

JOURNALS
OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SESSION 2005

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by the Lieutenant-Colonel Donald J. Copple, BC Divisional Commander, The Salvation Army.

This being the first day of the sixth meeting of the Thirty-Seventh Parliament of the Province of British Columbia for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of the Honourable IONA V. CAMPAGNOLO, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, dated the 25th of January, 2005.

The Honourable IONA V. CAMPAGNOLO, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, having entered the House, took her seat on the Throne and was pleased to deliver the following gracious speech:

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members, British Columbians

It is a privilege to once again address you at the beginning of this new session of the Parliament of British Columbia.

Since this Assembly last convened we lost many honoured British Columbians who we pay tribute to today.

Former member of this Assembly Daisy Webster, former Member of Parliament Dave Worthy, B.C.'s Provincial Archivist John Bovey, entrepreneurs Bob Scarabelli, Joseph Capozzi, and Lucille Johnstone.

We join the Nisga'a people in mourning the loss of their first ambassador of the Nisga'a Lisims Government, Rod Robinson, the Hereditary Chief of the Eagle Clan.

We lost people whose spirit and zest for life contributed so much to our diverse communities: Dr. Paul Lin, Amrit Kaur Dhaliwal, Domenic Mobilio, and David Grierson.

We lost Toni Onley who captured the stunning beauty of our province in his art, and Pierre Berton, a Canadian legend who brought to life the history of our land and our people.

We were reminded about the sacrifices of our volunteers and our law enforcement community with the tragic loss of Auxiliary Constable Glen Evely, who died in the line of duty.

And our prayers, condolences and commitment to assistance go out to the families and survivors of the terrible Tsunami in South Asia that has taken such a heavy toll in human life and property. That event, like the tragic mud slide in North Vancouver, has reminded us all of the tenuous nature of life, the sheer power of nature, and the need to prepare as best we can to avoid such loss of life in future.

At the same time, it has shown British Columbians' and Canadians' generosity of spirit and united the world in common cause and empathy.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY ON ELECTORAL REFORM

This Session marks an important milestone in the history of our province and our nation.

For the first time in Canada, all members enter this Session knowing the date of the next general election and the date that this Assembly will be dissolved. On April 19th, the writ will be dropped and an election will be held on May 17th, as specified under the Constitution (Fixed Election Dates) Amendment Act. That bold stroke in parliamentary reform, passed in August 2001, is an achievement for which all members should be rightly proud.

Nearly two years ago, this Legislature also unanimously approved the terms of reference, Chair, and referendum process for the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform. It was a world first, driven from start to finish not by politicians or government, but by citizens drawn from all walks of life.

On behalf of all British Columbians, your government extends its warmest thanks to the Assembly's Chair, Mr. Jack Blaney, and to Mr. Gordon Gibson for his outstanding founding report. A special thanks is owed to all 161 members of the Citizens' Assembly, and to their staff, researchers and administrators. Their selfless commitment, dedication, and contributions through 11 months of deliberations and 50 public hearings were an inspiration to us all.

Now that the Assembly's work is done, it will be up to all British Columbians to answer its draft referendum question on May 17th:

Should British Columbia change to the BC-STV electoral system as recommended by the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform? Yes/No.

Your government will remain neutral on that question. Yet it is firmly committed to acting on the referendum outcome.

This is British Columbians' chance to make an informed decision on how best to elect their MLAs and choose the electoral system that best represents their needs and interests.

TOWARDS A GOLDEN DECADE FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA

As we enter this Parliament's final legislative session, we look forward to what lies ahead.

This government's path is clear. Although its options have multiplied as British Columbia's fortunes have improved, its chosen route and destination remain the same.

More jobs. More investment. New hope. New prosperity.

Lower taxes. Balanced budgets. Increased revenues. Better services for families and people in need.

Better health and education. A cleaner environment. Safer streets and schools.

New confidence. New optimism. A new world of possibilities.

This has been your government's roadmap to prosperity and it remains its guiding vision. This was the mandate your government was elected to fulfill and has acted to deliver.

It is the route that will lead our province forward to higher ground and higher purpose. It is the welcome ground won through three years of hard work. Together, British Columbians have weathered many trials and unimagined obstacles, to emerge stronger, healthier and empowered by their progress.

Today, we are entering a golden decade for British Columbia. The future British Columbians have worked so hard to create is now within our grasp.

Our province is leading the nation in job creation. Unemployment is at its lowest level since 1981. Our economy is growing in every region and business is booming. People are moving back to B.C. Families are coming home.

There is new optimism in our forests, new certainty on our land base, and new hope for First Nations and resource communities. There is new labour stability, with 68 public sector agreements, and the fewest number of strikes and lockouts in over 30 years.

Government is again living within its means with balanced budgets and, including the forecast allowance, a record surplus. Our stronger economy is generating new revenues for sustainable improvements to social services. For the first time in many years, we will start paying down operating debt in a real and sustainable way.

There is new wealth to sustain expanded services for those most vulnerable in our society. There are new means to pursue people's goals.

Better access to education and high quality health care. Better support services for women, children, seniors and people in need. More jobs and new opportunities for families, First Nations, and small businesses across B.C. Higher take-home pay and a better standard of living.

That is the power of a strong economy. That is the point of responsible fiscal management.

And that has always been the object of your government's vision for a brighter future.

We do live in the best place on Earth. The promise of the next decade is to make it ever-better for all British Columbians. It is the capacity to lift our entire society higher.

It is the potential to open new gateways of knowledge, trade and culture, by opening our minds, hearts and province to the world. It is the prospect of giving our children a better chance to pursue their dreams, by leaving them a brighter future – and not our debt. This is your government's mission.

It means setting our sights high and building on the reforms and investments made, to make British Columbia the true Canadian leader in economic, environmental and social development. It means looking beyond B.C. to the new world of global commerce that holds our future in the balance.

We are uniquely positioned as Canada's gateway to the Asia-Pacific. We have a golden opportunity to open that gateway wide, and to make that competitive advantage British Columbia's competitive edge. We have a golden opportunity to forge new relationships. To open up our ports, airports, roads, and rail links – and open our province to new trade, investment, visitors and cultures.

This is the age of global connection, global communication and global partnerships. The new explorers are those who seek new knowledge and push through to new frontiers of cultural understanding. We are uniquely well positioned to take that next step and become the continent's foremost Pacific crossroads.

Now that we have rebuilt within our province, we are ready to take our products to the world. It is time to tell the world about all we have achieved and all we have to offer – not just economically, but culturally, environmentally and socially as British Columbians.

It is time to welcome the world and understand it better, through new gateways to trade, new cultural exchange, new relationships, and new partnerships in education.

This is the path your government will pursue.

It is time to move B.C. beyond recovery, to a new age of discovery, growth and opportunity that is far-reaching, forward looking, and truly global.

GREAT GOALS FOR A GOLDEN DECADE

As your government reaches higher, it will set new goals to guide its progress. Its over-riding objective is to help British Columbia realize its full potential as the best place on Earth to raise a family; to live and play; to work, invest and get ahead.

To that end, your government has identified five great goals for the decade ahead.

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1. To make B.C. the best educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent.
2. To lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness.
3. To build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, special needs, children at risk and seniors.
4. To lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management, bar none.
5. To create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.

These are far reaching aspirations that will challenge us all. They explicitly recognize and embrace British Columbia's role as a Canadian leader.

It is only by setting our sights high and pushing ourselves to new heights that we can test the limits of our potential.

Experience suggests that when British Columbians set their minds to a task, they exceed expectations. That was how we won the right to host the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. We worked for it. Focused on it. And won our Olympic dream together.

If we work together, with determination and focus, we will not just reach our goals; we will surpass them. That is the story of British Columbia.

In less than four years, we have re-established ourselves as a national force, as a job leader, and as a leader in health reform and educational advancement. We are leading the nation in investor confidence and small business optimism.

In short, the prosperity plan is now well underway, and it is working. Your government will build upon that plan with targeted investments and policies to benefit B.C. families.

THE BEST PLACE ON EARTH TO RAISE A FAMILY

The family is the fundamental building block of any community or society. Key to any family's well-being is the means to support and provide for its members – especially children.

Your government believes that it should take no more than is necessary from families' paycheques to provide the services families want and need. That is why it reduced income taxes for all B.C. families by an average of 25 per cent, and by 28 per cent for those earning less than \$30,000 a year.

Next week, your government will build on that success.

The Best In Childcare And Early Childhood Development

The future of any province and any family is its children.

This year, your government will do more to give B.C.'s youngest citizens a healthy start in life. The best early childhood development always starts at home, with loving families. But increasingly it is also happening in daycare centres and in other learning environments.

Your government has made 32,000 more daycare spaces eligible for funding, and 10,000 more children eligible for daycare subsidies. Funding for childcare subsidies and capital improvements is now higher than ever. Over the next five years, working with the federal government, an additional \$650 million is planned to be made available to young families all over the province to assist with child care.

Early childhood development programs will also be strengthened. We know that the earlier we can identify physical and emotional problems in infants and toddlers, the faster and more effectively we can deal with them. New resources will be added to do just that. Over \$76 million will be invested through 2007 to expand diagnostic screening services to every child in hearing, sight and dental testing. Additional funding will also be targeted to encourage healthy pregnancies, and to help prevent Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

Your government wants all children to have the brightest possible future. No public service is more important in that regard than public education. The new Ready, Set, Learn program will give parents new tools to prepare their pre-schoolers for public school.

The Best in Education

Your government is committed to making B.C. the best educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent.

Its entire education strategy has been aimed at putting students first, starting by restoring education as an essential service. Many changes have been made to give school boards greater autonomy, flexibility, and certainty, to help them direct resources where they are needed most for students.

There is greater accountability for school boards' spending, and for their schools' outcomes in student achievement. Parents and students now have greater choice in schooling and new opportunities for involvement in school planning and volunteerism.

All school districts have received substantial funding increases, in spite of declining student enrolments. In the coming year, block grants to school boards will increase by \$150 million. That represents a total increase in school operating funding of \$305 million since 2000/01 despite a drop in enrolment of over 29,000 students. It equals an increase in per student funding of \$863.

In addition, school boards have received \$68 million for wage costs, and \$138 million in one-time grants since 2002.

Your government believes that every child deserves to have adequate school-based library services and textbooks. Every school will be required to provide library services for its students. Your government will require that every school in B.C. meet appropriate standards for learning resources.

Last fall, it provided school districts with an extra \$10 million for new textbooks – enough to buy 285,000 textbooks. The extra funding in this year's block grant is enough to eliminate textbook shortages.

All districts will be required to report annually on how they are providing their students and their schools with adequate library services and learning resources. The increased funding includes an estimated \$28 million extra to improve education for students with special needs. It will also help school districts make any necessary adjustments to class size and composition.

We know that arts and music programs are an enormous benefit to student learning and achievement. The new funding will also support that priority. Your government will work with school boards to ensure a comprehensive arts and music curriculum is available and delivered throughout the public school system in B.C.

Other steps will be taken to promote physical education and active lifestyles. Your government will extend the successful Action Schools program to every school in B.C. for grades K to 9. It will eliminate junk food in all schools within the next four years.

And it will extend the Roots of Empathy program, which teaches children compassion and understanding, and has proven effective in helping reduce aggressive behaviour, to every school in the province.

At the same time, your government will work with schools to increase student safety. Safety will be improved by your government's \$1.5 billion plan to complete all needed seismic upgrades within the next 15 years.

New steps will be taken to ensure that our schools are fully utilized for the benefit of their communities. With declining student enrolments, school boards have often found that there simply is not the student population needed to warrant keeping many schools open.

This is not a function of under funding; it results from shifting demographics and population patterns. Your government will work with community school advocates and others to examine new uses for those under-utilized school spaces across B.C.

They might be suitable for early childhood development centres, parent centres, community libraries, seniors' centres, daycares, music rooms, theatres, diagnostic centres, and meeting rooms.

The opportunity is to define modern uses that revitalize schools as centres of learning in our neighbourhoods and towns, as centres for community activity, and child development.

As we explore new ways to best utilize our schools, new capital improvements will be made. By 2007/08, capital funding for B.C. schools will have increased \$1.8 billion since 2001. We will have built or approved 29 new schools in British Columbia, and expanded, renovated, replaced or seismically upgraded 245 schools.

