



Province of Alberta

The 29th Legislature
Second Session

Alberta Hansard

Thursday afternoon, June 2, 2016

Day 38

The Honourable Robert E. Wanner, Speaker

Legislative Assembly of Alberta
The 29th Legislature

Second Session

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Jabbour, Deborah C., Peace River (ND), Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees
Sweet, Heather, Edmonton-Manning (ND), Deputy Chair of Committees

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Anderson, Shaye, Leduc-Beaumont (ND)
Anderson, Wayne, Highwood (W)
Babcock, Erin D., Stony Plain (ND)
Barnes, Drew, Cypress-Medicine Hat (W)
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Carlier, Hon. Oneil, Whitecourt-St. Anne (ND),
Deputy Government House Leader
Carson, Jonathon, Edmonton-Meadowlark (ND)
Ceci, Hon. Joe, Calgary-Fort (ND)
Clark, Greg, Calgary-Elbow (AP)
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Coolahan, Craig, Calgary-Klein (ND)
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Cortes-Vargas, Estefania, Strathcona-Sherwood Park (ND),
Government Whip
Cyr, Scott J., Bonnyville-Cold Lake (W),
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Fraser, Rick, Calgary-South East (PC)
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Gill, Prab, Calgary-Greenway (PC)
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Renaud, Marie F., St. Albert (ND)
Rodney, Dave, Calgary-Lougheed (PC)
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Starke, Dr. Richard, Vermilion-Lloydminster (PC),
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Stier, Pat, Livingstone-Macleod (W)
Strankman, Rick, Drumheller-Stettler (W)
Sucha, Graham, Calgary-Shaw (ND)
Swann, Dr. David, Calgary-Mountain View (AL)
Taylor, Wes, Battle River-Wainwright (W)
Turner, Dr. A. Robert, Edmonton-Whitemud (ND)
van Dijken, Glenn, Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock (W)
Westhead, Cameron, Banff-Cochrane (ND),
Deputy Government Whip
Woollard, Denise, Edmonton-Mill Creek (ND)
Yao, Tany, Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo (W)

Party standings:

New Democrat: 54 Wildrose: 22 Progressive Conservative: 9 Alberta Liberal: 1 Alberta Party: 1

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Legislative Assembly of Alberta

1:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 2, 2016

[The Speaker in the chair]

The Speaker: Good afternoon. Please be seated.

Introduction of Guests

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Calgary-Greenway.

Mr. Gill: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have the great honour and privilege of introducing to you and through you to all members of this Assembly Mr. Balbir Choudary and Mrs. Shobha Choudary, the parents of my dear friend Raj, who is like a brother to me in many ways. I'm also happy to introduce Mr. Dheeraj Chawla; his wife, Ruhi Chawla; and their son Samarth Chawla. Dheeraj is a valued friend who has helped me immensely in a variety of areas. I would ask my guests to stand and receive the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Leduc-Beaumont.

Mr. S. Anderson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my absolute pleasure today to rise and introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly grade 6 classes from St. Benedict school in Leduc in the STAR Catholic school division. Students from each class have recently written to me regarding their upcoming field day that they're all very excited about, and from the sounds of it, it should be a fantastic day. The students are joined here today by parent helpers Dawn Fereday and Mrs. Sherrill Gering and teachers Ms Mandy Hauger and Mrs. Vanessa Jones. I'd ask that all the students, teachers, and parents rise, and can we please give them the warm welcome of this House.

The Speaker: Welcome.

Hon. members, are there any other school groups today?
For guests, the Minister of Economic Development and Trade.

Mr. Bilous: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly Mr. Jayson Miller. Jayson is here representing Building Hope, a Nazarene compassionate ministry. He and his colleagues help families in need with hot meals, clothing, and drop-in activities. Building Hope started in the Beverly neighbourhood more than 15 years ago, and they build meaningful relationships and create a sense of community. I thank Jayson for his incredible dedication and ask him to rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

The Speaker: Welcome.

The hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat.

Mr. Barnes: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my privilege to introduce to you and through you to all members of the Assembly Les Landry and his service dog, Annie, from Cypress-Medicine Hat. Les has used his personal experience with posttraumatic stress disorder to serve the community through the various organizations he is very active in. Les is also the founding president of Respect the Service Dog, an organization to raise awareness about service dogs in society, and also started the Medicine Hat trauma and stress network. The support network holds weekly meetings and offers a support line for people struggling with PTSD. If Les and Annie could now rise, I ask that all members join me in welcoming him

and Annie and wishing them all the best in all their efforts to serve Albertans.

The Speaker: Welcome.

The hon. Member for Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater.

Mr. Piquette: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my great pleasure today to introduce to you and through to the members of this Assembly the Jardine family, who are visiting me from beautiful Calling Lake in Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater. This visit was actually occasioned by Robert Jardine, who is a grade 8 student at Edwin Par composite school, keenly interested in politics, and actually campaigned and won the student vote for me at Edwin Par school. It's great to have supporters like that. He's joined here by his sister Anna, who's a grade 6 student at Landing Trail intermediate school; his mother, Charity Jardine, who is taking a master's in cultural studies from Athabasca University and is the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth scholarship as well as the aboriginal graduate student award and wanted to have an opportunity to thank the government and the people of Alberta for supporting her in her studies; and finally, Ken Jardine, who operates the water treatment plant in Calling Lake. I would ask the Jardines to please rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

The Speaker: Welcome.

The Member for Edmonton-South West.

Mr. Dang: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If you'll indulge me, I have two groups of guests today. The first is Joshua Buck and Blaire Christensen, who are my two very dedicated, hard-working constituency assistants. They do the hard work of making sure that the e-mails, telephone calls, and occasionally a fax get answered when I'm here in session. If they'd please rise. I would like to point out that, much to my being very upset about this, Blaire is actually going to be leaving me this fall to pursue her master of social work at the University of Calgary. If the House would please give them the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I also have a second guest, thank you very much. It's my good friend Matthew Reeves. I've known Matt for a number of years here. Back at the U of A when I was in the Delta Upsilon fraternity, he was my president. He completed his kinesiology degree at the U of A. Why I really wanted to introduce Matt today is that I consider him to be a hero because over the last few weeks and months – he is a wildfire firefighter – he's been fighting in the Peace River and Slave Lake regions, actually just returning home from his shift last night. He'll be redeployed on Monday to continue to do the good work of protecting Albertans. Thank you, Matt, and could he please receive the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly as well.

The Speaker: Welcome. Hon. member, those staff: do they write those speeches for you?

Are there any other guests today, hon. members? The Government House Leader.

Mr. Mason: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I have two. It's my pleasure to rise today and introduce to you and through you to other members of this Assembly Mr. Alf White, who is the president of the Boyle Street Community League association in my great constituency of Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood. He does good work on behalf of his community. I would like him to rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

The Speaker: Welcome.

Mr. Mason: I have a second, Mr. Speaker. Also today attending the session is Mrs. Angela Johnson, who is a social work student at NorQuest College. She is presently doing her student practicum in my constituency office and has been doing an outstanding job helping my constituents. I'd like Mrs. Johnson to please stand and receive the traditional warm welcome of the Assembly.

The Speaker: Welcome.

Now the hon. Member for Peace River.

Ms Jabbour: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've got a school group here doing School at the Leg. this week from Good Shepherd in Peace River. They were formally introduced on Tuesday, but they had such a great time here that they're back again today. I would just like to have them stand and receive our welcome again. Thank you for coming back.

The Speaker: Are there any other guests? Battle River-Wainwright.

Mr. Taylor: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm really pleased to be able to introduce my lovely wife and daughter, who are here today. This time I actually get to introduce my daughter as well. She's graduated, now, with her education degree from Ambrose college. Would you please rise and accept the warm welcome of the Assembly.

The Speaker: Welcome.

The hon. Minister of Service Alberta and Status of Women.

Ms McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is a great pleasure to introduce to you and through you today staff from Service Alberta who worked on two significant pieces of legislation this session, the Fair Trading Amendment Act, 2016, and An Act to End Predatory Lending. These public servants have worked diligently to provide their best advice and to protect Albertans. Although they are a small group, they have done very heavy lifting to ensure higher standards of fairness for all Albertans. I am very pleased to have them here with us today, and I'll ask them to stand as I call their names. They are Colin Lloyd, assistant deputy minister of consumer and registry services; Di Nugent; Nathan Stelnicki; Sarah Leonard; Claudette Dunsing; Twyla Job; Brent Kornack; Katherine Olson; Trevor Bergen; Robert Whittaker; Scott Seymour; Marty Schwartz; Deb Wagar; and, last but not least, Rob Phillips.

1:40

I've saved Mr. Phillips for last not to embarrass him but to point out that this past Tuesday he retired after 34 years of exemplary public service, Mr. Speaker. Rob, with a lifetime of professional achievement now behind you, I want to express the gratitude of myself and this Assembly for your years of diligent public service to the province of Alberta and to all Albertans. Nowhere was this more evident than in your efforts and work on the consultations for and drafting of An Act to End Predatory Lending. We all wish you a long and happy retirement. I'll ask that this House please join me in celebrating these officials and Rob, on his retirement, and give them the warm welcome of this Assembly.

The Speaker: Welcome.

Members' Statements

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Leduc-Beaumont.

Farmer's Day

Mr. S. Anderson: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Nearly 100 years ago United Farmers of Alberta recognized the importance of setting aside a special day each year to honour farmers, declaring that every second Friday in June would be Farmer's Day. Formal acknowledgement has not been widely observed, but this year UFA is leading the revitalization of Farmer's Day on June 10. It will be a day to celebrate the unwavering spirit, hard work, and contribution of Alberta's farmers. I have the utmost respect for farmers, and I am proud to come from a family who worked and continue to work the land.

Agriculture in Alberta is our shared history. Sharing this story is more important than ever as we seek to raise the profile of the industry in a challenging economy. My constituency of Leduc-Beaumont is home to an incredibly rich agricultural history, and I'd like to share some of it with you today. The Ellett farm, north of Beaumont, has been growing grain and raising hogs for 129 years, Mr. Speaker. For five generations the Wedmanville farm has raised horses, produced beef, dairy, and grain. We also have the home of the Villettard egg farm. The Goudreau farm near Beaumont was started by some of the first homesteaders to arrive in the area from Montreal in 1894. The Bérubé family dairy farm is home to one of the founding families of Beaumont, operating since the late 1880s.

Mr. Speaker, we must recognize the contribution that farming families like these have made. This province was founded by farmers, it has been built and grown by farmers, and it continues to be supported by farmers. Demand for Alberta's agriculture products is high, and our farmers are world class. This is truly an industry worth celebrating on June 10. So please, everyone, make sure that you recognize our farmers and thank them for working so hard, day in and day out, providing the backbone of this great province.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Livingstone-Macleod.

Municipal Funding

Mr. Stier: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier this week the Minister of Municipal Affairs introduced the long-awaited amendments and the new, modernized Municipal Government Act. The MGA hasn't had a thorough review in nearly two decades, and it was high time it was dusted off and looked over.

I've been an active member of my community for more years than I care to admit. I spent several of those years as an active member on boards and as a councillor for the MD of Foothills. Unfortunately, the issue of critical importance that still remains today is the lack of long-term, stable, predictable funding that accounts for inflation and population.

Municipalities are the level of government closest to the people, and Wildrose believes that more decision-making authority should rest with local elected officials. That's why our approach is to empower cities, towns, counties, and municipal districts to meet their own individual planning needs and to take the politics out of funding decisions at the provincial level. I was hopeful that the years of stakeholder consultations and research would have addressed this glaring issue; however, I along with the municipal leaders across the province were disappointed to see that this glaring issue remains today completely ignored by the proposed legislation. Until this issue is addressed in a meaningful and purposeful manner, our municipal partners will continue to bear the burden of this government's neglect.

Albertans deserve to know just how much more they will be paying because of this review. Albertan municipalities deserve better. Albertans deserve better.

Thank you.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-McClung.

Edmonton-McClung Summer Fest

Mr. Dach: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The number of indigenous people living off-reserve in Alberta forms one of the largest and fastest growing segments of our urban residential population. This is certainly true in my suburban constituency of Edmonton-McClung. For example, some elementary schools in my riding comprise 30 per cent First Nations students.

Mr. Speaker, I think our most important responsibility as MLAs is to serve our constituents and bring them together. We should be the bridge between diverse communities by encouraging people to share their food, culture, and knowledge. I'm happy to say that on what I hope will be a bright, sunny afternoon, Sunday, July 10, I will try to do just that by hosting the inaugural Edmonton-McClung summer fest.

Mr. Speaker, organized out of my constituency office, this unique summer fest will feature indigenous drummers, dancers, singers, a hip hop artist, an authentic teepee with elder storytellers, and stick games. We want to share the beautiful First Nations music, dance, ideology, language, and history with our community. We hope that our brothers and sisters from the First Nations will attend in large numbers to celebrate their indigenous heritage and culture. I want to make everyone in my riding fully aware that we have a significant indigenous population living with us and that they bring tremendous value to our community.

