



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 29

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

First Session

Thirty-First Legislature

Thursday, March 21, 2024

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

Members' Statements

Mr. Shepherd, Hon. Member for Edmonton-City Centre, made a statement regarding Government policies concerning health care.

Mr. Yao, Hon. Member for Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo, made a statement recognizing March 21, 2024, as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

MLA Loyola, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, made a statement recognizing March 21, 2024, as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Mr. Getson, Hon. Member for Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland, made a statement regarding the Government's approach to homelessness in contrast to that of the Official Opposition.

Mr. Deol, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Meadows, made a statement regarding Government policies concerning health care.

Ms Wright, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview, made a statement regarding the work of teachers.

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

Notice having been given:

Bill 13 Real Property Governance Act — Hon. Mr. Guthrie

Tabling Returns and Reports

MLA Irwin, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood:

Report, dated July 16, 2018, entitled “Actually, Rent Control Is Great: Revisiting Ontario’s Experience, the Supply of Housing, and Security of Tenure,” prepared by Phillip Mendonça-Vieira

Sessional Paper 258/2023-24

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

Copy of a petition signed by 61 Albertans urging the Government to assume caretaking of the Minnie Lake Municipal District Campground from the Municipal District of Bonnyville

Sessional Paper 259/2023-24

Mr. Haji, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Decore:

CBC News website article dated March 21, 2024, entitled “Homeless people in Edmonton are dying at 8 times the rate as pre-pandemic,” relating to comments made by MLA Irwin, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood, during her Member’s Statement on March 20, 2024

Sessional Paper 260/2023-24

Mr. Dach, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung:

Metro Cinema listing for the film Stolen Time

Sessional Paper 261/2023-24

Tablings to the Clerk

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Jones, Minister of Jobs, Economy and Trade:

Responses to questions raised on March 18, 2024, Ministry of Jobs, Economy and Trade, 2024-25 Main Estimates debate

Sessional Paper 262/2023-24

Speaker’s Statement – Order for Consideration of Private Members’ Public Bills

Honourable Members, I would like to take a moment to outline the order of precedence for Private Members’ Bills on Monday, March 25. As Members will note, the long Order Paper for today, which includes private Members’ business, indicates that both Bill 203, Foreign Credential Advisory Committee Act, and Bill 204, Municipal Government (National Urban Parks) Amendment Act, 2023, are due on Day 30 of the projected sitting days calendar. Monday, March 25, will be Day 30, so the question arises: which Bill will receive precedence and, therefore, be dealt with first on Monday afternoon?

The authority for this is Standing Order 9(1), which provides that “All items standing on the Order Paper, except Government Bills and Orders, shall be taken up according to the precedence assigned to each on the Order Paper.” And Standing Order 8(7) provides that a Private Member’s Bill must be called in Committee of the Whole within eight sitting days of receiving Second Reading and within four sitting days after being reported by Committee of the Whole.

While rare, this situation has arisen a number of times in the past. On March 20, 2003, former Speaker Kowalski faced a similar situation, in which Bill 203 was at Committee of the Whole, Bill 202 was at Third Reading, and both Bills were due on the next Private Members’ Day. Speaker Kowalski held that in such instances “the order of precedence is determined by the date and the time that the Assembly or the Committee of the Whole has made its decisions in respect of the Bills.” He concluded that because Bill 203 received Second Reading before Bill 202 was reported out of Committee of the Whole, Bill 203 would be considered in Committee of the Whole before Bill 202 would be considered at Third Reading. Members, I’m sure you will be interested to find Speaker Kowalski’s ruling on pages 650-651 of the March 20, 2003, Alberta Hansard.

In our situation, Bill 204 received Second Reading on March 11, 2024, while Bill 203 was reported out of Committee of the Whole on March 18, 2024. Therefore, the Assembly completed consideration of Bill 204 before it completed consideration of Bill 203. The Assembly shall deal with Bill 204, Municipal Government (National Urban Parks) Amendment Act, 2023, first on Monday afternoon despite both Bills sharing the same due date.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Message From Her Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor

Hon. Mr. Horner, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance, delivered a Message from Her Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor.

The Speaker read the Message to the Assembly (the Members standing).

Hon. Mr. Horner, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance, tabled the following document pursuant to the Sustainable Fiscal Planning and Reporting Act, cS-29, s4(5):

2023-24 Supplementary Supply Estimates, General Revenue Fund, including the 2023-24 Fiscal Plan Update

Sessional Paper 263/2023-24

Government Motions

29. Moved by Hon. Mr. Horner:

Be it resolved that the Message from Her Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor, the 2023-24 Supplementary Supply Estimates for the General Revenue Fund, and all matters connected therewith, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Schow, Government House Leader, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to shorten the interval between division bells to one minute for the duration of the afternoon, including the first division in Committee of Supply.

30. Moved by Hon. Mr. Horner:

Be it resolved that, pursuant to Standing Order 61(2), the Committee of Supply shall be called to consider the 2023-24 Supplementary Supply Estimates for three hours on Monday, March 25, 2024.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

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)

Mr. Getson, Chair, Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future, presented the following report:

Pursuant to Standing Order 59.01(10), the Standing Committee on Alberta's Economic Future has reviewed the 2024-25 proposed estimates and business plans for the Ministries of Advanced Education; Agriculture and Irrigation; Arts, Culture and Status of Women; Executive Council; Immigration and Multiculturalism; Infrastructure; Jobs, Economy and Trade; Technology and Innovation; and Tourism and Sport.