The Best in Literacy

The Province's new literacy strategy is also central to our future. It is aimed at promoting improvements in reading, writing, numeracy and computer literacy for all British Columbians.

A new Premier's Advisory Panel on Literacy is assessing literacy challenges, identifying urgent needs, and developing an action plan to help B.C. meet its literacy goals. The strategy includes an extra \$12 million to strengthen community libraries and improve access to library resources for citizens across the province.

There is a new \$5 million literacy innovation program to promote literacy in our schools. Provincial funding has been doubled for the adult cost-shared literacy program. A new \$5 million Literacy Now initiative is supporting community-based literacy programs, working closely with volunteer and non-profit organizations.

And this year, your government will once again match any donations raised by the successful Raise-a-Reader program on a dollar-for-dollar basis. All of this will move our province closer to its great goal in education and literacy.

The Best in Higher Learning

By increasing access to higher learning, we will also take our advanced education system to a higher level.

Your government has embarked on the largest expansion of post-secondary seats in 40 years. Last year's Throne Speech announced a plan to create 25,000 new student spaces across B.C. by 2010. Those spaces are in addition to the 6,000 new spaces created in the previous three years. Over the next three years alone, \$800 million will be invested on capital improvements.

This Session, new legislation will be introduced to formalize the new Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, which joins UBC Okanagan as B.C.'s newest universities.

To fully support the new student spaces, your government will further increase funding for advanced education by \$132 million over the next three years. Together with the funding increase announced last year, the operating budget for advanced education will be \$195 million higher by 2007 than it was in 2004.

This new funding will provide new capacity to moderate rising tuitions. Your government recognizes that rising tuition costs are a concern to many B.C. families. Now that our tuition rates are again comparable to those in other provinces, your government will act to limit future tuition increases to the rate of inflation, effective this September. Legislation giving effect to that measure will be introduced later this year.

Moreover, new steps will be taken later this year to improve student financial assistance. These measures will build upon previous improvements to existing student aid programs.

The new student financial assistance program allows eligible students to earn almost three times more money without penalty than they could before. The new loan reduction program now allows a portion of student loan costs to be forgiven for eligible students who successfully complete their studies.

Other steps will be taken this year to deliver new access to higher learning, closer to home.

The new seats and programs already announced will help meet skills shortages in key demand areas. The new industry training model is also helping to more rapidly address workforce needs and give more workers access to trades training.

Yet we know even these measures will not be sufficient to offset the growing needs and opportunities in sectors like construction, oil and gas, hospitality, and others. More will be done to make the most of growing job opportunities for our citizens.

A major initiative will be undertaken to further increase access to skills training and apprenticeships. Your government will work with the federal government to enhance and speed up credentialing for newcomers to Canada in trades and the professions.

Further steps will also be taken to expand access to advanced education and research activities in our regions. Your government will explore the potential for creating new special purpose universities.

In expanding our range of education opportunities, we must also look to expanding our reach and knowledge beyond our borders. Your government will build its new Asia-Pacific gateway strategy in the marriage of advanced education and trade.

It will work to establish British Columbia as the new global home for the World Trade University, to be located in Chilliwack. The WTU is a United Nations global partnership mechanism.

It will offer graduate level programs in trade-related fields and executive development programs targeted to working international executives. It will host international trade conferences and events, including the potential for British Columbia to host World Trade Forum events.

The WTU will firmly establish British Columbia's role as Canada's Gateway to the Asia-Pacific, and as a true global leader in trade relations.

Your government will bring together all our institutions of advanced learning to pursue other initiatives to help British Columbians learn more about other nations and cultures. A new One World Scholarship fund will be launched to help B.C. students earn their degrees and diplomas in other non-G8 countries. This will create new avenues to understanding and new ambassadors for British Columbia abroad.

The Best System Of Support For Persons With Disabilities, Special Needs, Children At Risk, And Seniors

Our stronger economy has generated new revenues to help advance another of your government's great goals for B.C. families.

Financial prudence and new fiscal capacity will allow us to build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, special needs, children at risk, and seniors. It allowed your government to announce the single largest rate increase in history for persons with disabilities on income assistance.

It allowed combined funding for autism and early childhood development to almost triple since 2001. It allowed funding for social housing to increase by 38 per cent since your government came to office.

This year, more will be done to improve our social safety network for society's most vulnerable. The amount that persons with disabilities can earn without penalty while on income assistance has already been doubled. Those earnings exemptions will be further increased next year.

Efforts to combat violence against women will be stepped up with over \$37 million in new funding over the next three years. That new funding will ensure that women and children escaping violent and abusive relationships have 24/7 access to safe housing.

The government will increase resources for counseling services and outreach activities tailored to the special needs of seniors, multicultural communities, Aboriginal women, and people with disabilities.

The Premier's Task Force on Homelessness will continue to develop new strategies to tackle the challenges of homelessness, addictions and mental illness in our communities. New steps will be taken to improve legal aid, family law, and addictions services.

Over the next three years, funding for adult community living services will be increased by \$91 million. There will be new respite support for families caring for children and adults with developmental disabilities. An additional \$37 million will be invested over three years in programs related to children in the care of government.

As our population ages, seniors' needs will continue to grow. Seniors are living longer and healthier lives – and that is great news. Yet this also presents new challenges for our society.

To that end, a new Premier's Council on Aging and Seniors' Issues will be established. It will include representatives from key seniors' organizations, every region, and our diverse multicultural communities.

The Council will identify pressing needs and opportunities to advance your government's great goal in respect of seniors' services. It will examine how to improve the full spectrum of seniors' housing options and homecare.

It will consider the issue of mandatory retirement, to engage seniors and all citizens in a fruitful dialogue on what changes, if any, should be made to improve seniors' independence and quality of living in the modern world. It will examine the changing service needs of a healthier, aging population and recommend comprehensive plans for reform.

Safer Streets And Schools

Safer communities are central to your government's plan to make B.C. the best place to raise a family. Your government is committed to fighting crime with new resources.

Today 100 per cent of all traffic fine revenues are returned to B.C.'s municipalities for crime prevention and policing. As well your government will commit \$122 million in new funding for 215 new police officers over the next three years.

That will improve provincial policing in rural and smaller communities, including First Nation communities. It will help crack down on cyber crimes and better protect children from sexual predators.

New integrated approaches to policing, homicide investigation, and criminal prosecution will all take law enforcement to a higher level. The new Amber Alert system will help solve child abductions.

New measures to reduce impaired driving and to discourage aggressive panhandling and unsafe activities will improve safety on our streets and highways. New policing and enforcement powers will improve safety for seniors, women, and youth along the SkyTrain corridor. New legislation will be tabled this Session to ensure criminals do not profit from their crimes.

And your government will engage all levels of government in a common review of steps that might be taken within their respective jurisdictions to take public safety to a higher level. A special Provincial Congress on Public Safety will be convened later this year. It will look across the board at crime prevention, treatment, legislation and by-laws, policing, prosecution, courts, and corrections.

The federal Criminal Code is applied by our police and courts at all levels. It is time to take a hard look at the sentencing options and guidance given to our courts by legislators in problem areas like violent crime, organized crime, drug trafficking, marijuana grow ops, and car theft.

THE BEST PLACE ON EARTH TO LIVE AND PLAY

Nothing is more important to our quality of living and lifestyle in British Columbia than our family's personal health.

Together, we can achieve another great goal over the next decade: to lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness.

Leading The Way In Healthy Living And Physical Fitness

The pressures on our health care system are rapidly outstripping our economy's ability to generate new revenues needed to pay for growing service demands. Our aging population, new technologies, expanded health services, soaring drug costs, and higher labour costs all add new cost pressures every year.

That is why your government acted to revitalize our health care system with significant reforms and new infusions of funding. This renewal process has not been easy, but it is necessary.

It has been guided at every step by the goal of putting more of each health dollar to improve patient care. Health care spending has increased by \$2.4 billion since the year 2000. Over the next three years, it will go up by another \$1.5 billion.

New demands are still stretching resources in unprecedented ways. Health funding has outpaced the rate of revenue growth in that period. This year health spending will consume 44 per cent of all government operating expenditures, excluding interest on debt.

Although there is clearly more that must be done to improve health care in British Columbia, we are making progress. Our citizens have the longest life expectancy in Canada. We have the most universal prescription drug program in the country.

British Columbia now leads the nation in cancer treatment and survival rates. We have the lowest smoking rate in Canada and the lowest smoking prevalence among teens. British Columbia has Canada's lowest median wait times for access to diagnostic tests and specialists.

And our province attracted more doctors from other parts of Canada in 2003 than any other province. Your government has nearly doubled the number of doctors in training, with new medical schools at UNBC in Prince George and UVic in Victoria, and a new Life Sciences Centre at UBC.

This represents the first increase in medical training seats since 1980 – a quarter century ago. It means that by 2008, there will be 896 doctors in training at any given time in B.C., up from 488.

Your government's nursing strategy is similarly paying off, with 600 more nurses at work and another 2,134 new nurse training spaces added since 2001. That represents a 50 per cent increase in total nurses in training in British Columbia. That is 25 times greater than the nurse training spaces added throughout the entire 1990's.

This year, B.C.'s first-ever class of nurse practitioners will graduate from UBC and UVic, and the first class of nurse practitioners will begin at UNBC.

Your government has increased the number of MRI machines by 75 per cent, increased access to renal dialysis by 40 per cent, and added seven new CT scanners.

By any measure, this is progress.

There will be 5,000 new beds for seniors across the spectrum of assisted living, residential care and independent housing. These are the choices that seniors want.

There are new cardiac defibrillators in every ambulance in B.C. and there is new training for paramedics.

Our Fair Pharmacare system is now the envy of Canada and the model other provinces aspire to emulate. It has reduced costs for 280,000 British Columbian seniors and families on lower incomes. Today 82 per cent of all citizens pay the same or less than they did in 2001. Your government will continue to drive the establishment of a national pharmacare strategy.

Although MSP premiums increased to help pay for increases in doctors' fees and salaries, today 230,000 citizens on lower incomes pay lower premiums than they did in 2001.

It takes time but, in every area of health care, progress is apparent. Challenges remain but patient satisfaction surveys confirm that we are making progress.

The fact is, thanks to thousands of health professionals across the province, we do have a great health care system in British Columbia that is getting better every day.

The opportunity is to take our health services to a higher level.

There is new hope.

The recent federal/provincial health accord will pump an extra \$5.4 billion into B.C.'s health care system over the next 10 years. It will support major improvements in home care for seniors and Aboriginal health care, starting this year.

It will help reduce wait times in key areas like cardiac treatment, diagnostic imaging, joint replacements, and sight restoration. It will increase investments in telehealth for rural and remote communities and in new medical equipment and technologies.

All of these measures will provide better health care to our citizens. As your government continues to improve patient care, it will devote new energy and new resources to prevention. It will explore new ways to integrate alternative health care options into our mainstream health care system.

Advancements in health research are rapidly making British Columbia a world leader in disease and illness prevention.

Genome BC has led the world in genome mapping and cancer research. The Michael Smith Foundation has been a major force in health research. Your government will budget \$100 million in 2007 to support the Michael Smith Foundation's amazing work.

Researchers at the Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre were the first in the world to crack the genetic code of SARS, only weeks after it first struck. Working with experts around the world, British Columbia's SARS Accelerated Vaccine Initiative research team led the world in developing four potential vaccines to that virus. Two of those may soon be available for human clinical trials.

The B.C. Centre for Disease Control is already the best in Canada. We have a golden opportunity to make it the best in the Pacific world – and we will. New measures will be announced to expand that Centre to become the Pacific Centre for Disease Control.

Working with governments and institutions in Singapore, China, and India we will forge new partnerships and foster new advancements in disease prevention that will further consolidate B.C.'s reputation as a global leader in public health and research.

All of these measures will improve preventative health care and treatment for our citizens. Over the last three years, your government has more than doubled funding for vaccinations. It has expanded childhood immunization programs and influenza vaccination programs to help infants, their parents, and seniors.

This year, more will be done to support those prevention and wellness programs, and to increase Avian flu awareness and prevention measures.

The best way to improve health outcomes is to help our citizens stay healthy. There is no place better on Earth to lead a healthy lifestyle than in British Columbia.

Without a doubt, we can achieve the great goal of leading North America in healthy living and physical fitness. Your government will establish a sweeping new health and fitness program for all British Columbians.

