

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

JOURNALS

From 25th April 1996 to 30th April 1996

In the Forty-Fifth Year of the Reign of
Our Sovereign Lady the Queen,
Being the Fifth Session of the Thirty-fifth Parliament
of British Columbia

SESSION 1996

VOLUME CXXIX



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SESSION 1996

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINTH VOLUME

Meaning of Terms Used

1 R.—First Reading.	Com.—Committee of the Whole.
2 R.—Second Reading.	Rep.—Report.
3 R.—Third Reading	R.A.—Royal Assent
Am.—Amendment.	

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 No. 2 — *Budget Measures Implementation Act, 1996*. Message. 1 R., 15.
 No. 3 — *Income Tax Amendment Act, 1996*. Message. 1 R., 15.
 No. 4 — *Motor Vehicle Amendment Act, 1996*. Message. 1 R., 15.
 No. 5 — *Tax and Consumer Rate Freeze Act*. Message. 1 R., 13.
 No. 21 — *Education and Health Collective Bargaining Assistance Act*. Message. 1 R., 8; 2 R., 10 (2), 11; Com., 12; Rep., 12; 3 R., 12; R.A., 12.
 No. 22 — *BC Forest Renewal Amendment Act, 1996*. Message. 1 R., 11.
 No. M 201 — *Education As An Essential Service Act*. 1 R., 10.
 No. M 202 — *Black History Month Act*. 1 R., 13.

ALPHABETICAL:

- BC Forest Renewal Amendment Act, 1996 (No. 22).
 Black History Month Act (No. M 202).
 Budget Measures Implementation Act, 1996 (No. 2).
 Education and Health Collective Bargaining Assistance Act (No. 21).
 Education As An Essential Service Act (No. M 201).
 Income Tax Amendment Act, 1996 (No. 3).
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PROCLAMATION

[L.S.]

G. B. GARDOM
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

*To Our Faithful Members Elected to Serve in the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of British
Columbia, at Our City of Victoria* — GREETING

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS We are desirous and resolved, as soon as may be to meet Our People of Our Province of
British Columbia, and to have their advice in Our Legislature;

NOW KNOW YE, that for divers causes and considerations and taking into consideration the ease
and convenience of Our Loving subjects, We have thought fit to hereby convoke, and by these presents
enjoin you, and each of you, that on Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of April, one thousand nine hundred
and ninety-six at two o'clock in the afternoon, you meet Us in Our said Legislature or Parliament,
of Our said Province, at Our City of Victoria, FOR THE DISPATCH OF BUSINESS, to treat, do, act, and
conclude upon those things which, in Our Legislature of the Province of British Columbia, by the
Common Council of Our said Province may, by the favour of God, be ordained.

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 GARDE B. GARDOM, Q.C., Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of
British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this twenty-second day of April,
one thousand nine hundred and ninety-six, and in the forty-fifth year of Our Reign.

By Command.

JOURNALS
OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

SESSION 1996

Thursday, April 25 , 1996

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Dr. Reverend David Nedd.

This being the first day of the fifth meeting of the Thirty-Fifth Parliament of the Province of British Columbia for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of the Honourable GARDE B. GARDOM, Q.C., Lieutenant Governor of the Province, dated the 22nd day of April 1996, the Members took their seats.

The Honourable GARDE B. GARDOM, Q.C., Lieutenant Governor of the Province, having entered the House, took his seat on the Throne, and was pleased to deliver the following gracious Speech:

Honourable Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is my great pleasure to address you on the opening of the Fifth Session of the Thirty-Fifth Parliament of British Columbia.

I would like to begin by offering my personal thanks to my predecessor, the Honourable David Lam, for his years of service to British Columbia, for his wisdom and his warmth. And also to Mrs. Dorothy Lam for her great support and charm throughout.

The past year marked the passing of the Honourable Phil Gaglardi, a political figure clearly cut from the cloth of this province. He was known to all of B.C. for his colourful, outspoken nature; a passion for political life; and a legacy that includes B.C.'s world-class highways.

This year also marked as well the loss of Cliff Scotton, an irrepressible fighter for working people. His boundless optimism, energy and determination were a constant source of inspiration for the many others who shared his vision of social justice.

We lost as well two former Members of the Legislature from the Kootenays. Many of us remember fondly George Haddad, who passed away late last year. And we mourn the loss of Randolph Harding, whose long career at all levels of government was marked by a firm commitment to public service.

