



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 17

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Second Session

Twenty-Eighth Legislature

Monday, April 14, 2014

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

Members' Statements

Mr. Luan, Hon. Member for Calgary-Hawkwood, made a statement regarding the second annual Sino-Canadian Oil and Gas Symposium to be held in Calgary on June 21, 2014.

Mr. Strankman, Hon. Member for Drumheller-Stettler, made a statement regarding the actions of the Government caucus and the role of the next Premier.

Ms Kubinec, Hon. Member for Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock, made a statement regarding the effects of mental illness and new funding in Budget 2014 that strengthens mental health programs.

Ms Fenske, Hon. Member for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville, made a statement recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village.

Mrs. Fritz, Hon. Member for Calgary-Cross, made a statement regarding the construction of the Agrium Western Event Centre in Calgary.

Dr. Sherman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadowlark, made a statement regarding the important role of public servants, Bill 45, Public Sector Services Continuation Act, Bill 46, Public Service Salary Restraint Act, and public service pensions.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Mrs. Jablonski, Hon. Member for Red Deer-North:

Email message dated April 10, 2014, from Dr. Charles Boulet of Black Diamond to all Members of the Legislative Assembly expressing support for Bill 203, Childhood Vision Assessment Act

Sessional Paper 127/2014

Email message dated April 11, 2014, from Dr. Steven Hoang, Optometrist, to the Premier and all Members of the Legislative Assembly expressing support for Bill 203, Childhood Vision Assessment Act

Sessional Paper 128/2014

Document, undated, entitled "Bill 203, Childhood Vision Assessment Act"

Sessional Paper 129/2014

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

Canadian Journal of Public Health article dated January/February 2012 entitled "Childhood Vision Screening in Canada: Public Health Evidence and Practice"

Sessional Paper 130/2014

Mr. Hehr, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo:

Documents, undated, entitled "Philosophy of Christian Education" and "Professional and Ethical Standards," relating to comments made by Mr. Hehr in Oral Question Period on April 14, 2014

Sessional Paper 131/2014

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions

The following Written Questions were accepted:

WQ1. Asked for by Ms Blakeman:

What progress has been made on the formal commitment to develop a big city charter announced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs in a Government news release on June 18, 2012?

WQ2. Asked for by Ms Blakeman:

Which 10 municipalities had the highest property tax rates in Alberta for the 2012 and 2013 calendar years?

- WQ4.** Asked for by Dr. Swann:
As of January 1, 2014, how many licensed child care program spaces and approved family day home spaces are there in each of Edmonton, Calgary, and the rest of Alberta?
- WQ5.** Asked for by Mr. Kang:
Has the Government received a report from the Information and Privacy Commissioner on the Government's travel, meal, and hospitality expenses policy announced on September 5, 2012, and if so, what are the Commissioner's recommendations?
- WQ6.** Asked for by Ms Blakeman:
How many oil and gas pipeline spills, leaks, or ruptures have occurred in Alberta per year from January 1, 2009, to December 31, 2013?
- WQ10.** Asked for by Ms Blakeman:
Which municipalities in Alberta have lands that are classified as flood-prone?
- WQ11.** Asked for by Mr. Hehr:
As of January 1, 2014, how many active members and retired members are in each of the following public sector pension plans: the Local Authorities Pension Plan, the Public Service Pension Plan, the Management Employees Pension Plan, and the Special Forces Pension Plan?
- WQ15.** Asked for by Mr. Hehr:
In Alberta, how many English as a Second Language students were registered in each of the school years from 2010-11 to 2012-13 inclusive, and of those, how many will continue beyond the five years that are totally funded by the school board?
- WQ16.** Asked for by Mr. Kang:
How many home inspection businesses or individual inspectors for resale properties were operating in Alberta when the Home Inspection Business Regulation came into force on September 1, 2011, and how many are operating in Alberta as of January 1, 2014?
- WQ17.** Asked for by Mr. Kang:
Since the Home Inspection Business Regulation came into force on September 1, 2011, how many complaints has Service Alberta received about home inspection businesses or individual inspectors for resale properties as of January 1, 2014?

