# Table of Contents

- **Introduction** ......................................................................................................................................... 1
- **About Stony Plain** ................................................................................................................................ 2
- **Current Electoral Division Map** ............................................................................................................. 3
- **Alberta First Nations and Métis Communities** ...................................................................................... 4
- **Referent Communities** ......................................................................................................................... 5
- **Sources at the Legislature Library** ......................................................................................................... 6
  - Local Histories in the Electoral Division ..................................................................................................... 6
  - Area Newspapers ...................................................................................................................................... 7
- **Legislative History of Electoral Division** ................................................................................................ 8
- **Elected Members - History of Representation** .................................................................................... 10
- **Summaries of Members’ Service** ........................................................................................................ 12
  - Babcock, Erin ........................................................................................................................................... 12
  - Barker, George R. .................................................................................................................................... 12
  - Cripps, Shirley A. ..................................................................................................................................... 12
  - Gunn, Peter ............................................................................................................................................. 12
  - Hayes, William E. ..................................................................................................................................... 13
  - Heron, James P. ....................................................................................................................................... 13
  - Jespersen, Ralph A. ................................................................................................................................. 13
  - Lemke, Ken .............................................................................................................................................. 13
  - Lindsay, Frederick ................................................................................................................................... 13
  - Lundy, Frederick W. ................................................................................................................................ 13
  - MacLeod, Donald .................................................................................................................................... 14
  - McKeen, C. Milton ................................................................................................................................... 14
  - McLaughlin, J. Harold ............................................................................................................................. 14
  - McPherson, John A. ................................................................................................................................. 14
  - Purdy, William F. .................................................................................................................................... 14
  - Thurber, Thomas G. ................................................................................................................................. 15
  - Trynchy, Peter ......................................................................................................................................... 15
  - Washburn, Willard M. ............................................................................................................................. 15
  - Weidenhammer, Conrad .......................................................................................................................... 15
  - Woloshyn, Stanley .................................................................................................................................. 16
Wood, Cornelia L.R................................................................. 16
Zander, Rudolph ‘Rusty’ .......................................................... 16
Members Representing Armed Services Personnel .................. 17
Maiden Speeches.................................................................... 18
Introduction

The Legislature Library was established in 1906 to serve as the parliamentary library for Members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. It is the mandate of the Library to provide nonpartisan, confidential and timely information, news and reference services to Members and their constituency and caucus staff as well as the Legislative Assembly Office.

In the course of its work, the Legislature Library frequently receives requests for information about electoral divisions and the Members that represented them. Questions vary from the straightforward (“In which constituency am I located?”) to the more complicated (“Can you provide a list of all the Members of the Legislative Assembly from 1905 to the present that have represented my constituency?”). Since 1905, there have been substantial changes to the province’s electoral boundaries and the names of the electoral divisions as well as to the number of Members elected to serve in each Legislature.

Over the years, Legislature Library staff have researched and compiled information about past and present Members and electoral divisions that address many of these questions.

This Electoral Division Information Profile was developed for the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. The profile provides current and historical data regarding the constituency, its Members, and the electorate. The specific focus of the information presented reflects the geographic area covered by the current electoral division, as defined by the Electoral Divisions Act (S.A. 2010, c. E-4.2).

For more information or to provide feedback on this Electoral Division Information Profile, please contact the Alberta Legislature Library by phone (780.427.2473) or by email (library.requests@assembly.ab.ca).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key to Alberta Party Affiliations used in this Profile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lib</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prov at L</td>
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<tr>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UFA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
About Stony Plain

The electoral division of Stony Plain was established in 2012 with the coming into force of the *Electoral Divisions Act*, S.A. 2010, c. E-4.2. The constituency is 2,356 square kilometres with an estimated population of 42,430.¹

A by-election has never been held in this geographic area.

Since 1905, 22 individuals have represented this geographic area. Of those 22 Members, one served in eight Legislatures (Trynchy); one served in six Legislatures (Wood); two served in four Legislatures (Purdy and Woloshyn); three served in three Legislatures (Cripps, McKeen, and Thurber); five served in two Legislatures (Gunn, Lindsay, McPherson, Washburn, and Zander); and the remaining 10 served in one Legislature (Babcock, Barker, Hayes, Heron, Jespersen, Lemke, Lundy, MacLeod, McLaughlin, and Weidenhammer).

Five of those Members have held portfolios in government (Cripps, Lindsay, Thurber, Trynchy, and Woloshyn).

A prominent Member who served this geographic area includes:

- C. Milton McKeen, Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees (1922-1935).

Of interest, Members with family relationships to others who also served in the Legislative Assembly of Alberta can be found within this geographic area. Peter Gunn, Member for Lac Ste. Anne (1909-1916), was the father-in-law of C. Milton McKeen, Member for Lac Ste. Anne (1921-1935).

Alberta First Nations and Métis Communities

Aboriginal peoples in Canada consist of three distinct groups: the First Nations, the Métis, and the Inuit. Individual First Nation groups in Alberta may contain one to several reserves, and their territory can be quite localized or in a number of different locations. Reserves belonging to the same First Nation may be located in more than one electoral division.

The Election Act was amended in 1965 (S.A. 1965, c. 23) to include First Nations’ peoples as part of the eligible electorate. First Nations first appear on polling station returns of the 1967 general election.

Using the First Nations Profiles Interactive Map from Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada² and the Alberta Provincial Electoral Division Profiles from Alberta Treasury Board and Finance,³ the following First Nations communities are located in the Stony Plain electoral division.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Nation</th>
<th>Reserve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enoch Cree Nation #440</td>
<td>Stony Plain 135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul First Nation</td>
<td>Wabamun 133A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wabamun 133B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alberta contains eight Métis Settlements, none of which are within the Stony Plain electoral division.

For a general overview of the eight Métis Settlements and the 48 First Nations in Alberta, including information on population, land base, location and community contacts, see the Metis Settlements and First Nations in Alberta: Community Profiles, published by the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations.

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Referent Communities

Referent communities are those localities which are used to trace the history of the electoral division. The communities are representative of north, south, east, west and central boundaries of a particular electoral division over time.

Stony Plain has five referent communities. Using the establishment dates of the community and the date of the community first appearing on a polling station return or an electoral map, these referent communities detail the historical electoral boundary changes affecting the geographic area since 1905. These five referent communities have been within this same electoral division since 1993.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Referent Community</th>
<th>Date Established</th>
<th>Year First Appeared on Polling Station Return or Electoral Map</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fallis</td>
<td>1910</td>
<td>1917</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keephills</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>1913</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Date unknown</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomahawk</td>
<td>1907</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wabamun</td>
<td>1903</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sources at the Legislature Library

All call numbers refer to the Legislature Library collection.

Local Histories in the Electoral Division

The Legislature Library collects local histories from across the province. These histories provide background from a local perspective, often first-hand, on the organizations, residents, and events that have shaped the region and communities within.

[Call Number: FC 3699 S7 AL72]

[Call Number: FC 3695 E6 F69]

[Call Number: CA2 ALID 15 1963S95]

[Call Number: BX 8077 C22 ST72 H62]

[Call Number: FC 3699 S7 ST72]

[Call Number: FC 3674.1 W8 W85]

[Call Number: FC 3695 T5 T59]
Area Newspapers

The Legislature Library has a large collection of community newspapers from the past and present which detail issues and events of local importance. The following area newspapers provide coverage of this electoral division.

Current

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>Holdings</th>
<th>URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Historical

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>Holdings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stony Plain Advertiser</td>
<td>1910-1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stony Plain Mirror</td>
<td>1915-1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stony Plain Parkland Producer</td>
<td>1990-1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stony Plain Sun</td>
<td>1921-1938, 1963-1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stony Plain This Week</td>
<td>1991-1997</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, the Legislature Library also subscribes to a number of databases on behalf of the Members that provide access to newspapers, magazines, trade publications, academic journals, reports, and ebooks.

Each weekday morning the Library uses newspaper databases to compile *Alberta Daily News* (*ADN*) and the *Regional News Service* (*RNS*). Intended to help keep Members informed of the latest news from across the province, these services include articles from Alberta’s newspapers that focus on issues related to the Legislative Assembly as well as Alberta public policy and government. *ADN* includes select news stories from the *Globe and Mail*, *National Post*, the major daily Alberta newspapers and selected community and international newspapers, while *RNS* is a regionally focused complement.

This constituency is covered by the Greater Edmonton and the West Central Alberta editions of *RNS*.

Newspapers currently included in Greater Edmonton are: *Camrose Canadian; Fort Saskatchewan Record; Lamont Farm ‘n’ Friends; Lamont Leader; Leduc Representative; Leduc/Wetaskiwin Pipestone Flyer; Morinville Free Press; Redwater Review; Sherwood Park News; Spruce Grove Examiner; St. Albert Gazette; Stony Plain Reporter; Tofield Mercury; Wetaskiwin Times Advertiser.*

Newspapers currently included in West Central Alberta are: *Barrhead Leader; Eckville Echo; Edson Leader; Edson Weekly Anchor; Fox Creek Times; Grande Cache Mountaineer; Hinton Parklander; Innisfail Province; [Jasper] Fitzhugh; Lacombe Globe; Mayerthorpe Freelancer; Ponoka News; Red Deer Advocate; Red Deer Express; Red Deer Life; Rimbey Review; Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer; Slave Lake Lakeside Leader; Slave Lake Scope; Swan Hills Grizzly Gazette; Sylvan Lake News; Westlock News; [Westlock] Town and Country; and Whitecourt Star.*
Legislative History of Electoral Division

Since 1905, the area now covered by the electoral division of Stony Plain has undergone several changes. Each of these changes is legislated by various statutes.

Historically, the current electoral division (or parts of it) was under the names of Drayton Valley, Lac Ste. Anne, Stony Plain, and Whitecourt.

This section identifies the electoral divisions in which the referent communities of Fallis, Keephills, Stony Plain, Tomahawk and Wabamun have been located over the course of Alberta’s electoral history. In some elections, communities appear on polling station returns for more than one electoral division as indicated in the table below. The table below also cites the relevant statute which establishes the electoral division and its boundaries each Legislature.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislature</th>
<th>General Election Year</th>
<th>Statute Establishing Electoral Boundaries</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
<th>Referent Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1905</td>
<td>S.C. 1905, c. 3</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wabamun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td>S.A. 1909, c. 2</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tomahawk</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wabamun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1913</td>
<td>S.A. 1913, c. 2</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
<td>Wabamun</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Keephills</td>
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<td>Stony Plain</td>
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<td>Tomahawk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wabamun</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1917</td>
<td>S.A. 1913, c. 2</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
<td>Fallis</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wabamun</td>
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<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Keephills</td>
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<td>Stony Plain</td>
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<td>Tomahawk</td>
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<td>Wabamun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1921</td>
<td>S.A. 1913, c. 2; R.S.A. 1922, c. 3; S.A. 1924, c. 35</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
<td>Fallis</td>
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<td>Wabamun</td>
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<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Keephills</td>
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<td>Tomahawk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wabamun</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4 Variant spelling: ‘Stonyplain’ and ‘Stoney Plain’ (S.C. 1905, c. 3; Consolidated Ordinances of the North-West Territories, 1907, c. 3).

5 Subsequent to the death of Joseph E. State, Member for Clearwater, parts of that constituency were redistributed to the constituencies of Peace River, Pembina and Lac Ste. Anne. The electoral division of Clearwater ceased to exist as of April 12, 1924 (S.A. 1924, c. 35).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislature</th>
<th>General Election Year</th>
<th>Statute Establishing Electoral Boundaries</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
<th>Referent Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1926</td>
<td>S.A. 1924, c. 35</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
<td>Fallis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>R.S.A. 1922, c. 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wabamun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>S.A. 1930, c. 14; R.S.A. 1942, c. 4; S.A. 1952, c. 46; S.A. 1955, c. 62; R.S.A. 1955, c. 174; S.A. 1962, c. 39</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Fallis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td>S.A. 1939, c. 94; R.S.A. 1942, c. 4; S.A. 1952, c. 46; S.A. 1955, c. 62; R.S.A. 1955, c. 174; S.A. 1962, c. 39</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Keephills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1940</td>
<td>S.A. 1942, c. 4; S.A. 1952, c. 46; S.A. 1955, c. 62; R.S.A. 1955, c. 174; S.A. 1962, c. 39</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>1944</td>
<td>S.A. 1952, c. 46; S.A. 1955, c. 62; R.S.A. 1955, c. 174; S.A. 1962, c. 39</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tomahawk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>S.A. 1930, c. 14; R.S.A. 1942, c. 4; S.A. 1952, c. 46; S.A. 1955, c. 62; R.S.A. 1955, c. 174; S.A. 1962, c. 39</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>S.A. 1977, c. 28; R.S.A. 1980, c. L-10; S.A. 1983, c. E-4.05</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Fallis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>1982</td>
<td>S.A. 1977, c. 28; R.S.A. 1980, c. L-10; S.A. 1983, c. E-4.05</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wabamun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>1986</td>
<td>S.A. 1985, c. 24</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>Tomahawk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>S.A. 1985, c. 24</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Fallis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Keephills</td>
</tr>
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<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
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<td>Wabamun</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

6 The boundaries of the electoral divisions are described in Sessional Paper 315/2010.
Elected Members - History of Representation

The following section outlines Stony Plain’s history of representation at each election. Listed below, by Legislature and election year, are the electoral divisions and their elected Members, who once represented the area contained in the present-day Stony Plain electoral division.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislature (Seats)</th>
<th>Election Year (Date)</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Party Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 (25)</td>
<td>1905 (Nov 9)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>John A. McPherson</td>
<td>Lib</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 (41)</td>
<td>1909 (Mar 22)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>John A. McPherson</td>
<td>Lib</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 (56)</td>
<td>1913 (Apr 17)</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
<td>Peter Gunn</td>
<td>Lib</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Conrad Weidenhammer</td>
<td>Cons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 (58)</td>
<td>1917 (Jun 7)</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
<td>G. Russell Barker</td>
<td>Cons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Frederick W. Lundy</td>
<td>Cons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 (61)</td>
<td>1921 (Jul 18)</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
<td>C. Milton McKeen</td>
<td>UFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Willard M. Washburn</td>
<td>UFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 (60)</td>
<td>1926 (Jun 28)</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
<td>C. Milton McKeen</td>
<td>UFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Willard M. Washburn</td>
<td>UFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 (63)</td>
<td>1930 (Jun 19)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Donald MacLeod</td>
<td>UFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 (63)</td>
<td>1935 (Aug 22)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>William E. Hayes</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 (57)</td>
<td>1940 (Mar 21)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Cornelia L.R. Wood</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 (60)</td>
<td>1944 (Aug 8)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Cornelia L.R. Wood</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 (57)</td>
<td>1948 (Aug 17)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Cornelia L.R. Wood</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 (61)</td>
<td>1952 (Aug 5)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Cornelia L.R. Wood</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 (61)</td>
<td>1955 (Jun 29)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>J. Harold McLaughlin</td>
<td>Lib</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 (63)</td>
<td>1959 (Jun 18)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Cornelia L.R. Wood</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 (63)</td>
<td>1963 (Jun 17)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Cornelia L.R. Wood</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 (65)</td>
<td>1967 (May 23)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Ralph A. Jespersen</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 (75)</td>
<td>1971 (Aug 30)</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>Rudolph ‘Rusty’ Zander</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>William F. Purdy</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 (75)</td>
<td>1975 (Mar 26)</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>Rudolph ‘Rusty’ Zander</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>William F. Purdy</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 (79)</td>
<td>1979 (Mar 14)</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>Shirley A. Cripps</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>William F. Purdy</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 (79)</td>
<td>1982 (Nov 2)</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>Shirley A. Cripps</td>
<td>PC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>William F. Purdy</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 (83)</td>
<td>1986 (May 8)</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>Shirley A. Cripps</td>
<td>PC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>James P. Heron</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Whitecourt</td>
<td>Peter Trynchy</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7 Includes two Members for the Province at Large elected to represent soldiers and nurses overseas (S.A. 1917, c. 12).
8 Includes three Members for the Province at Large elected to represent the Navy, Army and Air Force (S.A. 1945, c. 3).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislature (Seats)</th>
<th>Election Year (Date)</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Party Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 (83)</td>
<td>1989 (Mar 20)</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>Thomas G. Thurber</td>
<td>PC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Stanley Woloshyn</td>
<td>ND</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Whitecourt</td>
<td>Peter Trynchy</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 (83)</td>
<td>1993 (Jun 15)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Stanley Woloshyn</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 (83)</td>
<td>1997 (Mar 11)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Stanley Woloshyn</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 (83)</td>
<td>2001 (Mar 12)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Stanley Woloshyn</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 (83)</td>
<td>2004 (Nov 22)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Frederick Lindsay</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 (83)</td>
<td>2008 (Mar 3)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Frederick Lindsay</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 (87)</td>
<td>2012 (Apr 23)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Ken Lemke</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 (87)</td>
<td>2015 (May 5)</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Erin Babcock</td>
<td>ND</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Subsequent to the death of Joseph E. State, Member for Clearwater, in 1923, parts of that constituency were redistributed to the constituencies of Peace River, Pembina and Lac Ste. Anne. The electoral division of Clearwater ceased to exist as of April 12, 1924, when S.A. 1924, c. 35 was granted Royal Assent at the end of the Fourth Session, just part way through the Fifth Legislature, which ended in 1926.

