



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 90

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

First Session

Thirty-First Legislature

Monday, March 24, 2025

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

Members' Statements

Mr. Cyr, Hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul, made a statement regarding Government investments to support cancer care.

MLA Calahoo Stonehouse, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Rutherford, made a statement regarding the views of Alberta New Democratic Party Leader Naheed Nenshi concerning the actions and policies of the Premier.

Mr. Lundy, Hon. Member for Leduc-Beaumont, made a statement regarding the lack of support from the New Democratic Party for Albertans in the Edmonton Capital Region.

Mr. Dach, Hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung, made a statement regarding the need for the Government to support Canadian unity and values amid proposed trade tariffs.

Mr. Wright, Hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat, made a statement regarding his recent appointment as Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health (South).

Ms Al-Guneid, Hon. Member for Calgary-Glenmore, made a statement regarding the Alberta Energy Regulator and its board.

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

Notice having been given:

Bill 47 Automobile Insurance Act — Hon. Mr. Horner

Tabling Returns and Reports

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

Publication dated March 2025, entitled “Zine & Heard: Amplifying Voices of Youth from Care”

Sessional Paper 890/2023-25

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

9 e-mail messages to MLA Irwin, expressing concern regarding funding cuts to the Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton

Sessional Paper 891/2023-25

Ms Renaud, Hon. Member for St. Albert:

St. Albert Gazette article dated March 20, 2025, entitled “Municipalities want end to oil and gas property tax loopholes”

Sessional Paper 892/2023-25

Report dated June 2024, entitled “Feedback for the Third Comprehensive Review of the Market Basket Measure: Assessing the Inequity of the Market Basket Measure in Measuring Poverty for People with Disabilities in Canada,” prepared by Inclusion Canada

Sessional Paper 893/2023-25

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

Calgary Herald website article dated March 24, 2025, entitled “2-week old Smith interview drives Day 1 of election”

Sessional Paper 894/2023-25

Hon. Ms Hoffman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora:

St. Albert Gazette article dated March 20, 2025, entitled “Alberta ERs closed for 34,400 hours in 2024”

Sessional Paper 895/2023-25

Ms Pancholi, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Whitemud:

Letter dated March 11, 2025, from Kimberley Ketsa to Hon. Ms Smith, Premier, President of Executive Council, and Minister of Intergovernmental Relations, expressing concern regarding funding cuts to the Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton

Sessional Paper 896/2023-25

Tablings to the Clerk

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Long, Minister of Infrastructure:

Response to Motion for a Return 16, asked for by Mr. Deol on November 18, 2024
Sessional Paper 897/2023-25

Response to Motion for a Return 18, asked for by Mr. Deol on November 18, 2024
Sessional Paper 898/2023-25

Clerk of the Assembly on behalf of Hon. Mr. Wilson, Minister of Indigenous Relations:

Metis Settlements Appeal Tribunal Annual Report 2024
Sessional Paper 899/2023-25

Privilege – Incident Between Members

The Speaker invited Ms Pancholi, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Whitemud, to comment on a purported question of privilege raised by Hon. Mr. Williams, Deputy Government House Leader, on March 19, 2025, regarding an incident which occurred March 18, 2025, within the parliamentary precincts, in which the Hon. Member for Edmonton-Whitemud allegedly used abusive language and harassed the Hon. Minister of Seniors, Community and Social Services.

Apology by Member

Ms Pancholi, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Whitemud, apologized for her conduct. The Speaker accepted the apology.

Speaker's Statement – Incident Between Members

Hon. members, the Hon. Member for Edmonton-Whitemud has apologized and, as is typically our custom here in Alberta on purported matters of privilege, an apology ends the matter. That's not to say that the Speaker provides no comment on such actions that take place in the Assembly, and I have a number of comments for the Assembly this afternoon.

It is not impossible, notwithstanding the apology, that a contempt for the Assembly may have been likely, but a breach of privilege seemed unlikely. I would however, like to add that if a prima facie case breach is found on a matter of privilege, the Speaker is well within their right and would retain the latitude to entertain a motion to refer the matter to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing despite it not being the traditional precedent of the Assembly. For clarity's sake, should the Speaker find a matter of privilege in the future, the Speaker ought to take into consideration that apology, should it be made, and may still consider a motion to send the matter of privilege to the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections, Standing Orders and Printing. With that said, in the case of the Member for Edmonton-Whitemud I do accept the apology and consider this matter having been dealt with and concluded.

Before we proceed, I have further commentary to add that I would like the Assembly to consider in this matter. It should be known that I'm aware of what was said in the Chamber following the adjournment of the Assembly on March 18, 2025, as acknowledged by the Member for Edmonton-Whitemud and heard by Members of the Assembly. Those comments are more than a little concerning. This type of language is entirely inappropriate in any workplace and certainly is unbecoming of the Member.

The Hon. Member for Edmonton-Whitemud and I are both parents, as was on display here in the Assembly, and I hope that today can be a lesson that all Members will learn from. While I have no direct knowledge of what was said following the adjournment, if these statements were true, the conduct would be an egregious breach of parliamentary decorum. The language should be considered the most unparliamentary. This sort of behaviour ought to be condemned in the strongest possible way and has no place in our workplace in the Assembly or anywhere in the precinct. I am disappointed in the Member's conduct, but I appreciate the fulsome apology that she has made today. Other Members might be well served to take note of the sincere apology that was made today by the Hon. Member for Edmonton-Whitemud, and I hope that it impacts her conduct in the future.