But the past year has also seen important advances — and none more fundamental to the destiny of this province than the initial steps toward British Columbia's first modern-day aboriginal treaty. And in the coming year, my government will work toward concluding a formal agreement with the Nisga'a people — while consulting carefully with British Columbians everywhere.

This agreement holds the promise of greater certainty and security for families, workers and businesses throughout the Nass Valley and Northwestern B.C. — and for a future of self-reliance and dignity for the area's aboriginal communities.

Members of the Legislature, this session comes at a crucial point in our province's history, a decisive point for the province's future.

As we celebrate the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of British Columbia's entrance into Confederation, the people of this province face a choice between two very different visions of governing.

One is the vision that has taken hold in some of Canada's provinces, resulting in higher unemployment and cuts to health, education and other services. It maintains that government's role is to convince people to lower their expectations.

The other vision holds that people have a right to expect more ... both from their own lives, and from the people they elect to govern them. This second vision sees an active role for government — building our communities and building the economy to create new opportunities for jobs, working to make our neighbourhoods safer, and protecting health care for our families and education for our children.

It is this second vision, of protecting health care and education and of investing for jobs, that my government has chosen. And today that choice is being rewarded . . . with the best job creation record in Canada, the strongest economy, the highest credit rating, the lowest debt and the highest environmental rating.

My government intends in this Session to pursue that vision of a government on the side of middle-class people and working families. The upcoming budget will lay out a program of continued decisive action to protect health care and education, safeguard our communities and create and protect jobs.

This government is determined to get its priorities right ... to reflect the priorities of the people of British Columbia.

And people have made it clear their first economic priority is jobs.

They want to know there are opportunities for themselves — and that there will be opportunities for their children.

This government shares that commitment to job opportunities. It has launched the most comprehensive youth employment initiative in B.C.'s history.

In the coming months, my government intends to introduce action plans to expand and promote jobs in such fields as environmental technology, energy and tourism.

And my government is working to create and protect thousands of jobs in British Columbia's forests — long a key sector of our province's economy.

After years of conflict and neglect, my government has brought peace to the forest and put this crucial industry on the road to long-term sustainability. In the past five years, this approach has helped to create 15,000 new jobs in B.C.'s forests.

Now the time has come for the forest industry to move into a new era.

This government has set a target of 21,000 new forestry jobs in the next five years.

The government is working with the forest sector to develop a Jobs and Timber Accord that will tie access to public timber directly to the creation of new jobs. The goal is to increase job-to-timber ratios to levels comparable to those of our competitors in Washington and Oregon. The Premier has directed the Minister of Forests to work in partnership with all those who have an interest in B.C.'s forests in order to achieve this objective.

My government will also introduce a strategy to greatly expand the value-added sector in British Columbia — so that B.C. timber can be processed in B.C. plants, by B.C. workers, creating B.C. jobs.

People expect us to get more jobs from trees cut on publicly-owned land. And it's time government, industry and labour worked together to make sure that happens in forest communities across our province.

This industry — and the people who rely on it — have been through major changes in the past decade. Those people deserve help to cope with those changes. And so my government will act to ensure laid-off forestry workers have the first priority for jobs created by Forest Renewal British Columbia.

There is another resource that requires urgent attention. Like our forests, thousands of B.C. families rely on it for employment. Like our forests, it is very much a part of our history and identity as British Columbians.

But unlike our forests, this resource is in imminent danger of disappearing for generations to come ... perhaps forever.

I speak of the Pacific Salmon . . . a living symbol of British Columbian identity.

My government is committed to a comprehensive program to protect our salmon.

This government has introduced new pollution control rules, worked with communities to rehabilitate salmon habitat, invested in sewage treatment, and cancelled the Kemano Completion Project because it threatened a vital salmon river.

My government intends to bring in a *Fish Protection Act* — legislation that will safeguard salmon habitat even further.

And my government will also implement a comprehensive program of fish habitat restoration.

But one province alone cannot save the salmon. It takes a shared commitment. Yet I am sad to say that commitment has not been forthcoming from our American neighbours, and in particular from Alaska.

My government has outlined the steps that are needed immediately to achieve a fair, effective Pacific Salmon Treaty.

British Columbia accepts that change will come to the fishery. But the change that comes must be just, and must put conservation first.

Regrettably, recent federal proposals fail on both counts. Ottawa's plan to cut fishing licenses without adequate compensation is an affront to B.C.'s fishers.