**Summaries of Members’ Service**

This section provides basic information about each Member that has served the geographic area covered by the present-day electoral division of Stony Plain, including Member number, legislatures served, years of service, electoral division, party affiliation and offices. The Member numbers were assigned based on the date and the order that the Member was sworn in upon first election. Offices listed include Executive Council portfolios and Legislative Assembly roles. Additional biographical information for each Member can be found in the Alberta Legislature Library. Contact the Reference Desk for assistance: 780.427.2473 or library.requests@assembly.ab.ca.

**Babcock, Erin**  
Member #835

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
<th>Party Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>2015-</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>ND</td>
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**Barker, George R.**  
Member #106

<table>
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<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
<th>Party Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1917-1921</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
<td>Cons</td>
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</table>

**Cripps, Shirley A.**  
Member #521

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<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>19-21</td>
<td>1979-1989</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
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</table>

**Years Office**  
1986-1989  
Associate Minister of Agriculture

**Gunn, Peter**  
Member #41

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>1909-1916*</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
<td>Lib</td>
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*Resigned
<table>
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<th>Party Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1935-1939*</td>
<td>SC</td>
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*Died in Office

Heron, James P.

Member #594

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<th>Legislative Years of Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>1986-1989</td>
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Jespersen, Ralph A.

Member #420

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<tr>
<td>1967-1971</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
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Lemke, Ken

Member #805

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<tr>
<td>2012-2015</td>
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Lindsay, Frederick

Member #736

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<tr>
<td>2004-2012</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006-2010</td>
<td>Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security</td>
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Lundy, Frederick W.

Member #105

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<th>Legislative Years of Service</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1917-1921</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Cons</td>
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### MacLeod, Donald
Member #207

<table>
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<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1930-1935</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>UFA</td>
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### McKeen, C. Milton
Member #149

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<th>Years of Service</th>
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<th>Party Affiliation</th>
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<tr>
<td>5-7</td>
<td>1921-1935</td>
<td>Lac Ste. Anne</td>
<td>UFA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years</td>
<td>1922-1935</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committees</td>
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### McLaughlin, J. Harold
Member #370

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<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>1955-1959</td>
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### McPherson, John A.
Member #20

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<th>Party Affiliation</th>
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<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>1906-1913</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>Lib</td>
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### Purdy, William F.
Member #463

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<tr>
<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
<th>Party Affiliation</th>
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<tr>
<td>17-20</td>
<td>1971-1986</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>PC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Years</td>
<td>Office</td>
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<td>Deputy Chair of Committees</td>
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</table>
### Thurber, Thomas G.
Member #618

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
<th>Party Affiliation</th>
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<tr>
<td>22-24</td>
<td>1989-2001</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>PC</td>
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</table>

**Years of Office**

- **1993-1994**: Minister of Public Works, Supply and Services
- **1994-1997**: Minister of Municipal Affairs

### Trynchy, Peter
Member #466

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<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
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<tr>
<td>17-24</td>
<td>1971-2001</td>
<td>Whitecourt</td>
<td>PC</td>
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**Years of Office**

- **1979-1986**: Minister of Recreation and Parks
- **1989-1992**: Minister Responsible for Occupational Health and Safety, and Workers’ Compensation Board
- **1992-1994**: Minister of Transportation and Utilities

### Washburn, Willard M.
Member #122

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
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<th>Party Affiliation</th>
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<td>5-6</td>
<td>1921-1930</td>
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### Weidenhammer, Conrad
Member #86

<table>
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<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1913-1917</td>
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<td>Cons</td>
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### Woloshyn, Stanley

Member #621

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<tr>
<td>23-25</td>
<td>1993-2004</td>
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<th>Years</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996-1999</td>
<td>Minister of Public Works, Supply, and Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999-2001</td>
<td>Minister of Community Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-2004</td>
<td>Minister of Seniors</td>
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### Wood, Cornelia L.R.

Member #282

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<tr>
<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
<th>Party Affiliation</th>
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<td>9-12</td>
<td>1940-1955</td>
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<tr>
<td>14-15</td>
<td>1960-1967</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>SC</td>
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### Zander, Rudolph ‘Rusty’

Member #467

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<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
<th>Party Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17-18</td>
<td>1972-1979</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>PC</td>
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</table>
Members Representing Armed Services Personnel

In 1917, legislation was passed to provide for the election of two Members to represent Albertans serving as soldiers and nurses overseas during the First World War (S.A. 1917, c. 12). The following two individuals were elected to represent the Province at Large.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1917-1921</td>
<td>MacAdams, Roberta (Price)</td>
<td>Prov at L (Soldiers and Nurses Overseas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pearson, Robert</td>
<td>Prov at L (Soldiers and Nurses Overseas)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition, for the 1917 general election, Members who had enlisted for overseas service while serving in the Third Legislature were deemed to be nominated and elected for the constituency they represented. Members were nominated and elected to the Fourth Legislature, in accordance with S.A. 1917, c. 38, for the electoral divisions of Alexandra, Didsbury, Hand Hills, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Pembina, Redcliff, Ribstone, Rocky Mountain, Victoria, Wainwright, and Whitford.

In 1944, legislation was passed to provide for the election of three Members to represent Albertans engaged in the armed services outside of Alberta during the Second World War (O.C. 1515/44, O.C. 1581/44, O.C. 1886/44, S.A. 1945, c. 3). The following three individuals were elected to represent the Air Force, Army and Navy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>1944-1948</td>
<td>Colborne, Frederick C.</td>
<td>Prov at L (Air Force)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prowse, J. Harper</td>
<td>Prov at L (Army)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ward, Dudley L.</td>
<td>Prov at L (Navy)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Robert Pearson, Frederick C. Colborne and J. Harper Prowse were elected in subsequent general elections.
Maiden Speeches

A Member’s first speech in the House. By courtesy it is not subject to interruptions, and a Member wishing to make his maiden speech is given precedence over other Members who rise at the same time. He generally craves the indulgence of the House, and it is the custom for the following speaker to congratulate him.


The Legislature Library has made every effort to include every maiden speech for this electoral division since the 17th Legislature when the official Hansard was established in Alberta. Maiden speech transcripts are appended in the following order.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Electoral Division</th>
<th>Party Affiliation</th>
<th>Legislature</th>
<th>Date of Speech</th>
<th>Hansard Page(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ken Lemke</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>23 Oct 2012</td>
<td>182-184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick Lindsay</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>9 Mar 2005</td>
<td>144-146</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas G. Thumber</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>7 Jun 1989</td>
<td>123-124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanley Woloshyn</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>6 Jun 1989</td>
<td>90-93</td>
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<td>James P. Heron</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shirley A. Cripps</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>28 May 1979</td>
<td>46-48</td>
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<tr>
<td>William F. Purdy</td>
<td>Stony Plain</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>23 Mar 1972</td>
<td>(16) 59-64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rudolph ‘Rusty’ Zander</td>
<td>Drayton Valley</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9 Mar 1972</td>
<td>(6) 68-72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Maiden Speech Transcripts
You know what else? I guess there's another option you can do. Whack the budget by six or 12 billion dollars. Don't monkey around. Take that to the electorate. Say: "No. You guys want low taxes? Great. You're going to get them, but you're not going to get this. You're not going to get that. You're not going to get a road from Fort McMurray paid for by some bonds, again a future generation paying for it. No. This is what you get. These are the taxes you want to pay." And that is a fair proposition as well because that actually will recognize some savings. I don't think it'll be enough, and I don't think the electorate will stand for it. Nevertheless, that is at least a fair proposition for you guys to take to it. Right now this is simply taking the easy way out.

I think there has to be a recognition, and this throne speech seemingly recognizes it. Back to the throne speech that we had on February 7. At that time the hon. Premier said: we are going to look at all revenue sources. If that’s too cryptic for you, that's taxation. In fact, I’m friendly with many people in the member's offices. I’m friendly with many people in your party because you’re reasonable people, okay? In fact, the thinking at that time was that this is baked into the cake. This is an understanding that taxation in this fiscal structure was broken. I don’t think that's changed.

What has just happened is an election. What I see is a government who, four years away from election, is already thinking about the next election, is not willing to do what they think is right. That is saddening, disheartening not only to me but to what we leave behind, for I think the lasting legacy of the last 42 years, or how we’re going to be judged, is what we leave behind when it’s all said and done, when the oil and gas is gone. I think we as a society, we as this government should set a societal goal. We can save a trillion dollars in the next 60 years to set us up in perpetuity. That’s with watching our fiscal side as well as a recognition of the fact that eventually things are going to run out. Is it going to be easy? No.

I tell you what. What’s so hard about raising taxes and looking at a taxpayer and saying, “You want to take it in the ear worse somewhere else”? Really, what’s the matter with getting up a press conference. “Yeah. We’re not going to be the lowest tax jurisdiction by a country mile, but guess what? If you want to move somewhere else, if you want to move your business somewhere else, you’re going to take it in the ear worse.” That seems like a pretty easy message to sell and go from there. It’s really not that hard. Yeah, there’ll be some bad days in the paper. Mr. Gunter at the Sun will get all angry and all that stuff there, but you already know that, so do what’s right.

I didn’t know all this about our fiscal structure when I first came in here. I thought the prosperity would be forever. I encourage people on the government side and on this side to actually investigate what our revenue streams are. You talk to people who sit on Treasury Board. You talk to people who have formerly served in that capacity. They know the issue. Everyone knows the issue. The issue is political will.

A person whom I applaud very much on that side of the House, the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs, actually ran in the PC leadership and openly talked about the fiscal structure, openly went into debates and said: guys, this ain’t good for our long-term prosperity. Have a conversation with him. I think the hon. Premier knows it. I think everyone knows it over there. They’re just unwilling to do something. I think you can do it, and I think you’d be abrogating responsibility for good government by not doing it.

Another idea I have is regarding our oil and gas industry. I thought Lougheed had a great idea with the Alberta Energy Company. Ask yourselves: why is every national oil company in the world here? Pretty easy. You pay royalties, and you make money. I understand. Royalties have to be one thing. There has to be a profit margin in there. But are all these other nations smarter than us that they say, “Jeepers; we’ll come to Alberta, make a piss-pot of money, and send it back home to our citizens to enjoy better services”? Like, really. It’s not that hard. There are reasons why they are here to make money. If they can make money, why can’t we? Something to add to that pot of resources we have when those two things happen: one, we run out of oil and gas, or two, the world moves on. And the world could move on sooner rather than later. All this other stuff we talk about, the little things we do on health care and the stuff we do on education, by all means, that is important – okay? – but you’re not going to make it sustainable and predictable for the long run unless you do one of those two things.

Anyway, I’m often wrong, never without an opinion, but thank you very much for allowing me to have my time here today, Madam Speaker.

The Acting Speaker: Thank you, hon. Member for Calgary-Buffalo, for that spirited response to the throne speech.

Under Standing Order 29(2)(a) is there anybody who would like to ask a question or comment from the Member for Calgary-Buffalo? The hon. Member for Airdrie.

Mr. Anderson: Hon. member, can you expand on that often wrong part?

Mr. Hehr: Actually, I used to watch PBS television in the '90s. There was an investment show, and often investment prognosticators are wrong, okay? They do the best with the information they have and go forth from there. It’s a 60-40 business we’re in. You know, I’ve said that if you’re right 60 per cent of the time, I think you’re doing pretty good. We have to deal with the best information available to us.

But I think that in the main the best information available to me at this time is that our fiscal structure with what we’re currently doing is broken. One only needs to look at the last 41 years to see that. We have spent $350 billion in petroleum revenues and managed to save $16 billion. Hey, I’ve stolen you guys’ crib notes. The heritage trust fund is worth less than it was in 1976. That’s a truism, okay? Unless something is done, really, we’re just destined to keep on going through this thing, and we’ll never get ahead.

That’s where I got it from, so there we go.

The Acting Speaker: Thank you.

Are there any other members that would like to ask a question or comment through Standing Order 29(2)(a)?

Seeing none, we’ll go to our next response to the throne speech. I recognize the hon. Member for Stony Plain.

Mr. Lemke: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. It is an honour to rise tonight to respond to the Speech from the Throne. I begin by thanking His Honour the Lieutenant Governor Donald Ethell for delivering a clear and well-articulated plan on behalf of the government of Alberta. I have great confidence that the government under the leadership of the hon. Premier will continue to ensure the long-term prosperity that has made Alberta one of the most affluent jurisdictions in the world.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to acknowledge the tireless work of my predecessors. Our constituency has a proud history dating back to 1905. Stony Plain has the distinction of being one of the original 25 constituencies created along with the province in
1905. It is one of the few original constituency names in continuous use since then. From John McPherson, our first MLA, through to myself, we have had 14 MLAs. I would like to take a minute to recognize Mrs. Cornelia Wood, who until recently was the longest serving woman in the Legislature. She served first from 1940 to 1955. Of course, our very own Pearl Calahasen now has that distinction.

Since 1967 Ralph Jespersen, Bill Purdy, Jim Heron, Stan Woloshyn, and Fred Lindsay have served the people of Stony Plain and are still all active members of our community. I would like to acknowledge Fred Lindsay, who served two terms in this Assembly. He brought his knowledge of the energy sector and policing to his role as a member of cabinet and an MLA, and he left a positive mark on his community and this House.

8:20

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the people of the constituency of Stony Plain for the confidence and trust that they have bestowed upon me. I am honoured and humbled to be representing them in the 28th Legislature of the Alberta Legislative Assembly. I do not take this responsibility lightly. It is a privilege to serve as a democratically elected official.

Clearly, the people of my constituency expect and deserve open, honest, and transparent government. A Member of this Legislative Assembly must remember that they have been given a mandate from the people. They expect me to actively and openly represent their concerns and perspectives to the government. I intend to do that to the best of my abilities and as vociferously as necessary.

What a wonderful constituency it is that I represent, Madam Speaker. We’re a vibrant riding of 40,000 industrious people employed in fields as diverse as health care, education, manufacturing, mining, oil and gas. In addition to including its namesake, Stony Plain, my constituency stretches 80 kilometres west of Edmonton and south from highway 16A to the North Saskatchewan River. It encompasses Parkland county and villages like Wabamun, Spring Lake, Duffield, Seba Beach, and Tomahawk along with the Paul First Nation and the Enoch Cree Nation.

The constituency is largely made up of Parkland county. Therefore, much of it is rural and agricultural. One of the most notable attractions in the area is the University of Alberta Devonian gardens. This biodiversity 190-acre property is the most northern botanical garden in Canada. The display gardens, natural areas, and ecological preserves are for public education, enjoyment, and research. Many people in the capital region have had the pleasure of spending the day in the gardens or booking the facilities to celebrate events.

Madam Speaker, Wabamun Lake is one of the many lakes located in my constituency. This popular body of water houses the Wabamun Sailing Club and is well known to water sport enthusiasts around this province.

Lake Wabamun is also the site of much of Alberta’s electrical generation, with the Sundance and Keephills power plants. Many Albertans were familiar with the Wabamun generating station, a recognizable landmark that has recently been decommissioned and demolished. However, unit 3 of the Keephills power plant, which began operations in 2011, has replaced it as a major supplier of electricity and employment. This large clean coal fired generation unit is one of the most technologically advanced in the world. The 450 megawatt coal-fired generating unit located about five kilometres south of Lake Wabamun at the Keephills plant is owned and operated by TransAlta and Capital Power Corporation. Carbon dioxide emissions per megawatt are lower than those from a conventional coal generator.