One year ago the final report of the truth and reconciliation committee was released. As we honour the truth and engage in a reconciliation of our country, all Canadians should make a special effort to really get to know their indigenous neighbours. Beyond the dancing and drumming, behind the fabulously colourful regalia and elder storytelling, you will find a beautiful people with a rich and rewarding history and an ideology that should occupy a larger and more important space in our Canadian mosaic.

Come discover this for yourself at my first annual summer fest on July 10 in Edmonton-McClung at the Callingwood skate park. We will have bannock, a bouncy bus, and food trucks, too. Bring your whole family for a totally enriching experience and to get to know your First Nations neighbours.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Creek.

Cultural Heritage Celebrations

Ms Woollard: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. These past months in my constituency have been marked by a number of colourful and vibrant celebrations of culture among different communities. While each festivity was unique, they all involved gathering families eager to share traditions brought to Canada and with the aim of keeping them alive.

One member from a South Asian heritage expressed to me recently that 31 years ago they realized that none of the children in their community knew their traditional songs and dances. Because of that observation, the adults taught the children their traditions, with the end result that I and many other community members had the privilege of watching the enthusiastic youngsters cheerfully

demonstrating their heritage, to the delight of their parents and grandparents.

Most of us here have come from somewhere else, and some of us brought with us the traditions of our homeland. I was fortunate to attend an event at the Ukrainian cultural village last summer in which a genealogical project was being celebrated. Plaques were presented to members of families whose home villages and some family history about leaving Ukraine and coming to Canada had been uncovered. As part of the celebration there were Ukrainian dancers, food, and traditional music.

It brought home how important it was to maintain traditions and avoid losing them, as is the case in many cultures. I married into a family with a strong Scottish background who celebrated all things Scottish at regular ceilidhs. However, now that the older family members are gone, the celebrations are mostly memories.

Having the opportunity to witness these celebrations has made me realize how valuable it is to be able to keep and share our traditions with others.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. member.

The Member for Calgary-Shaw.

Centennial High School Leadership Conference

Mr. Sucha: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This week I had the opportunity to attend the opening ceremonies for the senior high student leadership conference hosted by Centennial high school in the beautiful constituency of Calgary-Shaw. This was the second time that the school has hosted this very important conference, and the timing coincided with the launch of the new *Star Wars* film, dubbing this event as A New Hope. There's a connection about this particular timing. The school believes that students are the leaders who are going to make this province and this country a better place for the future, hence a new hope.

1:50

Opening with dance-offs and cheering chants, this lovely event focused on developing leadership qualities, networking, and building effective, positive relationships among student peer groups. Students had great opportunities to develop skills by listening to distinguished guests and participating in important breakout sessions.

When I visited Centennial leading up to the conference, I saw students diligently preparing for the big event, planning activities for visiting students from neighbouring Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and even as far away as Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. Sadly, due to the wildfires in Fort McMurray the students from those high schools were unable to attend, but, Mr. Speaker, I am happy to share that these students, with their quick thinking and consideration, fundraised approximately \$2,000 for their friends in Fort McMurray. This was matched by the Canadian Youth Speakers Bureau as well.

Centennial high school's leadership has always taken an active role in leadership. I saw this during the 2015 election, where they advocated for improving the quality of public education. As I met a few students from around the province, it made me feel great to know that this province will be left in good hands. These students will cherish these memories that they created over the past three days.

I want to thank the leadership teachers from all across the province. Thank you for your time and efforts in organizing and attending this great event that Centennial was very proud to host. I also want to give a special thanks to instructor Brent Dickson from

Centennial high, who supported these students throughout the conference's organization, and special recognition to all the students and the parent council, who put in a lot of hard work to make sure this went off without a hitch.

Point of Order

Parliamentary Language

The Speaker: Hon. members, before we begin Oral Question Period today, I'm now prepared to rule on the point of order raised yesterday by the House leader for the third party concerning comments made by the Deputy Premier. This point of order relates to the Deputy Premier's response to the leader of the third party's second supplementary question. As I mentioned yesterday, I opted to defer so that I could review the exchange in *Hansard*, which can be found on page 1378 of the June 1 edition.

The third-party House leader indicated that the Deputy Premier used unparliamentary language in her answer. I have reviewed the *Hansard*, and what the Deputy Premier said in response to the question from the leader of the third party is as follows: "Mr. Speaker, the overdramatization of what's happening in this House, if it wasn't so serious and if the misinformation wasn't so out to lunch, would actually be quite funny. But it is so out to lunch and so inflammatory and not honest."

The Deputy Premier characterized the statements by the leader of the third party and perhaps by other members of the Assembly as well as "inflammatory and not honest." However, these comments were in response to the member's statements and perhaps other statements made in the Assembly and not, in fact, directed at the member himself. It is for this reason that I find there is no point of order.

I would like to point out for the . . . [interjections]

Mr. Rodney: Mr. Speaker, I'm sorry. Could you repeat the last two sentences? It was too loud, and I really want to hear what you . . .

The Speaker: Please don't stand while I'm standing, sir. I believe everyone else heard it. You could read it in *Hansard* afterwards if you like, sir.

I point out for the information of all members *Beauchesne's* paragraph 494, which states in part that "it is not unparliamentary temperately to criticize statements made by Members as being contrary to the facts; but no imputation of intentional falsehood is permissible."

I would, however, caution all members of the House, as a general principle of good parliamentary practice, to be conscious of the time and context of phrases such as "and not honest" or, as I have heard told to me but have not personally heard them, statements like "tell the truth" that are being passed across the aisle. Please, hon. members, let's have a better time in this place and be respectful of each other.

Oral Question Period

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre.

Carbon Levy Revenue Utilization

Mr. Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The NDP's carbon tax will take billions – billions – out of Albertans' pockets, and where will the money go? A mysterious slush fund that this government has vowed to recycle into unknown programs and initiatives. To be clear, this Premier is asking Albertan families to hand over a

thousand dollars a year to the NDP, and there are no standards in place to assure the billions of dollars she is syphoning from the economy will have any direct benefit for this province. How can the Premier take billions out of the pockets of hard-working Alberta families to pay for her very own slush fund?

Ms Notley: Well, Mr. Speaker, let me begin once again by correcting the record that the number the members opposite continually – continually – insist on using, notwithstanding that they have been provided over and over and over again with the actual real information, is in fact inflammatory and not helpful to a very important debate that we need to have in this House and across this province about how to tackle the issue of climate change. I am very proud that this government is leading that debate not only here in the province but across the country.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, folks across Alberta are losing work. Their personal budgets are shrinking, and the NDP are asking them to forfeit a thousand dollars a year to an unaccountable expenses slush fund with absolutely zero accountability. It's more of the same: lazy and poorly thought-out laws we have come to expect from the NDP government. The Premier did not campaign on this, and now she's asking Albertans to hand over billions of dollars with zero accountability. Again to the Premier: what mechanism will this government put in place to show Albertans that their money will be handled responsibly?

Ms Notley: Well, let me begin, Mr. Speaker, that as we go forward reporting to Albertans on the progress of our plan in diversifying the economy, reducing emissions, and moving Alberta forward in terms of its development of a more progressive, sustainable nonrenewable energy industry, we will do so by using facts, which is exactly what the members opposite refuse to do, and it is no wonder that nobody – nobody – has any faith in these guys on this issue and why they believe that they are all people who deny climate change.

Mr. Smith: Point of order.

The Speaker: Point of order noted.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, a member of this Assembly was once quoted as saying that good Legislatures are interested in restoring the trust between them and the citizens of the province by moving forward on promises around transparency and accountability. That member was our very own Premier when she was in opposition. But today her government is trying to ram through a bill that rips billions of dollars out of the economy with almost no strings attached. Premier, why should Albertans trust this government to handle their money properly when this government won't answer basic questions on how it will be spent?

Ms Notley: Well, Mr. Speaker, again, we'll answer questions that are premised on the actual facts. None of the questions that have been asked so far have been, so that is difficult and challenging. What we have talked with Albertans about and what we will continue to do in as open and as transparent a way as possible is how our plan will move Alberta forward, ensuring that low- and middle-income families, indeed 60 per cent of Albertans, get rebates; how we incent better choices in terms of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, both on the part of individuals and companies; and how we move our province forward as a climate

change leader and do our part to reduce damaging greenhouse gas emissions, which threaten the health and future of our . . .

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. Premier.
The Member for Cardston-Taber-Warner.

Support for Business

Mr. Hunter: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In February there were over 1,100 personal and business insolvencies in Alberta. In March there were another 1,200 added to that number. These are people's hopes, dreams, and lives going up in smoke. This trend line does not bode well for Albertans who right now are barely holding on. These figures represent an increase of over 40 per cent over the same time last year. Consumer debt in Alberta is on the rise. The numbers don't lie. Premier, why won't the government stop their high-tax, anti-jobs agenda and help their fellow Albertans?

2:00

The Speaker: The hon. Premier.

Ms Notley: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. We understand that families across this province have in fact been very significantly impacted by the dramatic drop in the price of oil, and we are very concerned about that. That's why our government has taken a balanced, careful approach to addressing the issue. We've maintained public spending and maintained important front-line public services, which Albertans rely on. We've invested significantly in capital construction to stimulate the economy and stimulate our GDP, something that all experts agree on. We've also introduced a very robust jobs plan, which through a number of different programs is going to incent small-business development.

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. Premier.

Mr. Hunter: Albertans expect this government to do no harm to Alberta's economy. This should go without saying. However, under their watch manufacturing in Alberta has dropped by 15.5 per cent, and now according to Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters there is risk of even more shutdowns. These jobs won't come back if this government raises the cost of manufacturing in Alberta through a punishing carbon tax and soaring electricity bills. Since this government took office, Alberta has lost 25,000 jobs in the manufacturing sector alone. To the Premier: when will this government stop punishing job creators so Albertans can get back to work?

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. member.

Ms Notley: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. What our government is doing is working with all Albertans to stabilize the slowdown in the economy and to work together with them to build resilience, to promote diversification, and to ensure that we are less vulnerable to the kind of commodity price shocks that we are dealing with right now. Members opposite wanted to take billions of dollars out of the economy through cuts. They wanted to cut teachers. They wanted to cut nurses. They wanted to cut services. They wanted to cut \$9 billion from our capital budget. Those things would have hurt jobs even more. We will not go down that path.

Mr. Hunter: Action in a year is not what Albertans need now. Job creators aren't buying this government's empty assurances.

A recent survey by Restaurants Canada found that 75 per cent of Alberta member restaurants expect sales to drop in the next six months. Restaurants Canada specifically cites increased taxes and this government's aggressive minimum wage hike as contributing

factors to struggling restaurants. Job creators and everyone else, for that matter, have lost confidence in this government's ability to stimulate growth and create jobs. When will the Premier start listening to the very concerned people of Alberta?

Ms Notley: Well, you know, Mr. Speaker, the fact of the matter is that when the price of oil was a hundred dollars a barrel and our economy was on fire, these folks were also against raising the minimum wage. The fact of the matter is that they don't care about the people who are very vulnerable, whose lives and family are suffering as a result of a very, very low minimum wage, one of the lowest minimum wages in the country. It is abysmal. We will move forward because raising the minimum wage will stimulate the economy, it will ensure greater equality, and it will reduce poverty. Those are the things that we care about.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat.

Alberta College of Paramedics

Mr. Barnes: Mr. Speaker, a judicial review of the actions of the Council of the Alberta College of Paramedics has commenced in connection with the termination of the members of the college registration committee on January 22, 2016. The members were terminated without notice or reason and had previously raised concerns to the Minister of Health over inappropriate college governance. Could the minister avoid the expense of a trial in the courts and use her authority to resolve the issues through a Health Disciplines Board investigation instead?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Ms Hoffman: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. Certainly, this is a serious matter, and it is before the courts. That certainly is where the matter rests currently, and I think it's appropriate for it to proceed according to the current process. Commenting further about the specifics around this situation, of course, in the middle of a trial wouldn't be conducive to good legal proceedings.

Mr. Barnes: Given that the minister could – also, section 4 of the Health Disciplines Act requires the director of health disciplines to produce an annual report, and furthermore the act requires that the minister table the report in this Assembly, and the act and its regulations also require the College of Paramedics to produce an annual report by March 31. Now, in June, none of these legal obligations have been met. Will the minister step in to increase transparency and investigate the lack of public reporting and other outstanding issues surrounding this?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Ms Hoffman: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Again, I'm reluctant to trust Wildrose research given the history of things being conveyed that aren't totally untrue but are partially conveyed in a way that could lead somebody to believe that something is improper. I will certainly follow up and ensure that I have received the report and in due course ensure that it is shared publicly. Again, I respect the role that the college plays in providing oversight and governance.

Mr. Barnes: Mr. Speaker, given that the minister is reluctant to answer the question and the termination of registration committee members followed their sending of a whistle-blower letter to the Deputy Minister of Health in October 2015, this letter allegedly caused retaliatory action against the whistle-blowers, and these

whistle-blowers have been required to pay significant out-of-pocket legal expenses to fight this complaint. A review found the complaint against them without merit. Will the minister ensure that whistle-blowers in organizations established by the government of Alberta are protected and specifically address . . .

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. member.
The Minister of Health.

Ms Hoffman: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It would be inappropriate to go into the very specifics of an HR situation, particularly in this House. I think that both members, employees and employers, deserve respect, and debating specifics of instances in this House is certainly not becoming of the Legislature.