This government has joined with commercial and sports fishers, business, environmentalists, First Nations and industry workers to urge Ottawa to take stronger action.

The federal government must tell the Americans that if the U.S. is unwilling to conclude an agreement that puts conservation first, they will face consequences.

The reinstatement of the transit fee, the withdrawal of permission for the testing of U.S. weapons at Nanoose Bay — these are tools that Ottawa must be willing to bring to bear on this situation.

The government hopes to have the support of all members of this Legislature in pressing Ottawa to take firm action to safeguard an irreplaceable resource, and an integral part of who we all are as British Columbians.

The salmon has sustained the peoples of the West Coast for centuries — from the First Nations to the modern commercial and sport fisheries. Now it is our turn to repay that debt ... and we are determined not to fail.

British Columbians have long been aware of the importance of sustainability — a principle that we must apply not only in resource use, but in all elements of social and economic life in our province.

This government has taken historic measures to safeguard the environment. New measures to protect water quality from pulp mill emissions. New measures to protect air quality.

And, perhaps most important of all, the creation of 156 parks and wilderness areas — unique and precious ecosystems, protected for all time.

From the Tatshenshini to the Stein Valley, this is a legacy of stewardship in which every British Columbian can take tremendous pride.

We are well on our way to the goal of doubling B.C.'s parks and protected wilderness areas. And to protect this achievement, my government will introduce legislation to enshrine the boundaries of these areas in law.

Just as the natural environment has a profound impact on the quality of life in our communities, so too does the social environment.

Nowhere is the difference between the two paths facing British Columbians clearer than when it comes to the services that families rely on.

Some claim there is no choice but to deeply cut critical services like Medicare and education in the name of deficit reduction.

The federal government is sharply reducing funding to the provinces for these services. British Columbia alone will lose \$435 million in federal funds this year.

Other provinces have responded with severe cuts of their own to health care and education.

The people of British Columbia, however, are fierce defenders of Medicare. It is probably the most important service that government offers.

And while others may support cuts, my government is dedicated to protecting the principle that lower- and middle-income families can count on the same quality health care that wealthy British Columbians receive.

The cost pressures of a growing, aging population, and the federal cuts, are both very real challenges. But my government is committed to protecting — indeed, improving — health care for B.C. families and education for B.C. children.

To do that, we have cut the size and cost of government to find the savings we need to protect Medicare and education. That has meant reductions in administrative overhead, in senior management, in the size of cabinet, and in the number of Crown corporations and agencies.

These measures eliminated more than 2,200 government positions and saved more than \$210 million in taxpayers' money ... savings that my government is reinvesting in protecting health care and education.

It will take the efforts of all British Columbians. And I am pleased to note that B.C.'s doctors and public employees are working with my government to find even more of the savings we need to protect Medicare.

By redirecting those savings, the province has made important progress.

Wait lists for heart surgery and cancer treatment have been cut in half. There is more funding to fight breast cancer and heart disease.

And to keep pace with our growing population, my government has expanded funding for B.C.'s hospitals.

The Budget that the Finance Minister will introduce shortly will reflect these priorities.

British Columbians have come to expect the best health care system in Canada. My government intends to keep it that way, and will be introducing a new act that will guarantee in law the rights of British Columbians to health care and education — protecting existing levels of service to the families of this province.

Education is the most direct investment in our future that a society can make. And British Columbia has come to be known for the quality of its schools, colleges and universities.

The savings my government has found have meant we can protect funding throughout our school system — keeping pace with the 10,000 new students who will enter our schools this year. The upcoming Budget will secure that funding for the coming year.

My government is also committed to ensuring opportunities for young people as they further their education through B.C.'s post-secondary institutions — our colleges and universities — and afterward, in the work force.

This government amended our province's laws to give 18-year-old British Columbians the right to vote. And it eliminated the punitive lower minimum wage for young people, giving them the same minimum wage protection as other workers.

But my government understands that young people today face serious challenges in a changing economy. That is why the Premier announced a Guarantee for Youth: guaranteeing affordable education, access to education, and an opportunity for work experience.

The government is committed to keeping education affordable. Other provinces are cutting funding and hiking tuition fees by as much as 20 per cent. But that would stop too many young people from getting in.

Instead, the province has frozen tuition fees for the coming academic year.

My government is also providing increased funding, as a contribution to its partnership with faculty and administration to create 7,000 new spaces for our colleges and universities next year.

