



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 79

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

First Session

Thirty-First Legislature

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

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

The Speaker offered a prayer and a moment of silence was observed in recognition of the death of former Members Hon. Gordon J. Graydon, Member for Grande Prairie-Wapiti, 2001 to 2008, who passed away on December 7, 2024; Hon. Hugh Lakin Planche, Member for Calgary-Glenmore, 1975 to 1986, who passed away on December 15, 2024; and Dr. Rajinder “Raj” Singh Pannu, Member for Edmonton-Strathcona, 1997 to 2008, who passed away on January 30, 2025.

Introduction of New Member

The Speaker invited Hon. Ms Gray, Hon. Leader of the Official Opposition, to proceed to the main doors of the Chamber and escort MLA Miyashiro into the Chamber.

The Speaker announced that he had received from the Chief Electoral Officer of Alberta the report of the Returning Officer for the constituency of Lethbridge-West containing the results of the by-election conducted on December 18, 2024, which states that a by-election was held in the constituency of Lethbridge-West and that Rob Miyashiro was duly elected as the Member for Lethbridge-West.

MLA Miyashiro joined Hon. Ms Gray and was escorted to the Mace. Hon. Ms Gray presented MLA Miyashiro to the Speaker, and the Hon. Member for Lethbridge-West took his seat in the Assembly.

Members' Statements

Mr. Shepherd, Hon. Member for Edmonton-City Centre, made a statement regarding allegations of political interference in Alberta Health Services' procurement practices.

Ms de Jonge, Hon. Member for Chestermere-Strathmore, made a statement regarding the Government's recovery model for treating addiction.

Hon. Mr. Schmidt, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar, made a statement regarding allegations of political interference in Alberta Health Services' procurement practices.

Mrs. Petrovic, Hon. Member for Livingstone-Macleod, made a statement regarding Rowan House.

Hon. Ms Hoffman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora, made a statement regarding allegations of political interference in Alberta Health Services' procurement practices.

Hon. MLA Ceci, Hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, made a statement regarding a proposed Alberta music commissioner.

Notices of Motions

Hon. Mr. Schow, Government House Leader, gave oral notice of the intention to move, pursuant to Standing Order 30, to adjourn the ordinary business of the Assembly to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the issue of proposed U.S. tariffs on Canadian products and the impact this will have on Alberta consumers and the Alberta economy.

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

Notice having been given:

Bill 37 Mental Health Services Protection Amendment Act, 2025 — Hon. Mr. Williams

Tabling Returns and Reports

Mr. Wright, Hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat:

Document dated February 8, 2025, entitled "Exclusive: How the RCMP, CBSA, and Trudeau Government Lost U.S. Trust in the Fentanyl Fight," prepared by Sam Cooper, relating to comments made by Mr. Wright in the Assembly on February 25, 2025

Sessional Paper 786/2023-25

Toronto Sun website article dated February 12, 2025, entitled “HUNTER: CBSA officers put border blame on Trudeau, refugee board,” relating to comments made by Mr. Wright in the Assembly on February 25, 2025

Sessional Paper 787/2023-25

Document dated February 13, 2025, entitled “Exclusive: Secretary of State Warned B.C. Mayor U.S. Agencies Are Withholding Evidence Due to Canada’s Legal Loopholes and Lack of Fentanyl Prosecutions,” prepared by Sam Cooper, relating to comments made by Mr. Wright in the Assembly on February 25, 2025

Sessional Paper 788/2023-25

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

E-mail message dated January 22, 2025, from Virginia Hartley to Mr. Haji, regarding the need for increased salaries for educational support staff

Sessional Paper 789/2023-25

MLA Arcand-Paul, Hon. Member for Edmonton-West Henday:

Sherwood Park News website article dated December 12, 2024, entitled “Kevin O’Leary to build world’s largest data centre in Alberta”

Sessional Paper 790/2023-25

Ms Chapman, Hon. Member for Calgary-Beddington:

E-mail message dated February 24, 2025, from Tyne Fox to Ms Chapman, regarding the need for increased salaries for educational support staff

Sessional Paper 791/2023-25

Ms Renaud, Hon. Member for St. Albert:

St. Albert Gazette website article dated February 20, 2025, entitled “Town hall attendees want more detail on new disability program”

Sessional Paper 792/2023-25

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

E-mail message dated January 17, 2025, from Vivian Pastó Arencibia to Mr. Dach, regarding the need for increased salaries for educational support staff