A major new initiative called "Act Now" will soon be launched in partnership with others. Act Now will be the most comprehensive health promotion program of its kind in North America.

Your government will act now to increase by 20 per cent the proportion of British Columbians who are physically active. It will act now to reduce by 20 per cent the proportion of British Columbians who are obese or overweight.

It will act now to reduce by another 10 per cent the prevalence of tobacco use. And it will act now to increase by 20 per cent the proportion of British Columbians who eat the recommended daily level of fruit and vegetables.

Through these measures, by 2010, B.C. will become the healthiest jurisdiction to ever host the Olympics.

Your government will explore the introduction of personal health guides in B.C., an exciting innovation currently being pioneered in the United Kingdom.

Through that initiative, all citizens will work with their family doctors, nurse practitioners, community nutritionists, and other members of the health care team to develop personally tailored health plans. Those plans will aim at setting achievable personal health goals that help individuals' measure their progress, throughout their lives.

Leading The World In Sustainable Environmental Management

A healthy environment is also critical to a healthy lifestyle.

Our stunning natural scenery, diversity of species, wildlife and ecosystems, and our clean air and water, all help define our province to the world.

We can lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management, bar none.

That is yet another of your government's great goals for the golden decade ahead.

Already, much has been done to meet that goal. Your government has acted to acquire and preserve Burns Bog and the Codd Wetlands for future generations.

It established 37 new Class A parks and one ecological reserve, and expanded 34 existing parks and four ecological reserves. It passed legislation to protect species at risk. It modernized environmental protection legislation and acted to clean up contaminated sites.

The Habitat Conservation Trust Fund is being strengthened with a \$6.5 million donation to support parkland acquisitions and conservation activities. While the challenge of land use planning remains, final agreements are on the horizon and drawing near.

The opportunity for the next decade is to improve the management of parks and protected areas, and to improve access for public use and enjoyment. It is to improve wildlife management and conservation practices in general.

To that end, your government will invest \$9 million over the next three years to establish a B.C. Conservation Corps. The Corps will provide new employment opportunities for B.C.'s students and graduates to work in our parks and wilderness as a new generation of conservationists.

That initiative will be complemented with a \$7.5 million increase over the next three years to add up to 50 new Conservation Officers and Park Rangers.

Major new steps will be taken to improve water and fisheries management. Our water resources are the well-springs that sustain our province and its people. They are the lifeblood of our fisheries.

New resources will be added to help implement the \$16 million Drinking Water Action Plan and the \$120 million B.C. Community Water Improvement Program. Investments will be made to strengthen the 184 water quality monitoring units now situated across B.C.

The new Pacific Salmon Forum will provide an independent voice to help us safeguard our precious wild salmon resource and improve our aquaculture industry. The Living Rivers Strategy will be expanded this year and new investments will be made in salmonoid enhancement and fish habitats.

Water plans will be advanced in communities across B.C. to implement your government's new Drought Management Action Plan.

As water stewardship is strengthened, air shed management will also be improved. Your government's new clean energy strategy will help tremendously in that regard. Your government will continue to fight for cleaner air in the Fraser Valley, by maintaining its opposition to the proposed Sumas 2 power project.

New steps will be taken this year to promote alternative energy in wind, tidal, solar and run-of-the-river power projects. An Alternative Energy and Power Task Force will be established and will report directly to the Executive Council.

The new RAV rapid transit line will vastly reduce vehicle emissions in the Lower Mainland. And new air shed management plans will be supported with improvements to the 146 air quality monitoring units across B.C.

All of these measures will apply sound science to our environmental management and raise it to a higher level in British Columbia.

The Best Place To Play

As we enhance "SuperNatural" British Columbia, we also advance our growing reputation as the best place on Earth to visit and play.

Our parks and resorts are a huge and growing draw for visitors the world over. Eco-tourism, marine tourism and agri-tourism are all thriving, using nature as a showcase.

Our destination resort tourism industry is taking these competitive advantages to a higher level, with over \$4 billion worth of projects now on the drawing board or underway.

Tourism is a cornerstone of your government's Asia-Pacific Gateway strategy to create new jobs, investment and opportunity in every region.

Canada's approved destination status with China calls out for the immediate development of tourism products that meet the needs of Chinese tourists. One hundred million travelers are expected from China world wide by 2020. British Columbia will be prepared to welcome them.

The 2010 Olympics will open that gateway to literally billions of visitors and viewers around the world. Your government is making the most of that opportunity.

It is doubling the funding for Tourism B.C. and giving the Union of B.C. Municipalities a further \$25 million to draw new tourists to every region of our province. It is creating new Circle Routes and a Spirit of 2010 Trail system to provide visitors with additional opportunities to see more communities and all the regions of the province.

The goal is to double tourism revenues within a decade. New steps will be taken this month to benefit regional tourism across our province and to showcase the best of B.C. to the world.

THE BEST PLACE ON EARTH TO WORK, INVEST AND GET AHEAD

Leading The Nation In Job Creation

The improving standard of living and growing opportunities mentioned today are possible through the power of a strong economy.

Virtually every sector is now buoyed by higher commodity prices, low interest rates, new confidence and new competitiveness.

The government's goal is to build on that confidence and creativity as we create more jobs per capita than any other province in Canada over the next decade.

Since December 2001, British Columbia has led the nation in job creation, with nearly 200,000 new jobs. 97 per cent of those jobs are full-time jobs. Many are in high-paying sectors like forestry, energy, mining and technology.

Forestry, mining, and small business are back. Energy, construction and transportation are booming. Tourism, technology, manufacturing, retail, and agriculture are on the rise. Our film industry has new cause for hope. Our biotechnology industry offers tremendous promise.

Your government will undertake further action to make the most of the opportunity inherent in the challenges caused by the mountain pine beetle infestation.

New measures will be taken to help communities and families in the areas affected to better plan and cope with the long-term implications of the pine beetle problem.

The higher Canadian dollar is challenging many of our core industries, from pulp and paper to lumber from tourism to trade. For decades, our industries have enjoyed a major competitive advantage due to our discounted Canadian dollar. That advantage is rapidly waning.

It can only be offset with greater productivity, more competitiveness, and new customers the world over. Workers and employers alike will be challenged to recognize this growing reality and respond accordingly.

To succeed in a world where our dollar is near or at par with the American dollar, our industries will need new flexibility, new investment, new business models, and new partnerships with their workers.

Your government will act this year to help lead that discourse. It will initiate a comprehensive review of B.C.'s competitiveness in every sector. It will work with other governments and industrial sectors to plot a course for the next 10 years.

Together, we will pinpoint the barriers to growth and identify solutions to overcome them. We will learn what government can do and what the private sector must do to reach its potential. This will be done on both a sectoral and regional basis, to identify our competitive needs and opportunities in the golden decade ahead.

A B.C. Competition Council will be formed to help steer this initiative and provide advice. Representatives from organized labour will be invited to serve on this Council and to work with employers, academics and regional representatives to help improve each sector's ability to compete.

At the same time, your government will lead new efforts to promote British Columbia's industries to the world. Just as we must lead the Asia-Pacific to Canada, so must we lead Canada to the Asia-Pacific. It is the gateway to tomorrow.

Maximizing this advantage will be a central part of your government's economic strategy and a crucial part of Canada's future economic growth. Initiatives previously noted in health research, education, advanced education and trade relations will all play a pivotal role.

New relationships, agreements, and partnerships with First Nations are also opening new gateways to growth in their communities and new avenues for investment.

Yet more will be done to make the most of this strategic opportunity to open up our Pacific gateway to the world. Your government will take international marketing efforts to a higher level.

It will bring all sectors of our economy together in an effort to develop a common "brand" for British Columbia, Canada in global markets.

Your government will build on its successful trips to India, Japan, China and other emerging markets. It will build on the Dream Home China project, and pursue new gateways to growth for B.C. wood products throughout the Asia-Pacific.

Working with Canada, it will establish a network of B.C. Trade and Cultural centres in key international markets. This initiative will be led by a new Asia-Pacific Trade Council that will help advise your government on where and how to best target available resources.

Your government's transportation plan and ports strategy will also be central to its Pacific Gateway initiative. We have a golden opportunity to finally open up the Port of Prince Rupert, expand the Port of Vancouver, and improve cruise ship facilities all along our coast.

We have a golden opportunity to open up our gateways by rail and road, working with Canada and the United States to also better secure our continental perimeter.

As we look out to other countries and cultures, we will also look within our province to the many cultures that have made us who we are as British Columbians. Our heritage, diversity and inclusive society is not just a source of provincial pride – it is a strategic asset that must be maximized.

There is no place on Earth with the diversity and wealth of First Nations cultures that we have in British Columbia.

There is no place on Earth that sets a better example for the world of how citizens from all countries can come together and forge a new culture that is rooted in diversity, mutual trust, respect and celebration.

As Canadians, we are a model of multiculturalism.

Yet as British Columbians, the opportunity is ours to take that reality to a higher level.

We can do more to increase our understanding of each other at the most fundamental level – language. Your government will increase its support for ESL programs in coming years.

It will do more to promote Aboriginal languages and learning in Punjabi, Mandarin and other languages of the Asia-Pacific. New initiatives will be launched to make more services and resources available in other languages.

New investments and programs will be launched to support and celebrate our diverse heritage in music, art, culture and sport. New initiatives to encourage support for arts and creative endeavours will build on recent investments to prepare our province for the Cultural Olympiad in 2010.

CONCLUSION

Through all of these measures, we will build a future worthy of our past.

We will realize our great goals and our true potential as the best place on Earth to raise a family; to live and play; to work, invest, and get ahead.

We will act today to welcome the world to British Columbia. We will act today to reach far beyond our borders, to open up our province and proclaim its place as a global leader at home and abroad.

The 2010 Winter Olympics and Paralympics will help connect us all within our province and to other nations around the world. It has helped launch us forward into a decade of unsurpassed promise.

The spirit of 2010 is the spirit of British Columbia.

It is the spirit of global harmony, and pride of place and heritage.

It is the spirit of aspiration and human endeavor.

It is the spirit of achievement and possibility that now burns bright within our province and will light the golden decade ahead.

Look ahead, to 2010 and beyond, to the province we will build together.

Look ahead, to a British Columbia that offers the best in education and literacy, healthy living and physical fitness, and support services for those in need.

Look ahead to a province that is leading the way in environmental stewardship and job creation. To a new British Columbia that is renowned as a centre of research, learning, trade, and culture.

The time is here for us to reach higher and push open the gateways to opportunity that await our next generation. The time has come for us to move boldly forward to test the limits of our potential.

The key to that potential has never rested with government. It lies in the hearts and minds of individual citizens bold enough to pursue new answers to meet the needs of a changing world.

It is the strength of the people that will fulfill the spirit and promise of British Columbia.

It is our spirit of adventure, discovery, drive, and determination that has always marked our progress throughout our proud history. The way forward is the road we are traveling.

Today we stand on the threshold of B.C.'s golden decade. A decade of boundless choice and unbridled potential, limited only by our will and imagination.

This is the decade that will determine the possibilities that our children will inherit in years to come.

Let us seize this moment to dare, to dream, and to venture forth – for our children and our province. Thank you.

Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

Mr. Speaker reported that, in order to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of Her Honour's Speech.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. Plant* (Attorney General), Bill (No. 1) intituled *An Act to Ensure the Supremacy of Parliament* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. Bruce*, seconded by Ms. *MacPhail*, it was *Ordered* —

That *John Weisbeck*, Member for Kelowna-Lake Country Electoral District, be appointed Deputy Speaker for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. Bruce*, seconded by Ms. *MacPhail*, it was *Ordered* —

That *Harold Long*, Member for Powell River-Sunshine Coast Electoral District, be appointed Deputy Chair of the Committee of the Whole for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. Plant* (Attorney General), it was *Ordered* —

That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, being first perused by Mr. Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing thereof, and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

The Hon. *G. Campbell* (Premier) moved that the Select Standing Committees of the House, for the present Session, be appointed for the following purposes:

1. Aboriginal Affairs;
2. Education;
3. Finance and Government Services;
4. Health;

5. Public Accounts;
6. Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills;
7. Crown Corporations;

which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and inquire into all such matters and things as shall be referred to them by this House, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, with power to send for persons, papers, and records, and that a Special Committee be appointed to prepare and report with all convenient speed lists of members to compose the above Select Standing Committees of this House under Standing Order 68 (1), the Committee to be composed to the Hon. *G. Bruce* (Convener), Messrs. *Hogg, Krueger, Manhas, Nuraney, Penner, K. Stewart* and *Wilson*, Ms. *Orr* and Ms. *MacPhail*.