This new generating unit is a critical step in guaranteeing that Alberta’s future power needs are met with a reliable, cost-effective, and environmentally responsible source of electricity. It is an example of development which this government endorses, a type of resource development that leads to a cleaner and healthier environment. TransAlta, the operator of the plant, is one of the largest employers in the constituency with approximately 700 employees.

Madam Speaker, another vital employer in our constituency of Stony Plain is the agricultural industry. Historically the constituency has attracted people seeking opportunities in farming the bountiful land. This vital industry has played an enormous part in our area’s history and today continues to provide a wholesome, steady livelihood for many of my constituents. I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Alberta farmers, which has kept a resilient and strong farming sector in many of our communities.

Landowners’ rights was a subject often brought up during the recent election. I am pleased that this government guarantees landowners consultation, compensation, and the courts.

Madam Speaker, the people of this constituency are committed to their families and communities. Some have been here for generations while others are part of the wave of recent newcomers from within Canada and outside of our country, all of whom sought the amazing opportunities that this province has to offer its citizens. I promise to partner with them to achieve a better future for us all. In the past I have had the great honour to represent some of them on Stony Plain town council, most recently as the mayor of Stony Plain. I am proud of the accomplishments that we achieved together in co-operation with other town councillors, neighbouring municipalities, and provincial and federal officials.

In addition to the participation of Stony Plain and Spruce Grove, I would also like to acknowledge the eminent role that Parkland county played in co-ordinating the construction of a leisure centre across jurisdictional boundaries. Parkland county is the administration that represents the municipal level interests of many people in the constituency, and in the interests of Parkland county residents, many of whom reside within the constituency of Stony Plain. I look forward to continuing our relationship and making our communities stronger.

Madam Speaker, it is the case that oftentimes a lawmaker as a representative of the people rests his or her success upon the ability to collaborate with others and to effectively listen to what constituents are saying. While serving on town council, we fostered and cultivated effective and productive partnerships, which led to real results for the people of our community. For example, we managed to achieve one of the lowest property taxes in the capital region while maintaining high levels of service, orderly growth, and fiscal responsibility. I assisted the trimunicipal region to increase shared services, which included the building of the TransAlta Tri Leisure Centre. I also was involved in helping form the Capital Region Board, which is fostering increased co-operation amongst 23 municipalities.

These are verifiable examples of how collaboration and negotiation can yield important results for Albertans. I will continue to draw on my experience and knowledge of policy to achieve responsive leadership, open dialogue, and accountability. My continuing vision for the constituency of Stony Plain is in the same vein as the Premier’s vision for the province. I want to ensure that the riding remains vibrant, continues to grow, and is a safe community for people pursuing health, happiness, and prosperity, a community of hope and a community with a vibrant future.
Madam Speaker, I am pleased and honoured to be a member of this government with its bold plan for the bright future of this province. This is a Premier that understands Alberta families and what their needs are and what they expect their government to achieve. The hon. Premier firmly believes in investing in families and communities across this province because it is a healthy family and a strong community that is the measure of the quality of life that we enjoy. It is the government’s priority to encourage and to develop strong and vigorous families and communities. We believe it is the government’s responsibility to create the opportunities and provide the support necessary for parents to raise children that grow into healthy and educated adults. We believe in a world-class education system that prepares our children for the economic future and challenges of tomorrow.

In listening to the throne speech, it was clear that this government will invest in the infrastructure that communities need in order to thrive and prosper: the schools, the hospitals, family care clinics, recreation centres, and the highways that connect us to one another. One thing we know for certain is that Alberta is constantly growing, and we need to meet the challenges of that growth head-on by laying the physical foundation for our communities. However, we will be sure to do it in a fiscally responsible manner. We will spend government revenue with the utmost respect to the taxpayers, who expect government to function as efficiently as possible.

This government will invest in the economic future of this province. The throne speech clearly articulated the notion that a strong and prosperous economy is built with human capital and physical infrastructure, and it is this government’s pledge to invest in the building blocks of that future prosperity. This government will continue to secure a dynamic economic future for all Albertans, who deserve to share in the wealth produced by the great resources of this province. We also believe in diversifying our economy and making it more competitive, not just nationally but internationally. In order to accomplish this, we will train a workforce that is skilled and adaptable to the changing needs of an increasingly globalized society. This government has fostered a competitive economic position for this province, and it will continue to do so.

Madam Speaker, I must say that I look forward to working with this dynamic team of professionals. I am proud to mention that a third of our caucus is composed of brand new MLAs, myself included. We will build on the past successes of government while enhancing our caucus with new ideas and fresh perspectives. As well, we have an important balance of professionals with business experience and previous political experience at other levels of government. We have caucus members with legal experience, training in information technology, and science backgrounds. Other members of our team have experience in such diverse areas as the trades, journalism, health care, law enforcement, and engineering.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I look forward to continuing the dedication and constructive collaboration of this government and building upon its past successes. We will continue to make progress on the issues that matter most to the people of my constituency of Stony Plain and to all the people of this tremendous province.

Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

8:30

The Acting Speaker: Thank you, hon. Member for Stony Plain, for that very uplifting response to the throne speech.

Standing Order 29(2)(a)? I see the Member for Rimby-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre. I recognize the member.

Mr. Anglin: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I was wondering if the hon. member would comment on Keephills 3. Keephills 3 utilized the technology called integrated combined cycle, which is clean coal technology, and they received their approval to build the plant based on employing that technology. They constructed the plant, and once online they turned right around and applied to the Alberta Utilities Commission to be exempt from clean coal technology and said that they needed to be exempt from that technology because it made them uncompetitive. They were subsequently denied. I was wondering if you would comment on the clean technology that they have promoted.

Mr. Lemke: Well, thank you for that question. I take your word that you’re knowledgeable about Keephills 3, and certainly I will do a little research and get back to you in terms of that.

The Acting Speaker: Any other questions under 29(2)(a)?

Seeing none, we’ll move to our next speaker, and I would ask the hon. Member for Cypress-Medicine Hat to deliver his maiden speech.

Mr. Barnes: Thank you, Madam Speaker. It’s with great pleasure and gratitude to the voters and residents of Cypress-Medicine Hat that I rise today to deliver my response to the Speech from the Throne. This is, of course, my first speech in the Legislature, so it’s also a chance for me to tell everyone a bit more about Cypress-Medicine Hat: our people, our towns, our city, and our needs.

The people who live in Cypress-Medicine Hat include oil and gas workers and investors, farmers and ranchers, business owners, greenhouse operators, and professional people. We have a large number of semiretired and retired people, who have earned our respect by building our economy, our communities, and our institutions.

Young families are also attracted to the quality of life that this constituency provides. I have heard from a wide range of these young families, and over and over they have told me how important the education of their children is. They want to know where the infrastructure dollars for new schools and renovating older schools are going to be spent. Many are concerned that promises made in the past for the region will not materialize. My constituents are also very concerned about rural schooling opportunities, the length of bus rides, and funding to ensure their children have the quality of education that Alberta can afford.

Our location does not allow us to be part of the highway 2 corridor, and this has contributed to a saying in Cypress-Medicine Hat: sometimes we feel we are the forgotten corner of Alberta. When I hear that, I also believe that people from Cypress-Medicine Hat are saying: “Hey, we’re independent. We’re strong. We believe in working together to help a neighbour, friend, or community.” The adjective “independent” perfectly describes the second-, third-, fourth-, fifth-, and even sixth-generation ranching families who reside, earn a living, and pay taxes in the Cypress-Medicine Hat constituency.

John and Kathy Ross, fourth-generation ranchers with Milk River cattle ranches, are now the proud grandparents to one-year-old William Jack Ross, a sixth-generation rancher. Parents Aaron and Rebecca Brower and their three children, Morgan, Lindsay, and Addison, are now the fifth generation on their ranch in the Aden area. These people exemplify those who are concerned about schooling opportunities, ambulatory services, the government’s agricultural policies, and, perhaps most of all, property rights.
will take advantage of new funding, encouraged that they have another industry to draw on. There are so many opportunities for the communities in West Yellowhead, and I am excited to see how they take the challenge of them over the coming years. The levy will also strengthen the municipality of Jasper, which relies on tourism as their main industry because of being in the national park. Hopefully, more tourists will head to the Jasper region because the more that go, the more business it will bring.

The Speech from the Throne also mentions how important postsecondary education is to the diversification process. I agree because a highly educated society means that there are more advancements made in research, and research is very important to West Yellowhead and to this province. The oil and gas industry has allowed the economy of West Yellowhead to grow at a rate that it has not seen for many years. Because of solid research in the forest industry the Edson, Hinton, and Grande Cache economies are growing, and the towns are booming. It is because of this that West Yellowhead is more and more excited about what the next Alberta has to offer.

5:00

Even though the constituency is diversifying, it is also expanding traditional resources. Coal mines around the constituency are rebuilding and providing many jobs for the people of West Yellowhead. This is a welcomed development for everybody that depends on that industry. I know that the research that is being done includes research into clean coal technology, and it is beneficial to Alberta as a whole. It is important that the government of Alberta continues to push research. New technologies are allowing small communities across Alberta to become stronger and better able to serve their people. Those small communities around Alberta, all similar to those in West Yellowhead, are rural Alberta, and this government is showing its resolve in this speech to ensure that rural Alberta is strong.

Mr. Speaker, the Speech from the Throne was met with optimism by the people of West Yellowhead. We are all looking forward to the new century of this province and what it’s going to bring to us. We love this province, and we’re not afraid to move outside of what we know to ensure that we are sustainable. We look forward to seeing how this government is going to continually build this province, and the people of West Yellowhead are very excited at the prospect of helping. We are looking forward together, and we’ll strengthen ourselves and this province.

I thank you for this opportunity to speak to you today, and I look forward to the years to come. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker: Does anyone wish to rise on 29(2)(a)?
May we revert to Introduction of Guests?

[Unanimous consent granted]

head: Consideration of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor’s Speech
(continued)

Mr. Lindsay: Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker, and thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak today in response to the Speech from the Throne. I’m privileged to be delivering to the House my maiden speech in this Assembly. I’m honoured to have been elected to represent the people of the Stony Plain constituency.

I’d like to thank His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for delivering his Speech from the Throne, which outlined how the government will deal with the many issues that are facing the province. I commend His Honour in doing an excellent job in delivering his maiden speech to this House.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate you on your election as Deputy Speaker. I would also like to congratulate the Member for Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock on his acclamation as Speaker of this House. I would also like to congratulate the Premier on his reelection to his fourth term in office and in leading our party to another majority election victory. I would also like to congratulate all other members of this House on their election or re-election. I look forward to working with all of my new colleagues to ensure that Alberta remains the best place in Canada to live.

Mr. Speaker, the last election has shown us that Albertans still have confidence in their government. The current government has a strong record of responding to the desires of everyday Albertans. Alberta leads the country in economic development, education, and health care. In Alberta we are enjoying all of these benefits while paying the lowest taxes in the country. This is a record that any government would be proud to have. However, as outlined in the throne speech, I am pleased to see that the government is not content to rest on its laurels and is proceeding with a bold vision for the future.

I would like to begin by thanking the previous Member for Stony Plain, which was Stan Woloshyn, for his many years of service. The people of Stony Plain have seen a true example of what representation is and what effective representation can do. I look forward to following in his proud tradition and will represent the people of the constituency of Stony Plain to the best of my ability. Mr. Woloshyn leaves big shoes to fill.

I am honoured to be the 730th person to be sworn in as a member of this House and one of only 753 Albertans to have had the privilege of serving the province of Alberta. Mr. Speaker, I would not be here today addressing this House without the support and encouragement of my family, and I would like to thank them all for what they have done for me. I would especially like to acknowledge my father, George Lindsay. My father immigrated to Canada in 1905 from Scotland and contributed in his own way to the development of this province. My father was also proud to serve our country in the First World War. My father was a great role model, and I hope to be able to emulate his success as a contributor to the community.

I would also like to thank everyone who came out to help with my election campaign. I appreciate the effort and dedication that all of my volunteers displayed. Their countless volunteer hours are the main reason that I am standing in this House today.

Mr. Speaker, the Stony Plain constituency covers a significant part of the area between our capital city and Jasper national park. My riding runs for 85 kilometres west from Edmonton to the Pembina River, with the Yellowhead highway shadowing its northern boundary and the Saskatchewan River as the southern boundary. This region of our province is home to both a very diverse landscape and people, just like Alberta.
My constituency mirrors Alberta. All of the industries that make up Alberta’s economy are present in the Stony Plain constituency. Agriculture, power production, mining, tourism, retail, construction, small business, and oil and gas are all present and contribute to the local economy. Because of the diverse local economy often what is happening in Stony Plain is happening all across Alberta.

Mr. Speaker, having a diverse economy is important for all rural areas of the province. In order to maintain the economic successes of rural Alberta, proper transportation infrastructure needs to be in place. With proper roadways we are able to ensure that inputs are able to reach rural areas and that finished goods are able to reach the market. The key to sustainable rural development is the ability of the province to provide infrastructure. That is why I am pleased to see that the government has made such a strong commitment to infrastructure in the throne speech that His Honour read on March 2.

The government’s new rural development strategy contains a plan for action to provide real assistance to rural communities like Entwistle, Tomahawk, Seba Beach, Fallis, and Wabamun. These communities are struggling to remain economically viable and watch as young members of these communities leave for larger urban centres. The rural development strategy will help to provide young people with a reason to remain in their communities by helping to develop the infrastructure and services that currently draw youth toward the larger urban areas.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Stony Plain are hard-working, but despite the relative prosperity of their region, there are still those who are in need of some assistance. There is a real need in our communities for affordable housing and assisted-living accommodation. By providing affordable housing to people, we’re helping to provide them with a hand up and not a handout. Assisted-living accommodation will address the needs of an aging population in my constituency.

I would also like to acknowledge the excellent work that the government has done in limiting class sizes. The government’s goal of leading and learning is certainly something that I support wholeheartedly. In order for Alberta to remain as strong as we are today, it is important that our education system be strong. However, Mr. Speaker, there is more to providing a quality education than ensuring that our students are in small classes and instructed by world-class teachers. School facilities are important to students’ overall educational performance. The composite high school in my riding is showing its age. Built in the 1950s, the school is in need of replacement. Replacing aging schools such as Memorial composite high school will help us to be a leader in learning.

Just as the Alberta economy is becoming more knowledge-based, so must our education system. The opportunities available to young Albertans are endless, and our education system must reflect this. Facilities are important to the learning process. Without a proper computer lab students cannot learn a skill that all employers are looking for. In order for our system to continue to produce the best graduates in the world, schools like Memorial composite must be updated to keep pace with their excellent teachers and curriculum. Having quality education facilities in rural areas also makes it easier to recruit and retain quality professionals that are needed in our community.

5:10

Mr. Speaker, nearly 1 in 10 people in my riding are aboriginals. As the first inhabitants of Alberta our aboriginal people have made great contributions to the Alberta mosaic. Their culture has enriched Alberta. I’m pleased to see in the throne speech that government is developing measures to increase the supply of skilled labourers and that these measures will contain an aboriginal component. We need to continually work with our aboriginal communities like the Paul band and Enoch to improve their socioeconomic conditions. Increasing training facilities will help to increase their socioeconomic standing.

Mr. Speaker, energy is another concern to the people of my constituency, which is currently home to three coal-burning power plants. Together the plants in my constituency contribute approximately 40 per cent of installed generation in this province. These plants have provided many years of reliable, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly electricity to Albertans.

We are now at a time when we need to begin examining ways of moving electrical production forward. A major focus of the government should be placed on joining with industry to develop new technologies that will allow us to burn coal more efficiently and cleanly. Concern needs to be given to both the environment and the cost of producing electricity. Coal is an important economic source of energy for the province of Alberta. Through research and development of clean burning technologies Alberta can be a leader throughout the world in environmentally safe electrical production.

Emerging clean coal technologies will allow for coal to be used to produce electricity in a manner that is as environmentally friendly as using natural gas. If we are able to invest in clean burning technologies and expand their use, then we can reserve the use of natural gas for higher value uses without suffering a negative environmental impact. Using cleaner production methods will allow Alberta to maintain its energy advantage, that has benefited all Albertans. The government’s energy innovation strategy and innovative technologies program is an important step in the right direction. There is an economic opportunity for the use of clean technologies. Further research will help us to develop newer and cleaner energy-generating technologies.

