

Monday, March 7, 1988

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker tabled A Special Report to the Legislative Assembly on the Allocation of Highway Construction Costs in the Fiscal Year Ended 31st March, 1986, pursuant to section 11 of the *Auditor General Act*, R.S.B.C. 1979.

Mr. Speaker declared a short recess for distribution of the Report.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

The Hon. *W. E. Reid* (Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Culture) made a ministerial statement relating to certain costs for the Barkerville Gold Rush Trail.

Ms. *Edwards* made a statement.

The Hon. *L. Hanson* (Minister of Labour and Consumer Services) tabled the British Columbia Industrial Relations Council 1987 Annual Report.

The Hon. *M. B. Couvelier* (Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations) tabled the Statement of Unclaimed Money Deposits for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1987.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. B. Strachan*, the House proceeded to "Public Bills and Orders and Government Motions on Notice."

Bill (No. 28) intituled *Election Amendment Act, 1987* was again committed.

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

The Chairman further reported that in consideration of a subamendment to section 1.1 of Bill (No. 28) the Committee divided as follows:

YEAS—15

<i>Edwards</i>	<i>Sihota</i>	<i>D'Arcy</i>	<i>Rose</i>
<i>Clark</i>	<i>Lovick</i>	<i>Skelly</i>	<i>Marzari</i>
<i>Jones</i>	<i>Guno</i>	<i>Stupich</i>	<i>Barnes</i>
<i>A. Hagen</i>	<i>Blencoe</i>	<i>Harcourt</i>	

NAYS—28

<i>Peterson</i>	<i>Chalmers</i>	<i>B. R. D. Smith</i>	<i>Michael</i>
<i>Messmer</i>	<i>Gran</i>	<i>Strachan</i>	<i>Parker</i>
<i>Davidson</i>	<i>Jansen</i>	<i>Veitch</i>	<i>Richmond</i>
<i>Jacobsen</i>	<i>Weisgerber</i>	<i>Mercier</i>	<i>Dueck</i>
<i>Ree</i>	<i>R. Fraser</i>	<i>Rabbitt</i>	<i>Reid</i>
<i>Serwa</i>	<i>Davis</i>	<i>De Jong</i>	<i>L. Hanson</i>
<i>Mowat</i>	<i>Couvelier</i>	<i>Loenen</i>	<i>Brummet</i>

Bill (No. 65) intituled *Cooperative Association Amendment Act, 1987* was read a third time and passed.

And then the House adjourned at 5.47 p.m.

Tuesday, March 8, 1988

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. B. Strachan*, the House proceeded to "Public Bills and Orders and Government Motions on Notice."

Bill (No. 28) intituled *Election Amendment Act, 1987* was again committed.

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

And then the House adjourned at 11.55 a.m.

Tuesday, March 8, 1988

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Oral Questions by Members."

On the motion of the Hon. *W. B. Strachan*, the House proceeded to "Deferred Motions."

Mr. Speaker stated:

Honourable Members:

In allowing the motion to be moved by the Honourable Member for Esquimalt-Port Renfrew, I am mindful of the observations of Mr. Speaker *Lamoureux*, to be found in the *Journals*, House of Commons, Canada, June 9, 1969, pp. 1136-8 that:

"Such a motion cannot merely ask that the committee investigate whether or not there has been a breach of privilege; it must allege a breach of privilege. It should not simply propose that a matter be investigated to determine if there is or is not a breach of privilege."

Such an allegation has already been made in the House and in this case that should suffice.

Mr. Speaker *Lamoureux*, in the same decision, states:

“In my view, the motion should follow the question of privilege as a logical sequence.”

Therefore, in allowing the motion in the form presented, the Chair must nevertheless point out to all Honourable Members that the scope of debate on such motions must be conducted within permissible limits.

J. REYNOLDS, *Speaker*

A debate arose.

The debate continued.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. B. Strachan*, on behalf of Mr. *A. Fraser*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 5.43 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9, 1988

TWO O’CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker read, and tabled, a copy of a letter received from the Auditor General dated March 9, 1988.

By leave, the House proceeded to “Oral Questions by Members.”

Mr. *Harcourt* tabled documents referred to during Oral Question Period.

The Hon. *M. B. Couvelier* (Minister of Finance and Corporate Relations) tabled the Statement of Crown Proceeding Payments, 1986/87, pursuant to the provisions of the *Crown Proceeding Act*, R.S.B.C., chapter 86, section 15 (2).

On the motion of the Hon. *W. B. Strachan*, the House proceeded to “Adjourned Debate on Deferred Motions.”

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mrs. *Boone*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 6 p.m.

Thursday March 10, 1988

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. B. Strachan*, the House proceeded to "Adjourned Debate on Deferred Motions."

The debate continued.

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

And then the House adjourned at 11.59 a.m.

Thursday, March 10, 1988

TWO O'CLOCK P.M.

By leave, the House proceeded to "Oral Questions by Members."

On the motion of the Hon. *W. B. Strachan*, the House proceeded to "Adjourned Debate on Deferred Motions."

The debate continued.

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

The Hon. *W. B. Strachan* moved—

That, by agreement, the sitting be extended to 10 o'clock p.m. this evening, unless otherwise ordered.

On the motion of the Hon. *W. B. Strachan*, the House recessed until 6.05 o'clock p.m.

FIVE MINUTES PAST SIX O'CLOCK P.M.