Motion agreed to.

And then the House adjourned at 3.05 p.m.

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Bray*.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Mr. *Masi* moved, seconded by Mr. *Bennett* —

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, in Session assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has addressed to us at the opening of the present Session.

A debate arose.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *G. Plant*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 5.57 p.m.

Thursday, February 10, 2005

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Cobb*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech of Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Cobb*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.56 a.m.

Thursday, February 10, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

The Speaker made a statement as follows:

Honourable Members:

Just before we start the clock on question period today, I would like to make a few remarks.

As you know, we have a very short question period in British Columbia; therefore, time limits on both questions and answers must be observed. We simply must get more than three people involved in question period on a daily basis. Yesterday was not a good example of how question period should work.

We are also aware that there is an election in the near future, and emotions and adrenaline are running high. Therefore, I have set out some guidelines for question period.

The opposition will get the first questions, and the questions including the preamble will be no longer than one minute. While supplementary questions are discretionary, the first supplementary, when allowed, will be 30 seconds. The second supplementary — again, if allowed — will be 20 seconds long.

I must point out that a supplementary question is not a new question; it's a supplement to the question already asked.

Answerers will observe the same guidelines. Independent members and private members will observe the same time limit on questions, and in most instances there will be no supplementary question.

In addition, I urge all members to listen without interruption to both questions and answers. Let me emphasize that all members are entitled to hear the question being asked and the answer given. If interruptions persist, the Speaker has several options available.

Thank you.

CLAUDE RICHMOND, *Speaker*

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *Belsey* presented the Second Report of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services for the Fifth Session of the Thirty-seventh Parliament.

The Report was taken as read and received.

By leave of the House, Mr. *Belsey* moved that the Report be adopted.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. *Belsey* presented the Third Report of the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services for the Fifth Session of the Thirty-seventh Parliament.

The Report was taken as read and received.

By leave of the House, Mr. *Belsey* moved that the Report be adopted.

Motion agreed to.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

70 The Hon. *G. Bruce* moved—

Resolved that the Legislative Assembly adopt the following sessional order:

Practice recommendation No. 11 (Standing Order 47, 47A)

Public Written Questions.

1. Written questions may be submitted by an elected member of a provincial or local public body designated under this order and in accordance with the guidelines established by Mr. Speaker. Questions submitted in writing to the Office of the Speaker by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday are eligible to be drawn on Thursday. Five questions drawn by the Speaker which conform to the guidelines shall be placed on the Orders of the Day on Monday of each week. A question shall be printed on 2 consecutive weeks unless answered.

2. A Private Member may ask a qualified question of a Minister during Question Period. The Member from whose constituency the question comes will have first refusal to put such question to the appropriate Minister. The Minister may answer the question orally or in writing by filing with the Clerk of the House. Written answers shall be published in the Votes and Proceedings.

3. Questions should relate to current provincial issues and public affairs, be timely, brief and stated without argument or opinion. The submission must not include unparliamentary language and shall be directed to the Minister who has responsibility for the area of interest.

Motion agreed to.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech of Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Suffredine*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 5.57 p.m.

Monday, February 14, 2005

TEN O’CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Cobb*.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Order for “Private Members’ Statements” called.

1 Ms. *Orr* moved—

Be it resolved that this House recognize that the arts are the heart and soul of our Province.

A debate arose.

Motion agreed to.

And then the House adjourned at 11.54 a.m.

Monday, February 14, 2005

TWO O’CLOCK P.M.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

The Speaker made a statement as follows:

Honourable Members:

I would like to apologize to the House for having to repeat my statement of last week. However, judging by the media coverage stating that I was shortening question period, it is apparent that my message of last Thursday was either misunderstood or misinterpreted or both. But, it certainly was misrepresented. Perhaps I didn’t do a good job of explaining what my intent was. Therefore I am compelled to go over it once more. Please bear with me as I give it another try.

First of all, the one minute time limit on questions and answers is not new. We have been doing this for over three years. Let me repeat, there is no change in this time limit for either side of the House. I fail to see how this could be construed as shortening question period, as was reported, or stifling the Opposition.

Incidentally, I did a little research this morning and have discovered the following: London has a one minute time limit on questions and answers; Ontario has a one minute limit; Manitoba has a 50 second time limit and in Ottawa, which has a much longer question period than we do, the time limit for questions and answers is 35 seconds and is strictly enforced.

The only change was an attempt to shorten the length of supplementary questions and answers. A supplementary question is not a new question; it is a follow-up to the main question and therefore should be shorter. Also, supplementary questions are at the discretion of the Speaker and Opposition members are the only members in this House to be afforded the privilege of supplementary questions.

The object of the exercise is to try to get more people involved in what is already a very short question period. I would at least like to accommodate the Independent members who are understandably concerned about their participation. On Wednesday last only 3 people managed to get a question in and that is not acceptable.

Question period is primarily for the Opposition and non-government members and I must ensure that they are fairly treated. I should also mention that there is no rule excluding government private members from participation in question period when time permits.

CLAUDE RICHMOND, *Speaker*

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Ms. *Roddick* presented the Report of the Select Standing Committee on Health for the Fifth Session of the Thirty-seventh Parliament.

The Report was taken as read and received.

By leave of the House, Ms. *Roddick* moved that the Report be adopted.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. *K. Stewart* presented the First Report of the Select Standing Committee on Crown Corporations for the Fifth Session of the Thirty-seventh Parliament.

The Report was taken as read and received.

By leave of the House, Mr. *K. Stewart* moved that the Report be adopted.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. *K. Stewart* presented the Second Report of the Select Standing Committee on Crown Corporations for the Fifth Session of the Thirty-seventh Parliament.

The Report was taken as read and received.

By leave of the House, Mr. *K. Stewart* moved that the Report be adopted.

A debate arose.

The House divided.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

YEAS—55

<i>Falcon</i>	<i>Cobb</i>	<i>Jarvis</i>	<i>Masi</i>
<i>Coell</i>	<i>Lee</i>	<i>Hogg</i>	<i>Nijjar</i>
<i>Les</i>	<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Nebbeling</i>	<i>Bhullar</i>
<i>Chong</i>	<i>Murray</i>	<i>R. Stewart</i>	<i>Hayer</i>
<i>Locke</i>	<i>Plant</i>	<i>Hunter</i>	<i>Lekstrom</i>
<i>McMahon</i>	<i>Hansen</i>	<i>Long</i>	<i>MacKay</i>
<i>Sahota</i>	<i>Bond</i>	<i>Mayencourt</i>	<i>Halsey-Brandt</i>
<i>Christensen</i>	<i>Bruce</i>	<i>Trumper</i>	<i>K. Stewart</i>
<i>Bell</i>	<i>Brice</i>	<i>Johnston</i>	<i>Suffredine</i>
<i>van Dongen</i>	<i>Abbott</i>	<i>Bennett</i>	<i>Whittred</i>
<i>Barisoff</i>	<i>Neufeld</i>	<i>Belsey</i>	<i>Sultan</i>
<i>Roddick</i>	<i>Coleman</i>	<i>Krueger</i>	<i>Hawes</i>
<i>Wilson</i>	<i>Penner</i>	<i>J. Reid</i>	<i>Kerr</i>
<i>Bray</i>	<i>Anderson</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	

NAYS—2

Brenzinger *Nettleton*

The Hon. *G. Plant* (Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations) tabled the following documents:

Final Report of the 2004 British Columbia Judges Compensation Commission;
 Response to the 2004 Report of the Judges Compensation Commission;
 Report of the Judicial Justices Compensation Commission, September 1, 2004; and
 Response to the 2004 Report of the Judicial Justices Compensation Commission.

The Hon. *G. Plant* (Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 3) intituled *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2005* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 8, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. *G. Plant* (Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 4) intituled *Attorney General Statutes Amendment Act, 2005* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 8, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech of Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *M. Coell*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

TEN O’CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Ms. *Roddick*.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech of Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Hunter*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.54 a.m.

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

TWO O’CLOCK P.M.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

On the motion of the Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance), it was *Ordered*—

That the House, at its next sitting, resolve itself for this Session into a Committee to consider the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith:
Estimates — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2006; and
Supplement to the Estimates — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2006;
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 14, 2005.

Ordered, that the Message, and the Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) moved, seconded by the Hon. *G. Campbell* (Premier), “That the Speaker do now leave the Chair” for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

A debate arose, which was, on the motion of Ms. *MacPhail*, adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bills (Nos. 6, 7 and 8) intituled:
Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2005;
Income Tax Amendment Act, 2005; and
Taxation Statutes Amendment Act, 2005;
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 14, 2005.

Bills introduced and read a first time.

Bills *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) tabled the following documents:

Service Plans 2005/06 – 2007/08 required under the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*, as follows:

Ministry Service Plans: Office of the Premier; Ministry of Advanced Education; Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries; Ministry of Attorney General; Treaty Negotiations Office; Ministry of Children and Family Development; Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women’s Services;

Ministry of Education; Ministry of Energy and Mines; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Forests; Ministry of Health Services; Ministry of Human Resources; Ministry of Management Services; Public Service Agency; Ministry of Provincial Revenue; Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General; Ministry of Skills Development and Labour; Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development; Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management; Agricultural Land Commission; Ministry of Transportation; Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection; BC Environmental Assessment Office; Forest Practices Board;

Crown Agencies and Government Organization Service Plans: BC Assessment Authority; BC Buildings Corporation; BC Games Society; BC Housing Management Commission; BC Hydro and Power Authority; British Columbia Innovation Council; BC Liquor Distribution Branch; BC Lottery Corporation; BC Pavilion Corporation; BC Railway Company; BC Securities Commission; BC Transit; BC Transmission Corporation; Columbia Basin Trust; Columbia Power Corporation; First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council; Forestry Innovation Investment Limited; Homeowner Protection Office; Industry Training Authority; Insurance Corporation of British Columbia; Land and Water British Columbia Inc.; Legal Services Society; Oil and Gas Commission; Partnerships British Columbia; Provincial Capital Commission; Royal BC Museum Corporation; Tourism British Columbia; Vancouver Convention Centre Expansion Project Limited; and

List of Crown Agencies exempt from the application of Section 13 of the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act* in February 2005; Crown Agencies exempt from previous years.

And then the House adjourned at 3.41 p.m.

Wednesday, February 16, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Ms. *Trumper*.

The Hon. *I. Chong* (Minister of Advanced Education) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 2) intituled *Thompson Rivers University Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 4, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

74 The Hon. *G. Plant* (Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations) moved —

That the Legislative Assembly reject five recommendations of the *Report to the Attorney General of British Columbia and the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia, pursuant to section 5 (3) of the Judicial Compensation Act, Final Report of the 2004 British Columbia Judges Compensation Commission*, as laid before this Assembly on October 7, 2004 and again, pursuant to section 6 (1) (c) of the *Judicial Compensation Act*, on February 9, 2005, for reasons outlined in *Response to the 2004 Report of the Judges Compensation Commission* filed in this House February 9, 2005, pursuant to section 6 (2) of the *Judicial Compensation Act*.

1. The recommended salary increase for January 1, 2004 until March 31, 2005 of an amount based on the change in the British Columbia CPI (the “BC-CPI”) over the period of January 1, 2003 – December 31, 2003, is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is zero increase for January 1, 2004 – March 31, 2005.

2. The recommended salary increase for fiscal year 2005/06 in the amount of the change in the BC-CPI from January 1, 2004 – March 31, 2005 is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is zero increase for fiscal year 2005/06.

3. The recommendation that salary differentials for the Chief Judge and Associate Chief Judges be retained when they leave office and resume duties as regular Provincial Court Judges is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is that salary differentials will not be retained when an incumbent leaves office as Chief Judge or as an Associate Chief Judge.

4. The recommendation that, effective January 1, 2004, the judges’ allowance for professional development be raised from \$2000 to \$3000 per judge per annum, and a one-year carry over of any used portion of the allowance be permitted is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is that, effective April 1, 2005, the judges’ allowance for professional development be raised from \$2000 to \$3000 per judge per annum and a one-year carry over of any unused portion of the allowance be permitted.