Mr. Speaker, the ranchers of the Stony Plain constituency, as I am sure all Alberta ranchers, are anxiously awaiting the opening of the U.S. border. The recent court decision was certainly a setback. However, I’m glad to hear of the commitment that the Premier has made to continue to help our ranchers and farmers. In the history of farming in Alberta there has not been a single more devastating event to the agriculture industry. As a result of BSE our economy has lost hundreds of millions, and countless lives and dreams have been shattered. I’m extremely pleased to hear His Honour mention in the throne speech that the government is fully behind our cattle industry and is committed to continuing to help ranchers to improve their economic viability.

As Alberta begins her journey into her second century, it is important that we lay a foundation that will allow future generations to prosper. Being debt free is an important component of that. The 20-year strategic plan that the government has laid out provides us with a long-term vision for the province. Unlike the path taken by many governments, Mr. Speaker, I’m pleased to see that the throne speech has focused on building the future.

Both the people of Stony Plain and I are looking forward to celebrating the province’s centennial, knowing that we have not had to mortgage the future of Albertans. The strategic plan provides our province with a framework for growth that will ensure that Alberta continues to be a leader in education and health, is a province with strong and viable communities both large and small, and is a great place to live, work, and play.

Mr. Speaker, the agenda laid out in the government’s strategic plan and this throne speech captures the spirit of Alberta. Like the people of this province the government is committed to ensuring that all Albertans share in the Alberta advantage and the quality of life we maintain today is not only maintained but enhanced.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honour that I take my place as a member of this Assembly. Although I have had the opportunity to hold public office before, being a member of this House supercedes...
those honours and responsibilities. I would like to thank again the people of the Stony Plain constituency for entrusting me with the privilege of representing their interests.

I would like to close, Mr. Speaker, by saying to the people of Stony Plain that I'll represent their interests with the honesty and integrity that is expected of an elected official.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker: Anyone wishing to rise on Standing Order 29(2)(a)?

If not, the hon. Deputy Premier and Member for Drumheller-Stettler.

Mrs. McClellan: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I would like to take this first opportunity to congratulate the Speaker, to congratulate yourself as Deputy Speaker and, of course, our Chairman of Committees, and to congratulate His Honour the Honourable the Lieutenant Governor on his presentation of our throne speech. Of course, congratulations on his appointment, and appreciation for his ability to take what might have been an awkward situation with our sound system during the speech and make the whole atmosphere more comfortable for all of us. I'm sure that we will enjoy more opportunities to get to know our new Lieutenant Governor, and he will serve us well.

I certainly appreciated in our throne speech the tribute to Her Honour the late Lieutenant Governor, Dr. Lois Hole, who was not only our Lieutenant Governor but a friend to many of us, a personal friend known to all of us through her works for libraries, for education, and of course for her love of the land, the love of agriculture, and the great contribution that she has made to this country nationally and, I'm sure, internationally with her expertise in nurseries. Much of our province is much more beautiful today because of the efforts of the late Mrs. Hole and her family.

I want to add my congratulations to all members that were elected in the recent election, and this is, of course, our first opportunity to come together in this House as elected members. I want to make just a few comments. I have not heard all of the speeches in the Legislature on the throne speech, but I’ve been impressed with many. I want to add my most sincere congratulations to the new members who have made their first speech in the Legislature, which we affectionately call your maiden speech. You’ve done a fantastic job. Some of the best speeches I have heard in this Legislature in 18 years have come from you new members, and I wanted to comment on that.

I’m not going to take a long time to talk about the speech. Many have been very eloquent. But what really impressed me was that this was a speech that reminded us of how humble beginnings with people of talent, determination, and grit have made this province in a short 100 years a place to be proud of, a place to be proud to do business, to raise your families. It spoke of the people who came here who didn’t really have an understanding of how difficult it would be to tame this wild, wild west, if you wish, how difficult it would be to build bridges.

I’m reminded of the Rochfort bridge just out of this city, the longest wooden trestle bridge, I think, in the country nationally and, I’m sure, internationally with her expertise in nurseries. Much of our province is much more beautiful today because of the efforts of the late Mrs. Hole and her family.

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I’m reminded of the Rochfort bridge just out of this city, the longest wooden trestle bridge, I think, in the country and maybe in others, and I’m reminded of the bridge at Lethbridge that takes the railroad across. I’m sure that people who came here to start this process had no idea how difficult this would be. I’m reminded of the aqueduct, which is now an interpretive part of our history. But the importance of that work that developed southern Alberta and the irrigation systems and the water management systems that we have in this province – and, you know, all of us can go around this province and see those things in every corner of the province.

We owe an incredible debt of gratitude to those who came here with their hopes, their dreams, their talents, their commitment to make this a place to live, work, and raise their families. I think the province of Alberta today is what it is because those people had that determination, had that pride, and were convinced that this was a land that could contribute to future generations and families. We are seeing those results.

What a wonderful year to be in Alberta and to not just celebrate the year but to celebrate the past and look with great optimism to the future. The people who left this province to fight in wars because they believed in freedom – and we have, of course, on our grounds and in our building a commemoration of members who joined in that – is indicative of the commitment that the people in this province have to the province.

5:20

But we move on to the next Alberta, the new Alberta, the continued Alberta, the wonderful future of this province, and we look to continuing to be, I believe, leaders in learning. I’m proud that our students in this province today score the highest in almost every subject not only nationally but internationally. That’s due to the dedicated men and women who teach in our schools. I admit to a little bias there; I do have somebody who was educated at the University of Lethbridge that I think contributes to that on a daily basis. We look to continue that excellence in learning and to ensure that our students have a place for postsecondary education. We know that a great deal of what has brought us success is an educated workforce and an educated people, and we have to continue that to reach our potential in the future. So I applaud and support the commitment to advanced education, to the people who work in that field, to the researchers that come to our province.

I should mention that we attract a great number of researchers. In fact, at the University of Alberta – the minister might correct me – I believe there might have been 26 new research chairs that came here in the last year. That’s phenomenal, it’s fantastic, and it’s indicative of the commitment that we have to learning. I just mention this university – we are in this city – but we have similar opportunities in all of our fine institutions.

The work in wellness is incredibly important. We know that the best way to make our health system sustainable is to concentrate a great deal on wellness, prevention, a healthier family. I believe you start with the very young. You start in the very early years in school. I can tell you of some experience with my children and now grandchildren. When they come home from school after they’ve had a lesson, we get very politely, usually, told that maybe some of the things we’re doing are not quite appropriate. It came home to me in a farm safety session, when we had a farm safety person at our little school, and we quickly understood that there were some hazards around our farm that we just hadn’t really being paying attention to. Children are the same with healthy eating and healthy living if they learn it at an early age. I support that.

So, Mr. Speaker, I see wonderful opportunities ahead for our province. The first steps of the new century, the new mandate are in this throne speech. It’s really up to every one of us in this Legislature to see them fulfilled.

I thank you for your time, and, Mr. Speaker, I would adjourn debate.

[Motion to adjourn debate carried]

The Deputy Speaker: The hon. Government House Leader.

Mr. Hancock: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that we adjourn until 8 p.m.

[Motion carried; the Assembly adjourned at 5:24 p.m.]
retraining programs. I share with my colleagues in the Liberal McKnight, and indeed all Albertans, deserve a government that will be open and accountable, that will show compassion for
of this government, about environmental protection, about un-
employment, and about the need for diversification as talke
d responsible and progressive manner. The citizens of Calgary-
These are areas of concern which require the immediate atte

Mr. Speaker, a dramatic shift in the philosophy of elemen
tary education is taking place, and yet the throne speech does not mention this new thrust. Let me explain. In March 1987, Alberta Education issued a document entitled Directions to 1990. On page 34 of this document, Alberta Education notified the stakeholders in education that they intended to conduct an elementary review similar to the secondary education review. One year later Alberta Education published a document called Education Program Continuity. This document advocates the change in the present delivery system of education in grades 1 to 6. I applaud the pedagogy being suggested, but I am alarmed that no consultation took place to assure the parental and teacher co-operation necessary to the success of the recommended methodology. Parents who are accustomed to a lockstep approach and the teaching of lockstep approaches are reacting negatively to this change in philosophy. The minister must en-
gage in an explanatory dialogue soon. We must also see very soon a definition of the terms used in the document I would have welcomed some mention of this new approach as well as its rationale in the throne speech.

I have mentioned distance education, community school funding, English as a Second Language, the dropout rate, the secondary school diploma requirements, the antiquated practical arts curriculum, and the shift in elementary education methods. These are areas of concern which require the immediate atten-
tion of the minister in order to assure that our educational sys-
tem remains relevant to the needs and aspirations of our young people.

Mr. Speaker, my constituents also expressed concerns about the financial health of this province, about the insensitive nature of this government, about environmental protection, about un-
employment, and about the need for diversification as talked
about by Mr. Lougheed in 1970 -- diversification which assumes the absence of pollution and the availability of sophisticated retraining programs. I share with my colleagues in the Liberal caucus a commitment to addressing all these concerns in a re-
sponsible and progressive manner. The citizens of Calgary-
McKnight, and indeed all Albertans, deserve a government that will be open and accountable, that will show compassion for those Albertans in difficult circumstances, and that is prepared to offer innovative solutions for the problems facing our province. Unfortunately, this government has shown very few signs of either being able or willing to meet these expectations, and this latest Speech from the Throne continues that sorry record.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Calgary-McKnight and I as their elected representative will be closely watching the performance of this government in this session and demanding substantive improvements in their approach to the issues of concern to all Albertans. I have committed myself to serving the people of Calgary-McKnight with integrity and vigor, and I am grateful to them for electing me as a member of this Assembly within the Liberal caucus under the able leadership of the hon. Member for Edmonton-Glengarry.

Thank you.

MR. THURBER: It gives me great pleasure -- in fact, Mr. Speaker, I'm surprised that I'm here. I thought that at the late hour I wouldn't get the opportunity to address this Assembly for the first time on behalf of the residents of the Drayton Valley constituency.

I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on your elec-
tion to the position of Speaker of this Legislative Assembly. Your capabilities within that position as a true parliamentarian are well known. We in the province of Alberta are indeed fortunate in that this government has always carried out the affairs of the province with a dignity befitting a people of proud heritage.
You, sir, have been a mainstay in that process and have earned the respect and loyalty of every member of this House.

The Speech from the Throne, delivered by Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor on June 1, dealt with many wide-ranging issues dear to the hearts of all Albertans. There was also, in my view, a very real commitment to the first Speech from the Throne in February. This government has committed itself to a leadership role in maintaining a high standard of living through some tough times, a record envied by all Canadians.

Located immediately southwest of Edmonton, the Drayton Valley constituency encompasses almost 3,700 square miles and has a population of nearly 30,000 people. Because my constituency is so diverse in its activities, the policies and directions of this government are of special interest to my voters. We have been fortunate that during the downturn in the energy sector a few years ago Pelican mills located in the town of Drayton Valley. Since the early 1950s Drayton Valley has been the hub of one of the largest sources of oil and gas anywhere. Everybody knows what happened to that industry a few years back. With-
out this diversification of forestry-related production, which is mostly exported to the U.S. and other parts of the world, this community would have experienced extreme hardship. My predecessor, the hon. Shirley Cripps, and this government helped make that happen. This industry has grown to the point where it now produces roughly 230 million square feet of oriented strandboard per year and employs 370 people on a full-time basis. The policies of this government have allowed and encouraged the energy, forestry, agriculture, and tourism industries to exist on a compatible basis.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to dwell for a moment on our tourism sector, which is developing in a natural way to benefit Albertans and travelers from all over. The great Brazeau dam southwest of Drayton Valley now regularly attracts upward of a thousand people per weekend, and with the advent of paved roads in the area this will expand considerably. This govern-
ment has recognized the need for upgraded highways and roads so that the mix of traffic in that area, such as logging trucks, oil field traffic, tourists, and school buses, can travel in confidence and safety.

On any sight-seeing trip in my constituency, Mr. Speaker, you should by all means go south from Drayton Valley to the livestock and oil area of Alder Flats. Take a few hours and stop at the town called Empty -- population, one. Some of you may have seen it on TV. It is a frontier ghost town that attracts people from all over. It fits well into the category of old Tucson in Arizona and Fort Edmonton here in the city. Not far from there is the Buck Lake area, which is an ideal combination of ranching, tourism, oil patch, and home of one of the oldest rodeos in Alberta. Some of the best fishing and scenery to be found anywhere is available in this area. You will find many, many parks and tourist facilities as well in the Winfield-Pigeon Lake area.

Tourism is a clean, renewable resource and is expanding rapidly. The people in Devon are promoting an oil interpretive centre around an oil derrick that they have recently brought to Alberta from Louisiana. It will be one of the most comprehensive centres to be found anywhere and will be in conjunction with the discovery well, which is a historic site already.

There are over 70 miles of the mighty North Saskatchewan River in my constituency, Mr. Speaker, and projects are being discussed to expand the tourism capabilities of this river to a world-class facility from Drayton Valley to Edmonton. This would include horse trails, hiking trails, canoe journeys, and camping all along the river.

I'm very pleased that our government has continued to place agriculture as the number one priority. My constituency has a very diverse agriculture sector. In the west and central areas where we deal with the gray-wooded soils, the research carried out under various government programs has been of great benefit to the ranchers and farmers and has enabled them to be one of the top forage and livestock producing areas in the province. In the Thorsby to Devon area, of course, we have some of the finest black soil anywhere. Given this government's commitment to helping find and secure new markets, the mix of livestock and grain products grown in my part of the province will continue to keep these farmers in an enviable position compared to other parts of the province. These farmers have diversified their own operations to meet new demands and new markets. In addition to the traditional livestock and grain crops, you will find in my constituency an abundance of game farms -- or elk ranches, if you prefer -- including one of the largest and most sophisticated in Canada, owned and operated by one Doug Bauman.

This government's continued commitment to care for the elderly certainly is welcomed in the Drayton Valley constituency. To illustrate what is happening in some of these small villages, we have had a doubling of the size of the village, a doubling of the number of houses in the village, but the population has remained the same. These small villages are homes to the elderly, and they do not wish to be relocated for a variety of reasons. While home care is certainly one of the factors in their well-being, there comes a time when it is better for them and their families to have access to extended care facilities. I'm pleased there is a commitment on the part of this government to construct 1,500 beds for extended care so that our seniors can be better cared for as close to their homes and families as possible.

Mr. Speaker, the innovative approach this government has taken with the advent of distance learning in small high schools is a real step forward. With declining family sizes and larger farms a real problem has occurred, particularly in the rural areas. This step forward is certainly providing an opportunity for these children to access a multitude of options in their home school without having to leave home or have an infernally long bus ride.

The constituency of Drayton Valley is so diverse in scope that every topic we discuss here in this House has a significant bearing on the people who live there. Mr. Speaker, because I believe that actions speak louder than words, I only have one other comment to make. I feel that I must comment on the role of the rural MLA as a representative of people in Alberta. I noticed in my travels through my constituency and other rural constituencies the abundance of people from the cities around the area. There is a theory being presented that there are too many rural MLAs. When I look at the hundreds of miles of roads, the campsites by the dozens, the recreation facilities, and the many, many other amenities that are provided in the rural areas for all Albertans, I believe we should have more rural MLAs, not less.

Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Member for Smoky River.

MR. PASZKOWSKI: Mr. Speaker, I would ask for adjournment of debate.

MR. SPEAKER: Having heard the motion, those in favour, please say aye.

HON. MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. SPEAKER: Opposed, please say no. Motion carried.

MR. STEWART: Mr. Speaker, I believe all members are aware of the government business for tomorrow evening being the Budget Address.

[At 5:29 p.m. the House adjourned to Thursday at 2:30 p.m.]
ment that is improving as fast as anyone could hope for.

The idea, Mr. Speaker, is that with diversification we will be less dependent on the gas and oil industry. I believe we have moved our budget figure from dependency of 50 percent on the gas and oil industry in 1988 down to 30 percent, and then when we do get a lucrative gas and oil industry, of course, it's a plus to every person in the province of Alberta.

But he did mention how deregulation had hurt Albertans. In my constituency, Mr. Speaker, we've had oil fields that were completely developed that were shut in for four years, particularly in natural gas. Those people that developed those fields were paying interest on that money without being able to sell any of it. Now, certainly after deregulation those fields are in complete operation. Natural gas is not at the top price, but it's certainly not too bad, and the industry is moving.