- WQ18.** Asked for by Mr. Kang:
Since the Home Inspection Business Regulation came into force on September 1, 2011, how many home inspection businesses or individual inspectors for resale properties have had their licences revoked by Service Alberta as of January 1, 2014?
- WQ19.** Asked for by Dr. Swann:
What criteria does the Government use to classify children as living in poverty?
- WQ20.** Asked for by Dr. Swann:
What is the Government's estimate of how many Alberta children are living in poverty as of January 1, 2014?
- WQ21.** Asked for by Dr. Swann:
What criteria does the Government use to determine whether a child has escaped poverty?
- WQ22.** Asked for by Dr. Swann:
What is the Government's projection of how much money it will need to invest to eliminate child poverty in five years, in connection with Together We Raise Tomorrow, Alberta's Poverty Reduction Strategy, announced in June 2013, and to which programs, services, and community resources will this funding be allocated?
- WQ23.** Asked for by Ms Blakeman:
In relation to the June 2013 flood, how many hours' notice did the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development give to each of the affected municipalities that flooding was either possible or imminent?
- WQ24.** Asked for by Ms Blakeman:
How many safety codes officers in Alberta have been specifically trained to evaluate homes affected by the June 2013 flood and assess whether they have been flood-proofed to a sufficient degree to warrant removal of the notice that the Government has placed on the titles to those properties?
- WQ25.** Asked for by Mr. Hehr:
As of January 1, 2014, how many of the 30 new Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) officers, announced by the Government on March 4, 2011, have been hired and what is the total number of OHS officers?

- WQ26.** Asked for by Mr. Hehr:
As of January 1, 2014, how many of the six new Employment Standards (ES) officers, announced by the Government on August 10, 2011, have been hired, what is the total number of ES officers, and what was the total number on August 10, 2011?
- WQ27.** Asked for by Dr. Swann:
What is the projected net financial result of dissolving the Child and Family Services Authorities and Persons with Developmental Disabilities Community Boards, establishing family and community engagement councils, and transferring responsibility for service delivery to the Ministry of Human Services?
- WQ28.** Asked for by Dr. Swann:
How much have caseloads for Alberta Works decreased or increased from April 1, 2008, to April 1, 2013?
- WQ29.** Asked for by Mr. Kang:
How many people have visited the Alberta Open Data Portal since it was launched in May 2013, and what was the most searched item?
- WQ30.** Asked for by Mr. Hehr:
As of January 1, 2014, how many Government management positions have been eliminated since April 1, 2013, and how many are anticipated to be eliminated by March 31, 2014?
- WQ31.** Asked for by Ms Blakeman:
For those property owners who received Disaster Recovery Program compensation in 2013, what is the wording of the notice the Government will place on the titles to those properties?
- WQ32.** Asked for by Ms Blakeman:
Who are the members of the Government's Disaster Recovery Committee, the body referenced in section 2.2.2 of the Alberta Disaster Assistance Guidelines and section 7(3) of the Disaster Recovery Regulation?
- WQ33.** Asked for by Ms Blakeman:
As of January 1, 2014, how many homes in southern Alberta were deemed or estimated to be eligible to apply for Disaster Recovery Program compensation in relation to the June 2013 flood; and, of those, how many submitted applications for compensation, how many were offered compensation, and how many accepted the offered amount of compensation?

WQ34. Asked for by Ms Blakeman:

As of January 1, 2014, how many Disaster Recovery Program compensation claims from the 2010 flood in southern and central Alberta were appealed to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, pursuant to section 8 of the Disaster Recovery Regulation, and how many of those resulted in a reversal or modification of a previous decision made by either the Alberta Emergency Management Agency's Director of Recovery Operations or the Managing Director?

WQ35. Asked for by Ms Blakeman:

As of January 1, 2014, of the total number of southern Alberta residents who applied for Disaster Recovery Program compensation in relation to the June 2013 flood, how many have requested a formal review of their files by the Alberta Emergency Management Agency's (AEMA) Director of Recovery Operations; and, how many have subsequently requested that a decision on their file by the AEMA Director of Recovery Operations be reviewed by the AEMA Managing Director, pursuant to section 7 of the Disaster Recovery Regulation; and, how many have subsequently requested that a decision on their file by the AEMA Managing Director be reviewed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, pursuant to section 8 of the Disaster Recovery Regulation?

WQ36. Asked for by Ms Blakeman:

How many municipalities requested financial or technical assistance from the Government for riverbank stabilization or flood protection for the period between the southern Alberta flood that occurred in June 2005 and the flood of June 2013?

WQ37. Asked for by Ms Blakeman:

As January 1, 2014, what is the average length of time that it has taken to conclude Disaster Recovery Program compensation claims in relation to the June 2013 flood, and what is the average compensation that has been paid?

WQ38. Asked for by Ms Blakeman:

As of January 1, 2014, how many Disaster Recovery Program compensation claims are outstanding from the 2010 flood in southern and central Alberta?

WQ39. Asked for by Ms Blakeman:

As of January 1, 2014, how many Disaster Recovery Program compensation claims are outstanding from the May 2011 wildfire in Slave Lake?

WQ40. Asked for by Ms Blakeman:

What was the commencement date of LandLink Consulting Ltd.'s current five-year contract with the Government to administer the Province's Disaster Recovery Program?

WQ41. Asked for by Ms Blakeman:

What positions did Barry Giffen and Rick Thrall, LandLink Consulting Ltd.'s President and Managing Partner respectively, hold when they were employed by the Government of Alberta?