5. The recommendation that the professional development allowances continue to be administered through the Chief Judge’s Office, subject to his or her sole discretion to approve incidental expenses incurred by a judge for the fit and proper execution of his or her office is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is that effective April 1, 2005, subject to the discretion of the Chief Judge and administered through the Office of the Chief Judge, the professional development allowance may be used to reimburse the following expenses incurred by a judge for professional development related to the duties of a Provincial Court Judge:

- a. Books, periodicals and subscriptions;
- b. Computer software;
- c. Internet access fees;
- d. Professional association membership dues;
- e. Courses, seminars and conferences including travel and expenses incidental to attendance.

That the Legislative Assembly accept the remaining recommendations contained in the *Report to the Attorney General of British Columbia and the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia, pursuant to section 5 (3) of the Judicial Compensation Act, Final Report of the 2004 British Columbia Judges Compensation Commission*.

The Hon. *G. Plant* (Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations) moved the following amendment to the motion —

1. By substituting the date “February 14, 2005” for the date “February 9, 2005” wherever it appears in the first paragraph of the said motion.

2. By substituting the word “unused” for the word “used” in the first sentence of paragraph no. 4 of the said motion.

The amendment was agreed to.

Motion, as amended, agreed to and reads as follows:

That the Legislative Assembly reject five recommendations of the *Report to the Attorney General of British Columbia and the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia, pursuant to section 5 (3) of the Judicial Compensation Act, Final Report of the 2004 British Columbia Judges Compensation Commission*, as laid before this Assembly on October 7, 2004 and again, pursuant to section 6 (1) (c) of the *Judicial Compensation Act*, on February 14, 2005, for reasons outlined in *Response to the 2004 Report of the Judges Compensation Commission* filed in this House February 14, 2005, pursuant to section 6 (2) of the *Judicial Compensation Act*.

1. The recommended salary increase for January 1, 2004 until March 31, 2005 of an amount based on the change in the British Columbia CPI (the “BC-CPI”) over the period of January 1, 2003 – December 31, 2003, is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is zero increase for January 1, 2004 – March 31, 2005.

2. The recommended salary increase for fiscal year 2005/06 in the amount of the change in the BC-CPI from January 1, 2004 – March 31, 2005 is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is zero increase for fiscal year 2005/06.

3. The recommendation that salary differentials for the Chief Judge and Associate Chief Judges be retained when they leave office and resume duties as regular Provincial Court Judges is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is that salary differentials will not be retained when an incumbent leaves office as Chief Judge or as an Associate Chief Judge.

4. The recommendation that, effective January 1, 2004, the judges’ allowance for professional development be raised from \$2000 to \$3000 per judge per annum, and a one-year carry over of any unused portion of the allowance be permitted is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is that, effective April 1, 2005, the judges’ allowance for professional development be raised from \$2000 to \$3000 per judge per annum and a one-year carry over of any unused portion of the allowance be permitted.

5. The recommendation that the professional development allowances continue to be administered through the Chief Judge’s Office, subject to his or her sole discretion to approve incidental expenses incurred by a judge for the fit and proper execution of his or her office is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is that effective April 1, 2005, subject to the discretion of the Chief Judge and administered through the Office of the Chief Judge, the professional development allowance may be used to reimburse the following expenses incurred by a judge for professional development related to the duties of a Provincial Court Judge:

- a. Books, periodicals and subscriptions;
- b. Computer software;
- c. Internet access fees;
- d. Professional association membership dues;
- e. Courses, seminars and conferences including travel and expenses incidental to attendance.

That the Legislative Assembly accept the remaining recommendations contained in the *Report to the Attorney General of British Columbia and the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of British Columbia, pursuant to section 5 (3) of the Judicial Compensation Act, Final Report of the 2004 British Columbia Judges Compensation Commission*.

75 The Hon. G. Plant (Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations) moved—

That the Legislative Assembly reject four recommendations of the *Report of the Judicial Justices Compensation Committee, September 1, 2004* as laid before this Assembly on October 7, 2004 and again, pursuant to section 6 (1) (c) of the *Judicial Compensation Act*, on February 9, 2005, for reasons outlined in *Response to the 2004 Report of the Judicial Justices Compensation Commission* filed in this House February 9, 2005, pursuant to section 6 (2) of the *Judicial Compensation Act*.

1. The recommended salary increase for January 1, 2005 until March 31, 2005 from \$73,872 to \$75,600 is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is zero increase for January 1, 2005 – March 31, 2005.

2. The recommended salary for fiscal year 2005/06 of \$75,600 is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is zero increase for fiscal year 2005/06.

3. The recommendation that a senior Judicial Justice program salary be developed, modelled on the senior judge program for Provincial Court Judges, is rejected as unreasonable and unfair.

4. The recommendation that the Chief Judge have the discretion to approve or disapprove all expenditures of the allowance and guidelines be put in place with respect to the appropriate use of the funds is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is that effective April 1, 2005, subject to the discretion of the Chief Judge and administered through the office of the Chief Judge, the professional development allowance may be used to reimburse the following expenses incurred by a Judicial Justice for professional development related to the duties of a Judicial Justice:

- a. Books, periodicals and subscriptions;
- b. Computer software;
- c. Internet access fees;
- d. Professional association membership dues;
- e. Courses, seminars and conferences including travel and expenses incidental to attendance.

That the Legislative Assembly accept the remaining recommendations contained in the *Report of the Judicial Justices Compensation Committee, September 1, 2004*.

The Hon. G. Plant (Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations) moved the following amendment to the motion —

By substituting the date “February 14, 2005” for the date “February 9, 2005” wherever it appears in the first paragraph of the said motion.

The amendment was agreed to.

Motion, as amended, agreed to and reads as follows:

That the Legislative Assembly reject four recommendations of the *Report of the Judicial Justices Compensation Committee, September 1, 2004* as laid before this Assembly on October 7, 2004 and again, pursuant to section 6 (1) (c) of the *Judicial Compensation Act*, on February 14, 2005, for reasons outlined in *Response to the 2004 Report of the Judicial Justices Compensation Commission* filed in this House February 14, 2005, pursuant to section 6 (2) of the *Judicial Compensation Act*.

1. The recommended salary increase for January 1, 2005 until March 31, 2005 from \$73,872 to \$75,600 is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is zero increase for January 1, 2005 – March 31, 2005.

2. The recommended salary for fiscal year 2005/06 of \$75,600 is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is zero increase for fiscal year 2005/06.

3. The recommendation that a senior Judicial Justice program salary be developed, modelled on the senior judge program for Provincial Court Judges, is rejected as unreasonable and unfair.

4. The recommendation that the Chief Judge have the discretion to approve or disapprove all expenditures of the allowance and guidelines be put in place with respect to the appropriate use of the funds is rejected as unreasonable and unfair. The substitute provision is that effective April 1, 2005, subject to the discretion of the Chief Judge and administered through the office of the Chief Judge, the professional development allowance may be used to reimburse the following expenses incurred by a Judicial Justice for professional development related to the duties of a Judicial Justice:

- a. Books, periodicals and subscriptions;
- b. Computer software;
- c. Internet access fees;

- d. Professional association membership dues;
- e. Courses, seminars and conferences including travel and expenses incidental to attendance.

That the Legislative Assembly accept the remaining recommendations contained in the *Report of the Judicial Justices Compensation Committee, September 1, 2004*.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 4) intituled *Attorney General Statutes Amendment Act, 2005*, a debate arose.

Bill (No. 4) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) tabled the Government Strategic Plan 2005/06 – 2007/08.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 3) intituled *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2005*, a debate arose.

Bill (No. 3) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion “That the Speaker do now leave the Chair” for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *P. Wong*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 5.51 p.m.

PUBLIC WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Date answered: February 16, 2005

1 Barry O’Neill, President, Canadian Union of Public Employees — BC Division, asked the Minister of Education, regarding the Minister’s responsibility for the public school system, the following question:—

Is the Government exploring or considering the regionalization of support services in the public school system?

The Hon. *T. Christensen* replied as follows:

Our number one priority is to focus dollars on students in the classroom. The goal of the education system as a whole is to ensure that the resources that are available are focused on meeting the needs of students. School districts asked for and received greater flexibility and autonomy to make decisions based on local priorities. If school districts can find efficiencies that direct more resources to help students, then I support their efforts.

Thursday, February 17, 2005

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Nuraney*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 2) intituled *Thompson Rivers University Act*, a debate arose.

Bill (No. 2) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

Bill (No. 4) intituled *Attorney General Statutes Amendment Act, 2005* was committed.

The Committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Bill to be considered later today.

And then the House adjourned at 11.58 a.m.

Thursday, February 17, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The Hon. *G. Plant* (Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Treaty Negotiations) tabled the Final Report of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform entitled Making Every Vote Count: The Case for Electoral Reform in British Columbia.

Mr. *Bray* presented the Final Report of the Special Committee on the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform for the Fifth Session of the Thirty-seventh Parliament.

The Report was taken as read and received.

By leave of the House, Mr. *Bray* moved that the Report be adopted.

Motion agreed to.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Bill (No. 4) intituled *Attorney General Statutes Amendment Act, 2005* was again committed.

In consideration of section 5 of Bill (No. 4) the Committee divided *nemini contradicente* as follows:

YEAS—31

<i>Wong</i>	<i>L. Reid</i>	<i>MacPhail</i>	<i>Hayer</i>
<i>Chong</i>	<i>Abbott</i>	<i>Brar</i>	<i>Halsey-Brandt</i>
<i>Locke</i>	<i>Anderson</i>	<i>Long</i>	<i>Whittred</i>
<i>Bray</i>	<i>Jarvis</i>	<i>Johnston</i>	<i>Hawes</i>
<i>Hagen</i>	<i>Nuraney</i>	<i>J. Reid</i>	<i>Kerr</i>
<i>Plant</i>	<i>Nebbeling</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Manhas</i>
<i>Hansen</i>	<i>Hunter</i>	<i>Masi</i>	<i>Nettleton</i>
<i>Bruce</i>	<i>Kwan</i>	<i>Bhullar</i>	

Bill (No. 4) was reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 3) intituled *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2005* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion “That the Speaker do now leave the Chair” for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Bray*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 5.55 p.m.

Monday, February 21, 2005

TEN O’CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *K. Stewart*.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Order for “Private Members’ Statements” called.

2 Mr. *Bennett* moved—

Be it resolved that this House recognize the significant financial challenges Olympic hopefuls must overcome to be competitive on the world stage and encourage governments of all levels and communities to review assistance provided to Olympic athletes.

A debate arose.

On the motion of Mr. *Hayer*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

3 Mr. *Hunter* moved—

Be it resolved that this House recognizes British Columbia’s leadership in developing innovative solutions that have placed our health care system on a solid foundation for the 21st century.

On the motion of Mr. *Hunter*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.46 a.m.

Monday, February 21, 2005

TWO O’CLOCK P.M.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

Ms. *Kwan* presented the Report of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts for the Fifth Session of the Thirty-seventh Parliament.

The Report was taken as read and received.

By leave of the House, Ms. *Kwan* moved that the Report be adopted.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *B. Barisoff* (Minister of Water, Land and Air Protection) tabled the Environmental Appeal Board Annual Report, 2003/2004.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith:

Supplementary Estimates No. 2 — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005;
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 15, 2005.

Ordered, that the Message, and the Supplementary Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Forests).

(IN COMMITTEE)

24 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$112,500,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Forests, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolution under the Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Forests.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That the report of resolution from the Committee of Supply on February 21, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$112,500,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 9) intituled *Supply Act, 2004-2005* (*Supplementary Estimates No. 2*) and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 15, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker stated that pursuant to established practice, the Bill would proceed through all stages in one day.

Bill (No. 9) was read a second time, committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith:
Supplementary Estimates No. 3 — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005;
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 15, 2005.

Ordered, that the Message, and the Supplementary Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries).

(IN COMMITTEE)

10 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$27,200,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolution under the Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That the report of resolution from the Committee of Supply on February 21, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$27,200,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 10) intituled *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 3)* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 15, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker stated that pursuant to established practice, the Bill would proceed through all stages in one day.

Bill (No. 10) was read a second time, committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

And then the House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.

Tuesday, February 22, 2005

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Cobb*.

