



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 50

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Third Session

Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Tuesday, November 7, 2017

The Acting Speaker took the Chair at 10:00 a.m.

Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 23 Alberta Human Rights Amendment Act, 2017 — Hon. Ms Ganley

A debate followed.

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

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

Bill 24 An Act to Support Gay-Straight Alliances — Hon. Mr. Eggen

A debate followed.

Hon. Ms Ganley moved adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

Adjournment

Pursuant to Standing Order 4(2.1), the Assembly adjourned at 12:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Members' Statements

Mr. Malkinson, Hon. Member for Calgary-Currie, made a statement regarding high fees and wait lists for childcare in Calgary, the benefits of affordable childcare, and the Government's \$25-a-day childcare initiative.

Mr. Gotfried, Hon. Member for Calgary-Fish Creek, made a statement regarding atrocities resulting from communist regimes and his own family fleeing from Vladimir Lenin's dictatorship.

Ms Miller, Hon. Member for Red Deer-South, made a statement regarding the \$19 million investment by Red Deer College into a new main campus residence, and the development of an alternative energy lab at the college.

Mr. Panda, Hon. Member for Calgary-Foothills, made a statement regarding the global market for Alberta's oil and environmentalists who stand in the way of new pipelines.

Mr. Shepherd, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, made a statement regarding prosperity in Alberta and how the Government is investing in jobs, infrastructure, and social issues to lay a foundation for increased prosperity.

Mr. Orr, Hon. Member for Lacombe-Ponoka, made a statement regarding the difficulty opposition constituency office staff are having obtaining information from the Government on behalf of constituents.

Notices of Motions

Mr. Nixon, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, gave oral notice of his intention to move the following motion under Standing Order 42:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to immediately begin aggressive preparations for the 2018-19 equalization renegotiations and update the Assembly on those preparations.

Tabling Returns and Reports

Mr. Cyr, Hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake:

Report, undated, entitled "2017 National Freedom of Information Audit," prepared by News Media Canada, relating to comments made by Mr. Cyr during Oral Question Period on November 6, 2017

Sessional Paper 486/2017

Mr. McIver, Hon. Member for Calgary-Hays:

Calgary Herald website article dated November 4, 2017, entitled “Editorial: Be sensible on sex education,” relating to comments made by Mr. McIver during Oral Question Period on November 7, 2017

Sessional Paper 487/2017

MLA Drever, Hon. Member for Calgary-Bow:

CBC News website article dated July 8, 2016, entitled “Kenney’s unclear abortion stance imperils reproductive rights, analyst says,” relating to MLA Drever’s Member’s Statement on November 6, 2017

Sessional Paper 488/2017

Press Progress website article dated July 15, 2016, entitled “Anti-abortion group tells supporters to buy PC memberships and help Jason Kenney take over party,” relating to MLA Drever’s Member’s Statement on November 6, 2017

Sessional Paper 489/2017

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

Page 5 of an Alberta Health Services 2016-17 Q4 report regarding provincial performance

Sessional Paper 490/2017

Letter dated November 2, 2017, from Hon. Ms Hoffman, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health, to Dr. Swann, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View, responding to Dr. Swann’s letter concerning health care wait times

Sessional Paper 491/2017

CBC News website article dated November 7, 2017, entitled “Alberta ranks 2nd highest on health-care spending despite youthful population”

Sessional Paper 492/2017

Mr. Westhead, Hon. Member for Banff-Cochrane:

ATB Financial The Owl website article dated October 4, 2017, entitled “Tourism set for solid 2017”

Sessional Paper 493/2017

Hon. Mr. Wanner, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly:

Oral Question Period Rotation, 29th Legislature, 3rd Session, effective as of November 7, 2017

Sessional Paper 494/2017

House Leaders’ Agreement dated November 6, 2017, regarding Oral Question Period and Members’ Statements rotations