The following Written Questions were accepted as amended:

WQ9. Moved by Dr. Swann:

Which 10 municipalities had the highest leukemia, lymphoma, and lung cancer incidence rates in Alberta for each of the years from January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2013?

Hon. Mr. Rodney, Associate Minister – Wellness, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Horne, Minister of Health, moved that the motion be amended to read:

Which *municipalities in Alberta* had the highest leukemia, lymphoma, and lung cancer incidence rates *for the period from January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2005, and for the period from January 1, 2006, to December 31, 2011?*

WQ12. Moved by Dr. Swann:

What progress has been made on the First Nations-Alberta-Canada February 2010 Memorandum of Understanding on Aboriginal Education?

Hon. Mr. Johnson, Minister of Education, moved that the motion be amended to read:

What progress has been made on the First Nations-Alberta-Canada February 2010 Memorandum of Understanding *for First Nations Education in Alberta?*

WQ13. Moved by Mr. Hehr:

How many full-time, part-time, and substitute teachers were/are there in the public and separate school systems in Alberta for the 2012-13 and current school years?

Hon. Mr. Johnson, Minister of Education, moved that the motion be amended to read:

How many full-time, part-time, and substitute teachers *were there in the public and separate school systems in Alberta for 2012-13?*

WQ14. Moved by Mr. Hehr:

What is the average school bus transportation cost per student in both the public and separate school systems in Alberta for the 2012-13 and current school years?

Hon. Mr. Johnson, Minister of Education, moved that the motion be amended to read:

What is the average school bus transportation cost per student in both the public and separate school systems in Alberta for the 2012-13 *school year*?

The following Written Questions were rejected:

WQ3. Moved by Mr. Hehr:

What is the Government's projected estimate of the cost to implement full-day kindergarten in Alberta?

WQ7. Moved by Mr. Hehr:

As of January 1, 2014, what is the Government's estimate of how much the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund would be worth if it had consistently transferred 30 per cent of non-renewable resource revenue into the Fund every year since 1976?

WQ8. Moved by Mr. Hehr:

Using the formula in section 6 of the Fiscal Management Act for the calculation of the debt-servicing limit for a fiscal year with respect to outstanding capital borrowing, what is the Government's calculation of its debt-servicing limit for the 2013-14 fiscal year, and how much money can the Government borrow in the 2013-14 fiscal year before it reaches this debt-servicing limit?

Motions for Returns

The following Motions for Returns were accepted:

MR2. Proposed by Ms Blakeman:

That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of the report of the provincial advisory panel on community flood mitigation that proposed \$830 million in flood mitigation measures at the Alberta Flood Mitigation Symposium held in Calgary on October 4, 2013.

- MR3.** Proposed by Mr. Hehr:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of Government studies or proposals related to the establishment of flood or disaster insurance in Alberta that were prepared between June 1, 2013, and January 1, 2014.
- MR7.** Proposed by Mr. Hehr:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of documents outlining the criteria and process that Leger, The Research Intelligence Group, used to select participants for the 14 public consultations related to the Task Force for Teaching Excellence that commenced on October 1, 2013.
- MR8.** Proposed by Ms Blakeman:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
A copy of the performance review of LandLink Consulting Ltd. referenced by the Minister of Municipal Affairs during the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship's consideration of the Ministry's 2013-14 estimates on April 17, 2013.

The following Motions for Returns were rejected:

- MR1.** Moved by Mr. Hehr:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of the responses that the Government received from Albertans through its online survey on their priorities for Budget 2014.
- MR4.** Moved by Dr. Swann on behalf of Mr. Kang:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of any documents relating to the implementation plan for an online portal for registry services in 2014.
- MR5.** Moved by Mr. Hehr:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of proposals to amend tax rates for small brewers that were developed by the Government between January 1, 2012, and December 31, 2013.
- MR6.** Moved by Mr. Hehr:
That an Order of the Assembly do issue for a Return showing:
Copies of proposals to amend Alberta's spirit distillation rules that were developed by the Government between January 1, 2012, and December 31, 2013.

Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 204 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (MLA Public Interest Fee Waiver) Amendment Act, 2014 — Mr. Barnes

A debate followed.

Debate adjourned, Hon. Mr. Scott speaking.

The following Bill was read a Second time and referred to Committee of the Whole:

Bill 203 Childhood Vision Assessment Act — Mrs. Jablonski

Motions Other Than Government Motions

504. Moved by Mr. Allen:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to introduce amendments to the Traffic Safety Act allowing harsher penalties to be imposed on drivers guilty of excessive speeding in order to deter high-risk driving behaviours on Alberta's highways.

A debate followed.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Campbell, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 5:56 p.m. until Tuesday, April 15, 2014, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Gene Zwozdesky,
Speaker

Title: Monday, April 14, 2014