The Hon. *C. Richmond* (Speaker) tabled the following documents:

Ombudsman Special Report No. 26: Report on the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia's Minimal/No Damage-Low Velocity Impact Program;

Auditor General 2004/2005 Report 11: Follow-up of a Review of Government Oversight of Multi-Employer Public Sector Pension Plans in British Columbia; and

Auditor General Service Plan, 2005/06–2007/08.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith:

Supplementary Estimates No. 4 — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005;
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 15, 2005.

Ordered, that the Message, and the Supplementary Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Energy and Mines).

(IN COMMITTEE)

20 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$25,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Energy and Mines, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolution under the Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Energy and Mines.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That the report of resolution from the Committee of Supply on February 22, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$25,000,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 11) intituled *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 4)* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,
February 15, 2005.*

Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker stated that pursuant to established practice, the Bill would proceed through all stages in one day.

Bill (No. 11) was read a second time, committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith:
Supplementary Estimates No. 5 — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005;
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Vancouver Law Courts,
February 17, 2005.*

Ordered, that the Message, and the Supplementary Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Transportation).

(IN COMMITTEE)

The Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.
Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 11.59 a.m.

Tuesday, February 22, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *R. Stewart* presented the Report of the Select Standing Committee on Education for the Fifth Session of the Thirty-seventh Parliament.

The Report was taken as read and received.

By leave of the House, Mr. *R. Stewart* moved that the Report be adopted.

Motion agreed to.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Transportation).

(IN COMMITTEE)

37 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$550,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Transportation, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolution under the Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Transportation.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *K. Falcon* moved—

That the report of resolution from the Committee of Supply on February 22, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *K. Falcon* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$550,000,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith Bill (No. 12) intituled *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 5)* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Vancouver Law Courts,
February 17, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker stated that pursuant to established practice, the Bill would proceed through all stages in one day.

Bill (No. 12) was read a second time, committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith:
Supplementary Estimates No. 6 — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005;
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Vancouver Law Courts,
February 17, 2005.

Ordered, that the Message, and the Supplementary Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Officers of the Legislature: Elections BC; Information and Privacy Commissioner; Ombudsman; and Police Complaint Commissioner).

(IN COMMITTEE)

4 - Schedule D (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$545,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the capital expenditures of Officers of the Legislature, Elections BC, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolution under the Supplementary Estimates of the Officers of the Legislature — Elections BC.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That the report of resolution from the Committee of Supply on February 22, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$545,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 2 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the capital expenditure requirements of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

(IN COMMITTEE)

5 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$115,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Officers of the Legislature, Information and Privacy Commissioner, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolution under the Supplementary Estimates of the Officers of the Legislature — Information and Privacy Commissioner.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That the report of resolution from the Committee of Supply on February 22, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$115,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

(IN COMMITTEE)

6 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$20,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Officers of the Legislature, Ombudsman, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolution under the Supplementary Estimates of the Officers of the Legislature — Ombudsman.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That the report of resolution from the Committee of Supply on February 22, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$20,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

(IN COMMITTEE)

7 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$105,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Officers of the Legislature, Police Complaint Commissioner, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolution under the Supplementary Estimates of the Police Complaint Commissioner.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That the report of resolution from the Committee of Supply on February 22, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$105,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith Bill (No. 13) intituled *Supply Act, 2004-2005* (*Supplementary Estimates No. 6*) and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Vancouver Law Courts,
February 17, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker stated that pursuant to established practice, the Bill would proceed through all stages in one day.

Bill (No. 13) was read a second time, committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith:
Supplementary Estimates No. 7 — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005;
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Vancouver Law Courts,
February 17, 2005.*

Ordered, that the Message, and the Supplementary Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services).

(IN COMMITTEE)

17 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$40,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolution under the Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *M. Coell* moved—

That the report of resolution from the Committee of Supply on February 22, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *M. Coell* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$40,000,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith Bill (No. 14) intituled *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 7)* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Vancouver Law Courts,
February 17, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker stated that pursuant to established practice, the Bill would proceed through all stages in one day.

Bill (No. 14) was read a second time, committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith:
Supplementary Estimates No. 8 — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005;
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Vancouver Law Courts,
February 21, 2005.

Ordered, that the Message, and the Supplementary Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Advanced Education).

(IN COMMITTEE)

9 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$10,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Advanced Education, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolution under the Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Advanced Education.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That the report of resolution from the Committee of Supply on February 22, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$10,000,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith Bill (No. 15) intituled *Supply Act, 2004-2005* (*Supplementary Estimates No. 8*) and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Vancouver Law Courts,
February 21, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker stated that pursuant to established practice, the Bill would proceed through all stages in one day.

Bill (No. 15) was read a second time, committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The Speaker declared a short recess.

Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the House, and being seated in the Chair —

Kate Ryan-Lloyd, Committee Clerk and Clerk Assistant, read the titles to the following Acts:

Bill (No. 3) *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act, 2005.*

Bill (No. 4) *Attorney General Statutes Amendment Act, 2005.*

Her Honour was pleased in Her Majesty's name to give assent to the said Acts.

The said assent was announced by *Kate Ryan-Lloyd*, Committee Clerk and Clerk Assistant, in the following words:

“In Her Majesty's name, Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to these Acts.”

Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

And then the House adjourned at 5.53 p.m.

Wednesday, February 23, 2005

TWO O’CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Bray*.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Bill (No. 2) intituled *Thompson Rivers University Act* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 7) intituled *Income Tax Amendment Act, 2005*, a debate arose.

The debate continued.

The House divided.

Motion agreed to *nemini contradicente* on the following division:

YEAS—47

<i>Falcon</i>	<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Orr</i>	<i>J. Reid</i>
<i>Coell</i>	<i>Murray</i>	<i>Nuraney</i>	<i>Stephens</i>
<i>Les</i>	<i>Hansen</i>	<i>Nebbeling</i>	<i>Masi</i>
<i>Wong</i>	<i>Bruce</i>	<i>R. Stewart</i>	<i>Bhullar</i>
<i>Chong</i>	<i>Brice</i>	<i>MacPhail</i>	<i>Lekstrom</i>
<i>Hawkins</i>	<i>L. Reid</i>	<i>Brar</i>	<i>MacKay</i>
<i>Locke</i>	<i>Abbott</i>	<i>Chutter</i>	<i>Halsey-Brandt</i>
<i>Sahota</i>	<i>Neufeld</i>	<i>Long</i>	<i>Bloy</i>
<i>van Dongen</i>	<i>Coleman</i>	<i>Mayencourt</i>	<i>Suffredine</i>
<i>Barisoff</i>	<i>Penner</i>	<i>Trumper</i>	<i>Whittred</i>
<i>Bray</i>	<i>Anderson</i>	<i>Johnston</i>	<i>Kerr</i>
<i>Cobb</i>	<i>Jarvis</i>	<i>Krueger</i>	

Bill (No. 7) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 8) intituled *Taxation Statutes Amendment Act, 2005*, a debate arose.

The debate continued.

Bill (No. 8) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion “That the Speaker do now leave the Chair” for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Halsey-Brandt*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 5.54 p.m.

Thursday, February 24, 2005

TEN O’CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Rev. *Anderson*.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Bill (No. 7) intituled *Income Tax Amendment Act, 2005* was committed, reported complete with amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 8) intituled *Taxation Statutes Amendment Act, 2005* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion “That the Speaker do now leave the Chair” for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *R. Neufeld*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.55 a.m.

Thursday, February 24, 2005

TWO O’CLOCK P.M.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

Ms. *MacPhail* rose on a point of order relating to negotiations with the Government House Leader of time allocations in Estimates.

The Speaker ruled that the matter was not a point of order and that matters involving discussions between the House Leaders ought not to be brought to the House.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion “That the Speaker do now leave the Chair” for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *I. Chong*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 5.39 p.m.

Monday, February 28, 2005

TEN O’CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Ms. *Whittred*.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Order called for “Private Members’ Statements.”

22 By leave, Mr. *Bennett* moved—

Be it resolved that this House recognize and acknowledge that British Columbia’s rural regions are participating in the province’s economic recovery.

A debate arose.

On the motion of Mr. *Suffredine*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 11.57 a.m.

Monday, February 28, 2005

TWO O’CLOCK P.M.

The Hon. *G. Bruce* (Minister of Skills Development and Labour) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith Bill (No. 21) intituled *Crown Counsel Agreement Continuation Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Vancouver Law Courts,
February 28, 2005.*

Bill introduced and read a first time

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith:

Supplementary Estimates No. 9 — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005;
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 23, 2005.

—

Ordered, that the Message, and the Supplementary Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development).

(IN COMMITTEE)

34 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$40,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

—

The Committee reported the Resolution under the Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *G. Bruce* moved—

That the report of resolution from the Committee of Supply on February 28, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *G. Bruce* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$40,000,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *G. Bruce* (Minister of Skills Development and Labour), on behalf of the Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance), presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith Bill (No. 16) intituled *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 9)* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Vancouver Law Courts,
February 21, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time

The Speaker stated that pursuant to established practice, the Bill would proceed through all stages in one day.

Bill (No. 16) was read a second time, committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

And then the House adjourned at 5.23 p.m.

PUBLIC WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Date answered: February 28, 2005

2 Barry O'Neill, President, Canadian Union of Public Employees — BC Division, asked the Minister of Finance, regarding the Minister's responsibility for public sector wage mandates, the following question: —

Will the Minister restore free collective bargaining in the public sector and remove the 0% wage mandate now that there is clearly no economic justification for such restrictions?

The Hon. *C. Hansen* replied as follows:

The current bargaining mandate is set to conclude on March 31, 2006. Government appreciates the efforts of the thousands of public sector employees who have been both pragmatic and creative in working with their employers to reach agreements within the net-zero mandate. Public sector workers in British Columbia continue to enjoy among the highest wages and benefits among the provinces.

To date some 68 agreements have been negotiated within mandate, covering more than 172,000 public sector workers and professionals. They have made their contribution to government getting its fiscal house in order — it is only fair that those who have yet to settle agreements under the current mandate should do so as well.

Once the current mandate is completed, there will be a new bargaining mandate for fiscal year 2006/07 and beyond, and the next mandate will not be more zeros — but it will continue to be fiscally prudent and affordable to B.C. taxpayers.

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Nijjar*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Nijjar*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith:

Supplementary Estimates No. 10 — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005;
and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Vancouver Law Courts,
March 1, 2005.

Ordered, that the Message, and the Supplementary Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services and the Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development).

(IN COMMITTEE)

The Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 11.56 a.m.

Tuesday, March 1, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

Ms. *Brenzinger* rose on a Point of Order, namely, the entitlement of Members to make a statement during "Members' Statements".

The Speaker noted the Point of Order.

The Hon. *J. Murray* (Minister of Management Services) tabled the Twenty-Eighth Annual Report of the business done in pursuance of the *Public Service Benefit Plan Act* for the year ended March 31, 2004.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *L. Reid*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 21) intituled *Crown Counsel Agreement Continuation Act*, a debate arose.

The debate continued.

The House divided.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

YEAS—43

<i>Coell</i>	<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Jarvis</i>	<i>J. Reid</i>
<i>Les</i>	<i>Murray</i>	<i>Nuraney</i>	<i>Stephens</i>
<i>Wong</i>	<i>Hansen</i>	<i>R. Stewart</i>	<i>Masi</i>
<i>Chong</i>	<i>Bond</i>	<i>Hunter</i>	<i>Lekstrom</i>
<i>Locke</i>	<i>Bruce</i>	<i>Chutter</i>	<i>MacKay</i>
<i>McMahon</i>	<i>Brice</i>	<i>Mayencourt</i>	<i>K. Stewart</i>
<i>Christensen</i>	<i>L. Reid</i>	<i>Trumper</i>	<i>Whittred</i>
<i>Bell</i>	<i>Abbott</i>	<i>Johnston</i>	<i>Sultan</i>
<i>Barisoff</i>	<i>Neufeld</i>	<i>Bennett</i>	<i>Hawes</i>
<i>Wilson</i>	<i>Coleman</i>	<i>Belsey</i>	<i>Kerr</i>
<i>Bray</i>	<i>Anderson</i>	<i>Krueger</i>	

NAYS—4

<i>Kwan</i>	<i>MacPhail</i>	<i>Brar</i>	<i>Nettleton</i>
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Bill (No. 21) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 6) intituled *Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2005*, a debate arose.