That increase means a guaranteed space in B.C.'s colleges, universities and post-secondary institutes for every qualified student in British Columbia.

And finally, my government's youth employment initiative will create up to 11,500 jobs for young people — and work experience and training opportunities for 80,000 more, through the Youth Works program.

It adds up to a guarantee of opportunities — for work, skills training and education.

There is another service that government offers, in partnership with business — and that is compensation for workers injured on the job.

Workers' Compensation should be about giving people the confidence that a workplace injury will not leave them destitute. But confidence is exactly what many British Columbians do not feel toward B.C.'s Workers' Compensation Board.

Serious questions have been raised in recent years about the board's management and practices. My government has taken action on those concerns.

But it is clear that people in B.C., both workers and management, continue to have serious concerns. Accordingly, in the coming days, a Royal Commission will be struck with a wide-ranging mandate to examine and report on the concerns of British Columbians over the WCB, and ways to restore their confidence in this important agency.

People in British Columbia have also told my government they want our communities to be safer places in which to live and raise a family. They want their government to fight crime and the causes of crime.

My government has listened. And it is responding with a range of initiatives, giving police the tools they need to reduce crime and enforce the law. There has been a special emphasis on combating the sexual exploitation of B.C.'s young people, by targeting those who prey on and exploit teenagers through prostitution.

My government intends to proclaim legislation that will strengthen the rights of victims of crime. And, to further enhance community policing, there will soon be 100 new police officers, working to make our neighbourhoods safer.

Protecting services and creating and protecting jobs add up to opportunities — for young people, and for those already in the workforce.

That is what people have told my government they want to see.

But they also want to see a well-managed government.

They want to have confidence in the people they elect. And to further enhance that confidence, my government will be tabling an amendment to the *Conflict of Interest Act*. Under this amendment, an all-party committee will recommend a person to be nominated to the office of Conflict of Interest Commissioner — a process consistent with the way other officers of the legislature are appointed.

We will also be introducing measures to make Crown corporations more accountable, beginning with a new Crown corporation committee of the legislature, modelled on the public accounts committee and chaired by a member of the Opposition.

And people have told my government they want to see spending and finances under firm control.

This government will soon introduce its second consecutive balanced budget. And that budget will be balanced, not through the kind of extreme, radical cuts that other provinces have imposed ... but through a steady, careful, even-handed approach.

For the long term, my government has a management plan that will ensure health care and education are protected, while eliminating the province's direct debt.

And my government replaced the old welfare system with BC Benefits: a new approach to social assistance that shifts the emphasis to jobs. It offers people opportunities for skills training and work experience — giving them the tools they need to find good, rewarding jobs.

And it makes work a better deal than welfare, offering new benefits for the first time in Canada to the children of low-income working parents.

The first results are very promising. The growth in welfare caseloads is in check. According to the accounting firm Peat-Marwick, the BC Benefits reforms and B.C.'s impressive job creation record are combining to lower caseloads and save taxpayers a potential \$350 to \$470 million in the coming fiscal year.

Thanks to that balanced approach to our province's finances, British Columbia has the lowest debt in all of Canada. Financial experts consistently give British Columbia the highest credit rating of any province. And British Columbia residents pay the second-lowest taxes in the country.

But it is still often difficult for many middle-class working families to make ends meet. So in recent weeks, my government moved to make things just a little easier for them by freezing Hydro rates and ICBC car insurance rates.

My government intends to introduce legislation to ensure consumers are protected — putting freezes on taxes, Hydro and ICBC rates into law.

And there will be further action. Like many B.C. families, small businesses often struggle to get by. Yet they are the strongest job creation engines of our economy.

Middle-class families, working people, small businesses — government has a duty to try and give them a break wherever it's possible.

That is why the upcoming Budget will include a tax reduction for middle-income earners and small businesses.

All of these initiatives, indeed the entire legislative program of my government, are aimed at demonstrating to British Columbians that they have a government that's on their side.

A government that's working toward their priorities.

- Protecting and creating jobs.
- Making our communities safer.
- Protecting Medicare and education.

Those priorities demand a vision of government that works with business, labour, local communities and all British Columbians to build our province, our economy and our society.

It is a different approach than the one we see so often outside our borders. But it is an approach that is clearly working.