In terms of the policy question that was asked, certainly there is whistle-blower legislation, and our government will ensure that we continue to move forward in a way that honours that, protects those who are vulnerable and who are doing their best to make sure that things are appropriate and forthright, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: The hon. leader of the third party.

Correctional Officer PTSD and Suicide Incidence

Mr. McIver: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, studies show that correctional peace officers may be exposed to 28 critical incidents during their career such as assaults, suicides, and murders. For some officers their career is cut short because of mental health issues and, in too many cases, suicide. [interjections] I'm talking about suicide, and I'm being taunted by the government side.

I'll go straight to the Premier. Given that data is needed to fully understand PTSD and suicide among Alberta correctional peace officers, will your government commit to tracking and collecting data on it?

The Speaker: The hon. Premier.

Ms Notley: Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the question. I actually began my legal career doing exactly that, working on behalf of corrections officers who were suffering from PTSD, so I'm very aware of the issue. It's a very important issue, and I'll certainly look to see where the data is on that.

I will say that the issue that was sort of thrown out from this caucus is a good one, though, the degree to which there was an opportunity to talk about PTSD as it impacts corrections officers and the fact that this government specifically rejected that issue and rejected the import of that issue when the matter was brought forward a couple of years ago. We will certainly look to resolving that issue going forward.

Mr. McIver: Well, let's try again, Mr. Speaker, and see if the Premier is interested in helping.

I'll ask the same question again. I'll make it really clear. Will you ensure that data is collected and tracked on corrections officers in regard to the incidence of PTSD and suicide? Will you?

Ms Notley: Well, I think I did answer the question, Mr. Speaker. I actually believe it probably is already tracked, but certainly if it's not, I'll look into it. In fact, that whole issue of the safety of corrections officers is one that's very important to us and one that was missed by the previous government when they addressed the issue of presumptive coverage of certain staffpeople with PTSD. I thank the member for bringing it forward. We will certainly make

sure it is tracked. I think it probably is, but if it's not, it would be very easy to make sure it is.

The Speaker: Hon. members, I just wanted to remind you that spring has sprung, and I can feel the flowers growing in the room. As we go through these next few minutes together, I hope we can think about the weather outside.

Mr. McIver: Well, we've had strike 2, Mr. Speaker. The Premier hasn't answered the question twice. She said yes, and then she said that she wasn't sure. I'm going to give the Premier a third chance before she strikes out.

Will you commit to making sure the statistics are tracked for PTSD and suicide for Alberta's corrections officers, and will you report back to this House? I would appreciate a yes or no in the answer.

Thank you.

2:10

Ms Notley: Well, Mr. Speaker, I believe I actually said yes in the previous answer, but to be clear, the answer is yes.

One of the things that's really important to understand is that right now many corrections officers do not have their PTSD acknowledged by the very agency that would track it because it is not covered under the legislation that this government brought in and failed to include them in. The presumptive coverage of PTSD does not extend to corrections officers as first responders because the members opposite chose to exclude them. Some of the statistics are difficult to get because many claims have been rejected.

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. Premier.

Highway 63 Road Condition and Services

Cortes-Vargas: Mr. Speaker, the voluntary re-entry of Fort McMurray started yesterday, and highway 63 is expected to be incredibly busy as people from Fort McMurray begin to return home. With workers and residents starting to make their way home, it's important that those travelling on the highways to Fort McMurray can also do so in a safe, manageable way. To the Minister of Transportation: was the highway affected by the fire, and can it handle the traffic expected over the next few weeks and months?

The Speaker: The Minister of Transportation.

Mr. Mason: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to report that the highway infrastructure was not damaged by the wildfire at Fort McMurray. The RCMP removed all barricades on highway 63 yesterday morning. We're tracking vehicle traffic volumes on highways 63 and 881. As of noon today roughly 3,000 vehicles have travelled to Fort McMurray.

I'm pleased to say, Mr. Speaker, that the twinning of highway 63 is now complete, and I think that this will aid us considerably in the smooth reoccupation of the city of Fort McMurray.

Thank you.

The Speaker: First supplemental.

Cortes-Vargas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that highway 63 is the main way in and out of the city and given that there were understandable but extremely long delays in exiting from the highway when the victims fled their homes, again to the Minister of Transportation: what is the minister doing to ensure that the re-entry process goes as smoothly as possible?

Mr. Mason: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Well, we have more than 100 Alberta Transportation staff that are working closely with the RCMP and the other stakeholders to monitor the traffic flows and the overall conditions on the highway during re-entry. Our traffic management plan is in effect from Anthony Henday Drive all the way to Fort McMurray, with digital message signs along the highways to update drivers with road condition information. We have traffic counters in place, and this will allow us to distribute any information about traffic conditions to the public very quickly.

The Speaker: Second supplemental.

Cortes-Vargas: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that some residents who evacuated either had to leave their vehicles along the way or may no longer have access to the vehicles to get back, again to the same minister: what transportation supports and services will be available to help people return home?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Mr. Mason: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the member for the question. Though many evacuees do have access to a vehicle, we know that a lot of people had to leave their vehicles behind when they evacuated the city. The Red Cross is there to provide regular bus service to Fort McMurray for people who had to leave their vehicles behind. We've been working to connect people with their abandoned vehicles for the last few weeks, ever since the initial evacuation. People who have abandoned vehicles on the highway can call 310.4455 or visit emergency.alberta.ca for details on how to retrieve their vehicles.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake.

Alberta Serious Incident Response Team

Mr. Cyr: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, 2015 was a record year for the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team, or ASIRT. The oversight agency investigates police misconduct and the deaths of people who are in police custody. The backlog of investigations has led to victims' families waiting for years for answers. Yesterday the executive director admitted that she doesn't know what could be done to speed up the conclusion of ASIRT investigations. To the minister: what is your department's plan to bring closure to the victims' families and address the mounting problems facing ASIRT's backlog?

The Speaker: The Minister of Human Services.

Mr. Sabir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Member, for the question. I can take the question on behalf of the Minister of Justice. In the 2016 budget we have increased funding to ASIRT. That funding will help them add capacity and more employees to their staff, and the availability of that resource will help them deal with the backlog. We are working with our partners to make sure that things are dealt with in a timely fashion.*

Mr. Cyr: Given that the time spent waiting for these investigations to close can be tormenting for victims' families and given that 46 of the 78 cases from 2015 are still open and since the executive director has said that this isn't about staffing levels, again to the minister: how can your department ensure that resources are being properly deployed to remove this backlog?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Mr. Sabir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you again, Member, for the question. On behalf of the Minister of Justice I can assure you that it was an issue of capacity, and that's why we have added \$3.5 million. We know that they can add more staff with that money and hire investigators who are more experienced in dealing with those issues. I can also assure you that we will work with our partners to make sure that these issues are dealt with in a timely fashion.

Mr. Cyr: This is about ensuring our justice system is efficient and respects the victims and their families. Given that this is a mounting problem, that appears to be getting worse each and every year, and given that the minister has the power to solve this problem, will the minister commit: how will conducting a review of ASIRT develop a path forward in eliminating this backlog?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Mr. Sabir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Member, for the question. I think the delivery of justice and the justice system are fundamental to a just society. I can assure you that our government is committed to making sure that we use all of our power and resources to make sure that we get this right.

Thank you.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Calgary-North West.

PDD Supports Intensity Scale Assessments

Ms Jansen: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In question period yesterday the Human Services minister said, "I will review the SIS." This is great news and a decision that I and many of the stakeholders who reached out to me applaud as it seems their concerns are finally being heard by this government. To the Minister of Human Services: what is the timeline for conducting this review, and when will it be made public for Albertans?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Mr. Sabir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Member, for the question. Yes, I did say in question period that I will review the SIS, supports intensity scale. I also mentioned that it's a huge undertaking that involves 11,000 people on those supports. So we will take the needed and necessary time to make sure that we get it right.

Ms Jansen: Mr. Speaker, given that in question period yesterday the minister also said, "We are not keeping the SIS," and given this is a concern that I and the stakeholders that I've been working with have been advocating for, this is a move we applaud. To the Minister of Human Services: will you commit today to immediately suspending the SIS program until your review is complete?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Mr. Sabir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will again reiterate that there are 11,000 people who have gone through the supports intensity scale interviews, and their supports were determined by the previous government through this scale. This was the policy brought by the previous government, and it will take time to change it. I would suggest that the member was in government; she knows it takes time. The only responsible thing would be to help me communicate that these things take time. And I will take that time.

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. minister.

*See page 1473, right column, paragraph 4

Ms Jansen: I wasn't asking about the review in that question. I was asking you to suspend SIS. It's a simple yes and no.

Mr. Speaker, again, given that yesterday in question period the Minister of Human Services said that he was committed to "bringing in a policy that's more respectful in gauging the supports that people with developmental disabilities need," again to the minister. You have admitted that it's disrespectful. You have said it's going to stop. Will you commit right here and now to meet the families, to stop SIS, and to consult with these very important stakeholders?

2:20

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Mr. Sabir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Member, for the question. Yes, SIS was disrespectful and brought by the previous government without consulting. [interjections] What I will do: I will work with the stakeholders. I will consult stakeholders. I will consult all those who were impacted by this . . .

The Speaker: Point of order noted.

Mr. Sabir: . . . scale and bring in a policy which is more respectful towards persons with disabilities and that gauges their support in a respectful manner.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Airdrie.

Maintenance Enforcement Program

Mrs. Pitt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The maintenance enforcement program, or MEP, protects single parents and children after a couple separates. It ensures equality in spousal compensation so financial responsibility is fairly divided between the parents. Section 7 of the MEP includes guidelines for sharing nonspecific health and education expenses, but during a recent review process the government stopped processing these expenses in response to "feedback from the courts and the legal profession." To the minister: why were families left in the lurch during this review, and what safeguards can spouses who have left abusive or unsafe relationships now expect to see?

The Speaker: The Minister of Human Services.

Mr. Sabir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Member, for the question. I can assure the member on behalf of the Minister of Justice that the department officials will work with our community partners, with our police partners to make sure that we put in policies and procedures that work for families.

Thank you very much.

The Speaker: First supplemental.

Mrs. Pitt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday the government responded to the written question, "How many maintenance enforcement accounts were in arrears" as of February 29 of this year? Given that the answer was that, shockingly, more than 34,000 accounts are in arrears, with a balance of almost \$650 million owing, and given that this is completely unacceptable, to the Minister of Justice: what is your government doing to get this money back into the pockets of Alberta's single parents, where it belongs?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Mr. Sabir: Thank you. Thank you, Member, for the question. I think it remains a priority for our government to help those in need.

As I stated earlier, we will work with our community partners, and we will work with our enforcement partners to make sure that we bring in processes and policies that work for Albertans and that provide them the supports they need.

Mrs. Pitt: Mr. Speaker, my heart is breaking for single parents right now. Given that the current economic conditions are making things difficult for parents to provide for their kids and given that single parents need child support payments now more than ever and since the minister has stated that a cross-jurisdictional MEP enforcement agreement has been signed with other provinces, again to the minister: when will the province start collecting these overdue payments, and when can Alberta families finally expect to see some results?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Mr. Sabir: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I agree with the member that people who are single parents deserve and need the supports. That's why I mentioned that we will work with our enforcement partners to make sure they have the needed supports. At the same time I want to mention that our government also introduced the Alberta child benefit, which families will start receiving this summer. That will go a long way in helping single parents to bear the costs of raising a child.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: The Member for Lacombe-Ponoka.

Provincial Park Administration and Staffing

Mr. Orr: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In the last budget estimates this government repeatedly discussed provincial parks in Alberta. When asked last month about whether the contracts to run these existing parks were tendered or serviced by provincial employees, the answer by the assistant deputy was that Parks uses both depending on cost effectiveness. To the minister: are all provincial parks in Alberta now actually open and fully staffed by either private contractors or provincial employees?

The Speaker: The Minister of Energy.

Ms McCuaig-Boyd: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm filling in today for the minister, and I'm afraid I don't know that answer, so I will commit to getting back to you on that.

The Speaker: First supplemental.

Mr. Orr: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that for close to 40 years the Cypress Hills ski area was operated by a private contractor who operated and maintained the ski area and given that they ran a successful business that provided consistent rent for the government but that the government chose to run it themselves recently, to the minister: why did the government turn a profitable facility, that saw taxpayers receiving fair rent and good service, into a potential loss? Is this cost effective?

Ms McCuaig-Boyd: Thank you for the question. Mr. Speaker, again, on behalf of the Minister of Environment and Parks I will commit to getting an answer for you on that question.

Mr. Orr: Whereas Consort's Gooseberry Lake Rodeo, near Gooseberry Lake provincial park, will be hosting Canada's largest amateur rodeo in two weeks and given that this park and campground has been run alternately by both private contractors and public employees in the past, again to the minister. This year it

appears this park has been downgraded in both quality of maintenance and operations. Why the lack of on-site management this season, and does this mean your government is planning to close or redesignate this park?

Ms McCuaig-Boyd: Well, thank you again for the question. Mr. Speaker, I actually know where Gooseberry Lake park is. I spent many years there as a child visiting my grandparents, so that one will be of interest to myself as well, and I will get an answer to you.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Calgary-Lougheed.