Bill (No. 6) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services and Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development).

(IN COMMITTEE)

The Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Report to be considered at the next sitting.

Committee to sit again at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 5.59 p.m.

Wednesday, March 2, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Visser*.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services and Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development).

(IN COMMITTEE)

17 (S-2). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$26,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

34 (S-2). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$108,900,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolutions under the Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services and Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. C. Hansen moved—

That the report of resolutions from the Committee of Supply on March 2, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. C. Hansen moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$134,900,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. C. Hansen (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith Bill (No. 17) intituled *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 10)* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Vancouver Law Courts,
February 21, 2005.*

Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Speaker stated that pursuant to established practice, the Bill would proceed through all stages in one day.

Bill (No. 17) was read a second time, committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The Hon. C. Hansen (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith:

Supplementary Estimates No. 11 — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2005; and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Vancouver Law Courts,
March 1, 2005.*

Ordered, that the Message, and the Supplementary Estimates accompanying same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Order for Committee of Supply called.

The House resolved itself into Committee of Supply (Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Human Resources; Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General; Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development; Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management; and Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection).

(IN COMMITTEE)

27 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$10,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Human Resources, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

31 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$3,400,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

34 (S-3). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$14,000,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

35 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$28,600,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

38 (S). *Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$7,800,000 be granted to Her Majesty to defray the expenses of Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, Ministry Operations, to 31st March, 2005.

The Committee reported the Resolutions under the Supplementary Estimates of the Ministry of Human Resources; Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General; Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development; Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management; and Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection.

Report to be considered forthwith.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That the report of resolutions from the Committee of Supply on March 2, 2005, be now received, taken as read and agreed to.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* moved—

That there be granted from and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of \$63,800,000. This sum is in addition to that authorized to be paid under section 1 of the *Supply Act, 2004-2005* and is granted to Her Majesty towards defraying the charges and expenses of the public service of the province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2005.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 18) intituled *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 11)* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 23, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time

The Speaker stated that pursuant to established practice, the Bill would proceed through all stages in one day.

Bill (No. 18) was read a second time, committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 19) intituled *Ministerial Accountability Bases, 2004-2005, Amendment Act, 2005* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
February 23, 2005.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Bill (No. 21) intituled *Crown Counsel Agreement Continuation Act* was committed.

Section 1 of Bill (No. 21) passed, on division.

In consideration of section 2 of Bill (No. 21) the Committee divided as follows:

YEAS—48

<i>Falcon</i>	<i>Cobb</i>	<i>Jarvis</i>	<i>Nijjar</i>
<i>Coell</i>	<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Hogg</i>	<i>Hayer</i>
<i>Les</i>	<i>Murray</i>	<i>Nuraney</i>	<i>Visser</i>
<i>Chong</i>	<i>Plant</i>	<i>Nebbeling</i>	<i>Lekstrom</i>
<i>Locke</i>	<i>Hansen</i>	<i>R. Stewart</i>	<i>MacKay</i>
<i>McMahon</i>	<i>Bond</i>	<i>Hunter</i>	<i>Halsey-Brandt</i>
<i>Christensen</i>	<i>Bruce</i>	<i>Long</i>	<i>Bloy</i>
<i>Bell</i>	<i>Brice</i>	<i>Mayencourt</i>	<i>Whittred</i>
<i>Barisoff</i>	<i>Abbott</i>	<i>Johnston</i>	<i>Sultan</i>
<i>Roddick</i>	<i>Neufeld</i>	<i>Belsey</i>	<i>Hawes</i>
<i>Wilson</i>	<i>Coleman</i>	<i>Krueger</i>	<i>Kerr</i>
<i>Bray</i>	<i>Anderson</i>	<i>J. Reid</i>	<i>Manhas</i>

NAYS—3

*MacPhail**Brar**Nettleton*

The Committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.
Bill to be considered at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 5.48 p.m.

Thursday, March 3, 2005

TEN O’CLOCK A.M.

The Clerk of the House informed the House of the unavoidable absence of the Speaker, whereupon Dr. *Weisbeck*, Deputy Speaker, took the Chair, pursuant to Standing Order 12.

Prayers by Mr. *Sultan*.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion “That the Speaker do now leave the Chair” for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

The debate continued.

The House divided.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

YEAS—40

Falcon
Wong
Hawkins
McMahon
Sahota
Bell
Roddick
Cobb
Lee
Thorpe

Hagen
Murray
Plant
Hansen
Bruce
Brice
de Jong
Neufeld
Coleman
Penner

Orr
Nuraney
R. Stewart
Hunter
Mayencourt
Trumper
Johnston
Krueger
J. Reid
Bhullar

Hayer
Visser
Halsey-Brandt
K. Stewart
Bloy
Suffredine
Whittred
Sultan
Kerr
Manhas

NAYS—3

*MacPhail**Brar**Nettleton*

And then the House adjourned at 11.55 a.m.

Thursday, March 3, 2005

TWO O’CLOCK P.M.

Order called for “Members’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Members.”

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 19) intituled *Ministerial Accountability Bases, 2004-2005, Amendment Act, 2005* a debate arose.

Bill (No. 19) read a second time, on division, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

Bill (No. 6) intituled *Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2005* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 21) intituled *Crown Counsel Agreement Continuation Act* was again committed.

Section 3 of Bill (No. 21) passed, on division.

In consideration of section 4 of Bill (No. 21) the Committee divided as follows:

YEAS—35

<i>Falcon</i>	<i>Cobb</i>	<i>Jarvis</i>	<i>Krueger</i>
<i>Coell</i>	<i>Lee</i>	<i>Orr</i>	<i>J. Reid</i>
<i>Chong</i>	<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>Hogg</i>	<i>Hayer</i>
<i>Locke</i>	<i>Hagen</i>	<i>Nebbeling</i>	<i>Visser</i>
<i>McMahon</i>	<i>Plant</i>	<i>R. Stewart</i>	<i>Halsey-Brandt</i>
<i>Sahota</i>	<i>Hansen</i>	<i>Hunter</i>	<i>Bloy</i>
<i>Bell</i>	<i>Bruce</i>	<i>Long</i>	<i>Whittred</i>
<i>Roddick</i>	<i>Brice</i>	<i>Mayencourt</i>	<i>Kerr</i>
<i>Bray</i>	<i>Neufeld</i>	<i>Trumper</i>	

NAYS—3

<i>MacPhail</i>	<i>Brar</i>	<i>Nettleton</i>
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Bill (No. 21) was reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed, on division.

The Deputy Speaker declared a recess.

Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the House, and being seated in the Chair —

Robert Vaive, Clerk Assistant, read the titles to the following Acts:

Bill (No. 2) *Thompson Rivers University Act*.

Bill (No. 6) *Budget Measures Implementation Act, 2005*.

Bill (No. 7) *Income Tax Amendment Act, 2005*.

Bill (No. 8) *Taxation Statutes Amendment Act, 2005*.

Bill (No. 21) *Crown Counsel Agreement Continuation Act*.

Her Honour was pleased in Her Majesty’s name to give assent to the said Acts.

The said assent was announced by *Robert Vaive*, Clerk Assistant, in the following words:
 “In Her Majesty’s name, Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to these Acts.”

Robert Vaive, Clerk Assistant, read the titles to the following Acts:

Bill (No. 9) *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 2).*

Bill (No. 10) *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 3).*

Bill (No. 11) *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 4).*

Bill (No. 12) *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 5).*

Bill (No. 13) *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 6).*

Bill (No. 14) *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 7).*

Bill (No. 15) *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 8).*

Bill (No. 16) *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 9).*

Bill (No. 17) *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 10).*

Bill (No. 18) *Supply Act, 2004-2005 (Supplementary Estimates No. 11).*

Her Honour was pleased in Her Majesty’s name to give assent to the said Acts.

The said assent was announced by *Robert Vaive*, Clerk Assistant, in the following words:

“In Her Majesty’s name, Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth thank Her Majesty’s loyal subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to these Acts.”

Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

And then the House adjourned at 5.03 p.m.

Monday, March 7, 2005

TEN O’CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Bloy*.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Order called for “Private Members’ Statements.”

71 By leave, Mr. *Hawes* moved—

Be it resolved that this House recognize the imminent danger that the crystal methamphetamine epidemic poses to our children and our communities; and that this House support efforts to restrict manufacturing precursors, advocate for more appropriate sentencing of convicted manufacturers and distributors, increase addiction treatment options, and assist communities in designing local solutions.

A debate arose.

Motion agreed to.

And then the House adjourned at 11.57 a.m.

Monday, March 7, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

The Hon. *G. Campbell* (Premier) made a ministerial statement regarding the death of four RCMP Officers in Alberta, and requested that the House observe a minute of silence.

The House observed a minute of silence.

Ms. *Kwan* made a statement.

The Hon. *R. Coleman* (Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General) presented to the Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 5) intituled *Civil Forfeiture Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Government House,
February 14, 2005.*

Bill introduced and read a first time

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

On the motion of Mr. *Long*, Bill (No. Pr 405) intituled *The John Hussey Foundation (Corporate Restoration) Act, 2005* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* referred to the Select Standing Committee on Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills.

On the motion of Mr. *Mayencourt*, Bill (No. Pr 403) intituled *British Columbia Wharf Operators' Association (Corporate Restoration) Act, 2005* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* referred to the Select Standing Committee on Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

By leave, Mr. *Brar* tabled a document regarding Ministry of Human Resources service delivery changes in McBride.

Mr. *Brar* reserved his right to raise a matter of privilege.

The Hon. *C. Hansen* (Minister of Finance) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Administrator, which read as follows:

LANCE FINCH
Administrator

The Administrator transmits herewith Bill (No. 20) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2005* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

*Vancouver Law Courts,
March 7, 2005.*

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

By leave, the Hon. *G. Bruce* moved—

That the Select Standing Committee on Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills be comprised of the following Members: Mr. *Lekstrom* (Convener), Mmes. *Orr*, and *Trumper*, Messrs. *Belsey*, *Bhullar*, *Bloy*, *Brar*, *Bray*, *Hunter*, *Johnston*, *Long*, *Sultan* and *Wilson*.

Motion agreed to.

The Hon. *G. Bruce* moved—

Pursuant to Standing Order 81.1 (2) that the following schedule be adopted for the conclusion of House business for the week of March 7 to March 10, 2005:

Monday, March 7:	2:45-4:00	Bill 19	Committee and 3rd Reading
	4:00-9:00	Response to Throne Speech	
Tuesday, March 8:	10:00-10:45	Bill 20 – Interim Supply	2nd Reading
	10:45-11:45	Response to Throne Speech	
	2:45-5:50	Bill 20 – Interim Supply	2nd Reading (completed)
Wednesday, March 9:	2:45-6:00	Bill 20 – Interim Supply	Committee
	6:30-9:00	Bill 20 – Interim Supply	Committee
Thursday, March 10:	10:00-12:00	Bill 20 – Interim Supply	Committee
	2:45-5:45	Bill 20 – Interim Supply	Committee and 3rd Reading

Unless previously completed, at the times and dates mentioned, the Speaker and the Chair of Committee of the Whole will forthwith put all necessary questions for the disposal of all the various stages of the business indicated without amendment or debate. Any divisions called on the second or third reading of the Bills, or the Address in Reply, may be taken in accordance with Standing Order 16 and all other divisions will be subject to the provisions of Practice Recommendation No. 1. Proceedings under this motion shall not be subject to the provisions of the Standing or Sessional Orders relating to times and days of sittings of the House.

The House divided.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

YEAS—43

Falcon
Coell
Les
Wong
Chong
McMahon
Bell
van Dongen
Wilson
Bray
Cobb

Lee
Plant
Hansen
Bruce
Brice
Abbott
Coleman
Penner
Clark
Anderson
Jarvis

Orr
Hogg
Nuraney
Nebbeling
R. Stewart
Long
Mayencourt
Trumper
Johnston
Krueger
Masi

Bhullar
Hayer
Lekstrom
MacKay
Halsey-Brandt
Bloy
Suffredine
Hawes
Kerr
Manhas

NAYS—5

Kwan
Nettleton

MacPhail

Brar

Brenzinger

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Bill (No. 19) intituled *Ministerial Accountability Bases, 2004-2005, Amendment Act, 2005* was committed, reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech of Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Hogg*, the debate was adjourned until later today.