Sessional Paper 793/2023-25

Hon. Mr. Cooper, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to a motion agreed to by the Special Standing Committee on Members’ Services on November 9, 2023:

Special Standing Committee on Members’ Services, Members’ Compensation, Benefits and Allowances Review Subcommittee, Final Report of the Members’ Compensation, Benefits and Allowances Review Subcommittee

Sessional Paper 794/2023-25

Tablings to the Clerk

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Min. LaGrange, Minister of Health, pursuant to the Health Professions Act, cH-7, s4(2):

College of Chiropractors of Alberta 2023-2024 Annual Report
Sessional Paper 795/2023-25

College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Alberta Annual Report 2023-2024
Sessional Paper 796/2023-25

Alberta College of Paramedics 2023-2024 Annual Report
Sessional Paper 797/2023-25

College of Respiratory Therapists of Alberta Annual Report 2023-2024
Sessional Paper 798/2023-25

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Nixon, Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services, pursuant to the Advocate for Persons with Disabilities Act, cA-5.5, s4(2):

Advocate for Persons with Disabilities Annual Report 2023-2024
Sessional Paper 799/2023-25

Pursuant to Standing Order 7(8), Hon. Mr. Schow, Government House Leader, provided notice to the Assembly that the Daily Routine shall continue beyond 3:00 p.m.

Motion for Adjournment for an Emergency Debate

Hon. Mr. Schow, Government House Leader, requested leave to move, pursuant to Standing Order 30, to adjourn the ordinary business of the Assembly to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the issue of proposed U.S. tariffs on Canadian products and the impact this will have on Alberta consumers and the Alberta economy.

A debate followed on urgency.

The Speaker ruled that the request for leave was in order. Leave being granted, the Speaker put the question to the Assembly, which was agreed to unanimously. The Speaker then called upon Hon. Mr. Schow, Government House Leader, to speak to the motion.

A debate on the motion followed pursuant to Standing Order 30(5).

Debate concluded pursuant to Standing Order 30(5)(b).

Intersessional Deposits

Pursuant to Standing Order 38.1(3), the following documents were deposited with the Clerk of the Assembly and are deemed to have been laid before the Assembly:

Mr. Getson, Chair, Select Special Conflicts of Interest Act Review Committee, pursuant to the Conflicts of Interest Act, cC-23, s48:

Select Special Conflicts of Interest Act Review Committee, Final Report, Review of the Conflicts of Interest Act, Thirty-First Legislature, First Session, January 2025, deposited on January 14, 2025

Sessional Paper 778/2023-25

Hon. Mr. Nally, Minister of Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction, pursuant to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, cF-25, s86:

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Annual Report 2023-2024, deposited on January 27, 2025

Sessional Paper 779/2023-25

Hon. Mr. Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, pursuant to the Farm Implement and Dealership Act, cF-7, s42(2):

Farmers' Advocate Office updated Annual Report 2023-2024, deposited on February 12, 2025

Sessional Paper 780/2023-25

Hon. Mr. Cooper, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to the Legislative Assembly Act, cL-9, s39(3):

Special Standing Committee on Members' Services Constituency Services Amendment Order, 2025, MSC Order No. 01/25, deposited on February 13, 2025

Sessional Paper 781/2023-25

Special Standing Committee on Members' Services Members' Allowances Amendment Order, 2025, MSC Order No. 02/25, deposited on February 13, 2025

Sessional Paper 782/2023-25

Special Standing Committee on Members' Services Executive Council Salaries and Members' Committee Allowances Amendment Order, 2025, MSC Order No. 03/25, deposited on February 13, 2025

Sessional Paper 783/2023-25

Mr. Rowswell, Chair, Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship, pursuant to the Personal Information Protection Act, cP-6.5, s63(2):

Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship Final Report – Review of the Personal Information Protection Act, Thirty-First Legislature, First Session, February 2025, deposited on February 21, 2025

Sessional Paper 784/2023-25

Mr. Getson, Chair, Standing Committee on Legislative Offices, pursuant to the Child and Youth Advocate Act, cC-11.5, s21(4):

Standing Committee on Legislative Offices Report on the Review of the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate 2023-2024 Annual Report, deposited on February 24, 2025

Sessional Paper 785/2023-25

Adjournment

Pursuant to Standing Order 4(2), the Assembly adjourned at 6:00 p.m. until Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Nathan M. Cooper,
Speaker

Title: Tuesday, February 25, 2025