Assisted Dying Regulations

Mr. Rodney: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Four days from now Alberta must begin providing medical assistance for what used to be referred to as euthanasia or assisted suicide but is now referred to as assisted death. In the past two days we've had an extraordinary debate on the proposed regulations which will govern this pivotal process. Members of all opposition parties provided a great deal of feedback to the government, so to the Premier: based on the incredible insights that you have been offered in the six hours that were allotted, what specific sections of the regulations will you amend?

The Speaker: The Associate Minister of Health.

Ms Payne: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. We were very pleased to have the debate in the House as well as being the only provincial Legislature in our country debating this at the moment. The cabinet will be reviewing the regulations shortly, and I look forward to sharing them after that discussion.

Mr. Rodney: Given that Alberta will likely approve regulations for medically assisted dying before federal legislation is in place and given that based on the draft regulations Alberta's medical assistance for dying is more closely aligned with the Supreme Court's decision, or the Carter decision, than the proposed federal legislation, Bill C-14, which offers more protection for vulnerable Albertans, to the Minister of Health: what aspects of the regulations are you prepared to change to ensure that they will align with C-14 if it's approved in its present form?

The Speaker: The Associate Minister of Health.

Ms Payne: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. As of Monday the Carter decision on this issue is the law of the land, and all of the regulations that we have put forward comply with that. At the time that the federal government finishes passing their regulatory and legislative framework around this, we will amend any of our regulations that are required to be, to comply with the federal jurisdiction.

Mr. Rodney: Mr. Speaker, we are looking for specifics. Perhaps we'll try it this way. Given that the legal ground for medically assisted death is expected to shift due to the differences between C-14 and Carter and given that Alberta's regulations governing the process of medically assisted death may well have to be changed to reflect future court decisions, to the Associate Minister of Health: will you commit to fully consulting with Albertans about any and all future changes to the regulations?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Ms Payne: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. As we've said before, the federal government has the primary responsibility for legislation in this area, and we intend for any of the Alberta framework to comply with the federal legislation. It is the Criminal Code they have jurisdiction over. It's not passing the buck; it's just the way it is.

We will continue to hear from Albertans on this very important and deeply personal issue. It is a very new issue in both medicine and in law, so we will be watching very closely as the situation develops in the coming months and years.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Edmonton-Mill Creek.

2:30 Mental Health Services for Postsecondary Students

Ms Woollard: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One in 5 Albertans will experience mental illness in their lifetime, and 1 in every 10 Albertans will struggle with drug or alcohol dependency. Unfortunately, many of these Albertans – our friends, our neighbours, and our family members – will not reach out for help. Given that this can be even more complex for students in college and university, to the Minister of Advanced Education: how is this being addressed?

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Advanced Education.

Mr. Schmidt: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our government has heard first-hand the concerns of Alberta students and administrators on this particular issue, and we recognize just how important mental health supports are for our college and university students. That's why I'm pleased to say that Budget 2016 provides over \$3 million to extend mental health grants on campus through to the end of July 2017. These four grants would have otherwise expired very soon. Our government knows that promoting and supporting mental wellness builds a more resilient community and ensures that Alberta students remain healthy and successful in their studies.

The Speaker: First supplemental.

Ms Woollard: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To the same minister: given that mental health is a pressing issue for many of the students in my constituency attending university and given that they have been lobbying for these mental health supports, can the minister tell the House how these grants will be used?

Mr. Schmidt: Mr. Speaker, the grants will extend previous commitments, and that includes more than a million dollars to the University of Alberta as well as support to the University of Calgary, the University of Lethbridge, and the Alberta Students' Executive Council. This is on top of existing commitments to Mount Royal and MacEwan universities.

These grants are used in a variety of ways. Some fund psychiatrists and psychologists as well as community social workers. Our government continues to work so that mental health and addiction resources can better serve all Albertans, including postsecondary students.

Ms Woollard: Thank you, Minister.

To the same minister: given that all of the grants included in Budget 2016 are set to expire after the 2016-2017 school year, how does the minister plan to address this in the long term?

Mr. Schmidt: Well, Mr. Speaker, our government has heard loud and clear that these supports are important to students, so we intend to create and maintain healthy, supportive campuses over the long term. I'm proud to say that we're committed to learning from the

great work that's already been done on campuses across the province. Together with our partners in Health we'll begin building a long-term approach to mental health supports, to be implemented by the time the existing commitments expire.

Carbon Levy

Mr. MacIntyre: Mr. Speaker, this NDP government just cannot stop bragging about all the endorsements they're getting for their \$3 billion carbon tax. They trot out quote after quote from big energy companies, some of our largest emitters, who just love this plan. Why? Well, because they're all exempt from it. Meanwhile families, small businesses, charities, schools, hospitals are all bracing for increased costs on everything. Why is this government making everyday Alberta families foot the bill for this tax on everything at the time when we can least afford it?

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. member.
The Deputy Premier.

Ms Hoffman: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Certainly, more and more conservatives are coming out in support of having a price on carbon, and they're urging others to join them as well. For example, in an interview with the *Calgary Herald* former Ralph Klein era Finance minister Jim Dinning said: we as conservatives . . . [interjections] We as conservatives should stop dragging our knuckles on this issue. I'd encourage the members opposite to do the same.

Mr. MacIntyre: Yet 68 per cent of Albertans do not share the NDP world view on this, I might add.

Given that this government was elected on a platform of everyone sharing the economic pain and given that this carbon tax is certainly going to bring down a giant helping of economic pain on families and small and medium-sized businesses, why does the minister think that it's fair to ask everyday people to pay more just because she made what the *Financial Post* calls secret deals to exempt the largest emitters?

The Speaker: The Deputy Premier.

Ms Hoffman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish I could thank the member for the question. However, certainly, the language that's being used doesn't reflect the world view of scientists or the majority of Albertans, who actually want us to acknowledge climate change and move forward. I wish the members opposite had a world view that respected climate change, that it's man-made, and that we are moving forward to address it responsibly, including many well-respected conservatives who are urging them to come out of the Stone Age and join the 21st century.

Mr. MacIntyre: Mr. Speaker, there's nothing more ill-timed than an NDP tax grab without public support.

Given that on one hand the environment minister, who helped pen a radical book on protesting our energy sector, stands up in this House and accuses opposition members of denying the science and then, according to the *Financial Post*, strikes secret backroom deals with the largest emitters to exempt them from the very tax that is supposed to curb their emissions, will anyone other than the minister of anything over there stand up and defend this government's apparent gross hypocrisy in the matter?

The Speaker: I think I see a third point of order.
The Deputy Premier.

Ms Hoffman: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. They are not exempt. Members opposite say that this is going to cost everybody more. What it's going to do is show that we're all doing our part – all doing our part – except for the people who, as former Conservative Finance minister Jim Dinning says, continue to drag their knuckles. [interjections] He also went on to say that carbon levies are the most conservative and business-friendly way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. I don't know what you have against the business community, but they're onboard.

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Calgary-Greenway.

Carbon Levy Revenue Utilization (continued)

Mr. Gill: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Twice yesterday and twice today we heard the Minister of Health mention the fact that Jim Dinning supports the NDP carbon tax. Then the Member for Calgary-Shaw doubled down and tabled an article again commenting on how great it was to have Mr. Jim Dinning's support for the NDP's carbon tax. Now, this government has never been afraid to ignore facts to strengthen an argument. Mr. Dinning has stated that he supports a revenue-neutral carbon tax. To all the ministers, whoever wants to answer this: is your carbon tax . . .

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. member.
The Deputy Premier.

2:40

Ms Hoffman: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Dinning joins a chorus of conservatives like Patrick Brown, Brian Pallister, and Michael Chong, all of whom served in Ottawa with the Leader of the Official Opposition. Certainly, a price on carbon that is going to be reinvested in the local economy to ensure that we move forward on economic diversification, something, I know, that members opposite, the third party, did very little to move forward and the Official Opposition has no intention of doing – instead, we're doing what Albertans want, which is reinvesting that money in diversifying our economy, and I'm very proud of that.

The Speaker: First supplemental.

Mr. Gill: The answer is no.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that a revenue-neutral carbon tax utilizes the money collected to pay down other taxes to stimulate the economy and given that a \$1 decrease in corporate taxes results in almost \$3 in increased economic activity and given that a similar \$1 decrease in personal income tax results in an increase in economic activity of about \$1.40, again to the minister: why not utilize the revenue collected to stimulate the entire economy instead of just the project you deem worthy?

Ms Hoffman: Certainly, we've had conversations in this House around countercyclical funding, Mr. Speaker. It sounds like the third party is pushing for the same thing they did over and over again when they were in government, which is that when times are tough, cut public services, cut revenue, lay off teachers and nurses, and that certainly isn't what Albertans voted for. [interjections] Albertans voted for a stable government that's going to move forward reasonably, that's going to take opportunities that we have to show our leadership by giving rebates to two-thirds of Alberta households and also investing in economic diversification. This is the right way forward.

The Speaker: Maybe I should remind the members: we'll soon be able to get out of here. You can have time together, and won't it be nice to enjoy the warm – very robust today. Very, very robust.

I think we're on the second supplemental.

Mr. Gill: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that various noted economists have calculated that at \$30 per tonne of CO₂ the carbon tax will raise a total of \$6 billion in revenue – gentlemen and ladies, hon. members, \$6 billion – and given that the government reports \$2.6 billion in net revenue, it would seem that the government is not being entirely forthcoming with the rebates already built into the system. Again to the minister: why not clearly share the full details of these rebates with Albertans? If everything is above board, there should be no reason not to.

Ms Hoffman: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. There are many ways that we'll be continuing to communicate with Albertans in an open reporting process as we move forward.

I just want to clarify what I heard in the second question. It sounds like today the third party is in support of a price on carbon. It's nice to hear that they're ready to step up and move forward. But I want to be very clear that what they're saying is that they support a carbon price, but unlike our government, they want to use that revenue for tax breaks for the very rich and for profitable corporations. [interjections] Mr. Speaker, that's not what Albertans voted for.

The Speaker: Members, please.

The hon. Member for Calgary-East.

Short-term Personal Loans

Ms Luff: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've heard from countless constituents who've reached out to thank our government for taking action to end predatory lending. The stories from these constituents and their experiences with the cycle of poverty are often heartbreaking, and many still have outstanding loans. While they're happy that this new legislation is here, they're anxious about what will happen next. To the Minister of Service Alberta: when does the \$15 limit come in, and when do instalment payments come into effect?

The Speaker: The Minister of Service Alberta.

Ms McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. I'm proud to have had Bill 15 passed in this House and to take action on exploitive payday-loan interest rates with widespread support from both sides of this House. I'm proud to report that as of August 1 Alberta will have the lowest cost of borrowing in the country at \$15 for every \$100 borrowed. That's the max borrowing rate. Lenders won't be able to add on any additional fees or surcharges to customers. We are responsibly phasing in this approach and these changes to payday lending. In November payday borrowers will be able to pay back their loans in instalments with no penalty for early repayment. This will dramatically decrease the annual percentage rate on these loans. These are fair rules that ensure Albertans don't get trapped in vicious cycles of debt.

The Speaker: First supplemental.

Ms Luff: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you to the minister for the answer. Given that these changes are coming into effect soon but given that some of my constituents still need supplementary funding to get their families through to their next paycheque and

they are interested in the new alternatives that will be available, again to the Minister of Service Alberta: what kinds of alternative credit options are on the horizon for these Albertans?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Ms McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. We know that Albertans need access to short-term, small-dollar loans that won't exploit or gouge them when they have unexpected expenses. That's why we're working with Alberta's credit unions, ATB, community groups, and others to put in strong alternatives. First Calgary Financial Credit Union is leading with their cash crunch loan. This is a microloan product that was piloted in Calgary. They will roll this out in August. It's exciting that Servus Credit Union will also offer short-term loans at significantly lower rates than payday lenders by the end of this year.

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. minister.

Second supplemental.

Ms Luff: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that my office has heard from many constituents who are in support of these changes and given that these same Albertans have had many good ideas about additional initiatives that may be helpful, again to the same minister: what has the minister heard in terms of support for these changes?

The Speaker: The hon. minister.

Ms McLean: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and to the member for the question. We've heard loud and clear from Albertans that they wanted us to take action on predatory lending practices. I had the opportunity today to speak with many of our community partners. We took this opportunity to pass An Act to End Predatory Lending and bring in fair rules for responsible lending. Municipalities, mayors, city councillors, local BRZs, credit unions, and community groups all support these changes as well as many of our hon. colleagues from across the aisle. They all agree that this bill, which requires payday lenders to provide financial literacy information to borrowers, offers pathways out of poverty for many who find themselves trapped in a cycle of debt.

Highway 63 Road Condition and Services

(continued)

Mr. Mason: Mr. Speaker, I wanted to correct an answer that I gave earlier today in question period. I indicated that the number of vehicles that had entered Fort McMurray was 3,000. Actually, that is just the number so far today. As of this point there have been nearly 8,000 vehicles that have travelled into Fort McMurray as part of the repopulation of the city, and I can tell the House that there's plenty of capacity on the newly twinned highway 63. Traffic is moving smoothly and safely. God willing, that will continue.

