



**Legislative Assembly
Province of Alberta**

No. 2

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

First Session

Twenty-Fifth Legislature

Wednesday, April 11, 2001

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 Member Mr. William Kenneth Ure, Member for Red Deer, 1959 to 1971, who passed away on February 4, 2001.

Presenting Petitions

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre, presented a petition from 125 Edmonton and Sherwood Park residents regarding the implementation of a rent control system.

Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, presented a petition from 25 Lacombe and Stettler residents regarding the payment of Stockwell Day's legal costs by the Government.

Mr. Bonner, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glengarry, presented a petition from 36 Edmonton, Red Deer and Edson residents regarding the payment of Stockwell Day's legal costs by the Government.

Dr. Pannu, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona, presented a petition from 150 Albertans regarding funding for women's shelters and transition houses.

Introduction of Bills (First Reading)

Notice having been given:

Bill 201 Public Highways Development Amendment Act, 2001 — Mr. Tannas

Bill 202 Insurance Statutes (Gender Premium Equity) Amendment Act, 2001 —
Mrs. O'Neill

Tabling Returns and Reports

Dr. Pannu, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Strathcona:

Letter dated March 29, 2001, from His Worship Mayor Bill Smith, City of Edmonton, to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing Edmonton City Council's support and endorsement for the Alberta Open Space Program as proposed by His Worship Mayor Al Duerr, City of Calgary

Sessional Paper 3/2001

Mr. Mason, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Highlands:

Reader's Digest article dated 1987, entitled "A Loving Principal" regarding Alex Taylor Community School, Edmonton

Sessional Paper 4/2001

Dr. Massey, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Woods:

Petition signed by 295 Calgary residents expressing opposition to the closure of Glenmeadows Elementary School in Calgary

Sessional Paper 5/2001

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre:

Pamphlet entitled "Family Violence. You can stop it. We may be able to help." prepared by the Protection and Restraining Order Project (PROP)

Sessional Paper 6/2001

Mr. MacDonald, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar:

Press release dated December 15, 1992, entitled "Klein Announces Reduced Cabinet" prepared by the Government of Alberta

Sessional Paper 7/2001

Mr. Bonner, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glengarry:

Letter, undated, from Ron Tyler of Didsbury to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, encouraging the designation of the Bighorn area as a wildland park

Sessional Paper 8/2001

Red Deer Advocate article dated February 16, 2001, entitled "You Can Help Save Bighorn Wildlife Park" sent to Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, from Dorothy Cornery of Red Deer

Sessional Paper 9/2001

Letter dated March 20, 2001, from Keith Brown of High River to Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, expressing opposition to further oil development in the Bighorn Wildland Park

Sessional Paper 10/2001

Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie:

E-mail message dated April 4, 2001, from Therese Carignan of Bellevue to Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie, expressing opposition to a coal generator being located in the Crowsnest Pass

Sessional Paper 11/2001

E-mail message dated April 4, 2001, from Dorothy Dickson of Innisfail to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, expressing opposition regarding proposed development near Waterton Lakes National Park

Sessional Paper 12/2001

Letter dated February 6, 2001, from Chris and Betty Harvey of Blutton to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, encouraging the designation of the Bighorn area as a wildland park

Sessional Paper 13/2001

Letter dated February 17, 2001, from Kevin Lingrell of Fort Saskatchewan to Hon. Mr. Klein, Premier, encouraging the designation of the Bighorn area as a wildland park

Sessional Paper 14/2001

Hon. Mr. Smith, Minister of Energy:

News release dated April 11, 2001, entitled "TransCanada continues to Build Power Business - Company to Develop Fifth Alberta Power Plant" prepared by TransCanada

Sessional Paper 15/2001

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

House Leader Agreement for the 25th Legislature signed by the House Leader of the Government of Alberta, the House Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, and the House Leader of the Third Party New Democrat Opposition

Sessional Paper 16/2001

Revised Members' Services Committees Orders No. 1/00 Constituency Services Amendment Order (No. 6), No. 2/00 Constituency Services Amendment Order (No. 7), and No. 3/00 Administrative and Constituency Services, Amendment Order (No. 1)

Sessional Paper 17/2001

Hon. Mr. Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to Election
Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act, cE-3, s3(2):

Chief Electoral Officer, 23rd Annual Report for the calendar year 1999

Sessional Paper 19/2001

Speaker's Statement - Oral Question Period, Members' Statements and Recognitions

There are a few matters that the Chair would like to address before we progress in the
Daily Routine to the first Oral Question Period of the 25th Legislature of the Province
of Alberta.

