper and moderation are the characteristics of parliamentary language. Parliamentary language is never more desirable than when a Member is canvassing the opinions and conduct of his opponents in debate.

Another authoritative statement is found in House of Commons: Procedure and Practice (2nd edition) at page 618:

The proceedings of the House are based on a long-standing tradition of respect for the integrity of all Members. Thus, the use of offensive, provocative or threatening language in the House is strictly forbidden. Personal attacks, insults and obscenities are not in order. A direct charge or accusation against a Member may be made only by way of substantive motion for which notice is required.

Finally, as Members you realize that it is your role to ensure that this institution retains the respect of the people that we all serve. If we don't respect one another, nobody out of this room is going to respect anyone in this room. Intemperate remarks and unparliamentary language do nothing to maintain that respect. All of us must take seriously the role of ensuring that the Assembly operates with civility, order, and decorum. I wonder if I'm asking too much if I also suggest an addition to civility, order, and decorum: that it's always timely for politeness and respect.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Committee of Supply (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 Acting Speaker assumed the Chair and Mr. Rogers reported as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions of the Department of Finance, 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 6:00 p.m. until Wednesday, February 22, 2012, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Tuesday, February 21, 2012