The Speaker: Any additional comment?

In 30 seconds we will continue.

Members' Statements

(continued)

The Speaker: The hon. Member for Drumheller-Stettler.

Special Areas Water Supply Project

Mr. Strankman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The special areas water supply project has long been studied as a potential irrigation project.

In this dryland region of southeast-central Alberta irrigation is a way to increase economic activity and create financial stability. In that diverse and sometimes difficult if not extreme area the challenges of life can often be overwhelming. Recently the social and human costs of these difficult times in my constituency near Hanna have been high. Like most regions in Alberta, the downturn in the oil and gas sector has had a very real impact on the area this irrigation project would improve. The downturn, when coupled with the impending phase-out of coal plants, would be a one-two devastating economic blow against this region.

2:50

We are all genuinely concerned that if agriculture takes any sort of economic hit to add to these challenges, it could become as bad in this region as it was in those Dirty Thirties. That is why this project is so vital to southeast-central Alberta. Mr. Speaker, this large, sustainable, renewable, job-creating irrigation project could be the very lifeblood of renewed hope for this region. It could provide economic leadership and become a shining example for much of Alberta. Responsible agricultural developments such as this could be the new benchmark of broad future development and good environmental stewardship. Irrigated land also has the benefit of establishing reliable, increased plant growth that conventional tillage cannot provide, and therefore it leads to significant increased carbon sequestration.

I encourage any members of this Assembly that wish to learn more to engage with me.

Notices of Motions

The Speaker: The Minister of Infrastructure and of Transportation.

Mr. Mason: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Order 34(3) I'm rising to advise the House that on the next available Monday written questions 17, 18, 19, 20, and 22 will be accepted, and Written Question 21 will be dealt with.

Also, on the next available Monday motions for returns 36 and 37 will be accepted, and motions for returns 38, 39, and 40 will be dealt with.

Introduction of Bills

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Infrastructure and of Transportation.

Bill 23

Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2016

Mr. Mason: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure today to request leave to introduce Bill 23, the Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2016.

Mr. Speaker, this bill has been circulated to the opposition parties, and I believe that there is consensus on all of the clauses of the bill. It's our hope that it can be passed, therefore, without debate in the House.

Bill 23 contains a number of noncontentious provisions. I will just briefly list those acts which are affected by this bill: the Business Corporations Act; the Chartered Professional Accountants Act; the Condominium Property Act; the Condominium Property Amendment Act, 2014; the Conflicts of Interest Act; the Fair Trading Act; the Health Care Protection Act; the Health Information Act; the Historical Resources Act; the Insurance Act; the Lobbyists Act; the Mines and Minerals Act; the Mobile Home Sites Tenancies Act; the Personal Property Security Act; the

Provincial Court Act; the Regulations Act; the Residential Tenancies Act; and the Statutes Amendment Act, 2015.

Thank you.

[Motion carried; Bill 23 read a first time]

Tabling Returns and Reports

The Speaker: The Member for Calgary-Hays.

Mr. McIver: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a number of tablings today. I'll try to be brief. The first one is *Hansard* from November 1, 2012. The Premier made remarks today about Bill 1, the Workers' Compensation Amendment Act, 2012, and *Hansard* shows that it was supported unanimously, including by NDPs.

This report is an article from CBC that indicates that PTSD numbers are not tracked in Alberta though the Premier said that they were at one point today.

I also have the requisite copies of a CBC article entitled PTSD Taking Its Toll on Canada's Prison Guards.

Also, an article by TransAlta essentially challenging the assertion that the health quality issues in Alberta are related to coal-fired generation.

And a *Regina Leader-Post* article on carbon capture and storage, where Minister McKenna, the federal Liberal minister, says that carbon capture is part of the solution to climate change.

Thank you.

The Speaker: The hon. Minister of Health.

Ms Hoffman: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to rise and table the requisite number of copies for a question that was asked on May 25 by the MLA for Calgary-Greenway. He asked an important question about mental health supports for newcomers to Canada, and we've provided information here that is available for all MLAs to share with their constituents. If you have any other questions on the matter, please do reach out to my office. We'd be happy to provide additional information.

Thank you.

Tablings to the Clerk

The Clerk: I wish to advise the Assembly that the following document was deposited with the office of the Clerk: on behalf of the hon. Ms McCuaig-Boyd, Minister of Energy, response to Written Question 12, asked for by Mr. Clark on May 16, 2016: "What is the status as of March 15, 2016, of the approval process for phase 2 of construction for the North West Redwater Partnership upgrader?"

The Speaker: I believe we are at points of order. I think we have three, the first one to the Member for Drayton Valley-Devon.

Point of Order Language Creating Disorder

Mr. Cooper: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my pleasure to rise on behalf of my hon. colleague and speak to the point of order that he raised just before 2 o'clock. The Premier made some statements with respect to the opposition that, in fact, were dealt with yesterday. While I don't have the benefit of the Blues, I believe the statement that the Premier made was something to the effect of: Albertans think you are all climate change deniers. I'll leave it at: Albertans think you are all climate change deniers. Or something to that effect.

Just yesterday, Mr. Speaker, in your ruling from June 1, 2016, on page 1385 of Alberta *Hansard*: “I would caution you on future use of that particular word, please. It clearly does on occasion create disorder, and I would ask that in the future you be more conscious of when and how it is used.” While the ruling may or may not have determined if it was a point of order, I think what we saw yesterday was clear direction on this very topic, of the government making false accusations against the opposition about the opposition being climate change deniers. I think that the key language here is around “climate change deniers.”

While the Premier may have tried to have been a little bit creative by utilizing the words “all Albertans say,” Mr. Speaker, you as well as all members of this Assembly surely know that many Speakers have ruled that you can’t do indirectly what you aren’t allowed to do directly. What I think is that, in light of your very thoughtful words about members of this House needing to use caution around this issue and the very fact that it’s going to create disorder, the Premier is trying to do indirectly what she may or may not be allowed to do directly. This is not the type of language that is going to create order inside the Chamber.

3:00

Part of the other challenge: if, in fact, the Premier is allowed to continue utilizing this new technique in order to be able to call the opposition climate change deniers, what else, then, would the Premier be able to say by saying that all Albertans say that the Official Opposition are liars? Would that then be appropriate? Given the fact that you clearly provided caution when it comes to making false allegations against the opposition just yesterday and then to see the Premier the very next day – it is more than disappointing because it will continue to create disorder when the government makes false allegations against the opposition.

The Speaker: The Deputy Government House Leader.

Mr. Bilous: Well, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I’ll start off by saying that this is not a point of order. This is more of a difference of opinion. Quite frankly, I wrote down what the Premier said as soon as she finished. Now, I don’t have the benefit of the Blues, so this may not be word for word. She said something along the lines of: no wonder Albertans don’t take them credibly and believe they are climate change deniers.

Now, first of all, Mr. Speaker, this is a difference of opinion. This wasn’t an allegation against a member. On June 1 you yourself ruled that it doesn’t apply, 23(i). I quote you from *Hansard* on page 1385.

I don’t believe that applied because there was no specific reference to a member.

Now, I appreciate where the Opposition House Leader is trying to go with this, Mr. Speaker, but let me just start off by saying that the Premier was speaking from her personal experience. In conversations that she had with Albertans, they told her that they do not take the Official Opposition credibly and believe that they deny the science of climate. The Premier was citing from her personal experience from conversations with Albertans who believe what I just said.

Quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, when the Opposition House Leader talked about using *Hansard*, basically, the House leader is accusing the Premier of using a lack of caution. Now, the last time I checked, that’s not a point of order, a member using a lack of caution.

Again, Mr. Speaker, this is a difference of opinion. This is not a point of order.

The Speaker: The House leader for the third party.

Dr. Starke: Well, Mr. Speaker, I’d like to offer just a few comments on this matter. I’m actually surprised and more than a little bit disappointed at the comments by the Deputy Government House Leader because what he’s indicating, of course, pending your ruling, sir, is that basically any statement that is indicated in a quote, in a third-party quote, could be used in this House with impunity at any time. It is very clear that the language that is to be used in this House is such that it does not create disorder.

I think, Mr. Speaker, you will agree that we have had more than our share of disorder in the House recently and, you know, actually, quite a bit of it. As the hon. Official Opposition House Leader just said, it is not in order to do indirectly what is out of order to be done directly. You know, when the hon. Deputy Government House Leader indicates that the Premier was simply quoting from conversations, that’s not good enough. In fact, if that is ruled to be in order, then all manner of statements could be made in this House by hearsay, stating, “Well, I heard somebody tell me that,” and then continue the statement.

Very clearly, Mr. Speaker, that could create all manner of disorder because then it throws the floodgates wide open to any manner of statement under the sun. Clearly, that’s not a road that we want to go down in this Chamber; therefore, in this situation, given the context of the comments, I believe there is a valid point of order in this case.

The Speaker: I’m sure the hon. members would allow me a moment to read some notes. I’ve been involved in the House with you trying to keep the place a little more . . .

Hon. members, the Opposition House Leader I think used the phrase “creative” to describe circumstances and events which happen in here. That would not be my first word that I would use to describe it. As I indicated just yesterday, I reminded the House that the timing and context with respect to this use of language is an essential part of ruling in these matters, and I was surprised to hear reference in another time, in another context, of similar language. It could be that there needs to be – if I could ask the Deputy Government House Leader that he remind all of his members about the signal that I sent and cautioned yesterday with respect to those phrases and those words in the future and that he ensure that all members of the government caucus are aware of that.

I would remind all of the members. It happens in this instance that we were dealing with the government side versus the opposition. I’ve also sensed and experienced and seen in this room where the opposition was using language which would have the opposite effect. I would therefore caution again. I wish to the Deputy House Leader to please ensure that the message is received by all members. My caution with respect to this matter is that it’s obvious, depending on the interpretation of the receivers, that it is in a high-risk category of causing an uproar in this House, and therefore I would, hon. member, request that you heed that caution.

I will be again applying the principle of time and context. I have on several occasions ruled that it was in order, but as it continues to be brought forward, evidence seems to suggest that it may have an impact on disorder.

I think we have another point of order to rule on, which I have not yet had the time to read.

Mr. Rodney: So that’s a point of order or not a point of order?

The Speaker: I’ve cautioned, hon. member.

Mr. Rodney: Thank you.

The Speaker: There was a second point of order, I believe, by the Government House Leader. Are you prepared to speak to that, hon. member?

**Point of Order
Remarks off the Record**

Mr. Bilous: Yes, I am. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise on a point of order on behalf of the Government House Leader. Around 2:20 p.m. the Member for Calgary-Hays shouted across the aisle, "That's not honest," to a response that the Minister of Human Services was delivering. Now, it's bad enough that the Member for Calgary-Hays shouted that once. He shouted it five times in succession: that's not honest; that's not honest; that's not honest; that's not honest.

3:10

An Hon. Member: One more time.

The Speaker: Hon. member, please.

Mr. Bilous: That's not honest.

Mr. Speaker, that allegation wasn't just made to the House; it was made specifically against another member. Standing Order 23(j) – sorry. That's "to create disorder," absolutely. Also, 23(i): "imputes false or unavowed motives to another Member."

Now, on this point of order, Mr. Speaker, I need to clarify, first of all, that the minister's response was talking about a program that was created by the previous government when they were government. So the Member for Calgary-Hays shouting, "That's not honest," first of all, is incorrect. It is wrong that the previous government didn't create a program that the minister was referring to. Second of all, it was directed at a member, not at a party but specifically at the member in his response. Quite frankly, that can be interpreted as the Member for Calgary-Hays calling the Minister of Human Services a liar. If he's saying that he's not honest and he's calling and questioning the integrity of the minister, that can be interpreted as calling the minister a liar.

Quite frankly, Mr. Speaker, there are a number of rulings that this is unparliamentary language: back on May 8, 2000, Speaker Kowalski – now, the member voluntarily withdrew the remark – March 15, 1995, Speaker Schumacher; February 22, 1995, Acting Speaker Clegg, to which the member voluntarily withdrew; on May 23, 1990, Speaker Carter; on July 21, 1989, Speaker Carter; on November 22, 1983, Speaker Amerongen. These are numerous examples of a member accusing another member of lying or calling him a liar. Again, shouting "That's not honest" at a member when they're answering a question is outright calling them a liar. You know, back on May 23, 1990, the Speaker said,

Hon. members have enough sense to be able to refer to *Beauchesne*. Shouting "liar" across the Chamber is inappropriate, unparliamentary, and exceedingly rude. Please refrain from doing so.

Mr. Speaker, I request that the Member for Calgary-Hays apologize to the House and the minister for his comment and to withdraw all said comments. Thank you.

Dr. Starke: Well, Mr. Speaker, I have to confess that I'm a little confused because just a little earlier this afternoon, basically about an hour and 20 minutes ago, you made a ruling, and it was using the exact same phrase: not honest. I will also point out that my colleague used that exact phrase. He did not say: that's not honest. He said "Not honest" in order to use the exact same phrase. He was very judicious in that.