Sessional Paper 495/2017

Tablings to the Clerk

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Ms Hoffman, Deputy Premier, Minister of Health:

Responses to questions raised by Dr. Swann, Hon. Member for Calgary-Mountain View, Dr. Starke, Hon. Member for Vermilion-Lloydminster, Mr. Smith, Hon. Member for Drayton Valley-Devon, Mr. Hinkley, Hon. Member for Wetaskiwin-Camrose, and Mr. Loewen, Hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Smoky, on April 11, 2017, Ministry of Health, 2017-18 Main Estimates debate

Sessional Paper 496/2017

Speaker's Statement – House Leaders' Agreement, Members' Statements Rotation

Honourable Members, as you recall, yesterday I indicated during my statement on the rotation of questions that my office received a House Leaders' Agreement at 1:03 p.m. that day containing proposed Oral Question Period and Members' Statements rotations. I stated yesterday that I would review the proposals, which I have done.

In my statement yesterday, found at pages 1745 and 1746 of Alberta Hansard, I also spoke about the question period rotation, and I outlined a rotation that would be implemented today. That rotation, which was distributed yesterday and which I have tabled, will continue to apply, barring any new House Leaders' Agreement that is fairer to all Members.

With respect to the proposed Members' Statements rotation, I accept the House Leaders' proposal, and it will be implemented in accordance with Standing Order 7(5), which provides:

Members' Statements shall be allocated in proportion to the number of Members other than members of the Executive Council in each party represented in the Assembly or as agreed to by House Leaders or, failing agreement, as determined by the Speaker.

I note that both parts of the agreement are signed by the Government House Leader and the Official Opposition. There is a notable absence, however, of any signature from the Third Party.

I performed some research and discovered that a Third Party has been included as signatories to House Leaders' Agreements dating back to 1997. This includes the signature of the current Government House Leader on the House Leaders' Agreement of April 2001. I would encourage that all House Leaders be involved in future agreements, for those that are designated, and that such agreements should include the signatures of each of the House Leaders or their designates. I would encourage the two Leaders to do that to at least reflect that there has been genuine consultation.

Before I proceed any further, I want to point out that this rotation differs from the rotation described yesterday. The details respecting the agreement on Members' Statements are as follows.

A three-week rotation will continue. Private Members of the Government caucus are entitled to three statements each sitting day. The Official Opposition receives three statements every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. They also receive one statement on Thursdays. The Third Party Opposition will receive a statement on Thursdays of weeks one and three. The one-Member caucuses and the independent Members each receive one statement per week on a Thursday.

For additional details on the Members' Statements rotation, please consult the revised Projected Sittings Day Calendar, which will replace the one distributed yesterday, and which will be distributed to all Members.

This House Leaders' Agreement on the rotation of Members' Statements will take effect tomorrow, Wednesday, November 8, 2017.

Motions Under Standing Order 42

Mr. Nixon, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, requested the unanimous consent of the Assembly for consideration of the following motion:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to immediately begin aggressive preparations for the 2018-19 equalization renegotiations and update the Assembly on those preparations.

Unanimous consent to proceed was not granted.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills and Orders

Third Reading

The following Bills were read a Third time and passed:

Bill 21 Agencies, Boards and Commissions Review Statutes Amendment Act, 2017
— Hon. Min. Ceci

Bill 22 Resident and Family Councils Act — Hon. Ms Hoffman

Second Reading

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

Bill 24 An Act to Support Gay-Straight Alliances — Hon. Mr. Eggen

A debate followed.

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

The following Bills were read a Second time and referred to Committee of the Whole:

Bill 23 Alberta Human Rights Amendment Act, 2017 — Hon. Ms Ganley

Bill 25 Regulated Forestry Profession Amendment Act, 2017 — Hon. Ms Gray

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Mason, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 5:20 p.m. until Wednesday, November 8, 2017, at 9:00 a.m.

Hon. Robert E. Wanner,
Speaker

Title: Tuesday, November 7, 2017