



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 134

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Second Session

Thirtieth Legislature

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

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

Privilege – Intimidating Gesture

The Speaker invited Mr. Schmidt, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, to make a statement concerning a purported question of privilege raised by Mr. Yao, Hon. Member for Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo, on November 29, 2021, regarding an intimidating gesture made by Mr. Schmidt toward Mr. Hunter, Hon. Member for Taber-Warner, during debate on Motion for a Return MR14 on Monday, November 29, 2021.

Apology by Member

Mr. Schmidt made a statement apologizing for the gesture.

The Speaker thanked Mr. Schmidt for the apology and declared the matter concluded.

Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 80 Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2021 (No. 2) — Hon. Ms Fir

Debate continued on the amendment introduced by Ms Renaud, Hon. Member for St. Albert, on November 23, 2021, that the motion be amended by deleting all of the words after “that” and substituting the following:

Bill 80, Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2021 (No. 2), be not now read a Second time but that the subject matter of the Bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship in accordance with Standing Order 74.2.
Sessional Paper 897/2020-21

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

For the amendment: 7

Ceci	Pancholi	Schmidt
Dang	Renaud	Sigurdson (Edmonton-Riverview)
Irwin		

Against the amendment: 27

Aheer	Jones	Rowswell
Allard	LaGrange	Sawhney
Armstrong-Homeniuk	Lovely	Shandro
Ellis	Luan	Sigurdson (Highwood)
Glubish	Madu	Smith
Gotfried	Nixon (Calgary-Klein)	Stephan
Guthrie	Orr	van Dijken
Hanson	Reid	Williams
Issik	Rosin	Yao

Debate continued on the main motion.

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

Third Reading

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

Bill 75 Arts Professions Recognition Act — Hon. Mr. Orr

Hon. Mr. Orr 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.

ROUTINE

Statement by the Speaker — 110th Anniversary of the Assembly Chamber

The Speaker made a statement recognizing November 30, 2021, as the 110th anniversary of the opening of the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

Members' Statements

Mr. Carson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-West Henday, made a statement regarding Government policies affecting the finances of Alberta families.

Mr. Jones, Hon. Member for Calgary-South East, made a statement regarding Alberta's economic recovery plan.

Mr. Stephan, Hon. Member for Red Deer-South, made a statement regarding a planned addiction recovery centre in Red Deer.

Mr. Eggen, Hon. Member for Edmonton-North West, made a statement regarding post-secondary education funding cuts.

Mr. Hanson, Hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul, made a statement recognizing the life and legacy of Victor Ringuette.

Mr. Schmidt, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, made a statement regarding proposals to legalize game hunting farms in Alberta

Mr. Getson, Hon. Member for Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland, made a statement regarding the work of the task force created to establish economic corridors in northwest Canada.

Mrs. Frey, Hon. Member for Brooks-Medicine Hat, made a statement recognizing the volunteer and philanthropic efforts of several Brooks-Medicine Hat constituents.

Mr. Schow, Hon. Member for Cardston-Siksika, made a statement regarding the Magrath high school volleyball teams.

Speaker's Ruling — Oral Question Period Questions from Parliamentary Secretaries

Honourable Members, prior to proceeding to Oral Question Period, I would like to make a brief statement about some remarks that were made yesterday during Oral Question Period that I elected not to highlight at the time, but think it is important to do so now.

Specifically, I am referring to an exchange between the Member for Lethbridge-East, the newly minted parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Environment and Parks for Water Stewardship, and the Minister of Environment and Parks. This exchange may be found in Alberta Hansard for November 29, 2021, at page 6545.

As Members know, a number of parliamentary secretaries have been appointed recently. In recent memory these positions have also been called “parliamentary assistants” and “legislative secretaries.” But since the holders of these positions are not members of Executive Council – in other words, they are private Members – in general, they may ask questions of the Government during Oral Question Period. Of course, as they are private Members, they may not answer questions.

What is problematic is when a parliamentary secretary asks a question of the Minister to whom they are responsible, as was the case yesterday, when the Member for Lethbridge-East posed questions to the Minister of Environment and Parks.

Many Alberta Speakers have ruled on this exact circumstance. In particular, Speaker Kowalski ruled on April 16, 2008, and Speaker Wanner ruled on October 30, 2017, that it is inappropriate for parliamentary secretaries to direct questions to the Minister with whom the parliamentary secretary is affiliated. As Speaker Kowalski noted, “if a parliamentary assistant were to ask questions of the Minister with whom he or she works, there might be an expression of discomfort by the Chair and undoubtedly from Members throughout.” These remarks are found on page 13 of Hansard from April 16, 2008.