The House recessed until 6.45 p.m.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech of Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Nijjar*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 8.19 p.m.

PUBLIC WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Date answered: March 7, 2005

4 Barry O’Neill, President, Canadian Union of Public Employees — BC Division, asked the Minister of State for Women’s and Seniors’ Services, regarding the Minister’s responsibility for Women’s Equality, the following question: —

As the Government Caucus Liaison for Women’s Equality, can you tell us what plans (if any) the government has to deal with the increasing gender wage gap in British Columbia?

The Hon. *W. McMahon* replied as follows:

According to Statistics Canada data, women have been steadily closing the wage gap in B.C. for the past two decades. In fact, among younger women — aged 25-34 — they now earn 91 per cent of what men of the same age earn, due in large part to the increase in skill and education levels of women in this province, combined with a greater ability to leverage good wages and working conditions in a tightening labour market.

But pay equity is a complex issue with many causes, and the provincial government is committed to the principle of eliminating gender-based wage disparities.

Meanwhile, the evidence shows that we are steadily getting closer to the goal of pay equity between men and women. The key is a strong economy, and over the past four years, women have benefited hugely from this province’s economic growth:

- Female labour force participation is at an all-time high at just over 60 per cent. (60.6)
- 197,500 new jobs have been created since December 2001. 42 per cent of those jobs went to women and of those, 89 per cent are full-time jobs.

- Our province has the highest rate in Canada of small businesses run by women. That's 36 per cent of our small businesses around B.C.
- More than 57 per cent of university students are women. More women are going to graduate school, and more women are registered in trade courses at our community colleges.

With women making up more than half of the student population at all public, post-secondary institutions in B.C., and this government's commitment to create 25,000 new post-secondary seats by 2010, even more women will earn degrees and diplomas, the surest way to increase income.

Section 12 of the BC Human Rights Code, for example, protects women against discrimination specifically in relation to "employment, including recruitment, job assignment, termination, pay rates or conditions of work." The employment standards branch also prioritizes and expedites complaints from vulnerable workers.

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Ms. *J. Reid*.

On the motion of Mr. *Penner*, Bill (No. M 201) intituled *Environmental Ticket Enforcement Act* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Mr. *Mayencourt* rose, pursuant to Standing Order 42, to correct information which he gave in a Private Members' Statement on Monday, February 28, 2005.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 20) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2005*, a debate arose.

On the motion of Ms. *MacPhail*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech of Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the session.

The debate continued.

The House divided.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

YEAS—31

Coell
Bell
van Dongen
Barisoff
Roddick
Wilson
Bray
Cobb

Brice
Abbott
Anderson
Jarvis
Nebbeling
R. Stewart
Chutter
Long

Mayencourt
Johnston
Krueger
J. Reid
Stephens
Masi
Nijjar
Lekstrom

MacKay
K. Stewart
Suffredine
Whittred
Sultan
Hawes
Kerr

NAYS—4

*Kwan**MacPhail**Brar**Nettleton*

And then the House adjourned at 11.56 a.m.

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

On the motion of Mr. *Bray*, Bill (No. Pr 401) intituled *University of Victoria Foundation Act* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* referred to the Select Standing Committee on Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills.

On the motion of Mr. *Bray*, Bill (No. M 202) intituled *Confirmation of Personal Ownership of DNA Act* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

On the motion of Mr. *Sultan*, Bill (No. Pr 404) intituled *Westco Insurance Company Act, 1966 Repeal Act, 2005* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* referred to the Select Standing Committee on Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills.

On the motion of Mr. *R. Stewart*, Bill (No. Pr 402) intituled *Pacific Bible College Amendment Act, 2005* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* referred to the Select Standing Committee on Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

The House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 20) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2005*.

The debate continued.

The House divided.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

YEAS—36

*Falcon**Coell**Wong**Chong**Hawkins**Bell**van Dongen**Barisoff**Roddick**Wilson**Bray**Cobb**Murray**Bond**Bruce**Brice**Abbott**Anderson**Jarvis**Orr**Nebbeling**Chutter**Mayencourt**Krueger**J. Reid**Stephens**Masi**Bhullar**Lekstrom**MacKay**K. Stewart**Suffredine**Whittred**Sultan**Hawes**Kerr*

NAYS—4

*Kwan**MacPhail**Brar**Nettleton*

Bill (No. 20) read a second time and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for committal at the next sitting after today.

And then the House adjourned at 4.38 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Sultan*.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

The House proceeded to "Oral Questions by Members."

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Mr. *Lekstrom* presented a Report of the Select Standing Committee on Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills, as follows:

REPORT

DOUGLAS FIR ROOM,
MARCH 9, 2005

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Select Standing Committee on Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills begs leave to report as follows:

(1) That the preamble to Bill (No. Pr 401) intituled *University of Victoria Foundation Act* has been proved, and the Committee recommends that the Bill proceed to Second Reading.

(2) That the preamble to Bill (No. Pr 402) intituled *Pacific Bible College Amendment Act, 2005* has been proved, and the Committee recommends that the Bill proceed to Second Reading.

(3) That the preamble to Bill (No. Pr 403) intituled *British Columbia Wharf Operators' Association (Corporate Restoration) Act, 2005* has been proved, and the Committee recommends that the Bill proceed to Second Reading.

(4) That the preamble to Bill (No. Pr 404) intituled *Westco Insurance Company Act, 1966 Repeal Act, 2005* has been proved, and the Committee recommends that the Bill proceed to Second Reading.

(5) That the preamble to Bill (No. Pr 405) intituled *The John Hussey Foundation (Corporate Restoration) Act, 2005* has been proved, and the Committee recommends that the Bill proceed to Second Reading.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. LEKSTROM, *Chair*

The Report was read and received.

By leave of the House, Mr. *Lekstrom* moved that the Report be adopted.

Motion agreed to.

By leave, Bill (No. Pr 401) intituled *University of Victoria Foundation Act*, was read a second time, and by leave, committed, reported complete without amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

By leave, Bill (No. Pr 402) intituled *Pacific Bible College Amendment Act, 2005*, was read a second time, and by leave, committed, reported complete without amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

By leave, Bill (No. Pr 403) intituled *British Columbia Wharf Operators' Association (Corporate Restoration) Act, 2005*, was read a second time, and by leave, committed, reported complete without amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

By leave, Bill (No. Pr 404) intituled *Westco Insurance Company Act, 1966 Repeal Act, 2005*, was read a second time, and by leave, committed, reported complete without amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

By leave, Bill (No. Pr 405) intituled *The John Hussey Foundation (Corporate Restoration) Act, 2005*, was read a second time, and by leave, committed, reported complete without amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 20) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2005* was committed.

The Committee recessed until 6.45 p.m.

On the motion that the Committee rise and report progress, the Committee divided.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

YEAS—28

<i>Wong</i>	<i>Cobb</i>	<i>Jarvis</i>	<i>Lekstrom</i>
<i>Chong</i>	<i>Lee</i>	<i>Hogg</i>	<i>K. Stewart</i>
<i>Locke</i>	<i>Thorpe</i>	<i>R. Stewart</i>	<i>Bloy</i>
<i>Barisoff</i>	<i>Hansen</i>	<i>Chutter</i>	<i>Suffredine</i>
<i>Roddick</i>	<i>Bond</i>	<i>Trumper</i>	<i>Whittred</i>
<i>Wilson</i>	<i>Abbott</i>	<i>Masi</i>	<i>Sultan</i>
<i>Bray</i>	<i>Coleman</i>	<i>Bhullar</i>	<i>Hawes</i>

NAYS—2

<i>Kwan</i>	<i>MacPhail</i>
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The Committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Bill to be considered at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 8.56 p.m.

Thursday, March 10, 2005

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Ms. *J. Reid*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Bill (No. 20) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2005* was again committed.

The Committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Bill to be considered later today.

Ms. *Roddick* presented a petition regarding re-routing the transmission overhead lines currently routed through Tsawwassen.

The Hon. *C. Richmond* (Speaker) tabled the Auditor General 2004/05 Report 12: Follow-up of 2000/2001 Report 4: Management Consulting Engagements in Government.

Bill (No. 20) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2005* was again committed.

The Committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Bill to be considered at the next sitting.

And then the House adjourned at 12 p.m.

Thursday, March 10, 2005

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

On the motion of Ms. *Kwan*, Bill (No. M 203) intituled *The Genuine Progress Board Act, 2005* was introduced, read a first time, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for "Members' Statements."

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The Hon. *C. Richmond* (Speaker) tabled the Legislative Assembly Management Committee Annual Report, 2004-2005.

The Hon. *G. Bruce* made a ministerial statement regarding retiring Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Ms. *Kwan* made a statement.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Bill (No. 20) intituled *Supply Act (No. 1), 2005* was again committed.

Ms. *MacPhail* moved a proposed amendment to section 1 of Bill (No. 20), which was defeated, on division.

Sections 2 and 3 of Bill (No. 20) passed, on division.

Bill (No. 20) was reported complete without amendment, read a third time and passed, on division.

Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the House, and being seated in the Chair —

Ian D. Izard, Q.C., Law Clerk and Clerk Assistant, read the titles to the following Acts:

Bill (No. 19) *Ministerial Accountability Bases, 2004-2005, Amendment Act, 2005*.

Bill (No. Pr 401) *University of Victoria Foundation Act*.

Bill (No. Pr 402) *Pacific Bible College Amendment Act, 2005*.

Bill (No. Pr 403) *British Columbia Wharf Operators' Association (Corporate Restoration) Act, 2005*.

Bill (No. Pr 404) *Westco Insurance Company Act, 1966 Repeal Act, 2005*.

Bill (No. Pr 405) *The John Hussey Foundation (Corporate Restoration) Act, 2005*.

Her Honour was pleased in Her Majesty's name to give assent to the said Acts.

The said assent was announced by *Ian D. Izard*, Q.C., Law Clerk and Clerk Assistant, in the following words:

“In Her Majesty's name, Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to these Acts.”

Ian D. Izard, Q.C., Law Clerk and Clerk Assistant, read the title to the following Act:

Bill (No. 20) *Supply Act (No. 1), 2005*.

Her Honour was pleased in Her Majesty's name to give assent to the said Act.

The said assent was announced by *Ian D. Izard*, Q.C., Law Clerk and Clerk Assistant, in the following words:

“In Her Majesty's name, Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth thank Her Majesty's loyal subjects, accepts their benevolence, and assents to this Act.”

Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

The Hon. *G. Bruce* moved—

That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until it appears to the satisfaction of the Speaker, after consultation with the Government, that the public interest requires that the House shall meet, or until the Speaker may be advised by the Government that it is desired to prorogue the Sixth Session of the Thirty-seventh Parliament of the Province of British Columbia. The Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied or has been so advised and thereupon the House shall meet at the time stated in such notice, and, as the case may be, may transact its business as if it has been duly adjourned to that time and date; and

That, in the event of the Speaker being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, the Deputy Speaker shall act in his stead for the purpose of this order.

Motion agreed to.

And then the House adjourned at 5.54 p.m.

DISSOLUTION

Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor by Her Proclamation issued on the 19th day of April 2005, was pleased to dissolve the Thirty-seventh Legislative Assembly of the Province.

 PROCLAMATION

[L.S.]

IONA CAMPAGNOLO
Lieutenant Governor

CANADA:
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her Other Realms and Territories, QUEEN, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith

To all to whom these presents shall come—GREETING

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS We have thought fit to dissolve the thirty-seventh Legislative Assembly of Our said Province

NOW KNOW THAT, We do, for this end, publish this Our Royal Proclamation, and do hereby dissolve the thirty-seventh Legislative Assembly accordingly on April 19, 2005, and the members thereof are discharged from further attendance on the same.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Our Province to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS, the Honourable Iona Campagnolo, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this nineteenth day of April, two thousand five and in the fifty-fourth year of Our Reign.

By Command.

SUMMARY

Number of sitting days		19
Number of sittings —		
Morning	13	
Afternoon	<u>19</u>	
		32
Debates (number of sittings) —		
Address in Reply	7	
Budget Motion	8	
Estimates	—	
Number of Bills Introduced (including 20 Message Bills)		29
Number of Bills passed		
Public	19	
Private	5	
Members	<u>—</u>	
		24
Divisions		11
Motions on Division		8