Building prosperity by building B.C.: that's the B.C. way. From the highways and bridges that W. A. C. Bennett built, to the information superhighway today, B.C. has found prosperity through investment and partnership between government and business. And just as important, we have found a quality of life that is second to none.

Building for the future, we create opportunities and security for the future. And we fulfill the one overriding obligation of any generation: to give the next generation a better place than the one we inherited.

With more jobs, with better education and health care, with the lowest debt in Canada, with the second-lowest taxes in the country, British Columbians are meeting that obligation to the future. We are building a better province for our children.

And we are doing it by listening to the priorities of people — the needs of middle-class working families from one end of this province to the other.

Those families deserve a government — not beholden to any interest, but working for a stronger, better, more prosperous British Columbia for all of us.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

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

On the motion of the Hon. *U. Dosanjh* (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. *J. MacPhail*, seconded by Mr. *Farrell-Collins* and Mr. *Hanson*, it was *Ordered* —

That *Dale Lovick*, Member for Nanaimo Electoral District, be appointed Deputy Speaker for this Session of the Legislative Assembly.

On the motion of the Hon. *J. MacPhail*, seconded by Mr. *Farrell-Collins* and Mr. *Hanson*, it was *Ordered* —

That *Gretchen Brewin*, Member for Victoria-Beacon Hill 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. *U. Dosanjh* (Attorney General) it was *Ordered* —

That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, being first perused by the 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. Clark* (Premier) moved that the Select Standing Committees of this House, for the present Session, be appointed for the following purposes:

1. Aboriginal Affairs;
2. Justice, Constitutional Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations;
3. Education, Culture and Multiculturalism;
4. Economic Development, Science, Labour, Training and Technology;
5. Environment and Tourism;
6. Finance and Government Services;
7. Health and Social Services;
8. Agriculture and Fisheries;
9. Forests, Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources;
10. Transportation, Municipal Affairs and Housing;
11. Women's Equality;
12. Public Accounts;
13. Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills;
14. Crown Corporations;

and that Standing Order 68 (1) is hereby amended to so reflect,

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 of the Hon. *J. MacPhail* (Convener), the Hon. *A. Petter*, the Hon. *L. Boone*, Messrs. *Janssen* and *Schreck*, Ms. *O'Neill* and Ms. *Brewin*, Messrs. *Gingell*, *Farrell-Collins* and *Hanson*.

A debate arose.

Motion agreed to.

By leave, the Hon. *J. MacPhail* moved —

That a Special Committee be appointed to monitor and evaluate the progress of the work of the Transition Commissioner in respect of recommendations arising out of the Gove Inquiry into Child Protection, and that the Special Committee so appointed shall have the powers of a Select Standing Committee and is also empowered:

- (a) to appoint of their number, one or more subcommittees and to refer to such subcommittees any of the matters referred to the Committee;
- (b) to sit during a period in which the House is adjourned, during the recess after prorogation until the next following Session and during any sitting of the House;
- (c) to adjourn from place to place as may be convenient;
- (d) to retain such personnel as required to assist the Committee;
- (e) to permit minority opinions in a report of the Committee;

and shall report to the House as soon as possible, or following any adjournment, or at the next following Session, as the case may be; to deposit the original of its reports with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly during a period of adjournment and upon resumption of the sittings of the House, the Chair shall present all reports to the Legislative Assembly.

The said Special Committee is to be composed of Messrs. *Beattie* (Convener), *Kasper*, *Hartley* and *Jones*, Ms. *Brewin*, Ms. *Hagen* and Ms. *Lord*, Mr. *Farrell-Collins*, Ms. *Stephens*, and Ms. *Reid*, Mr. *Neufeld* and Mr. *Chisholm*.

Motion agreed to.

By leave, Mr. *Farnworth* presented a Report of the Special Committee to Appoint a Chief Electoral Officer.

The Report was taken as read and received.

By leave of the House, it was moved that the Rules be suspended and the Report adopted.

By leave, Mr. *Farnworth* moved —

That this House recommend to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor the appointment of Mr. Robert Patterson as a statutory Officer of the Legislature, to exercise the powers and duties assigned to the Chief Electoral Officer for the province of British Columbia pursuant to the *Election Act*.

Motion agreed to.

And then the House adjourned at 2.55 p.m.

EMERY O. BARNES, *Speaker*

Friday, April 26 , 1996

TEN O’CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *K. Jones*.

Mr. *Lortie* presented a petition regarding American Sign Language as a second language.