Some consistency in rulings, of course, is something that we rely upon within this House. I'm familiar with all the precedents that the

hon. Deputy Government House Leader just reeled off with regard to honesty. I thought I had made that case yesterday when I raised the point of order when the Deputy Premier and the Minister of Health used the phrase "not honest" to refer to my colleague. You see, Mr. Speaker, earlier this afternoon when the ruling was made that "not honest" could be used in a context when it was not specifically applying to a member but to something that was being said, that seemed to indicate that there is a new standard in our Assembly.

I guess why I'm saying that I'm confused is that, you know, certainly, I had understood that there was a standard in place prior to today, and clearly that standard has, at least in the case of the phrase "not honest," changed, and that's fine. But I would rely – and I'm quite certain that I can speak without risk of contravention here, that surely if a phrase that's spoken by a government member that is ruled parliamentary and is ruled to not be out of order, the same principle should apply to my colleague the Member for Calgary-Hays.

As a result of that, Mr. Speaker, I have to say that based on the ruling that was made just earlier today, I think that the comments are entirely consistent with your rationale. I just feel that if it was not a point of order at 10 to 2, it can't be a point of order at quarter past 3.

The Speaker: The House leader for the Official Opposition.

Mr. Cooper: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think this is a good reminder to all members of the Assembly of what happens when we don't right the wrongs that we've made. The hon. deputy House leader has laid out a very consistent case of the words "not honest" being ruled out of order, and this whole challenge today could have been prevented if the Deputy Premier stood in her place and withdrew the comments that she made yesterday. But, for whatever reason, the government chose not to do that. There is a very true reality that rulings in this Chamber have consequences, and sometimes that means that what is deemed parliamentary will wind up being used by members inside the Chamber. That, I believe, is what happened here today.

I am in complete agreement – while it's my hope that the statement "not honest" won't continue to be used, because I don't think that it's helpful for the overall tenure of the place, the challenge is that we find ourselves with different sets of rules. When that happens, from time to time politics breaks out and members will use those rules to their benefit or to try and get a point across. I am in agreement that this is clearly not a point of order as the context certainly didn't change in the last hour and a half, so I would concur with my colleague from the third party that this isn't a point of order.

The Speaker: I'm sorry. The Member for Calgary-Lougheed.

Mr. Rodney: No problem. These are trying times for all of us, Mr. Speaker.

It's certainly not every day that I would agree with the hon. Official Opposition House Leader. Sir, I will not waste the time of the House by repeating any of the remarks that have been made. You know, those who might be watching, looking forward to great debate probably are rather irked, and they might be thinking things like: what is good for the goose is good for the gander. The truth of the matter is that yesterday our – oh. Maybe I'll just wait until the Speaker is ready.

The Speaker: I'm sorry, hon. member. Please proceed.

Mr. Rodney: Thank you very much. I won't reiterate the comments. I'll just pick up where I left off.

Yesterday in this House there was a point of order, and the third party House leader apologized and retracted statements even though, sir, he did not have to. He did do so in a matter of seconds. The hon. Official Opposition House Leader mentioned that if that had been done today by the Deputy Premier, we would not be in this place. This is getting deeper and deeper. I think everyone in this room knows that we're having bigger and bigger problems. I dare say that that is the reason why the spring session is usually done in the spring before Victoria Day, with great sincerity, sir. And that's why we have constituency weeks, so we can get out from under the dome.

I wish you good luck in this ruling, sir. The phrase that I used earlier I do believe applies. We're going to be hearing people say: what is good for the goose is good for gander. So I'm anxiously awaiting your ruling on this one.

3:20

The Speaker: Hon. member, thank you for the use of the word "luck" in making the decision.

I send the message again: time and context. But I did not hear the comments by the leader of the third party. I could not hear it because there was so much noise in this place that I could not hear it. It is not the first time that I haven't heard these kinds of statements being brought forward. Therefore, on this particular one – but I've got to tell the government again through the deputy House leader: let us try to avoid the use of those kinds of wordings in the House, please, to all of you.

Hon. member, I have to rule that I didn't hear it. It's not in . . .

Mr. McIver: I said it.

The Speaker: I noted that earlier, hon. member.

Mr. McIver: I cannot tell – I said it.

The Speaker: Hon. member, please. Thank you.

Point of order 3. The Deputy Government House Leader.

Point of Order Epithets

Mr. Bilous: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise because at 2:37 the Member for Innisfail-Sylvan Lake, in asking a question, said: "the minister of anything over there." I will refer you to *House of Commons Procedure and Practice* on page 613, references to members: "A Minister is referred to by the portfolio he or she holds." That's from *Beauchesne's*, fourth edition, page 126. For examples: *Debates* October 6, 1997, page 530; September 16, 2003, page 7446-7447. In the *House of Commons Procedure and Practice*: "A Member will be requested to withdraw offensive remarks, allegations, or accusations of impropriety directed toward another Member."

Mr. Speaker, the Member for Innisfail-Sylvan Lake very intentionally – this wasn't a slip-up. This wasn't wrongfully calling a minister by their improper portfolio. Saying "the minister of anything over there" was done deliberately. It's spelled out very, very clearly. I mean, I could address the fact that this was done to create disorder. It was intentional, and I believe the member should apologize for that. Again, that was intentionally used to cause disorder, as I mentioned. The member should apologize to the House.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker: Hon. member, on this particular point, I think we need to be cautious about judging the intent of other members. I think, given this particular instance, in this time and context, again I would rule there is no point of order.

Mr. Nixon: You're done the point of order?

The Speaker: I'm done.

Mr. Nixon: Mr. Speaker, I would like to seek . . . [interjection] I'm not on a point of order anymore. I thought we were moving on.

I seek unanimous consent to quickly revert to introductions for some guests.

[Unanimous consent granted]

Introduction of Guests

(continued)

The Speaker: The hon. member.

Mr. Nixon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be quick. I know there's lots to do this afternoon, but I was out a few moments ago taking a picture with the grade 6 class from Eckville, in the middle of my constituency of Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre. I always enjoy seeing faces from back home, as I know all of us members do, particularly on Thursday, when we get the opportunity to go back home. Eckville is a great place, a great town, and has always treated me well. Interestingly enough, they have the shortest mayor in the entire province and, of course, they have the tallest MLA in the entire province. I would ask that they all rise and receive the traditional warm welcome of this Assembly.

The Speaker: Welcome.

Orders of the Day

Government Motions

The Speaker: The Deputy Government House Leader.

Mr. Bilous: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to move a number of motions on behalf of the Government House Leader.

Committee Membership Changes

19. Mr. Bilous moved on behalf of Mason:
Be it resolved that the following changes to
 - (a) the Standing Committee on the Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund be approved: that Mr. Coolahan replace Ms Miller;
 - (b) the Standing Committee on Families and Communities be approved: that Ms McKittrick replace Mr. Westhead.

The Speaker: Hon. member, proceed.

Mr. Bilous: With your indulgence, Mr. Speaker, I'll read the other two motions to the House. No, I will not.

The Speaker: I'm advised that it's one at a time, hon. member.

Is there anyone who wishes to speak to the motion?

[Government Motion 19 carried]

The Speaker: The Deputy Government House Leader.

**Committee Referral for
Child and Youth Advocate Act**

20. Mr. Bilous moved on behalf of Mason:
Be it resolved that:
1. The Child and Youth Advocate Act be referred to the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive review pursuant to section 23 of that act;
 2. The committee may without leave of the Assembly sit during a period when the Assembly is adjourned or prorogued;
 3. In accordance with section 23 of the Child and Youth Advocate Act the committee must submit its report to the Assembly within one year after beginning its review, and that report is to include any amendments recommended by the committee.

The Speaker: Anyone wish to speak to this matter?

[Government Motion 20 carried]

Committee Referral for Lobbyists Act

21. Mr. Bilous moved on behalf of Mason:
Be it resolved that:
1. The Lobbyists Act be referred to the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship and the committee shall be deemed to be the special committee of the Assembly for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive review pursuant to section 21 of that act;
 2. The committee may without leave of the Assembly sit during a period when the Assembly is adjourned or prorogued;
 3. In accordance with section 21 of the Lobbyists Act the committee must submit its report to the Assembly within one year after beginning its review, and that report is to include any amendments recommended by the committee.

The Speaker: Anyone wish to speak to the motion?

[Government Motion 21 carried]

**Government Bills and Orders
Committee of the Whole**

[Ms Jabbour in the chair]

The Chair: Hon. members, I'd like to call the committee to order.

**Bill 20
Climate Leadership Implementation Act**

The Chair: We are on amendment A4. Are there any further speakers to this amendment? The hon. leader of the third party.

Mr. McIver: Thank you, Madam Chair. It's my pleasure to rise on the amendment to Bill 20, the climate change leadership plan, the amendment, of course, put by my hon. colleague from Calgary-North West. It's an amendment to schedule 1 by adding the following section 79. Of course, it just makes it clear which legislation it is.

3:30

Madam Chair, what this will happen to clarify is that a ministerial report would be required one full year after the \$30 carbon tax takes

effect. I think that this is wise. It's often been talked about and, if not universally, almost universally accepted that a government ought to review its legislation from time to time. That's just good parliamentary practice. It doesn't matter which party is in office. It doesn't matter which province or if it's a federal government or a territory. It's just good legislative practice to do that because, as you know, Madam Chair, as time goes on, societal standards change, technological standards change, incidents happen that change legislators' and members of the public's opinions on how things should be done. So it's good to check in with the world, for lack of a better word. It's good for legislators everywhere to check in with the world once in a while to see if their legislation is still pertinent, whether it's still viable, whether it still makes sense.

Of course, there are a lot of things that, you know, you would think should be checked even though it's fairly self-evident that they don't. I will just give a fairly extreme example for illustration purposes: the fact that you've got to stop at a stop sign. You know what? We should review that once in a while. I don't think the meaning of that, in my view, is going to change for a long time, but legislative practice dictates that something as simple, straightforward, and undeniable as the fact that you need to stop at a stop sign – even that legislation should be checked in on once in a while to make sure that it's still pertinent. I suppose in some world – I may be dead before it happens – when vehicles fly instead of go on the surface, then that actually might be a legitimate thing to check. But my point is that as simple as a stop sign law is, that legislation should be checked out once in a while, too, to see if it's still pertinent.

Flash forward if you will, Madam Chair, to the climate change bill of this government, a complex piece of legislation taxing almost everything that moves in Alberta, affecting all the energy that gets consumed, designed to reduce energy consumption, reduce carbon emissions, designed to transfer massive amounts of wealth from one part of the population to the other, and a whole bunch of other contingencies in there, and it's new for Alberta. It's breaking ground. This isn't an update, in many ways, of previous legislation. It's something very, very new. When you consider that you ought to update from time to time the most rudimentary, basic, obvious, probably-will-never-change legislation like the stop sign legislation, then it seems multiple times more obvious that you should review once in a while some complex pieces of legislation like the climate change legislation.

Right now the government is reviewing, for example, the Municipal Government Act, another complex piece of legislation, and I would say that that probably should have been reviewed at an earlier time than it is. I won't say that they've got it right yet because I haven't had it in my hands long enough, but I will say that that's something the previous government, that I was part of, should have reviewed earlier than we did. I see government members nodding, yes, you should have. They're kind of making my point, Madam Chair, that legislation should be reviewed from time to time. It's good legislative practice.

It seems completely reasonable, completely reasonable to me, that in a complex piece of legislation like the government's Climate Leadership Implementation Act, if I got that right, or climate leadership plan – I think that's what they call it. It's a big piece of legislation. To say that it doesn't need to be reviewed is ridiculous. It's completely ridiculous. In fact, I hope that the government doesn't say that. They should support this because to say that a piece of legislation that new and that complex is perfect – although I think that the Member for Edmonton-South West might have actually said that – would be a little bit arrogant, to think that you couldn't possibly have made any mistakes.

I can assure you, Madam Chair, that I'm not picking on the government. I make mistakes every day. Listen; I don't think anybody in this House will argue with that. I make mistakes every day, sometimes on the simplest of tasks and tasks that I perform every day. I make mistakes. So to ask the government to admit that as great as they think they are and as hard as they say that they've worked on this and as many people as they say that they've talked to, for them to consider whether there's no possible way that they could have made a mistake – one would hope they wouldn't dream of being that stuck on their own perfection. I sincerely hope not.

When you add all of that up, this amendment is to simply take a look after we've had a year's experience with this legislation. I guess it's after the carbon tax goes up to \$30, so potentially we'd have more than a full year's experience with the legislation. After we've lived with this legislation for a year or two, why wouldn't you take a peek? Why wouldn't you take a peek? It's just obvious. It's common sense. It's good legislative practice, which is why I'm going to support it. I don't know why any member of this House wouldn't, unless, of course, they think they're perfect.

The Chair: Any other members wishing to speak to the bill? The hon. Member for Innisfail-Sylvan Lake.

Mr. MacIntyre: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm really happy to see this amendment for a couple of reasons, and I thank the hon. member for it. This is great stuff. In the world of energy management we have a couple of subdisciplines within that. One of them is known as M and V, and it stands for measurement and verification. In the world of energy management one of the most important things to do is to measure the changes that you have made and verify that the results meet the targets that those changes were intended to meet. If in the measurement and the verification of results it is determined that you have not met what you engineered this change to accomplish, then you go back to the drawing board and you fix it.