The Leader of the Opposition also made some statements about home care, and I believe, I'm not sure, that I heard him say that the province should help with certain things in home care. Now, for instance, he said Meals on Wheels. Meals on Wheels are funded through family and community support services, which are 80 percent funded by the province of Alberta and 20 percent by the municipalities. The other part of home care, that has nurses traveling to visit people daily, is funded 100 percent by the province of Alberta. Now, in this throne speech, actually on page 9, it says that more money will be put into home care. So I don't understand what he was saying when he made those comments.

Plus the throne speech also says that there will be 1,500 added beds to long-term disability and some added self-contained units and new lodges. Certainly in the seniors' department that's got to be a benefit. Also, the new medical alert system is in order. Although I think in most places in Alberta there's been some provision of medical alert systems, in this case the province is taking over and supporting to the extent of $700 per unit on medical alert systems for people who need them.

They also are doing a pilot project on garden suites, and I think this is an ideal way of keeping seniors in close proximity to their families and not putting them in institutions. This unit will be a movable unit that families can have in their backyard for seniors of their own family or friends, where they can stay and be within a few seconds' walking distance from somebody that will be watching over them.

I was about to respond to some of the comments made by the Liberal Party on their amendment, and although I recognize that in both cases these people were at their maiden speeches, I thought they got a long ways out from the amendment on the throne speech or even the throne speech. As a matter of fact, it reminded me of a couple of lines from a poem I once read. I think this is an ideal way of keeping seniors in close proximity to their families and not putting them in institutions. This unit will be a movable unit that families can have in their backyard for seniors of their own family or friends, where they can stay and be within a few seconds' walking distance from somebody that will be watching over them.

I was about to respond to some of the comments made by the Liberal Party on their amendment, and although I recognize that in both cases these people were at their maiden speeches, I thought they got a long ways out from the amendment on the throne speech or even the throne speech. As a matter of fact, it reminded me of a couple of lines from a poem I once read. I believe it was in Alice in Wonderland where it said:

"The time has come," the Walrus said,
"To talk of many things:
Of [sailing] ships -- and sealing wax --
Of cabbages -- and kings . . .

So if that is the response that we got to the throne speech, I don't know how we will govern in that respect.

Mr. Speaker, I have to again say that the throne speeches of February 17 and June 1 were compatible throne speeches, and they were linked together, and one was an addendum to the other one. So as far as I can see, this amendment means nothing as far as how it affects the June 1 throne speech. So for that reason I suggest that we defeat this amendment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Member for Stony Plain.

MR. WOLOSHYN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On this, my maiden speech to the House, I will take the liberty of broadening the intent of the amendment and perhaps wander as much as the previous speaker did.

I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to the Speaker on your appointment and on the Deputy Speaker's as well. I was most impressed by the opening remarks of the Speaker, and I'd like to take the liberty of quoting some of the words as they are printed in Hansard. The words go as follows:

Each one of us represents all of our constituents no matter what their political stripe, cultural or linguistic background, whether or not they voted for us or chose not to exercise their right . . . at all.

Mr. Speaker, better words could not be chosen, and I'm pleased to be a member of this Legislature who subscribes to that philosophy.

I'd also like to take this opportunity, Mr. Speaker, to congratulate all of the members of this House on their first elections or re-elections, whatever the case may be. I look forward to working with the members from the constituencies that surround my pretty place; namely, Westlock-Sturgeon -- that's the second compliment for the hon. member that he'll get from me. The hon. Member for Barrhead shares a bit of the county of Parkland with me, and I certainly look forward to working with him, especially after I heard the eloquent closing remarks in the afternoon session. The Member for Whitecourt I haven't had the opportunity to meet yet, and I'm looking forward to that, and certainly Drayton Valley, which is a source of a lot of the county's problems. They all share a portion of the county of Parkland with me and Stony Plain. There are other privileged members of this House who have what is their west boundary and Stony Plain's east boundary, namely Edmonton-Jasper Place and Edmonton-Meadowlark. I don't know if I'll work with them. They're way off in the urban areas, and I do love the rural countryside.

This speech, Mr. Speaker, my maiden speech, is directed primarily to the people who elected me. I'd like to begin by thanking the people of Stony Plain from the bottom of my heart for giving me an opportunity to represent their interests in this Legislature. It is a privilege and one of the greatest challenges that I've faced.

Explaining the constituency of Stony Plain a little bit to you -- for those of you who have gone through it and haven't noticed, it's got three primary highways. One runs north and south; it's Highway 60, commonly referred to as the Devon highway. The other two are 16 and 16X. One is referred to as the Yellowhead; the other is referred to as the future Yellowhead, and they both go out to Yellowhead. If you start at the North Saskatchewan River, which is basically the south boundary of the Stony Plain constituency, and you go about two miles north, you run into the beautiful botanical gardens of the University of Alberta, a good place to take your family on a Sunday afternoon outing, I might add. It's a very, very nice place to visit.

If you go a few more kilometres north and you happen to read the signs, because this is about the only way you'll notice where you are, you'll enter Stony Plain Indian Reserve 135. The reserve is the home of the Enoch Band of the Cree Indians. They've got some very, very fine facilities there, which they were able to build during the boom years. Unfortunately, these
boom years happen to have left the reserve, and I really feel for them; they're struggling to make a go of it. Also on this reserve, Mr. Speaker, you'll find a school that's unique to all of Canada. It's a school that was constructed on the reserve with funding from Alberta Education, the county of Parkland, and the department of Indian and northern development. That school is unique not only because of its funding and its location, but it is operated by a local school board on federal lands, basically. But they bus children from the surrounding acreages to the reserve to attend the school. It is rather an interesting experiment, something that one might keep in mind. That, plus the fact . . . Now I skipped a spot. I'm not reading well.

If you go another eight miles down the road, you'll come to the beautiful city of Spruce Grove. It's stuck between highways 16 and 16X. It's well planned, offers a large number of recreational and business services to the surrounding area. Also, Alberta lands and forestry has a research branch located there, and the regional offices of Alberta Social Services also make their home in Spruce Grove. Spruce Grove also has a claim to a special educational facility; it's called the Kokusai Kaiyou, Canadian branch, high school. That is a Japanese high school, the only one in Canada, and that's where the Japanese send their students three or four times a year. They do a wholesale changeover, and they come to experience the Canadian culture and get immersed in the English language.

There is only a mile between the corporate boundaries of the city of Spruce Grove and the town of Stony Plain, and these two urban areas get along very, very well. Stony Plain, as you might well know, has the very famous Multicultural Centre, and again I extend an invitation for you to visit the centre. It's a good tourist attraction and serves excellent meals. Recently Stony Plain opened up the Shikiao Park, which is a Japanese theme park. Stony Plain is also twinned with a city in Japan. There is going to be an opening of a portion of the botanic gardens next year sometime, which also have a Japanese theme. So, Mr. Speaker, I might point out that the constituency of Stony Plain and the country of Japan are developing some very close ties.

We also have a village. Some of you might have heard of it; it's the village of Wabamun. It has long been the centre of recreation on Wabamun Lake. It's a very progressive village, largely due to the fact that it has an excellent tax base and that one of the power plants is located within its boundaries. On the eastern shore of Wabamun Lake you will find another Indian reserve. It's called the Wabamun Indian Reserve 133A and 133B, and that's where the Paul Band stays. They are a group of Indians split roughly half and half between the Stony and the Cree heritage.

The county also has been attracting for the past 20 years a large number of acreages, especially in the east end and around the city of Spruce Grove and the town of Stony Plain. As well as these kinds of activities that are happening, I am also proud to announce that the garden suite project, which the previous member alluded to in the throne speech -- the rural component is being piloted in the county.

Agriculture contributes a great deal to the constituency. There are at least three major poultry operations, large grain farming, quite a bit of forage harvesting, intermixed farming, cow/calf operations, and horse boarding and riding arenas are becoming a rather common appearance in the constituency.

In addition, TransAlta Utilities is a major employer. It's got three power plants with the associated mines; consequently, that particular aspect contributes quite a bit of tax revenue as well as employment to the constituency. All of the municipalities within the constituency actively support business ventures and are continually striving to attract new economic activity to the area, and that's a part of their desire to twin with Japan. There are industrial parks in Stony Plain, Spruce Grove, and the county of Parkland. They've got pretty well everything in order; all they need is a little bit more investment.

Recreation facilities aren't overlooked. They are constantly being upgraded, and they vary from half a dozen golf courses to a few ice arenas. Programs seem to be quite effective, and I think the constituency of Stony Plain will settle the argument of where the real area of champions is. Notice that I refer to the area of champions. This year the LaDawn Funk rink from Spruce Grove won the world ladies junior curling championship. In addition, two hockey teams from Stony Plain have won the provincial championships, and one of them placed quite high up in the nationals too. This year the particular area zone finals for the Alberta Summer Games are being hosted by both Stony Plain and Spruce Grove, with activities happening in the city, in the town, and throughout the constituency.

Mr. Speaker, I've just barely touched on the potential of the constituency. There's a whole proliferation of communities that are quite active, with names like Carvel, Brightbank, and Rosenthal. Two of the communities are having their 80th anniversaries this summer: just an indication of how active the area is. In addition, they are very active on the church scene. There have been two sod turnings and another one coming up for new church facilities in the constituency. I'm quite proud to see that the people in that particular constituency work very well together.

From a personal note, they have very heavy demands on their MLA. Since the election -- which in budgetary terms has been a very, very long period of time; from an MLA's point of view, an extremely short period of time -- I've participated in quite a few MLA-type functions. I opened up the Clymont community hall, with the company of my predecessor I might add; two trade fairs; two church sod turnings; two school graduations; the Japan/Canada friendship weekend gala which just passed; a couple of addresses to chambers of commerce; and have met with about four of the local governments. So they are rather a demanding constituency, and that's really nice to see because they are interested in what's going on.

I'll try to relate some of what the previous members have alluded to in the throne speech to the Stony Plain constituency. I'd like to start off by saying, Mr. Speaker, that I was very, very pleased to see the commitment to secondary highways as was laid out in the second throne speech, I guess. I would like to see this commitment implemented properly, planned thoroughly, and I'd also like to see the government designate more of the roads within my constituency as secondary highways so that Stony Plain could also benefit from this great, progressive move of improving the economy of the province. So those of the ministers who are listening, keep Stony Plain in mind. I don't mind paved secondary highways one bit. [applause] For the hon. members across who've given me that applause, I really appreciate it. I'd like to remind you that the secondary highway program, or paving initiative, was a New Democratic idea of about three or four years ago.

MR. KOWALSKI: Aw, get off of it. Go jump in the lake. That's a bunch of nonsense.
Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order please.

Mr. WoloShyn: If I wasn't so nice, I would respond to that, but I will serve notice to the hon. Member for Barrhead that this is the first and last time he'll get off so easily.

Mr. Kowalski: Tell the truth.

Mr. WoloShyn: That is the truth. I'll continue with my speech here, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. Member for Barrhead will bear with me.

Agriculture is identified as the number one priority and the foundation of the province. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to point out that this foundation is in dire need of repair, not only just the band-aids that seem to be floating out of this throne speech but with a lot of sincere effort and new direction. The demise of the family farm should be stopped; a genuine commitment must be made to guarantee that young farmers in fact succeed. Mr. Speaker, the speech did not indicate any effort to increase farm income, to protect farmers from unrealistically low grain prices, nor to give them duty free access to the U.S. market, which was promised in the free trade agreement. Instead, there are just contributions to subsidize whoever's gouging the farmer's input costs.

Mr. Speaker, the government has indicated it will encourage individuals to pursue trades as a career. I would like to go along with this direction. I would also like to point out that a good starting position is to revitalize the high school vocational programs and to resurrect the Western Institute to the level originally intended for that educational institution when it was planned.

Exciting new educational initiatives were also being developed in the throne speech. Distance learning for rural schools: if this is a typical educational program, the seed funding was there one year, and we're now into year three. I would suspect year two there was a slight slowdown, and in year three the local school jurisdictions will likely have to pick up the costs on their own. I don't know what the support for the inner schools will be, but we're waiting patiently to see what those announcements are.

I was glad to hear also that there's increased spending on community schools to bring them up to a level of four years past. The reality, Mr. Speaker, is that it's inadequate to return to levels four years old. Also, there is no provision made to accommodate the numerous community schools that were left with charters in abeyance. That should have been addressed. I hope it will be addressed in the budget. There's also reference to equity funding for school boards. I would hope the equity funding is not the kind of funding that was imposed on the county of Parkland board of education. Some time past it was decided to create a municipal district of Brazeau and along with it, although a little bit later, the school district of Twin River. At the time administration and, I would imagine, local politicians from the municipal board of education indicated to the government that they were worried about an increased cost to the county board of education. They were assured over and over again that there was no cost. The 1989 school tax notices were mailed out about two weeks ago. "No cost" is now translated into 60 percent tax increases, most of which can be attributed directly to the increased cost because of the creation of a new school district and municipality. That to me is a very, very poor example of equity funding.

The government made a commitment to native people. I was glad to read that, only I hope the implementation of that particular commitment also is taken a little bit more seriously than has been in the past. One example comes to my mind, and I'll just stay with it very briefly. I'd like to point out that day cares located on a reserve can get a letter of authority to operate, can get some small operating grant from the provincial government; however, they can't get any subsidies regardless of whether the person seeking the subsidy lives on or off the reserve. This puts the operation of the reserves' day cares under the gun very severely because people who live off reserve find it very, very uneconomical to put their children in very well run Indian day cares simply because they don't qualify for the subsidy. That has to be addressed. It's a very discriminatory approach to citizens of this province.

Also, I'd like to point out that Highway 60, which I alluded to a little earlier -- 20 years ago or thereabouts, before the current government made it into power, the old Socreds decided that highway had a large enough traffic volume to rate being upgraded to four lanes. Twenty years seems to be sufficient time to procure highway rights-of-way, but I guess if you move slowly, heaven knows how slow you can go. Currently the government is negotiating for a right-of-way. A government that spends up to $20 per square foot per year on rental on office buildings in Edmonton chose to reject an offer from the Enoch Band to sell their heritage -- because when a band gives up its land it sells its heritage. They were going to sell their heritage to them for 69 cents per square foot. Not only that, Mr. Speaker, but the highway was widened once before, and would you believe that the accessing of the right-of-way still hasn't been resolved to the band's satisfaction? I wouldn't want to even suggest who would have made an error there.

While the government sat sorting out Indian land claims, I would suggest that they go up to the hamlet of Duffield. Who is responsible for this one, I have no idea. Somebody bought the property that the private landowners have from the Indian Band for the hamlet of Duffield, but in their process they forgot to buy the streets. The Indians own the streets. They let us use them, and I'm forever grateful to Chief Walter Rain for his generosity, except they won't let the hamlet put any sewers in these streets. So they have a problem with sewage there, and all that the band would like to see happen is for them to get their just rewards for giving up the hamlet along with the streets. So I would suggest that the government, if they want to take the initiative from the throne speech, could start off in the area of native affairs and sort out the problems that we have right on our doorstep. There are some others, but we don't want to get into those at the moment.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I'm very proud to announce that I will be primarily in the role of education and youth critic. I'm going to make every effort to push the government to exercise its responsibility to education. The area of distance education, community schools, and the overall funding to education must be improved. The new School Act must be monitored to ensure that, in fact, it functions as intended, to benefit the students and in the end to benefit the families of these students. Policies and procedures must be enhanced in the area of native education. We're very, very weak there. Curriculum development and implementation have to be looked at and monitored very closely.

The youth of today must be assisted so that they will reach their highest potential. Youth problems have to be identified and worked on in a very positive way. This area needs a great
deal of attention.

On that, Mr. Speaker, I thank the indulgence of the House. Thank you very much for the uninterrupted privilege of presenting my maiden speech.

MRS. OSTERMAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I rise to make a few observations on the amendment to the Speech from the Throne that has been presented, particularly as a result of my reading this afternoon of the Blues, in which I read the comments of the hon. leader of the Liberal Party and his participation last evening. I have to very honestly admit to my colleagues that as I read these comments I was reminded of the hon. Liberal leader's participation in the recent election campaign where he was pictured on the top of a garbage heap. It seemed rather fitting that he was there, in terms of the comments that I read, very frankly. I was moved, certainly, to rise to make a few comments in response to the hon. member.