Mr. *Chisholm* presented a petition regarding a sewage system for Fairfield Island.

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

The Hon. *E. Cull* (Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

GARDE B. GARDOM
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 21) intituled *Education and Health Collective Bargaining Assistance Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
April 26, 1996.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Hon. *E. Cull* proposed that, pursuant to Standing Order 81, Bill permitted to be advanced all stages this day.

The Speaker declared a short recess for distribution of the Bill.

The Speaker reserved his decision.

Ms. *Pullinger* moved, seconded by Mr. *Beattie* —

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.

On the motion of Mr. *Campbell*, the debate was adjourned.

The House recessed until 1 o'clock p.m.

FIVE MINUTES PAST ONE O'CLOCK P.M.

The Speaker delivered his reserved decision as follows:

Honourable Members:

On the matter of an emergency which was raised this morning, I have considered, with very great care, all of the submissions made by all Hon. Members. I accept that there may indeed be a most serious situation in Surrey. I feel, however, that the Bill in its present form goes well beyond the situation in Surrey, and does not satisfy the stringent guidelines — and I must emphasize stringent guidelines — applicable to Standing Order 81 to permit this Bill to proceed to all stages on this day, and therefore it fails.

EMERY O. BARNES, *Speaker*

Hon. *E. Cull* moved that Bill (No. 21) intituled *Education and Health Collective Bargaining Assistance Act* be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Hon. *J. MacPhail* moved that the House at its rising stand adjourned until 10 o'clock a.m. Saturday.

And then the House adjourned at 1.09 p.m.

EMERY O. BARNES, *Speaker*

Saturday, April 27, 1996

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Hurd*.

On the motion of Mr. *Campbell*, Bill (No. M 201) intituled *Education As An Essential Service Act* was introduced.

Mr. *Campbell* requested that the Bill proceed through all stages this day pursuant to Standing Order 81.

Mr. Speaker ruled that only the House Leader could invoke Standing Order 81 pursuant to her responsibilities with respect to business of the House.

Mr. *Farrell-Collins* asked leave for the application of Standing Order 81.

Leave was denied.

Bill (No. M 201) intituled *Education As An Essential Service Act* was 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. *Wilson* rose on a point of order, namely, whether the Standing Orders provided for a Question Period during today's sitting.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the provisions of Standing Order 47 A were explicit and that they did not provide for a Question Period on a weekend sitting unless the House had otherwise ordered.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

On the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 21) intituled *Education and Health Collective Bargaining Assistance Act*, a debate arose.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Ms. *Tyabji*, the debate was adjourned until later today.

The House recessed until 1 o'clock p.m.

ONE O'CLOCK P.M.

The House resumed the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 21) intituled *Education and Health Collective Bargaining Assistance Act*.

The debate continued.

Mr. *Wilson* moved the following amendment —

That the motion for second reading of Bill (No. 21) intituled *Education and Health Collective Bargaining Assistance Act* be amended by deleting the word "now" and substituting therefor the words "six months hence."

The debate on the amendment continued.

The House divided.

The amendment was negatived on the following division:

		YEAS—6	
<i>Hanson</i>	<i>Wilson</i>	<i>Neufeld</i>	<i>Blencoe</i>
<i>Serwa</i>	<i>Tyabji</i>		
		NAYS—42	
<i>Streifel</i>	<i>B. Jones</i>	<i>Edwards</i>	<i>Lord</i>
<i>Sihota</i>	<i>Giesbrecht</i>	<i>Janssen</i>	<i>Tanner</i>
<i>Boone</i>	<i>Priddy</i>	<i>Dalton</i>	<i>Symons</i>
<i>Hammell</i>	<i>Miller</i>	<i>Farrell-Collins</i>	<i>K. Jones</i>
<i>Cashore</i>	<i>Cull</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>van Dongen</i>
<i>Zirnhelt</i>	<i>MacPhail</i>	<i>Gingell</i>	<i>de Jong</i>
<i>Pement</i>	<i>Petter</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Hartley</i>
<i>O'Neill</i>	<i>Lovick</i>	<i>Charbonneau</i>	<i>Schreck</i>
<i>Garden</i>	<i>Pullinger</i>	<i>Simpson</i>	<i>Brewin</i>
<i>Hagen</i>	<i>Randall</i>	<i>Smallwood</i>	<i>Krog</i>
<i>Kasper</i>	<i>Beattie</i>		

The debate was resumed on the main motion.