As we look to the plans that this government has regarding this carbon tax, they are going to up this carbon tax after the first year. If they do not hit the pause button and actually conduct some serious measurement and verification – measurement of the impact that this carbon tax is having and measurement to determine that it is in fact reducing greenhouse emissions – and then forge on ahead and increase the carbon tax another \$10 anyway, that is absolutely a recipe for disaster. Absolutely. It is completely contradictory to all of the principles of energy management.

The people who are certified M and V experts in the world are laughing at what this government is doing. This amendment might quell a little bit of that laughter, but my colleagues that are out there in the field of energy management are laughing at what's going on because this climate action plan, really, in our mind, is an energy management plan. If you do not follow the sound principles that have been proven over time with regard to energy management master planning, the master plan will fail. This plan will fail.

I think this government at the very least owes it to the people of Alberta, given the enormity of this tax, to conduct, I'm going to say, an economic assessment one more time but, more than that, an environmental assessment, too, to determine that, in fact, this carbon tax is resulting in a change in emissions, a sustainable change in emissions, that they are meeting their targets, and that it is actually worth the pain that they are going to be inflicting upon our citizenry, 68 per cent of whom, if you believe the polls, do not support this carbon tax.

3:40

In addition to M and V, there is another concept that I want to just pass along here tonight, and that is a process called alpha, beta portfolio-wide. It interconnects with measurement and verification in this way. When you have an idea for an energy savings opportunity or an emissions management opportunity, the concept within the field of energy management is to take this perceived energy savings opportunity or emissions management opportunity and in a very small way enact the changes that you think you want to put in place. That's the alpha test. If the alpha test proves positive, the targets that you determined as you engineered this EMO, emissions management opportunity – if you meet those targets in the alpha test, you go to another site and duplicate the alpha test. Sometimes when we would perform alpha tests, we would say, "We need to tweak it this way," or "We need to tweak it just a little bit that way," and we would.

Then we would take our alpha test plus the tweaks and perform a beta test. Again, during and after the beta test we do M and V, which is measurement and verification of the results. If after the beta test it proved positive, then, and only then, we take those measures, those emissions management measures or energy savings measures, and we duplicate them what's called portfolio-wide, which is right across the full spectrum of, say, this corporation with 18 different branches or this manufacturing company with five different plants that were the same.

In the alpha test we put our theories for improvement to the test. If they prove, we do it again. It's called the beta. If they prove positive again and the results are just as good as the alpha, we go portfolio-wide. I realize this is slow. It takes sometimes many years to do an alpha, beta portfolio-wide, but the whole goal of it is to not waste money, to not waste resources or people's time because these things take an enormous amount of time. The third thing is: don't make a mistake that's irreversible. That's the purpose for alpha, beta portfolio-wide as a protocol for the enactment of energy savings opportunities or emissions management opportunities.

Everything that I just mapped out to you, Madam Chair, this government isn't doing. None of it. Even principle number one in energy management, which is to begin by using less, is not what this government did.

The very first thing that this government did after taking power was to increase the carbon tax under the specified gas emitters regulation by 33 per cent without even conducting any analysis of what that would result in. They still don't understand what that did because it wasn't very many days ago that I heard the Minister of Energy once again saying that the reason why the PPAs were returned to the Balancing Pool was because the cost of electricity is so low when, in fact, all the documentation from the PPA holders to the Balancing Pool all referenced section 4.3(j), a change in law, and the Balancing Pool adjudicated that and said: yes, you are right. That is why. And you have the right to return those PPAs to the Balancing Pool. The lack of understanding, the profound lack of a grasp of PPAs by the Energy minister, by this government is astounding.

Coming back to my original point here, if this government really, really is interested in greenhouse gas reduction, if that's the mission here, and we're going to be taxing Albertans to the tune of billions of dollars, they have an ethical responsibility to measure and verify that they're getting the results that they're supposed to be getting, especially before they go ahead and hit our province with a substantial increase in carbon of \$10, from \$20 to \$30. If they increase the carbon tax from \$20 to \$30 without proving to anyone that it's doing what they claim it's doing, that is beyond irresponsible. That is unethical. It really is.

I am fully in support of the hon. member's amendment here. Is it going to make Bill 20 palatable? No. Bill 20 is a terrible bill, ill-conceived, ill-timed, and without any targets in it. It's not a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It's really just nothing more than a tax bill.

Mr. Hanson: It's a tax grab.

Mr. MacIntyre: It's a tax grab. A tax grab. When our province is down, they're hitting our people with a \$3 billion tax grab.

In any event, in and of itself, just looking at the face value of this amendment, it's a great amendment. I support it fully. I thank the hon. member for this very wise amendment. I still recommend to every member on the other side of this House that they go enrol at NAIT in the alternative energy program. You need it desperately; desperately you need it.

I could go on, and I'm sure you want me to.

An Hon. Member: I do.

Mr. MacIntyre: You know, when we're in Committee of the Whole like this, the hon. member wants me to continue. Maybe I should bring in the curriculum.

An Hon. Member: Do it.

Mr. MacIntyre: Just do it? If they won't go to school, we'll bring school to them. It's looks like I have some support for that. Madam Chair, it would save them at least about \$8,000 in tuition per year, and they could have that course for free. It might be fun, but I'm a hard marker. I'll tell you that right now.

In any event, Madam Chair, we have here an amendment that I wholly support, especially the review part. "Following the tabling of the Minister's report... no later than January 1, 2020, a committee of the Legislative Assembly must begin a comprehensive review of this Act." I honestly and emphatically support the concept of committee work. All of us in this place were sent to this place by the good people of Alberta to do a good job for them. [interjection] Thank you very much. I'm not done yet. I'm just thanking him. He's buttering me up for something, and I'm not sure what it could be.

In any event, Madam Chair, I support both parts of this amendment. I think they're valuable. I would encourage every member to support this, and I will sit down.

The Chair: The hon. Member for Calgary-Greenway.

Mr. Gill: Thank you, Madam Chair. I'd like to speak in support of this amendment introduced by our hon. Member for Calgary-North West. I think it's a very good amendment, which has been also noted by other members of this House. It doesn't change the original intent of the bill. The amendment introduced simply allows the government to take an honest assessment of where they are at any given time pertaining to the carbon tax. You know, it's an old saying: what doesn't get measured doesn't get done. It's important that we measure, every step of the way, which way we're going.

What I can't understand is why the government would oppose this amendment. It's beyond my scope of thinking. I know the Member for Edmonton-South West is convinced that Bill 20 is the greatest thing since sliced bread and that there are absolutely no faults whatsoever within this document. He and others who remain silent would have us believe that the bill as originally drafted is so perfect, so beyond reproach, and so impervious to any analysis that to even consider a review would be a waste of time.

3:50

Here again is where we differ. If the government is so proud of themselves, so convinced that they have changed the landscape of our great province of Alberta, that they are taking leaps and bounds towards a low-carbon economy while reducing emissions and creating jobs, then they should have no problem proving it. If you're so convinced of your inevitable success, would you not want to take a review and hold it in your hands so you can wave it, like: "Look what I created; look what I created"? I think that's fair. "Look at how much better off Alberta is because of our action on this issue."

An Hon. Member: It's almost too easy.

Mr. Gill: Thank you.

If you're afraid of doing this review, then you must not be confident in what the result would be. It is the only logical conclusion, in my opinion. No one is afraid of taking a test where they know the answers. It's the person who didn't study and winged it; that's the person who's afraid.

Also, we heard of all the assessments that this government has done and how they are convinced beyond a doubt that the impact of this tax on hard-working Alberta families will be minimal. Just a short while ago, on May 25, the minister of environment noted that, based on the internal economic analysis they have done, they have estimated that the indirect cost of the new tax to Alberta families will be between \$70 and \$105 per year. Now, this seems to be a manageable number. The problem is that no one has seen this analysis yet. Have you? I haven't.

The government is taking the approach, "Trust us; trust us; we've got this" instead of being up front, open, honest with the facts. This attitude only becomes clearer as the government speaks against this motion, which only requires a review. We're not changing it. Just review the program. That's it. You haven't been forthcoming with the information you possess. You sell numbers as if they're facts yet will not demonstrate how you came to these numbers so that they can be analyzed and confirmed or debated, like they would be in any other practical approach, any other academic situation.

This amendment is good public policy.

Mrs. Pitt: It's transparency neutral.

Mr. Gill: Absolutely.

It affords the government the opportunity to improve on its failures and celebrate its successes. If something is wrong, we can fix the problem, and if something is going well, keep on going on the same route. Nothing wrong with that. It allows an all-party committee to truly examine the bill and its impact to ensure that this is what's best for Albertans.

If you're really a champion about climate change, if you really want the world to see the NDP world view, why would you oppose this amendment? If we really want to be a leader on climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, why would you oppose this amendment?

Madam Chair, it makes this bill better, and really that's why we're here right now. Everybody has left their families to sit here to make this province better. Why are we not agreeing on something which is really practical?

Thank you, Madam Chair.

The Chair: The hon. Member for Grande Prairie-Smoky.

Mr. Loewen: Thank you, Madam Chair. It was interesting to hear the comments earlier from the Member for Edmonton-South West. He talked about how thorough the consultation was, how it was a

made-in-Alberta solution, though I wonder why they don't hire more people from Alberta into the government brass there. Anyway, that's what he said about this bill.

He said that it was going to create jobs. Well, that remains to be seen. He said that the leaders in the community around Alberta spoke in favour of this. Of course, those are some of the same ones that stood on the stage with the Premier and the environment minister when they told everybody in Alberta that this was going to be revenue neutral. They seemed to be all onside at that point, but of course they obviously didn't have all the facts.

Now, this review is pretty simple. I mean, this is a thing that businesses do all the time. Even government does this all the time, or it should. It should review the things that it does to see if it was effective in accomplishing the goals that it was supposed to. Let's face it. Hindsight is 20/20. Why wouldn't you want to look at something afterwards with the full advantage of hindsight and do an analysis on it?

Just for instance, if I wanted to travel to the lovely city of Grande Prairie next week, a week from today, June 9, and I wanted to find out: what is the weather going to be like on June 9? I go check out Environment Canada, and I look for June 9, and I see what the weather is going to be like. They do a great job. I mean, that's what they do. Obviously, forecasts are sometimes wrong, but they're gathering the best information they can to get the best data they can to give us the best information. But do you think that it would be even better if I asked Environment Canada on June 10: what was the weather on June 9? I think they would be bang on.

This is what we have here. We have an opportunity to be bang on. We can look at this afterwards and say: "Did this work or not? What did it accomplish?" I think that this is very reasonable. It doesn't change anything in the bill other than to do an analysis on it afterwards.

Now, we can't comment on when we're going to be voting on this amendment, shortly, but this recorded vote – I just want to remind everybody in the House – on whether you supported accountability, transparency, analysis on a bill that you're going to pass yourselves will be in *Hansard* forever. I just want to make sure that everybody's very clear about that. This is going to be in *Hansard* forever.

Thank you.

The Chair: Any other members wishing to speak to amendment A4? The hon. Member for Edmonton-Centre.

Mr. Shepherd: Thank you, Madam Chair. Just rising briefly to quickly note that, of course, all major government initiatives are reported on and assessments are provided. For example, the Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act requires that all ministries prepare business plans and annual reports, which are presented to the Assembly. These annual reports contain the consolidated financial statements, comparisons of performance results to the business plan, and explanations of any variances between the two. These annual reports also include a report of the Auditor General on the departments' financial statements.

I appreciate the member bringing this amendment forward and the member's intent. Of course, it is the responsibility of specific departments to look after this legislation and to report on their work as part of that. However, as there are reporting mechanisms in place, I will be voting against this amendment.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

The Chair: Any other members wishing to speak to amendment A4?

Seeing none, I'll call the question.

[The voice vote indicated that the motion on amendment A4 lost]

[Several members rose calling for a division. The division bell was rung at 3:59 p.m.]

[Fifteen minutes having elapsed, the committee divided]

[Ms Jabbour in the chair]

For the motion:

Barnes	Hanson	McIver
Clark	Hunter	Nixon
Ellis	Jansen	Panda
Gill	Loewen	Pitt
Gotfried	MacIntyre	Starke

Against the motion:

Anderson, S.	Hinkley	Nielsen
Babcock	Hoffman	Payne
Bilous	Horne	Renaud
Carson	Kazim	Rosendahl
Coolahan	Kleinstauber	Sabir
Cortes-Vargas	Littlewood	Schmidt
Dang	Loyola	Schreiner
Drever	Malkinson	Shepherd
Eggen	Mason	Sigurdson
Feehan	McCuaig-Boyd	Sucha
Fitzpatrick	Miller	Turner
Goehring	Miranda	Woollard
Gray		

Totals: For – 15 Against – 37

[Motion on amendment A4 lost]

Mr. Bilous: Madam Chair, I move that we rise and report progress.

[Motion carried]

[The Deputy Speaker in the chair]

Ms Woollard: Madam Speaker, the Committee of the Whole has had under consideration a certain bill. The committee reports progress on the following bill: Bill 20. I wish to table copies of all amendments considered by Committee of the Whole on this date for the official records of the Assembly.