Ms Lovely, Chair, Standing Committee on Families and Communities, presented the following report:

Pursuant to Standing Order 59.01(10), the Standing Committee on Families and Communities has reviewed the 2024-25 proposed estimates and business plans for the Ministries of Children and Family Services; Education; Health; Justice; Mental Health and Addiction; Public Safety and Emergency Services; Seniors, Community and Social Services; and Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction.

Mr. Rowswell, Chair, Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship, presented the following report:

Pursuant to Standing Order 59.01(10), the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship has reviewed the 2024-25 proposed estimates and business plans for the Ministries of Affordability and Utilities; Energy and Minerals; Environment and Protected Areas; Forestry and Parks; Indigenous Relations; Municipal Affairs; Transportation and Economic Corridors; and Treasury Board and Finance.

The question being put on the resolutions for the 2024-25 Government Estimates for the General Revenue Fund for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2025, the motion was agreed to. With Ms Pitt at the Table, the names being called for were taken as follows:

For the motion: 44

Amery	Johnson	Schulz
Armstrong-Homeniuk	Jones	Sigurdson (Highwood)
Boitchenko	LaGrange	Sinclair
Bouchard	Lovely	Singh
Cyr	Lunty	Smith
de Jonge	McDougall	Stephan
Dreeshen	McIver	Turton
Dyck	Nally	van Dijken
Ellis	Neudorf	Wiebe
Fir	Nicolaides	Williams
Getson	Nixon	Wilson
Glubish	Petrovic	Wright (Cypress-Medicine Hat)
Guthrie	Rowswell	Yao
Horner	Sawhney	Yaseen
Hunter	Schow	

Against the motion: 15

Al-Guneid	Gray	Pancholi
Arcand-Paul	Haji	Schmidt
Chapman	Ip	Shepherd
Dach	Irwin	Sigurdson (Edmonton-Riverview)
Eremenko	Kasawski	Tejada

And after some time spent therein, the Speaker resumed the Chair and Ms Pitt reported as follows:

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions of the 2024-25 Offices of the Legislative Assembly, General Revenue Fund, and the 2024-25 Government Estimates, General Revenue Fund, reports as follows, and requests leave to sit again:

Resolved that a sum not exceeding the following be granted to His Majesty for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2025:

Support to the Legislative Assembly	\$84,854,000
Office of the Auditor General	\$29,620,000
Office of the Ombudsman	\$4,574,000
Office of the Chief Electoral Officer	\$11,150,000
Office of the Ethics Commissioner	\$1,021,000
Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner	\$8,714,000
Office of the Child and Youth Advocate	\$16,545,000
Office of the Public Interest Commissioner	\$1,440,000
Advanced Education	
Expense	\$2,749,475,000
Capital Investment	\$50,000
Financial Transactions	\$1,240,200,000
Affordability and Utilities	
Expense	\$41,286,000
Capital Investment	\$25,000
Financial Transactions	\$96,970,000
Agriculture and Irrigation	
Expense	\$779,230,000
Capital Investment	\$5,189,000
Arts, Culture and Status of Women	
Expense	\$253,197,000
Capital Investment	\$2,331,000
Financial Transactions	\$2,325,000
Children and Family Services	
Expense	\$1,147,670,000
Capital Investment	\$2,597,000

Education

Expense	\$5,757,668,000
Capital Investment	\$565,000
Financial Transactions	\$22,179,000

Energy and Minerals

Expense	\$622,438,000
Capital Investment	\$1,478,000

Environment and Protected Areas

Expense	\$559,211,000
Capital Investment	\$65,550,000
Financial Transactions	\$100,000

Executive Council

Expense	\$56,255,000
Capital Investment	\$25,000

Forestry and Parks

Expense	\$364,842,000
Capital Investment	\$128,145,000
Financial Transactions	\$21,310,000

Health

Expense	\$25,672,555,000
Capital Investment	\$29,815,000
Financial Transactions	\$159,196,000

Immigration and Multiculturalism

Expense	\$41,823,000
Capital Investment	\$25,000

Indigenous Relations

Expense	\$215,063,000
Capital Investment	\$25,000

Infrastructure

Expense	\$495,444,000
Capital Investment	\$1,849,050,000
Financial Transactions	\$19,652,000

Jobs, Economy and Trade

Expense	\$1,763,502,000
Capital Investment	\$14,650,000

Justice

Expense	\$674,152,000
Capital Investment	\$14,119,000

Mental Health and Addiction

Expense	\$1,554,712,000
Capital Investment	\$5,025,000

Municipal Affairs

Expense	\$1,267,242,000
Capital Investment	\$550,000

Public Safety and Emergency Services

Expense	\$1,179,216,000
Capital Investment	\$12,275,000
Financial Transactions	\$51,440,000

Seniors, Community and Social Services

Expense	\$5,316,342,000
Capital Investment	\$4,072,000
Financial Transactions	\$19,700,000

Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction

Expense	\$211,573,000
Capital Investment	\$64,447,000
Financial Transactions	\$5,500,000

Technology and Innovation

Expense	\$865,916,000
Capital Investment	\$115,649,000

Tourism and Sport

Expense	\$135,916,000
Capital Investment	\$25,000

Transportation and Economic Corridors

Expense	\$1,910,459,000
Capital Investment	\$1,351,142,000
Financial Transactions	\$155,139,000

Treasury Board and Finance

Expense	\$199,594,000
Capital Investment	\$75,000
Contingency	\$2,000,000,000

The question being put, the report and the request for leave to sit again were agreed to.

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

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

Bill 14 Appropriation Act, 2024 (\$) — Hon. Mr. Horner

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Schow, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 3:12 p.m. until Monday, March 25, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Nathan M. Cooper,
Speaker