The debate continued.

The House divided.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

		YEAS—35	
<i>Streifel</i>	<i>Kasper</i>	<i>Pullinger</i>	<i>Jackson</i>
<i>Sihota</i>	<i>B. Jones</i>	<i>Randall</i>	<i>Charbonneau</i>
<i>Boone</i>	<i>Giesbrecht</i>	<i>Beattie</i>	<i>Simpson</i>
<i>Cashore</i>	<i>Priddy</i>	<i>Edwards</i>	<i>Lord</i>
<i>Zirnhelt</i>	<i>Miller</i>	<i>Janssen</i>	<i>Tanner</i>
<i>Pement</i>	<i>Cull</i>	<i>Dalton</i>	<i>Symons</i>
<i>O'Neill</i>	<i>MacPhail</i>	<i>Farrell-Collins</i>	<i>Schreck</i>
<i>Garden</i>	<i>Petter</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Krog</i>
<i>Hagen</i>	<i>Lovick</i>	<i>Gingell</i>	
		NAYS—7	
<i>Hanson</i>	<i>Wilson</i>	<i>Neufeld</i>	
<i>Serwa</i>	<i>Tyabji</i>	<i>Blencoe</i>	
		<i>Chisholm</i>	

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.

Hon. *J. MacPhail* moved that the House at its rising stand adjourned until 12 o'clock noon Sunday.

And then the House adjourned at 5.45 p.m.

EMERY O. BARNES, *Speaker*

Sunday, April 28 , 1996

Twelve o'clock noon Prayers by Mr. *Symons*.

Mr. *Warnke* made a personal statement.

The Hon. *D. Streifel* (Minister of Forests) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

GARDE B. GARDOM
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 22) intituled *BC Forest Renewal Amendment Act, 1996* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
April 26, 1996.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Second reading at the next sitting after today.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Bill (No. 21) intituled *Education and Health Collective Bargaining Assistance Act* was committed and reported complete without amendment.

On the motion for third reading the House divided.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

		YEAS—36	
<i>Streifel</i>	<i>Hagen</i>	<i>Petter</i>	<i>Charbonneau</i>
<i>Boone</i>	<i>Kasper</i>	<i>Lovick</i>	<i>Smallwood</i>
<i>Hammell</i>	<i>Marzari</i>	<i>Randall</i>	<i>Lord</i>
<i>Cashore</i>	<i>Giesbrecht</i>	<i>Farnworth</i>	<i>Tanner</i>
<i>Zirnhelt</i>	<i>Priddy</i>	<i>Edwards</i>	<i>>Anderson</i>
<i>Pement</i>	<i>Miller</i>	<i>Janssen</i>	<i>Symons</i>
<i>O'Neill</i>	<i>Cull</i>	<i>Dalton</i>	<i>van Dongen</i>
<i>Garden</i>	<i>Dosanjh</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Schreck</i>
<i>Perry</i>	<i>MacPhail</i>	<i>Jackson</i>	<i>Brewin</i>
		NAYS — 5	
<i>Hanson</i>	<i>Tyabji</i>	<i>Neufeld</i>	<i>Blencoe</i>
<i>Serwa</i>			

Bill (No. 21) was read a third time and passed.

On the motion of the Hon. J. MacPhail, the House recessed until 2.30 o'clock p.m.

THIRTY MINUTES PAST TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

The Speaker declared a short recess.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor having entered the House, and being seated in the Chair —
E. George MacMinn, Q.C., Clerk of the House, read the title to the following Bill:

Bill (No. 21) *Education and Health Collective Bargaining Assistance Act*.

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

The said assent was announced by *E. George MacMinn*, Q.C., Clerk of the House, in the following words:

"In Her Majesty's name, His Honour the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to this Bill."

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

And then the House adjourned at 2.37 p.m.

EMERY O. BARNES, *Speaker*

Monday, April 29, 1996

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Neufeld*.

The Premier of Eastern Cape in South Africa addressed the House by consent.

The Speaker thanked the Premier on behalf of the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

On the motion of Ms. *Edwards*, Bill (No. M 202) intituled *Black History Month 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.

The Hon. *E. Cull* (Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

GARDE B. GARDOM
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 5) intituled *Tax and Consumer Rate Freeze Act* and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
April 29, 1996.

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 "Oral Questions by Members."

Mr. *Gingell* presented a petition on behalf of Delta Farm Expropriation Victims regarding expropriated farmlands.