Mr. Speaker, I think that while I rather enjoyed the hon. Liberal leader's suffering from a recent attack of fiscal responsibility, which I think we all must enjoy today's times, I note that over the years past, as I witnessed his attack on many of us who tried to exercise some fiscal responsibility, in particular his comments about the social services policies and trying to prioritize and send additional funds to handicapped children's services and other areas of dire need. At that time admittedly in taking some of those funds away from single employables, I certainly got an example of what we are in for in terms of the hon. member's sense of what fiscal responsibility is and how it is that he will prioritize had he had that responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, in leading us, as I gather that we will be led out of the wilderness in our lack of fiscal control in terms of the government side, I notice that the hon. leader exemplifies his decisiveness in terms of, for instance, his handling of the landfill site for the city of Edmonton, which still is not a reality. I find myself reasonably appalled at some of the comments that are made about the government when, in fact, we all have problems that we must speak to, and so to be handing them off in terms of them being just enjoyed by one party in this Legislature is, at the very least, an unfair observation.

Mr. Speaker, there were other observations made, for instance, about the high unemployment rates, notwithstanding the fact that in a recent comparison for April the Alberta rate was 7.5 percent. It always needs to be improved, but in light of the Canadian rate of 7.8 percent, when Alberta enjoys usually the lowest rate in Canada with Ontario, surely that can be recognized in terms of Alberta's standing in this area.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member spoke about the incredibly depressed sense that he seems to have about Albertans. That is borne out only in attitudes that in some degree are pervasive by the leaders of this province. So, if he wants to talk about his own constituency and the attitudes that he finds there, I think that it is important for us to note that those attitudes may be inherent there, but fortunately, because he has not had an opportunity to have some sort of effect on the constituents of Three Hills, we will not find those attitudes there. From my perspective, the strength of our people in my constituency who believe, I believe with our encouragement, that they have an unwavering belief in this province and its promise -- and that is exemplified by the kind of effort that the Three Hills constituency and the constituents put forward in order to build the kind of province that we see building today.

The hon. member spoke, for instance -- for somehow we should feel humiliation about our leadership and the way it is that we look on a national level. Isn't that interesting, Mr. Speaker? If you'll notice, for instance, the leadership that was displayed. Who was the first province to speak out about the national sales tax and subsequently had other provinces follow? Who was the first province who spoke out about interest rates and had other provinces follow? In the very heart of the Three Hills constituency and eventually the leadership by this province, where did we find the Triple E Senate emanating from? Alberta, Mr. Speaker, and led by Albertans.

Mr. Speaker, it is not unusual, given the kind of attitude that the hon. leader displayed, for him to pick on the very worst statistic he could find in terms of the potential growth for Alberta. It is interesting to note the difference between the leadership in the two cities as exemplified just prior to the last election. If you were to read the comments of the hon. former mayor of the city of Edmonton, no wonder it was so difficult for us to get investment to come to this part of the province as opposed to its coming to Calgary. Surely if I were to read as an outsider the doom and gloom as presented by that mayor, I would not have looked to invest in the city of Edmonton either. This is typical of the kind of comments that are made.

So the hon. member talked about no plan, no future. Let's look at the kind of leadership that Alberta has shown here today in Alberta. The economy: where else do you see the kinds of investments in diversified projects other than in Alberta? On a per capita basis, absolutely the highest in Canada. You can look at the economy. Take a look at the environmental standards, and you're looking for the federal government to lead? Who is it that has the highest environmental standards in Canada? Again Alberta.

Mr. Speaker, look at the programs, for instance, in the vital area of education and upgrading of skills. The workers of this province, all of us, must find ourselves ready for the future. What I would use is the analogy of the triple threat position as they use in basketball: you must be ready to move at any time and any direction. With the kind of employment programs that we have -- the skills upgrading and the attitude so far of the workers in seeking to upgrade themselves because they have not yet been influenced by the hon. leader of the Liberal Party -- we do have the best workers, the best skilled, and the highest education, along with British Columbia, in this country of Canada.

Take a look at the social programs, Mr. Speaker. A number of the hon. members of the opposition have admitted, over time, that we have many programs that lead the country. They don't mention it too often because it would be embarrassing, because it is not for them to be talking about anything positive. I can just mention, for one, the family and community services area, which allows municipalities to set goals and speak to the individual needs of their municipality. Those communities are doing that right across this province.

As well in the health area, Mr. Speaker. Again, on a per capita basis, when you look at what is happening in Alberta, the kinds of educational opportunities, the research that is going on in Alberta that manifests itself in terms of good care for Albertans, we are second to none in Canada. And we'll never apologize for that; thank you very much.

As we go on and speak of what has been the subject of a House discussion just recently, let us all remember, I think in a very positive sense, the kinds of opportunities that the forestry projects present for Albertans in diversification. I think the hon. Minister of the Environment was trying to indicate today that if
ment of Hospitals and Medical Care will be receiving submissions for new projects after June 1, 1979, as they are very concerned over their hospital.

The town of Rocky Mountain House, situated at the doorstep to the west country, has experienced a high growth rate in the last few years. This brings added pressures to municipal governments. All the councils are very pleased with the municipal debt reduction program, which enables them to further benefit the taxpayer.

One of the largest gas plants in North America is southwest of Rocky Mountain House and is presently under construction in order that they can prill sulphur. This process will make the product more marketable and easier to handle for world trade, which makes it easier for the new Department of Economic Development to carry out its aims.

Mr. Speaker, the management of the east slopes area is essential. The pressures this area is receiving have to be dealt with very carefully. Each and every person in the province should have space in order to enjoy his favorite recreation. After a considerable amount of public input, a policy for resource management of the eastern slopes is being drawn up which should be very beneficial for guidelines.

Mr. Speaker, I've left a very important industry to the last, and that is agriculture. Farming is the oldest occupation of civilized man. It always will be important, as human life depends on food production, and there is no substitute for food. Humanity has its roots in the land and may never evolve to the point where people can live abundantly, securely, and peacefully in cities. In Alberta's history the farm has proved itself as the one way of life that has provided those elements that go into the creation, conservation, and continuity of the home and the family. The newly purchased grain terminals and the plans to upgrade grain transportation, as well as the marketing of other farm products, are very important.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, as it is the Year of the Child, I think it is appropriate to read the following poem:

Children learn what they live
If a child lives with criticism he learns to condemn
If a child lives with hostility he learns to fight
If a child lives with fear he learns to be apprehensive
If a child lives with pity he learns to feel sorry for himself
If a child lives with ridicule he learns to be shy
If a child lives with jealousy he learns what envy is
If a child lives with shame he learns to feel guilty
If a child lives with tolerance he learns to be patient
If a child lives with encouragement he learns to be confident
If a child lives with praise he learns to be appreciative
If a child lives with acceptance he learns to love
If a child lives with approval he learns to like himself
If a child lives with sharing he learns about generosity
If a child lives with honesty and fairness he learns what truth and justice are
If a child lives with security he learns to have faith in himself and those about him
If a child lives with friendship he learns that the world is a nice place in which to live
If a child lives with serenity he will live with peace of mind
With what is your child living?

[The House recessed at 5:16 p.m. and resumed at 8 p.m.]

MRS. CRIPPS: Mr. Speaker, it is with a deep sense of pride and honor that I address this prestigious Assembly for the first time. I have great respect for the democratic government this Legislature represents: government of the people, by the people, for the people. People involvement, from nomination meetings to election day ballots, has to reflect the pride Albertans feel in their democratic rights.

It is indeed a privilege and an honor to represent the Drayton Valley constituency. I realize with humbleness the responsibility I have undertaken for them and the people of Alberta.

I must extend my compliments to the other two candidates for a vigorous and interesting election campaign. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting the people and travelling the constituency.

Mr. Speaker, I also would like to compliment the Lieutenant-Governor on his presentation of the throne address. Also I would like to congratulate the mover, the hon. Member for Three Hills, and the seconder, the hon. Member for Calgary Forest Lawn.

Drayton Valley is a constituency of 2,900 square miles of gray-wooded agricultural and forestry land, overlying deposits of recoverable coal, and the most extensive oil and gas fields in Alberta. Drayton Valley, a vigorous, thriving town of 4,500 residents, is the shopping centre for much of the constituency.

Inundated periodically with increased exploration and oil activity, Drayton Valley is hard pressed to keep up with supply services. The demands of transient workers, coupled with intense growth, have created "special town" status, but Drayton Valley has not been given "special town" status. The construction of a new hospital and nursing home is a continuing concern of many residents. I am pleased to say there is progress, but the town is waiting impatiently for construction to begin.

Heavy traffic and an industry that moves on wheels make roads problem number one. Needless to say, the resource road program announced by the Premier at Drayton Valley was received with enthusiasm.

Providing vast ranges of job opportunities, the oil industry is hard pressed to find trained workers. For this reason, the town is looking forward to building a trade and vocational school, with one section specializing in the practical trades of the oil industry.

Mr. Speaker, transmission of energy from the source to the consumer has been done in the past with little consideration for future development. As more hydro lines, oil pipelines, and gas lines crisscross Alberta, their placement affects future development.

In the early days of the oil industry little thought was given to accommodation of the future development of Drayton Valley. Efficient production was the paramount goal, and planning was a low priority. Now the town is paying for a lack of foresight in the increased cost of development that the maze of pipelines has caused. Subdivision design and development must build in costs for pipeline relocation which are
ultimately passed on to the consumer. Roadway and street construction are made financially prohibitive where relocation of pipelines is necessary.

Small towns such as Drayton Valley have neither the population, the tax base, nor the borrowing power to contend with this lack of foresight. A hamlet such as Drayton Valley was in 1953 could not be charged with the control of laying of pipelines in its vicinity, nor should they be charged with bearing the financial burden resulting from the existing jungle of lines.

Many small centres of Alberta are in the same predicament. They look to senior government to help in solving these situations and for guidelines that will ensure better future planning.

Warburg, a village of 500 residents, is expanding rapidly, with 28 new houses last year. Permits have been issued for an additional 100 in 1978. In 1978 Warburg installed a town water system. They are extremely proud of their senior citizens’ home and of their progressive village.

Breton, a village of 500, is also booming. It has a modern 30-bed hospital, a new courthouse, and approval for a 10-unit, self-contained senior citizens’ lodge. Breton is concerned with the poor conditions of roads in the area, especially 616.

In my constituency hamlets are important. While not having self-government, they serve the surrounding areas as if they had. There are 11 hamlets: Alder Flats, Buck Lake, Winfield, Buck Creek, Sunnybrook, Telfordville, Tomahawk, Rocky Rapids, Cynthia, Lodgepole, and Violet Grove. There are also many identifiable community centres, such as Genesee, Moon Lake, Easyford, Moose Hill, and Yeoford.

Being a hamlet poses a major problem. Most government funding goes to municipal government, with no recognition that hamlets have the same obligations and needs as a village. With the county seat often 50 to 100 miles away, hamlets have great difficulty in making these needs known. The street improvement program which recognized the needs of hamlets was much appreciated, and hopefully their needs will also be recognized in the future.

I must extend my appreciation and that of the Drayton Valley constituents to Rusty Zander, who served this constituency for eight years.

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the fact that many of my constituents have aspirations for self-government. The need for local autonomy is felt to be imperative to maximize the natural economic advantages of the area and to encourage balanced growth.

I am fortunate to represent a constituency which contains some of the most productive oil and gas fields in Alberta. Alberta produced 83 per cent of the total fuel production in Canada in 1978. The value of natural gas, natural gas by-products, and crude petroleum in ’77 was over $5 billion, which amounted to 22 percent of the gross domestic product for Alberta.

The royalties and lease sales have made it possible for Albertans to have the lowest tax rate in Canada. The heritage trust fund is a direct result of this oil and gas industry. That’s just good business management.

One of the little-acknowledged benefits of the oil industry is the employment opportunities afforded adjacent rural areas. In my constituency one thinks of Drayton Valley, but places such as Alder Flats, Buck Lake, Rocky Rapids, Easyford, Berrymoor, Breton, and Warburg have also benefited. Young men have been able to develop viable farm units because of the off-farm employment opportunities offered by the oil industry.

Aside from the fact that the oil industry provides jobs for Albertans, the industry and the stability of government provide favorable investment opportunities which gave Alberta one-fifth of the total investment in Canada last year. The incentives program established by this government to encourage research and development is commendable.

Alberta energy policies must reflect present needs and ensure future supplies.

Mr. Speaker, agriculture is extremely important to my constituency and to Alberta. As a renewable resource it provides jobs for over 500,000 Albertans. Development of a viable agricultural industry in Alberta is essential. To this end agriculture should be treated with the same government funding as the oil industry in the development of product processing and secondary industry; that is, acting as a catalyst.

It is important that constructive action be taken in transportation problems, development of grain handling facilities, encouragement of export markets, tariff agreements, and north-south trade. These agricultural initiatives mentioned in the throne speech will be welcomed by the rural residents in my constituency.

The prohibitive cost of farmland makes it uneconomical to purchase for agricultural purposes. Mr. Speaker, the transfer of the family farm and the inability of young people to afford farmland are worries to many of my constituents.

I’d like to take this opportunity to mention Mr. Lou Hendrigan of Winfield who was inducted into Alberta’s Agriculture Hall of Fame last October for his extensive research and experimentation on forages on gray-wooded soils. It is estimated that 200,000 acres of Alberta are gray-wooded soil. That’s over 50 per cent. With the steady urban encroachment on the better black soils, the importance of management of gray-wooded soils cannot be underestimated. Since much of the Drayton Valley constituency is gray-wooded, I’m pleased with the recognition of its importance.

I would also like to extend an invitation to you, Mr. Speaker, and to members to attend the 50th anniversary of the Breton Test Plots on July 13. They were established in 1930 by the University of Alberta soil science department to find a system of soil management and fertilization on gray-wooded soils.

As consumers in Alberta we are fortunate that we live in an affluent society. Cheap fuel and food are the reasons for our affluence. In India 68 per cent of wages are spent on food, in Russia 40 per cent, in France 26 per cent, in Alberta 16 per cent. If two-thirds of wages were spent on food, as in India, it wouldn’t leave much for a car, a television, a carpet, a dishwasher, a boat, a camper, or a holiday.

We have this consumer price index which compares food prices in dollars, not in earning ability. It might be of interest to note that in 1949 a quart of milk cost 16 cents and took eight minutes to earn. In 1978 that quart of milk cost 63 cents but only took 4.9 minutes to earn. In 1949 eggs cost 35 cents in 1949; 17.5 minutes to earn. In 1978 they cost $1.06, but we earned them in 7.5 minutes, less than half the time. Sirloin steak was 95 cents in 1949; 47 minutes to earn it. In 1978 sirloin steak cost $3.49, but it took only 26 minutes to earn it.

The average worker’s purchasing power has increased significantly because of the efficiency of our
food production. An hour’s labor — maybe I should say employment — will buy more food than ever before in history.

However, to maintain this enviable position we must continue to implement progressive programs for agriculture, thus assuring financial stability to the agricultural sector and assuring consumers quality foods at reasonable prices.

In all rural constituencies roads are a problem, and Drayton Valley is no exception. The motorized public is rapidly outdistancing our abilities to supply their needs. Maybe it’s time we as a provincial government embarked on a catch-up highway program. Hopefully the resource road program will do this.

Two years ago the Department of Transportation established a highway clean-up program with the 4-H and junior forest wardens. I commend them for this excellent program, in which most of the 4-Hs in my constituency participated. The clubs benefit, and the government is getting good value for its money. The orange vests initiated this year not only made the 4-H clubs visible but identified them as part of a clean-up team all across Alberta. Believe me, these young people will never, never dispose of garbage on our highways.

I’m pleased that the Premier has designated a special caucus committee for water management. Every year there’s more demand for water: irrigation, hydropower, municipalities and industries, even other countries are clamouring for water. The headwaters of most of the prairie water supplies are located in Alberta. Some control areas are in my constituency. Sensible water management is essential, for I believe that by the year 2000 water is going to be our most valuable renewable resource, equalled only by land. The interdependence of water resource development and other resource development is becoming increasingly evident. In many cases water resources provide the catalyst for resource utilization, and lack of water leads to restricted economic activity.

Water is absolutely essential, and planning for responsible management, storage, and distribution is of vital importance now, especially for future generations.