From the tablings today, Honourable Members are aware that there was an agreement
reached Tuesday, April 10, 2001 among House Leaders concerning certain changes as
to how the Assembly will conduct certain aspects of its business. In the Chair's view
it is a very, very positive step when Members can agree on how they will conduct the
people's business. That is why the Chair was pleased to acknowledge the Agreement.
However, Honourable Members, while the words are important, this Agreement, like
most things in the Assembly, relies on the goodwill of Members to succeed.

The scope of the Agreement will necessitate some changes to the Standing Orders of
the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. Some will be temporary. A motion to give effect
to the changes agreed to by House Leaders is required. The wording of the actual
motion will be reviewed by the House Leaders and the Speaker before it is introduced
in the Assembly. Some changes concerning Recognitions, the number of Members'
Statements and the singing of O Canada may be the subject of a certain request today
so that the changes will be in force for the brief period before the motion to amend the
Standing Orders is before the Assembly.

There were a few issues that House Leaders were unable to agree upon which must be
addressed by the Chair. One of these issues is the rotation of questions during Question
Period. This aspect of our daily proceedings is fundamentally important to this
Legislative Assembly. The book House of Commons: Procedure and Practice states
at page 415:

"The right to seek information from the Ministry of the day and the right to
hold the Ministry accountable are recognized as two of the fundamental
principles of parliamentary government. Members exercise these rights
principally by asking questions in the House. The importance of questions
within the parliamentary system cannot be overemphasized, and the search
for or clarification of information through questioning is a vital aspect of the
duties undertaken by individual Members."

Members will note that our Standing Orders are silent on the conduct of Question Period. They only say that it shall be in the Daily Routine and be 50 minutes long. It is now established practice in this Assembly that each Member asking a question is entitled to a main question which may have a brief preamble and two supplementary questions which must not have a preamble. This practice will continue for the 25th Legislature.

The Chair has reviewed the practices in every jurisdiction in Canada. Question Periods vary in length from 15 minutes to one hour. There is no consistent practice or rotation across jurisdictions. Not all Assemblies allow Members of the Government caucus to ask many, or in some cases, any questions. In Alberta, Members of the Government caucus are recognized out of respect for the contributions that can be made by individual Members, and, of course, their numbers.

In Alberta, the Official Opposition has been entitled to ask the first three main questions since 1993. The Chair sees no reason to depart from this practice. The Third Party, which is two seats short of having official party status under the Legislative Assembly Act, will continue to be entitled to the fourth question each day. A Private Member from the Government caucus will be entitled to the fifth question. The Official Opposition will be recognized for the 6th, 8th and 10th questions and Government Members for the 7th and 9th question.

In recognition of the results of the last election, the Third Party New Democrats will be entitled to the 11th question each day. A Member from the Government side will be entitled to the 12th. The Official Opposition will have the 13th question. If time permits, the 14th and subsequent questions would go to Government Members.

The practice of Caucuses submitting lists to the Speaker's Office by 1 o'clock of those Members wishing to ask questions that day will continue. In accordance with traditions of the Assembly, the Speaker will ultimately retain discretion when it comes to recognizing Members during Question Period.

The Chair wishes to remind all Honourable Members that brevity in questions and answers is of fundamental importance. Although there is no time limit in this Assembly for questions and answers, the Chair notes that the House of Commons imposes a time limit of 35 seconds for each question and answer.

The Chair will continue to apply the rules of decorum that are expected by the citizens of this Province who have honoured Members by electing them to this Legislative Assembly.

On Members' Statements, the House Leaders' Agreement will increase the number from three to four when this item is called on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Three Members from the Government side will be entitled to make statements on Tuesday and two on Thursdays. The combined Opposition will be entitled to one Members' Statement on Tuesday and two on Thursday. As the decision on the distribution of these Members' Statements between the opposition is undecided, the Chair rules that

they will be distributed in accordance with the respective sizes of the two Opposition caucuses. For every seven Statements by Members of the Official Opposition, the Third Party will have two. In practice, after four Member's Statements by Official Opposition Members, the Third Party will be entitled to one statement and, after the next three statements by Members of the Official Opposition, the Third Party will be entitled to another one. Effective tomorrow, April 12, 2001, Government Members will have 2 Members' Statements and the Official Opposition two.

The same formula will apply to Recognitions. Members of the Government caucus will be entitled to five Recognitions on Mondays and Wednesdays with the Opposition being entitled to two Recognitions. After Official Opposition Members have had four Recognitions, the Third Party will have one, then after the next three by the Official Opposition, the Third Party will have another one.