By leave, Mr. *Weisgerber* tabled a copy of the official minutes of the Board of Directors of ICBC.

Mr. *Gingell* presented the Second Report of the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts for the Fourth Session of the Thirty-fifth Parliament.

Resolved, That the Report be taken as read and received.

By leave of the House, the Rules were suspended and the Report adopted.

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 His Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Session.

The debate continued.

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

The Hon. *E. Barnes* (Speaker) tabled the Auditor General of British Columbia and Deputy Ministers' Council Report — Enhancing Accountability for Performance: A Framework and an Implementation Plan — Second Joint Report.

And then the House adjourned at 6.01 p.m.

EMERY O. BARNES, *Speaker*

Tuesday, April 30 , 1996

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. *Hanson*.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

On the motion of the Hon. *E. Cull* (Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations) it was *Ordered* — That this 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. *E. Cull* (Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations) presented:

The Report of the Comptroller General (Interim Financial Statements for the Ten Month Period Ending January 31, 1996) in accordance with section 8.2 (3) of the *Financial Administration Act*.

The Hon. *E. Cull* (Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

GARDE B. GARDOM
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith:

Estimates — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1997; and

Supplement to the Estimates — Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1997;

and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
April 29, 1996.

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

The Hon. *E. Cull* (Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations) moved, seconded by the Hon. *A. Petter* (Minister of Health and Minister Responsible for Seniors and Minister Responsible for Intergovernmental Relations), "That the Speaker do now leave the Chair" for the House to go into Committee of Supply.

A debate arose.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Ms. *Pullinger* that the debate be adjourned until the next sitting, the House divided.

Motion agreed to on the following division:

YEAS—40

Ramsey
Streifel
Sihota
Boone
Hammell
Evans
Cashore
Zirnhelt
Pement
O'Neill

Perry
Kasper
Marzari
B. Jones
Lortie
Giesbrecht
Miller
Cull
Dosanjh
MacPhail

Petter
Barlee
Lovick
Pullinger
Randall
Farnworth
Conroy
Doyle
Edwards
Gabelmann

Janssen
Jackson
Sawicki
Charbonneau
Lord
Hartley
Lali
Schreck
Copping
Krog

NAYS—23

<i>Dalton</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Tanner</i>	<i>de Jong</i>
<i>Reid</i>	<i>Weisgerber</i>	<i>Jarvis</i>	<i>Neufeld</i>
<i>Campbell</i>	<i>Hanson</i>	<i>Anderson</i>	<i>Blencoe</i>
<i>Farrell-Collins</i>	<i>Serwa</i>	<i>Symons</i>	<i>Chisholm</i>
<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Wilson</i>	<i>K. Jones</i>	<i>Warnke</i>
<i>Gingell</i>	<i>Tyabji</i>	<i>van Dongen</i>	

The debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *E. Cull* (Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

GARDE B. GARDOM
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bills intituled:

Bill (No. 2) *Budget Measures Implementation Act, 1996*;

Bill (No. 3) *Income Tax Amendment Act, 1996*;

Bill (No. 4) *Motor Vehicle Amendment Act, 1996*;

Bill (No. 6) *Supply Act (No. 1), 1996*;

and recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
April 29, 1996.

On the motion of the Hon. *E. Cull* (Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations) Bills (Nos. 2, 3 and 4) were introduced and read a first time.

Bills (Nos. 2, 3 and 4) *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

And then the House adjourned at 12.02 p.m.

EMERY O. BARNES, *Speaker*

DISSOLUTION

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor by His Proclamation issued on the 30th day of April 1996, was pleased to dissolve the Thirty-fifth Legislative Assembly of the Province.

PROCLAMATION

[L.S.]

G. B. GARDOM
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-fifth 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-fifth Legislative Assembly accordingly on April 30, 1996, 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 GARDE B. GARDOM, Q.C., Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this thirtieth day of April, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-six and in the forty-fifth year of Our Reign.

By Command.

SUMMARY

Number of sitting days			6
Number of sittings —			
	Morning	4	
	Afternoon.....	2	
			6
Debates (number of sittings) —			
	Address in Reply	1	
	Budget Motion.....	—	
	Estimates.....	—	
Number of Bills introduced (including 55 Message Bills).....			9
Number of Bills passed —			
	Public	1	
	Private	—	
	Members	—	
			1
Divisions.....			4
Motions on Division			—