The Alberta assured income plan announced by this government will benefit many of my constituents and shows that this government is sensitive and responsive to concerns raised by citizens.

The financial independence, along with the usefulness, achieved by workshops such as the Beehive in Drayton Valley will give the mentally retarded a sense of achievement not possible before. The many volunteers who make these group homes and workshops possible are to be commended.

Another request by municipalities was for aid in reducing their debt load. Even if the Leader of the Opposition does take credit for conceiving the idea, without implementation by this government he would have been in the same predicament as Connie’s member, one Joseph Addison, who conceived and conceived and conceived. We certainly hope you will conceive many more ideas, and maybe we can bring forth.

The $500 per capita municipal funding has left most of my constituency’s municipal governments with a surplus, which gives them a much needed boost and certainly wider scope for planning.

I’m pleased with the expansion of school funding, taking into consideration student differences. But many educators are really concerned about our ability to have earlier assessment of learning disabilities. It seems that once a child is 3 years old early childhood services applies, but before that it does not. It’s not a preventive social services problem. It doesn’t fall under education or health. There are numerous programs tied to regulations, and if the problem doesn’t fit, it just isn’t an identifiable problem. There is a real difference between learning disabilities and the slow learner. The slow learner needs help, too, and is not getting enough individual attention where it really counts, in the primary grades.

The formation of a new Department of Economic Development is a welcome announcement for my constituency, which is a primary producer but is sadly lacking in secondary industry. It has exciting possibilities for an area plentiful in gas and oil and with abundant agricultural production. Government leadership in this area, coupled with local initiative, should be an economic incentive to secondary industry and an encouragement to small business.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to representing the Drayton Valley constituency and to working with the members of this Assembly for the next few years. I am sure they will be interesting, challenging, and rewarding.

Thank you.

DR. CARTER: Mr. Speaker, I stand here with a great sense of appreciation of the whole role and function of this total Legislature and especially with regard to the role and function of the Lieutenant-Governor and of the Speaker. As you know, I come from an occupation which is more than a little preoccupied, if not just concerned, with tradition and ceremony, and I for one compliment you, sir, as well as the members of this House, for the due care and appreciation which is given to our very rich tradition in this House.

Last week I stood on the banks of the North Saskatchewan at an historic site which is known as the John Walter museum, established in 1874 as a stopping and boarding house for those people who wanted to travel from the south side of the river to the north side. In that soft spring evening, I could look through the fan of the trees and see this very distinguished sandstone edifice, the Legislature Building. As one who had in previous years tried to pay attention in his social studies, I was then able to appreciate the significant setting in which this Legislature is located.

By the same token, as I stood there in the quiet of that historic site, as a historian I found my mind was also drawn to think of the people who travelled that river highway, the North Saskatchewan, and the people who came in so many other different manners to this great part of our nation of Canada: those pioneers who came here not only to build their homes but to build this province and to contribute to this nation. Obviously we owe much to the pioneers who came from other places in other times. It is also true that today, in the midst of our economic expansion, we have many more people coming to us from many parts of Canada and from other parts of the world who are indeed present-day pioneers. This cultural diversity is to be found probably in every riding throughout this province, but is oftentimes more noticeable in our urban areas, and Calgary Millican is absolutely no exception.
March 23rd 1972

HON. MEMBERS:
Agreed.

MR. LOUGHEED:
Mr. Speaker, I move that the resolution be read a second time.

MR. SPEAKER:
It was moved by the hon. Premier that the resolution be read a second time. Do you all agree?

HON. MEMBERS:
Agreed.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill No. 3
The Appropriation (Interim Supply) Act, 1972

MR. MINIELY:
Mr. Speaker, I wonder if all hon. members shake their heads like I do every time we watch the process that we just went through. Yet I understand that I am probably the person who provokes that process most. For the benefit of all new members, and I think we have many, we must go through that process each time a money bill is introduced. In this case the money bill I beg leave to introduce is The Appropriation (Interim Supply) Act, 1972, and the resolution was read out to you. I might just say that all hon. members probably know that the fiscal year end of the province is March 31, and that as of March 31, the funds of the province all legally expire for the current fiscal year we are working on. In view of this, it is very necessary that we have interim supply granted by this Legislature by March 31, which is the end of this month. Otherwise I am sure all hon. members will appreciate that many of our citizens will be adversely affected, citizens on social assistance, many other citizens, as well as our valued public servants in this province who would not get their pay cheques. I therefore move first reading of The Appropriation (Interim Supply) Act, 1972.

[With the agreement of the House, Bill No. 3 was introduced and read for the first time.]

MR. HYNDMAN:
Mr. Speaker, the government asks for the unanimous leave of the Assembly, notwithstanding rule 592, to move to second reading of the said Bill, The Appropriation (Interim Supply) Act, 1972 at this time.

[Leave being granted, and upon a motion by Mr. Miniely, Bill No. 3 was read a second time.]

BUDGET DEBATE
(Adjourned)

MR. PURDY:
Mr. Speaker, six years ago I had the pleasure of meeting our hon. Premier. At that time I said that Mr. Lougheed would one day be Premier of this province, and I thought at that time what a challenge it would be to work with him. Peter Lougheed has always advocated open government, and, when elected, getting all government MLA's involved. The appointment of non-executive council members to
task forces has been a tremendous boost for the individual member. I know that I am here to do a job, and likewise, am expected to get the job accomplished.

Mr. Speaker, I represent the Stony Plain constituency west of Edmonton, and this constituency has not had a voice for years. They know what open government is, but now that we have open government, they ask, "How much dare I use my elected representative?" The answer to my constituents is, "You elected me, use me, I will work for you."

As of October 1, 1971, I opened a local MLA's office in the town of Stony Plain. This office, Mr. Speaker, is open to the public one day a week and the response has been overwhelming. People now have a place where they can meet their elected representative. On one of the previous evenings, when the hon. Member for Smoky River presented his maiden speech and endorsed the hon. Minister of Agriculture for his competence in looking after the Department of Agriculture, getting fresh ideas, weeding out 1936 funny money ideas, the opposition side attempted to cut down the hon. Member for Smoky River. And that is why they now sit on the other side of the House. It is evident that they should have been listening instead of talking.

The largest industry in Stony Plain is agriculture and this industry must be protected. Let me reassure the hon. member that it will be by the hon. member who sits on the right side of the Presier. Who else could fill the bill? Not very many have so many new ideas and strong thoughts on agriculture, not only for Alberta and Canada, but for our export markets. Keep it up, Hugh, you're doing a tremendous job. The hon. minister has helped the constituency by extending the guaranteed loans for female cattle into the Stony Plain constituency. Many of my farmers have taken advantage of this and now have sufficient cattle that will next year boost their farm income.

Mr. Speaker, the Stony Plain constituency has many industries, and to name a few will help acquaint members with the area west of Edmonton. Calgary Powers' two thermal plants on Lake Wabamun; Alberta Cals' two cocal mining sites in the Wabamun area. Portobuilt homes in Spruce Grove; Temple Saw Mills in Stony Plain; a drilling mud plant in Onoway; and many small industries situated in various parts of the constituency.

The highways in this area are not as good as the previous administration would have us believe. We received correspondence at a community meeting a few years ago in regard to highway 16 west and it was addressed: "Re: Highway 16 east". The people along this highway were then given the impression that there was no highway 16 west. I wonder why this was not given recognition. I know why - because of the poor design and the unsafe entrances into a lot of my towns which have caused unneeded highway deaths and many thousands of dollars in property damage. Highway 43 north is in about the same shape. Can you see, Mr. Speaker, approximately 20 school buses leaving Onoway and entering the highway at a crossing which, in my opinion, is unsafe? This crossing is halfway down a hill with the speed limit on the highway of 60 miles an hour. This corner requires an overpass, or the hill cut down to allow a maximum amount of vision. This type of hazard is also evident at the Wabamun turnoff and the volume of traffic on No. 16 west warrants work on this overpass. This constituency has only 32 miles of four-lane highway, with only two completed overpasses and a third under construction at Winterburn. This highway needs other overpasses at Devon corner, Spruce Grove, Stony Plain, and Wabamun. The highway also requires continuation of the four lanes to at least Seta Beach, and four lanes must be started to No. 43 north. The grid road system must be expanded and this constituency needs at least two good high grade roads connecting Highways 16 and 43.
Mr. Speaker, in my constituency I have one of the wealthiest counties in the province, but because of high expenditures they require additional money, and I was only too pleased when the hon. Minister of Municipal Affairs increased the grant by 10 per cent. It was a fair increase, despite the overall financial position of the province. I hope that both the counties of Lac St. Anne and Parkland will receive their fair share, along with the towns of Spruce Grove, Stony Plain and Onoway.

The County of Parkland, as of January 1st, 1972, allowed the City of Edmonton, without opposition, annexation of approximately one and a half miles west of 170 Street, and from 118 Avenue to the North Saskatchewan River. But now the city wants more. Mr. Speaker, this time there will be opposition, and if required I will aid the county in every way possible.

I am very pleased to have one of the very first school community buildings in Alberta; this is in Spruce Grove. I must commend the hon. Member for Olds-Didsbury for his contribution, while Minister of Education, for seeing that this school became a reality for Spruce Grove.

Mr. Speaker, I have other school problems. There are only three high schools in my constituency. Children are being bused 40 miles, and this, for a rural area, is totally wrong.

We have expanded too fast in the centralization direction and should and will have to give some thought to the decentralization of our school system and to bringing the teacher to the student. I speak of three high schools, but if the previous administration had had their way this constituency would have ended up with two. The attempt to phase out Seba Beach High School was totally wrong, and it was only through the election of a new government and an Education Minister who had the insight to consider and agree with me that the Seba Beach High School was retained.

Mr. Speaker, the design of school buildings is totally wrong, and the resolution that was before the Assembly on Tuesday of this week pointed this out. Let's stop wasting the taxpayer's dollar and start building schools to educate children, not to allow certain groups to experiment with the tax dollar.

I support the elimination of school tax from property tax. Many of the aspects I have spoken about will cut the provincial budget for schools, especially community school use, school design and decentralization of schools.

Mr. Speaker, I feel that the small businessmen who are now located in rural Alberta should be given an allowance to aid their industry, and may I suggest that our telephone system be changed so that these people could receive a reduced toll fee.

The hon. Minister of the Environment, Mr. Yurko, has a firm hold on the environmental problems that exist, not only in rural Alberta, but in the urban centres. My constituency of Stony Plain is an area that is under question, and the Department of the Environment has taken, and will continue to take, a serious look at Lake Wabamun.

In February of 1970 the Conservation and Utilization Committee of the Department of Agriculture, (now the Department of the Environment) started working to co-ordinate the various studies and research projects on this lake, in order that an integrated long-term development plan for the area could be formulated, consistent with government policy of preserving it as a recreational site. A task force was subsequently established, drawn from staff members of the provincial and federal governments, the University of Alberta, and the Edmonton Regional Planning Commission. This group includes among its members men who have been carrying out the various research
projects on the lake. The cost is high in all cases and would add to the cost of power produced.

Expenditures on remedial measures, such as chemical herbicides or weed cutting and removal, were both used last summer, and this year the weed cutting operation will be expanded to one more harvester and two more barges. I believe with the help of Calgary Power, the provincial government and interested cottage owners, that Lake Wabamun will be saved as a recreational site.

Mr. Speaker, I will dwell on recreation for a minute. The hon. Member for Calder has the same thoughts as I have, that we require more covered ice arenas. The hon. member stated that in Edmonton the cost of a covered shell is approximately $116,000 without any annex. This cost, in my estimation, is high. A community in my constituency, Wabamun, recently built a covered ice arena with a 100 x 30 foot annex, with change-rooms, office, kitchen facilities, for a total cost of $112,000. Where is the difference? Has the city not enough scrutiny when these contracts are being awarded?

A parcel of land last fall was offered in the Winterburn area by the Stony Plain Indian Reserve to the City of Edmonton for the building of Omniplex. This was turned down by the city -- land that was not costing any money. It appears they want high priced land in the centre of Edmonton. Edmonton needs Omniplex and needs it now.

The budget is excellent, balanced, and a new outlook for Alberta. The capital requirements of the government have been planned well, and have been planned as all good businessmen plan, by balancing the operating end, and by long-term borrowing for capital projects. The first Progressive Conservative Budget is a budget that will long be remembered by a large number of people in Alberta. This will be more evident for 27 members of the opposition, including the NDP member.

I have never seen so many dejected looking faces as I did on March 17th, when the hon. Provincial Treasurer brought down his budget, stating it would help senior citizens, agriculture, handicapped children, and many more people. The shock of such a well planned budget was a greater shock to the opposition than the jar they received August 30, 1971.

I wonder why in years before, the former government did not place more emphasis on agriculture. The family farm was in trouble, but with the increase of over 46 per cent over the 1971-72 expenditures for family development, increases of 124 per cent from the 1971-72 for an agricultural marketing thrust, and the new Agricultural Development Fund, agriculture will once again be our leading industry. I can see that with the new importance placed on agriculture our young farmer will stay on the farm, and rural Alberta will start moving again. It will not stay stagnant, as was evident before.

At this time, all the members on this side have seen this pamphlet. This was put into the hands of all farmers in the province by every rural candidate. For the record I will read what the Premier said:

"It is essential to Alberta agriculture to have a provincial government with new attitudes, and new directions. Agriculture is not merely a livelihood for many Albertans, it is a way of life.

A Progressive Conservative government would be dedicated to the preservation of the family farm and to improving farm income. The Department of Agriculture would become a key government department and would aggressively involve itself in marketing and sales."
A Progressive Conservative government would not be defeatist in its approach, and would not turn over responsibility to the Ottawa government. We cannot promise easy solutions, but strong leadership and a determination to try every available avenue. This is the pledge that the Alberta Progressive Conservative Party can make to the farmers of Alberta. We have more farmer candidates than any other occupation, and each of them joins me in this pledge.

The challenges were: a market emphasis must be achieved in Alberta agriculture; the Alberta government must accept that it has a joint responsibility with the federal government for the prosperity of agricultural producers in Alberta; high priority must be given by Alberta to programs that improve cash income for farmers; ownership of land should remain with Alberta residents, and the preservation of the family farm must be an objective of government policy; a balance must be struck between government assistance and the farmers' desire to control their own industry as free enterprisers; a billion dollar farm income should be our target in Alberta.

And, Mr. Speaker, I can say that at least 90 per cent of this has happened since August 30th.

I did a study this year on the T & T Report, and that report stated that 14,000 farmers in Alberta would have to leave the farm and another 18,000 be upgraded. That, Mr. Speaker, is a large percentage of rural Alberta. Let me reassure the hon. members that I did not agree with the consultants who were hired to do this study at a cost of approximately $100,000. I wonder if the consultants did not receive their direction from the previous Social Credit thinking. When the election campaign started, Social Credit said: "Let's save the family farm", but I did not see any literature setting out their facts of how this could be accomplished. The only literature I have seen is what I read here a minute ago, and this was placed in the hands of all farmers by all rural candidates and by a man who knew rural Alberta, a man who went out to meet the people, who didn't let the people come to him. Our Premier, Peter Lougheed, has saved Alberta from a floundering debt, and has planned new directions for Alberta, and once again our rural people will have a choice of life to look forward to. With the Premier, the hon. Minister of Agriculture, and 46 government MLA's working together, agriculture in Alberta will lead in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I take exception to the remarks made by the hon. Member for Macleod. Reading between the lines of what he said, and knowing he is from a farming area where most farmers farm townships, half townships, and sections of land -- but my constituency is made up of the backbone of Alberta farmers, who farm half sections and quarter sections. These are the farmers who keep the agricultural industry going and I say that the farmers in southern Alberta who are farming these large crops are exploiting the rest of the rural farmers in Alberta.

I challenge the hon. Member for Macleod to go into my constituency of Stony Plain, or the constituencies of Barrhead, Smoky River, Drayton Valley, Camrose, Stettler, or any rural constituency which is made up of the small farmer, and make the statements that he made in the House the other night about small farmers.

Our senior citizens have at last received a break, a deserving break. They are the people who built this province with sweat, tears and many hardships. Why so long forgotten about? I will tell you why! A very arrogant approach towards senior citizens was used, with no forethought for their future. The previous administration did with senior citizens what a farmer does with an old animal, let it out to pasture to die. A very unreal approach for your folks and mine.
Mr. Speaker, I believe that the hon. members from the opposite side must have had parents, but the way senior citizens were treated, it is a good question. Premium-free coverage for medical drugs, optional health services, a $50 grant for renting accommodations, and the exemption from 30 mill property tax will aid the senior citizens.