The Deputy Speaker: Does the Assembly concur in the report?

Hon. Members: Aye.

The Deputy Speaker: Opposed? So ordered.

The hon. Deputy Government House Leader.

Mr. Bilous: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. There's been some good debate today, but in light of the fact that there are some severe storms in southern Alberta and that we have many members from all sides of the House that reside throughout the province – they'll be travelling, and we wish everyone to travel safely – for that reason, I move that the House stand adjourned until Monday at 1:30.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 4:17 p.m.]

Bill Status Report for the 29th Legislature - 2nd Session (2016)

Activity to Tuesday, July 19, 2016

The Bill sponsor's name is in brackets following the Bill title. If it is a money Bill, (\$) will appear between the title and the sponsor's name. Numbers following each Reading refer to Hansard pages where the text of debates is found; dates for each Reading are in brackets following the page numbers. Bills numbered 1 to 200 are Government Bills. Bills numbered 201 or higher are Private Members' Public Bills. Bills numbered with a "Pr" prefix are Private Bills.

* An asterisk beside a Bill number indicates an amendment was passed to that Bill; the Committee line shows the precise date of the amendment.

The date a Bill comes into force is indicated in square brackets after the date of Royal Assent. If a Bill comes into force "on proclamation," "with exceptions," or "on various dates," please contact Legislative Counsel, Alberta Justice, for details at 780.427.2217. The chapter number assigned to the Bill is entered immediately following the date the Bill comes into force. SA indicates Statutes of Alberta; this is followed by the year in which it is included in the statutes, and its chapter number. Please note, Private Bills are not assigned chapter number until the conclusion of the Fall Sittings.

Bill 1 — Promoting Job Creation and Diversification Act (Bilous)

First Reading — 5 (*Mar. 8, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 685-91 (*Apr. 20, 2016 morn.*), 732-36 (*Apr. 20, 2016 aft.*), 749-60 (*Apr. 21, 2016 aft.*), 825 (*May 5, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 987-95 (*May 18, 2016 morn.*), 1019-24 (*May 18, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 1172 (*May 25, 2016 eve.*), 1174-79 (*May 25, 2016 eve., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force May 27, 2016; SA 2016 cP-26.3]

Bill 2 — Appropriation (Interim Supply) Act, 2016 (\$) (Ceci)

First Reading — 96 (*Mar. 10, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 162-67 (*Mar. 15, 2016 morn., passed on division*)

Committee of the Whole — 239-49 (*Mar. 16, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 251-59 (*Mar. 17, 2016 morn., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Mar. 23, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force Mar. 23, 2016; SA 2016 c1]

Bill 3 — Appropriation (Supplementary Supply) Act, 2016 (\$) (Ceci)

First Reading — 156 (*Mar. 14, 2016 eve., passed*)

Second Reading — 157-62 (*Mar. 15, 2016 morn.*), 201 (*Mar. 15, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 239-49 (*Mar. 16, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 259-66 (*Mar. 17, 2016 morn., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Mar. 23, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force Mar. 23, 2016; SA 2016 c2]

Bill 4* — An Act to Implement a Supreme Court Ruling Governing Essential Services (Gray)

First Reading — 180 (*Mar. 15, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 285-88 (*Mar. 17, 2016 aft.*), 349-66 (*Apr. 5, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 378-84 (*Apr. 6, 2016 morn.*), 399-409 (*Apr. 6, 2016 aft.*), 415-28 (*Apr. 7, 2016 morn., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 428-33 (*Apr. 7, 2016 morn.*), 450-55 (*Apr. 7, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force May 27, 2016, with exceptions; SA 2016 c10]

Bill 5 — Seniors' Home Adaptation and Repair Act (Sigurdson)

First Reading — 398 (*Apr. 6, 2016 aft.*)

Second Reading — 455-56 (*Apr. 7, 2016 aft.*), 491-505 (*Apr. 12, 2016 morn.*), 532-38 (*Apr. 12, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 539-56 (*Apr. 13, 2016 morn.*), 570-77 (*Apr. 13, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 577-83 (*Apr. 13, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2016 cS-7.1]

Bill 6 — Securities Amendment Act, 2016 (Ceci)

First Reading — 447 (*Apr. 7, 2016 aft., passed*), 447 (*Apr. 7, 2016 aft.*)

Second Reading — 519-27 (*Apr. 12, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 527-32 (*Apr. 12, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 583-85 (*Apr. 13, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force May 27, 2016, with exceptions; SA 2016 c13]

Bill 7 — Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2016 (Ganley)

First Reading — 518 (*Apr. 12, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 585-86 (*Apr. 13, 2016 aft.*), 649-51 (*Apr. 19, 2016 morn.*), 682-84 (*Apr. 19, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 820-24 (*May 5, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 902-903 (*May 12, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force May 27, 2016; SA 2016 c6]

Bill 8 — Fair Trading Amendment Act, 2016 (McLean)

First Reading — 568 (*Apr. 13, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 669-71 (*Apr. 19, 2016 aft.*), 684 (*Apr. 19, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 824-25 (*May 5, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 903-904 (*May 12, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force May 27, 2016; SA 2016 c8]

Bill 9 — An Act to Modernize Enforcement of Provincial Offences (Ganley)

First Reading — 568 (*Apr. 13, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 640-49 (*Apr. 19, 2016 morn.*), 728-30 (*Apr. 20, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 979-81 (*May 17, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 1180-81 (*May 25, 2016 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2016 c11]

Bill 10 — Fiscal Statutes Amendment Act, 2016 (Ceci)

First Reading — 599 (*Apr. 14, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 671-82 (*Apr. 19, 2016 aft.*), 691-703 (*Apr. 20, 2016 morn.*), 730-32 (*Apr. 20, 2016 aft., passed on division*)

Committee of the Whole — 950-51 (*May 17, 2016 morn.*), 1041-49 (*May 19, 2016 morn.*), 1077-81 (*May 24, 2016 morn.*), 1103-13 (*May 24, 2016 aft.*), 1115-23 (*May 24, 2016 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 1124 (*May 24, 2016 eve.*), 1197-99 (*May 26, 2016 morn.*), 1263-85 (*May 30, 2016 eve., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 13, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2016 c17]

Bill 11 — Alberta Research and Innovation Amendment Act, 2016 (Bilous)

First Reading — 773 (*May 2, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 907-908 (*May 12, 2016 aft.*), 971-79 (*May 17, 2016 aft, passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1012-18 (*May 18, 2016 aft.*), 1024 (*May 18, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 1068-69 (*May 19, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2016 c4]

Bill 12 — Aboriginal Consultation Levy Repeal Act (Feehan)

First Reading — 802 (*May 3, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 904-907 (*May 12, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 985-87 (*May 18, 2016 morn., passed*)

Third Reading — 1069 (*May 19, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force May 27, 2016; SA 2016 c3]

Bill 13 — Veterinary Profession Amendment Act, 2016 (Gray)

First Reading — 872 (*May 10, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 965-71 (*May 17, 2016 aft., passed on division*)

Committee of the Whole — 1024-25 (*May 18, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 1069 (*May 19, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on proclamation; SA 2016 c15]

Bill 14 — Health Professions Amendment Act, 2016 (Hoffman)

First Reading — 872 (*May 10, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 983-85 (*May 18, 2016 morn., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1076-77 (*May 24, 2016 morn., passed*)

Third Reading — 1077 (*May 24, 2016 morn., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force May 27, 2016; SA 2016 c9]

Bill 15 — An Act to End Predatory Lending (McLean)

First Reading — 901 (*May 12, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1062-67 (*May 19, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1153-57 (*May 25, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 1172 (*May 25, 2016 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force on various dates; SA 2016 cE-9.5]

Bill 16* — Traffic Safety Amendment Act, 2016 (Mason)

First Reading — 921 (*May 16, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1067-68 (*May 19, 2016 aft.*), 1071-75 (*May 24, 2016 morn., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1157-63 (*May 25, 2016 aft.*), 1197 (*May 26, 2016 morn., adjourned*), 1219-23 (*May 26, 2016 aft., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 1223-25 (*May 26, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force May 27, 2016, with exceptions; SA 2016 c14]

Bill 17 — Appropriation Act, 2016 (\$) (Ceci)

First Reading — 950 (*May 17, 2016 morn., passed*)

Second Reading — 995-1000 (*May 18, 2016 morn., adjourned*), 1025-29 (*May 18, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1031-41 (*May 19, 2016 morn.*), 1070 (*May 19, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 1096-1103 (*May 24, 2016 aft.*), 1113 (*May 24, 2016 aft., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force May 27, 2016; SA 2016 c5]

Bill 18 — An Act to Ensure Independent Environmental Monitoring (Phillips)

First Reading — 964-65 (*May 17, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1125-35 (*May 25, 2016 morn., passed on division*)

Committee of the Whole — 1191-97 (*May 26, 2016 morn., passed*)

Third Reading — 1199-1205 (*May 26, 2016 morn., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 30, 2016; SA 2016 c7]

Bill 19 — Reform of Agencies, Boards and Commissions Compensation Act (Ceci)

First Reading — 1011 (*May 18, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1135-40 (*May 25, 2016 morn.*), 1153 (*May 25, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1171-72 (*May 25, 2016 eve., passed*)

Third Reading — 1173 (*May 25, 2016 eve., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force May 27, 2016; SA 2016 cR-8.5]

Bill 20* — Climate Leadership Implementation Act (\$) (Phillips)

First Reading — 1095 (*May 24, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1163-70 (*May 25, 2016 aft.*), 1173-74 (*May 25, 2016 eve.*), 1181-90 (*May 25, 2016 eve.*), 1288-98 (*May 31, 2016 morn.*), 1311-21 (*May 31, 2016 aft.*), 1338-56 (*May 31, 2016 eve.*), 1357-72 (*Jun. 1, 2016 morn.*), 1405-07 (*Jun. 1, 2016 eve., passed on division*)

Committee of the Whole — 1408-24 (*Jun. 1, 2016 eve.*), 1425-42 (*Jun. 2, 2016 morn.*), 1458-61 (*Jun. 2, 2016 aft.*), 1479-91 (*Jun. 6, 2016 aft.*), 1493-1541 (*Jun. 6, 2016 eve., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 1541-43 (*Jun. 6, 2016 eve.*), 1545-57 (*Jun. 7, 2016 morn., passed on division*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 13, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force January 1, 2017; SA 2016 c16]

Bill 21 — Modernized Municipal Government Act (Larivee)

First Reading — 1310 (*May 31, 2016 aft., passed*)

Bill 22 — An Act to Provide for the Repatriation of Indigenous Peoples' Sacred Ceremonial Objects (Miranda)

First Reading — 1219 (*May 26, 2016 aft., passed*)

Bill 23 — Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2016 (Mason)

First Reading — 1454 (*Jun. 2, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1478 (*Jun. 6, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1478 (*Jun. 6, 2016 aft., passed*)

Third Reading — 1479 (*Jun. 6, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 13, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 13, 2016; SA 2016 c18]

Bill 201 — Election Recall Act (Smith)

First Reading — 92 (*Mar. 10, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 119-32 (*Mar. 14, 2016 aft.*), 303-304 (*Apr. 4, 2016 aft., defeated on division*)

Bill 202 — Alberta Affordable Housing Review Committee Act (Luff)

First Reading — 92 (*Mar. 10, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 305-16 (*Apr. 4, 2016 aft.*), 470-73 (*Apr. 11, 2016 aft., passed*)

Bill 203 — Fair Trading (Motor Vehicle Repair Pricing Protection for Consumers) Amendment Act, 2016 (Carson)

First Reading — 280 (*Mar. 17, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 481-83 (*Apr. 11, 2016 aft., referred to Standing Committee on Families and Communities*), 473-81 (*Apr. 11, 2016 aft.*)

Bill 204 — Alberta Tourism Week Act (Dang)

First Reading — 468 (*Apr. 11, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 616-30 (*Apr. 18, 2016 aft., passed*)

Bill 205* — Pharmacy and Drug (Pharmaceutical Equipment Control) Amendment Act, 2016 (Ellis)

First Reading — 707 (*Apr. 20, 2016 aft.*)

Second Reading — 839-50 (*May 9, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 924-31 (*May 16, 2016 aft., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 931-34 (*May 16, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force January 1, 2017; SA 2016 c12]

Bill 206* — Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Awareness Day Act (Goehring)

First Reading — 902 (*May 12, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1241-49 (*May 30, 2016 aft., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1249-55 (*May 30, 2016 aft., passed with amendments*)

Third Reading — 1255-57 (*May 30, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*Jun. 13, 2016 outside of House sitting*) [Comes into force June 13, 2016; SA 2016 cP-19.7]

Bill Pr1 — Bow Valley Community Foundation Repeal Act (Westhead)

First Reading — 447 (*Apr. 7, 2016 aft., passed*)

Second Reading — 1171 (*May 25, 2016 eve., passed*)

Committee of the Whole — 1197 (*May 26, 2016 morn., passed*)

Third Reading — 1219 (*May 26, 2016 aft., passed*)

Royal Assent — (*May 27, 2016*) [Comes into force May 27, 2016; SA 2016]

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