Accordingly, I would ask the newly minted parliamentary secretaries to refrain from posing questions to the Ministers to whom they are responsible.

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

Oral notice having been given November 29, 2021:

Bill 87 Electoral Divisions (Calgary-Bhullar-McCall) Amendment Act, 2021 —
Hon. Mr. Nixon

Tablings to the Clerk

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Toews, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance, pursuant to the Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act, cF-14.7, ss1(2) and 6(1):

Government of Alberta 2021-22 Mid-Year Fiscal Update and Economic Statement, November 2021

Sessional Paper 911/2020-21

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Government Bills and Orders

Committee of the Whole

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

(Assembly in Committee)

And after some time spent therein, the Deputy Speaker assumed the Chair.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill 84 Business Corporations Amendment Act, 2021 — Hon. Mr. Glubish

Third Reading

The following Bill was read a Third time and passed:

Bill 75 Arts Professions Recognition Act — Hon. Mr. Orr

Government Motions

104. Oral notice having been given November 29, 2021, moved by Hon. Mr. Nixon:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly

1. condemn David Suzuki's comments on pipelines as reported by the National Post,
2. condemn any comments made calling for the intentional destruction of energy infrastructure, and
3. unequivocally condemn incitements of violent eco-terrorism.

A debate followed.

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

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Ms Issik, Associate Minister of Status of Women, the Assembly adjourned at 5:56 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Government Motions

104. Oral notice having been given November 29, 2021, moved by Hon. Mr. Nixon:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly

1. condemn David Suzuki's comments on pipelines as reported by the National Post,
2. condemn any comments made calling for the intentional destruction of energy infrastructure, and
3. unequivocally condemn incitements of violent eco-terrorism.

A debate followed.

Mr. Turton, Hon. Member for Spruce Grove-Stony Plain, moved that the motion be amended by

- (a) striking out "and" at the end of section 2, and
- (b) adding the following immediately after section 3:
 4. express solidarity with the 20 First Nations Band Councils and their communities situated along the approved route of the Coastal GasLink pipeline project, including those representing Wet'suwet'en people, in their negotiations for project agreements that would support those communities,
 5. express its support for the Coastal GasLink pipeline project and the LNG Canada project, and
 6. express its opposition to illegal activities that seek to disrupt the construction of the Coastal GasLink pipeline project.

Sessional Paper 912/2020-21

Mr. Turton moved adjournment of the debate on the amendment, which was agreed to.

Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 81 Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (No. 2) — Hon. Mr. Madu

Debate continued on the amendment introduced by Mr. Nielsen, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Decore, on November 16, 2021, that the motion be amended by deleting all of the words after “that” and substituting the following:

Bill 81, Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (No. 2), be not now read a Second time but that the subject matter of the Bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Families and Communities in accordance with Standing Order 74.2.

Sessional Paper 868/2020-21

The question being put, the amendment was defeated.

Debate continued on the main motion.

Ms Gray, Official Opposition House Leader, moved that the motion be amended by deleting all of the words after “that” and substituting the following:

Bill 81, Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (No. 2), be not now read a Second time because the Assembly is of the view that consultation with stakeholders and Albertans on the proposed legislative amendments is required.

Sessional Paper 913/2020-21

A debate followed on the amendment.

MLA Loyola moved adjournment of the debate on the amendment, which was agreed to.

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

Bill 79 Trails Act — Hon. Mr. Nixon

A debate followed.

Mr. Nielsen, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Decore, on behalf of Mr. Eggen, Hon. Member for Edmonton-North West, moved that the motion be amended by deleting all of the words after “that” and substituting the following:

Bill 79, Trails Act, be not now read a Second time but that the subject matter of the Bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship in accordance with Standing Order 74.2.

Sessional Paper 914/2020-21

A debate followed on the amendment.

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

For the amendment: 7

Dach	Hoffman	Nielsen
Feehan	Loyola	Shepherd
Gray		

Against the amendment: 26

Aheer	LaGrange	Reid
Allard	Long	Rowswell
Amery	Lovely	Schweitzer
Armstrong-Homeniuk	Luan	Shandro
Ellis	Madu	Sigurdson (Highwood)
Glubish	McIver	Smith
Gotfried	Nixon (Calgary-Klein)	Turton
Guthrie	Orr	Yao
Issik	Rehn	

Debate continued on the main motion.

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

Bill 79 Trails Act — Hon. Mr. Nixon

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Ms Issik, Associate Minister of Status of Women, the Assembly adjourned at 11:32 p.m. until Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

Hon. Nathan M. Cooper,
Speaker