A few weeks ago I had the pleasure to be present at a function at which a member from the former government did some speaking during the evening. With very much interest to me, he stated that within the government, when he was a member, there was a division between the Executive Council and the backbenchers. In fact he said there was a blanket - a communication gap. Well, Mr. Speaker, there's no blanket between the Executive Council and the other MLA's in this government. In fact it's an honour to belong to such a team, a team that is involved in government, a team whose members can see a Cabinet minister when matters warrant, a team that meets in open caucus, and a team that wants to do a job for Alberta.

Taking the average age of the government members, I would say that we have a very young group. We have inherited a large debt and a few white elephants. One is a $125 million railroad so that our coal could be shipped out of Alberta. Herbert C. Hoover once said "Blessed are the young, for they shall inherit the national debt" - so true in Alberta. We have, Mr. Speaker, a young group of government MLA's who have inherited a debt, but who are ready and willing with new ideas to pay this debt off. Thank you.

MR. HO LEM:

Mr. Speaker, first may I say it's a real privilege for me to follow such an enthusiastic speaker, with so much steam. I am, Mr. Speaker, deeply honoured to have this opportunity tonight of addressing the hon. Premier, the hon. ministers of the government, and members of this Assembly as the Member for Calgary McCall. This assignment is, for me of course, a real pleasure, and at this time I wish sincerely to congratulate the efforts of another new member in this Assembly for what I consider an outstanding contribution for his preparation and the delivery of the budget address. Speaking again as a new member, and solely as such, I do appreciate all the more the efforts put into this budget by the hon. Provincial Treasurer.

Having said that, Mr. Speaker, and I do so sincerely, may I now make some introductory and explanatory remarks as to my role as the MLA on this side of the House on the subject of the budget address? I consider it my responsibility and my duty to the citizens of Alberta to:

1. Endeavour to be alert and informed at all times in regard to all aspects of government spending.

2. Keep an ever watchful eye on the various reserves, both natural reserves and monetary reserves that the previous government has so carefully built up through the years, and to make sure that these reserves are not squandered nor wasted, but spent wisely.

3. See that the present government continues to improve on the Social Credit programs in the field of social legislation, a field in which the Social Credit party has given outstanding leadership to Alberta, and I hope that Alberta will remain as a leader in this field in Canada.

4. Retain and improve the good provincial and municipal relationships which have been established through the years by the former government, so that the municipalities will continue to receive the various benefits through such good relationships. Examples of these are recreational programs funded by the province and operated by the municipalities, provincial grants for various
HON. MEMBERS:

Yes.

MR. DRAIN:

"A Conservative government is an organized hypocrisy."

I don't think he was thinking right at that time, Mr. Speaker, and I'm sorry I quoted this one. And, Mr. Speaker, from Disraeli:

"No government can long be secure without a formidable opposition."

"Mr. Speaker, we all bend ourselves to that task. Thank you.

MR. ZANDER:

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to add my congratulations, as others expressed in the House, to your elevation to the position of Speaker of this House. I know that in your past experiences of good judgment and fair play you will indeed give this concept to both sides, regardless of party affiliation.

Mr. Speaker, may I just take a few moments to pay tribute and my respects to our leader, the hon. Premier of this province. It is indeed a pleasure to have worked for him for the leadership of this party, but it certainly is a greater pleasure to work with him for the betterment of all people of the Province of Alberta.

Our Premier is a dedicated man who considers the well-being of the individual person first. This is the reason for Bill No. 1, the rights of the individual. It is people before party, it is open government for many years and those who have found the armour of the previous government impregnable can see the difference. Yes, they can feel it.

Referring further to the Speech from the Throne regarding the role of new MLA's being involved in the structuring of government policy in open government, certainly does not appeal to the hon. members on the other side of this House. I am just wondering if the party on the opposite side of the House, just one year ago, figured that the other side were second-class citizens also.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed one of the finest Throne Speeches on record and perhaps not all the goodies could be wrapped up in the same package. But now -- and I stress this for the members on the other side -- I mean now, the senior citizens of this province, the mentally and physically handicapped and those engaged in agriculture, will at least be top priority for our government.

Mr. Speaker, the constituency that I represent is the oil capital of Alberta; it is also the oil capital of the world. In my constituency there are approximately 6,000 oil wells and all the heartaches that also go with it. The oil capital of Alberta was for Alberta what Fort Knox was to the United States government. I must say that it was only a stepchild in the member family. May I stop for just one moment and say why a population of over 4,000 people have never enjoyed a provincial building in that area. They have scattered the provincial buildings of the treasury branches, the liquor stores, all over town and I would certainly enjoy, Mr. Speaker, if this government would see fit to put one provincial building in an oil capital of Alberta that has contributed so much to the provincial treasury in the past and is still contributing now.

You know, Mr. Speaker, I think probably the hon. Minister of Public Works must have read my mind. We have no senior citizens' home, we have no nursing home, but you know just today I received a letter from the mayor of the town asking me to turn the sod tomorrow at five o'clock, and since I wrote this speech I must apologize, we now have a senior citizens' home.
The hon. Member for Smoky River said that he had no roads. Well, we have two highways, but you know the one leading to the north is so narrow that when they paint the green lines they run out on the grass, and I wish the hon. minister would correct this in the near future.

Mr. Speaker, one thing that we desperately need out there is a nursing home. In a population of 20,000 people our nearest nursing home is approximately 100 or more miles away. As I said before, this is a young town, the average age in the town is 28 years or less, but we have in the surrounding communities pioneers who have pioneered the soil, who have given their all in the development of this community and yet we find we have no home for them. We have a 50-bed hospital which is full to capacity with senior citizens and certainly people who have lived out there since 1904 are deserving of a nursing home or access to an active treatment hospital that is not full at all times.

There is another problem in our rural areas and I imagine it exists in all the areas of this province. I can only blame the former Minister of Municipal Affairs -- I'm sorry that he is not here in this House. Well, somebody said maybe I'm not either. Mr. Speaker, there is just one word to be changed in The Municipal Government Act that would permit this to happen and I read that section, sir: In The Municipal Government Act, that is Section 188, subsection (2) it now reads:

"That any municipality or rate-payer requiring or requesting such services shall pay for such use of machinery at a rate not less than the rate paid by the Government of Alberta for rental of similar equipment."

Now you will note that the one word we would have to change would be from 'shall' to 'may', and we will give the municipalities and counties powers to give our senior citizens in the rural areas the much needed services that they are certainly desiring.

Mr. Speaker, it is encouraging to note in the Throne Speech the importance given to the secondary road system of this province. Although the former government brought forth the secondary road system in 1971, they only found it convenient because it was an election year, and I stress that point. We in rural Alberta are crying for needs for better roads, and as the hon. Member for Smoky River mentioned just yesterday, he was complaining of the muddy, gumbo roads. We have children getting on the buses at five and ten minutes after seven, in the summertime, especially last year in May and June and July when the roads were impassable. I wonder how many of you gentlemen in this Assembly here would want to send your children out at five minutes after seven to catch a school bus, when in all probability that school bus would never come to your gate until about ten to eight because of the conditions of the road.

Mr. Speaker, we are thankful to the former government for the many bridges that were constructed within this province, but now we have bridges and we have poor rural roads. Some of the locations of bridges were poorly planned, and of course, some were built for political reasons. I will refer to one only, Mr. Speaker. Just west of the City of Edmonton, there is a bridge known as the Genessee bridge, and only a rough trail -- well let's call it a road -- leading north and south to major highways. Very few people use this bridge because of the dangerous condition of the road. For all intents and purposes, Mr. Speaker, this bridge could have been constructed in the Sahara Desert, for all the use it receives now. Perhaps the former government should have looked at their counterparts in British Columbia. They built their highways first and then their bridges.
May I refer to the education of our young, Mr. Speaker. Education must be redirected to the training of our younger citizens in trades and jobs that are available, not after Grade XII, but before Grade XII. We have many graduates with PhDs running around, looking for jobs, but who are not properly trained for the jobs that are available. We must begin now to retrain, to take those off social assistance and make them become better citizens of this province.

Mr. Speaker, I extend an open invitation to any member of this House to fly over and examine and get a bird's eye view of one of the finest recreation areas west of the City of Edmonton. I refer to the Brazeau dam and canal. Mr. Speaker, words cannot describe the utter desolation and the mess created by the former government by flooding the area before the forested area was cleared. Mr. Speaker, if the people of this province had received five cents for every tree which grew in the flooded area, the people of Alberta would have received something of cash value, and the cost of clean-up in 1959 would have been less. A beautiful recreation area was made desolate by foolish planning and the cost of clean-up now will be ten times greater. And to consider that the people of Alberta under the former government gave an interest-free loan for over $12 million to create this mess. To destroy one resource for the sake of another makes no sense, Mr. Speaker. It is distasteful for me even to mention the havoc created without supervision in the frantic haste for the discovery of oil in the southwestern part of my constituency, having no regard for the salvaging of forest products, making huge cuts in hills, drilling seismic holes which are still flowing fresh water over since 1954 and 1955. The erosion has already taken its toll in the forming of huge craters and gullies. Surely, Mr. Speaker, we do not have to destroy all the resources to get out one single resource. Yes, Mr. Speaker, we should leave the land in much better condition after we have left this earth than we found it before.

Let me mention one vital concern of the people engaged in agriculture in my constituency. This was mentioned before in the House on March 6th by the hon. Member for Spirit River-Fairview regarding the rural electrification in our area. We find the extensions in my area run at a price for one and a quarter miles of construction $4,436. In the same area -- and I refer to the Buck Lake area -- one and one-half miles at $5,600. Can you imagine, Mr. Speaker, just four or five years ago we had construction in the same area running at $2,226 for a mile and a half. This price has gone up 100 per cent within the time period. Wire has gone up 32 per cent and the price of poles and other material has gone up only 14 per cent. Where are all the costs? Are they labour? We would like to know.

Farmers are now living in an agricultural community without the benefit of power and it is high time that we as a government investigate and take proper measures. Regarding agriculture, there is still a farmer policy in effect which is detrimental to the farmers of Alberta. This is a farmer policy of the past Social Credit government.

Mr. Speaker, may I at this time draw to your attention, and to the attention of this Assembly, that we propose to help young farmers and we are asked to pay 11 years in advance for the service rentals received from various oil companies. If this is not bad enough, Mr. Speaker, we charged them interest on it also. So, in other words, by the time the young farmer receives title for his property from the Crown, he has paid for 16 years advance rental. The well may have been dry many years before this. And I say that we in effect, are still carrying on policies which are not policies of the Conservative government, but are policies of the Social Credit government, and I think it is high time that we change this policy.
Mr. Speaker, before I conclude -- and I am going to make this as brief as possible -- there is a matter of great concern to me. And concern I think, that the hon. members of this Assembly hear and saw on television tonight, about the agricultural community that is surrounded with the discovery of oil. I believe you all saw it on television tonight. This happened in my area.

I have before me, Mr. Speaker -- and I was hoping to table this, but I will do this later in the session, maybe next week, because I have only two copies. This disturbs me. As you well know the hon. Minister of Agriculture has asked me to head up the new Surface Rights Act. Once this matter hit The Journal and the people read it they have never rested since.

I have been in every part of the province. I have listened to farmers, and to landowners. I thought it was localized, but I never knew that it was province-wide.

Before me is a summary of an award made by the Right of Entry Arbitration Board, and the award is to two farmers very close and dear to me. They live only seven miles apart, and one of the farmers who I have previously mentioned to the caucus had over 200 head of cattle before a pipeline went through. This man - and I saw it - was feeding his cattle in June because of the pipeline right-of-way. The mud and mire had cut him off so that he could not get his cattle into the other pasture. He was pasturing hay land that should have been preserved for winter use.

I will leave them here and table them later on in the session, and you will note the total allowance that this man received. You can imagine, you men that are cattlemen, you know what it means to disturb the breeding cycle of cattle, especially range cattle.

Also, I'll mention as I have before, that it is still the policy of the former government. You know, and the evidence is here, that the Crown only received in this one award, we the people of the province of Alberta are supposed to take care and handle our natural resources in the best interest of the people of Alberta. I'm sorry that this was not done by the former government and there is ample evidence of that. In my search through how we handled the Crown leases, I found them running from $17.17 per year to a high of $50. Right next to me, Mr. Speaker, there is a quarter section which is Crown land, and I'll give you the location. It is the NE 1/4 of Section 29, Township 50, Range 6, West of the 5th Meridian. Agriculture surrounds the whole section, and the people of the Province of Alberta receive only $54 annual rental for one well site and battery site.

I think it is time that we, the people of Alberta, bring into focus and proper perspective the values of land that the people of the Province of Alberta own. That is their deserving right. I don't know why the former government carried this policy. I don't know why the former government carried this policy. In this award stated on page 23, this was government leased land, it was grazing land. The government got $25, the farmer that operated it got $42.50. Now gentlemen, this is no excuse. I think the people of the province are entitled to just revenue from their natural resources. I had thought in the past two or three months that the board had done a wonderful job, but in telephoning this evening, I have about 18 more. I attended a meeting at Heisler and I'm sorry that I told them the wrong thing. I told them that if they could not settle with the company concerned they should go to arbitration. Mr. Speaker, I must have made a mistake. I hope that we can correct this mistake, because I can see that they did not take proper consideration all the matters that pertained to the facts of arriving at a proper decision. And Mr. Speaker, I can only recommend in this House that we ask for the immediate resignation of the board and that we put in a board that is willing to look after the affairs of the people of the Province of Alberta, and the affairs of the companies concerned to
give a fair verdict in rendering decisions to the surface
landholders.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, may I say that I don't consider the
hon. members on the opposite side as second-class citizens. Mr.
Speaker, they were entrusted for 36 years with the job of governing,
and although the electors on August 30th decided to terminate their
office of tenure, I still expect them to come up with constructive
ideas and programs to help us govern more effectively. Let us hear
your concerns, your ideas, and your problems. I am sure that our
Premier, and we on this side in open government, may accept some of
our recommendations and make them useful and effective for the
people of Alberta. I thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. ANDERSON:

Mr. Speaker, as others have done, I wish to congratulate you
sir, on your election to the high office of Speaker of this Assembly.

I represent the important constituency of Lethbridge East.
After the last redistribution, the City of Lethbridge was split into
two, Lethbridge West and Lethbridge East. The constituency of
Lethbridge was ably represented in this House for 27 years by John C.
Landeryou, and I am sure we all wish him well in his retirement.

The City of Lethbridge is the third largest city in Alberta, and
I believe the most modern and progressive little city in the whole of
Canada, and will compare favourably with any city its size in the
world. We want to keep Lethbridge and southern Alberta moving ahead,
along with the rest of the province. To do this we must complete
Highway 3 from Medicine Hat to the British Columbia border. Highway
3 is one of the more important links in the highway system of western
Canada. There are other highways in southern Alberta that require
improvement, such as those leading to the United States border, as
well as those leading to our provincial parks and our national park
at Waterton.

In the City of Lethbridge we have the first public college
established in Alberta, and the third university known as the
University of Lethbridge. Both these institutions are doing
important work. We have dedicated staffs in both institutions, and I
sincerely hope that the Premier and his government who have called
for decentralization of our colleges and universities, will assist in
the development of our college and university rather than the overly
large institutions in Calgary and Edmonton.

This brings me to another important matter, the decentralization
of industry. I am sure we can all remember the promises of the
Conservatives to do something to save the smaller communities. I say
that Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Fort Macleod, and other centres in
southern Alberta fall in the category of smaller communities that
require more industry to keep us moving ahead to provide employment
and add to the wealth of our area. We will all be watching closely
and await the plans of this government to bring about the
improvements in the field of industrial expansion for our smaller
communities that I have mentioned.

I am pleased to note that the government has decided to build a
new senior citizens' home in Lethbridge. This home was promised by
the Social Credit government and I sincerely hope that accommodation
for single rather than double occupancy will be provided in the new
home, as surveys show that is what is required.

I am prepared to support measures to improve fishing and hunting
in this province, and hope that encouragement of the tourist industry
will at least equal the efforts and success of the Social Credit
government in this important field.