With that said, over the past 24 months there have been multiple occasions where Members' conduct has been called into question and Members on both sides of the Assembly have, at times, felt unsafe in their workplace. Furthermore, there have been, additionally, deeply concerning workplace interactions involving other Members that have happened around the precinct, and in some cases these incidents may be described as workplace harassment. I believe Members should be held to a higher standard. I am convinced that we must take strides to address such poor conduct as we have seen here and that followed last week.

I am not certain that the comments and behaviours such as the ones that are under scrutiny today are best dealt with through the mechanism of a question of privilege. It should be known that most parliaments across Canada have conduct codes dealing with Member-to-Member issues of workplace interactions. Alberta, however, does not. So in treating this as an ongoing and serious matter, I am calling a meeting of the Special Standing Committee on Members' Services on April 15 to discuss the matter of a Member code of conduct. In the meantime order and decorum ought to be at the very top of mind for all Members of the Assembly.

I consider this matter dealt with and concluded.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders

Third Reading

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

Bill 206 Child and Youth Advocate (Parent and Guardian Liaison) Amendment Act,
2024 — Mr. Cyr

A debate followed.

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

For the motion: 46

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

Against the motion: 12

Arcand-Paul	Dach	Miyashiro
Brar	Haji	Renaud
Ceci	Hoffman	Sabir
Chapman	Ip	Tejada

The following Bill was read a Third time and passed:

Bill 206 Child and Youth Advocate (Parent and Guardian Liaison) Amendment Act,
2024 — Mr. Cyr

Hon. Mr. Amery, Deputy Government House Leader, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to waive Standing Order 8(1) in order to immediately proceed to consideration of Motions Other Than Government Motions.

Motions Other Than Government Motions

520. Moved by Mr. Boitchenko:

Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the federal government to recognize the Government of Alberta's

- (a) role as a reliable and responsible energy supplier, and
- (b) efforts to
 - (i) become a global commercial energy hub for natural gas transportation and liquid extraction, and
 - (ii) bring Alberta energy products to international markets based on the demand for ethically sourced oil and gas and worldwide energy security.

A debate followed.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to. With Ms Pitt in the Chair, the names being called for were taken as follows:

For the motion: 57

Amery	Haji	Petrovic
Arcand-Paul	Hoffman	Renaud
Armstrong-Homeniuk	Hunter	Rowswell
Boitchenko	Ip	Sabir
Bouchard	Jean	Sawhney
Brar	Johnson	Schow
Ceci	Jones	Schulz
Chapman	LaGrange	Sigurdson <small>(Highwood)</small>
Cyr	Loewen	Singh
Dach	Long	Stephan
de Jonge	Lovely	Tejada
Dreeshen	Lunty	Turton
Dyck	McDougall	van Dijken
Eggen	McIver	Wiebe
Ellis	Miyashiro	Williams
Elmeligi	Nally	Wilson
Fir	Neudorf	Wright <small>(Cypress-Medicine Hat)</small>
Getson	Nicolaides	Yao
Glubish	Nixon	Yaseen

Against the motion: 0

Hon. Mr. Amery, Deputy Government House Leader, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to waive Standing Order 8(1) in order to consider Government Business for the remainder of the afternoon sitting.

Government Bills and Orders

Second Reading

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

Bill 38 Red Tape Reduction Statutes Amendment Act, 2025 — Hon. Mr. Nally

A debate followed.

Debate adjourned, Hon. MLA Ceci speaking.

Adjournment

The Assembly adjourned at 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025 — 7:30 P.M.

Committee of Supply (Supplementary Supply Estimates)

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

(Assembly in Committee)

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

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee of Supply has had under consideration certain resolutions of the 2024-25 Supplementary Supply Estimates for the 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, for the purposes indicated:

Arts, Culture and Status of Women

Expense \$405,000

Energy and Minerals

Expense \$41,651,000

Environment and Protected Areas

Financial Transactions \$3,291,000

Forestry and Parks

Expense \$251,378,000

Health

Expense \$26,200,000

Immigration and Multiculturalism

Expense \$809,000

Indigenous Relations

Expense \$3,353,000

Jobs, Economy and Trade

Expense \$91,631,000

Capital Investment \$3,887,000

Municipal Affairs

Expense \$9,381,000

Public Safety and Emergency Services

Expense \$45,479,000

Technology and Innovation

Financial Transactions \$15,000,000

Committee of Supply has also approved the following amounts to be transferred:

Transfer from **Health** Expense vote
to **Mental Health and Addiction** Expense vote \$137,502,000

Transfer from **Arts, Culture and Status of Women** Expense vote:

to **Children and Family Services** Expense vote \$7,250,000

to **Indigenous Relations** Expense vote \$1,363,000

to **Justice** Expense vote \$2,100,000

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 43 Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2025 (\$) — Hon. Mr. Horner

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Schow, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 9:42 p.m. until Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Nathan M. Cooper,
Speaker