In the event these allocations are not being utilized, the Chair will use its discretion to ensure this important chance for Members to address the Assembly is not foreclosed.

As events unfold during the life of the 25th Legislature, the Chair may have to revisit the arrangements that are the subject of this statement.

Unanimous Consent Request by Deputy Government House Leader

Hon. Mr. Stevens, Deputy Government House Leader, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to allow Recognitions to proceed today and the next Sitting Monday; to increase the number of Members' Statements to four; and to allow for the singing of the National Anthem on the first Sitting day of each week, as identified in the House Leader Agreement, until the Standing Orders are changed.

Recognitions

Mrs. O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert: Dr. John Paterson, University of Alberta professor, given the distinguished educator award by the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education

Ms Carlson, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Ellerslie: passing away of Edmonton artist Alice Tyler, February 5, 2001

Mr. Goudreau, Hon. Member for Dunvegan: junior boys and girls curling teams from Grimshaw and Peace River, on winning the Alberta Provincial Junior Championships, March 9-11, 2001, and the Western Canadian Junior Championships, March 29-April 1, 2001

Ms Blakeman, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre: first anniversary of the incorporation of the Protection and Restraining Order Project as a society

Mr. Herard, Hon. Member for Calgary-Egmont: Heebee-Jeebees group of Calgary on winning the Contemporary A Cappella Society awards for best comedy album and best comedy song

Mr. Hutton, Hon. Member for Edmonton-Glenora: opening of new science lab at Britannia Junior High School

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Written Questions and Motions for Returns

The Speaker advised the Assembly that, pursuant to Standing Order 8(3), Written Questions and Motions for Returns would normally be addressed at this time, however, these items could not be dealt with today as they had not met the notice requirement of Standing Order 38.

Public Bills and Orders Other Than Government Bills and Orders

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to waive Standing Order 73(1) allowing for the Second Reading consideration of the following Bill:

Bill 201 Public Highways Development Amendment Act, 2001 — Mr. Tannas

Second Reading

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

Bill 201 Public Highways Development Amendment Act, 2001 — Mr. Tannas

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

For the motion: 12

Abbott	Coutts	Shariff
Bonner	MacDonald	Taft
Cao	Mason	Tannas
Carlson	Nicol	Woloshyn

Against the motion: 45

Ady	Hlady	McFarland
Broda	Horner	Melchin
Cenaiko	Hutton	Norris
Danyluk	Jablonski	O'Neill
DeLong	Jacobs	Ouellette
Doerksen	Jonson	Rathgeber
Ducharme	Knight	Renner
Dunford	Lord	Smith
Forsyth	Lougheed	Snelgrove
Friedel	Lukaszuk	Stevens
Goudreau	Marz	Strang
Graydon	Maskell	Tarchuk
Haley	Masyk	Taylor
Hancock	McClellan	VanderBurg
Herard	McClelland	Vandermeer

Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, requested and received the unanimous consent of the Assembly to waive Standing Order 73(1) allowing for the Second Reading consideration of the following Bill:

Bill 202 Insurance Statutes (Gender Premium Equity) Amendment Act, 2001 —
Mrs. O'Neill

Second Reading

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

Bill 202 Insurance Statutes (Gender Premium Equity) Amendment Act, 2001 —
Mrs. O'Neill

During Second Reading of Bill 202, Mrs. O'Neill tabled the following:

Letter dated February 17, 2000, from Christopher McDonald of Spruce Grove to
Mrs. O'Neill, Hon. Member for St. Albert, expressing support for Bill 202,
Insurance Statutes (Gender Premium Equity) Amendment Act, 2001
Sessional Paper 20/2001

A debate followed.

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

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned
at 5:27 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Government Motions

5. Moved by Hon. Mr. Stevens on behalf of Hon. Mr. Hancock:

Be it resolved that, when the Assembly adjourns on Thursday, April 12, 2001, at the regular hour of 5:30 p.m., it shall stand adjourned for three sitting days until Monday, April 23, 2001, at 1:30 p.m.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

Consideration of Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor's Speech

Moved by Mrs. Tarchuk and seconded by Mr. Maskell:

That an humble address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor as follows:

To Her Honour Mrs. Lois E. Hole, the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Alberta:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly, now assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious speech Your Honour has been pleased to address to us at the opening of the present session.

A debate followed.

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

Adjournment

On motion by Hon. Mr. Hancock, Government House Leader, the Assembly adjourned at 10:07 p.m. until Thursday, April 12, 2001, at 1:30 p.m.

Hon. Ken Kowalski,
Speaker

Title: Wednesday, April 11, 2001