The House resumed the adjourned debate on "Adjourned Debate on Deferred Motions."

The House divided.

The motion was negated on the following division:

YEAS—16

<i>Edwards</i>	<i>Miller</i>	<i>Smallwood</i>	<i>Boone</i>
<i>Clark</i>	<i>Sihota</i>	<i>Guno</i>	<i>Rose</i>
<i>Jones</i>	<i>Williams</i>	<i>Blencoe</i>	<i>Marzari</i>
<i>A. Hagen</i>	<i>Lovick</i>	<i>Gabelmann</i>	<i>Barnes</i>

NAYS—27

<i>Peterson</i>	<i>A. Fraser</i>	<i>Long</i>	<i>Parker</i>
<i>Messmer</i>	<i>Gran</i>	<i>Rabbitt</i>	<i>Richmond</i>
<i>Ree</i>	<i>Jansen</i>	<i>De Jong</i>	<i>Dueck</i>
<i>Serwa</i>	<i>Davis</i>	<i>Crandall</i>	<i>L. Hanson</i>
<i>Vant</i>	<i>B. R. D. Smith</i>	<i>Loenen</i>	<i>Rogers</i>
<i>Campbell</i>	<i>Strachan</i>	<i>Pelton</i>	<i>Brummet</i>
<i>Chalmers</i>	<i>Veitch</i>	<i>Michael</i>	

And then the House adjourned at 7.06 p.m.

Friday, March 11, 1988

TEN O'CLOCK A.M.

Prayers by Mr. Speaker.

The Hon. *B. R. D. Smith* (Attorney General) tabled the B.C. Gaming Commission Report on the Status of Gaming in British Columbia, January 1, 1988.

By leave, on the motion of the Hon. *W. B. Strachan*, the House proceeded to "Public Bills and Orders and Government Motions on Notice."

Bill (No. 72) intituled *Guaranteed Available Income for Need Amendment Act, 1987* was committed, reported complete with amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 71) intituled *Family Maintenance Enforcement Act* was committed, reported complete with amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 66) intituled *Mineral Tenure Act* was committed, reported complete with amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

By leave, on the motion of the Hon. *W. B. Strachan*, proceedings on third reading of Bill (No. 65) intituled *Cooperative Association Amendment Act, 1987* declared null and void and the Bill recommitted in respect of section 19.1.

Bill (No. 65) recommitted in respect of section 19.1.

The Committee rose and reported Bill (No. 65) complete with amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 64) intituled *Petroleum and Natural Gas Amendment Act, 1987* was committed, reported complete with amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed.

Bill (No. 28) intituled *Election Amendment Act, 1987* was committed, reported complete with amendment, and by leave, read a third time and passed, on division.

Section 8 as amended passed on division.

The Chairman further reported that in consideration of the motion that the Committee rise and report Bill (No. 28) complete with amendment, the Committee divided as follows:

YEAS—26

<i>Peterson</i>	<i>Campbell</i>	<i>S. Hagen</i>	<i>Loenen</i>
<i>Messmer</i>	<i>A. Fraser</i>	<i>McCarthy</i>	<i>Michael</i>
<i>Jacobsen</i>	<i>Gran</i>	<i>Veitch</i>	<i>Parker</i>
<i>S. Smith</i>	<i>R. Fraser</i>	<i>Long</i>	<i>Dueck</i>
<i>Ree</i>	<i>Davis</i>	<i>Rabbitt</i>	<i>L. Hanson</i>
<i>Bruce</i>	<i>Couvelier</i>	<i>De Jong</i>	<i>Brummet</i>
<i>Vant</i>	<i>Strachan</i>		

NAYS—16

<i>Edwards</i>	<i>Williams</i>	<i>Blencoe</i>	<i>Stupich</i>
<i>Clark</i>	<i>Lovick</i>	<i>Gabelmann</i>	<i>Rose</i>
<i>A. Hagen</i>	<i>Smallwood</i>	<i>Boone</i>	<i>Marzari</i>
<i>Miller</i>	<i>Guno</i>	<i>Skelly</i>	<i>Barnes</i>

Mr. Speaker declared a short recess.

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

Ian D. Izard, Esq., Law Clerk and Clerk Assistant, read the titles to the following Bills:

Bill (No. 28) *Election Amendment Act, 1987.*

Bill (No. 64) *Petroleum and Natural Gas Amendment Act, 1987.*

Bill (No. 66) *Mineral Tenure Act.*

Bill (No. 65) *Cooperative Association Amendment Act, 1987.*

Bill (No. 71) *Family Maintenance Enforcement Act.*

Bill (No. 72) *Guaranteed Available Income for Need Amendment Act, 1987.*

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

The said assent was announced by *Ian M. Horne*, Q.C., Clerk of the House, in the following words:

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

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor was pleased to deliver the following gracious Speech:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

On this closing day of the First Session of the Thirty-fourth Parliament of British Columbia, I congratulate all members of the House on the accomplishments of the past year.

Most particularly, I wish to express my appreciation for the new spirit of civility and cooperation that has characterized this session.

That spirit is clearly evident in your creation of a Board of Internal Economy to regulate matters closely affecting this House.

During the life of this parliament, British Columbia has been honoured by a visit of Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Philip — a visit marked by the granting of a new provincial Coat of Arms and elevation of the Provincial Museum to its new status as the Royal British Columbia Museum.

At the same time, British Columbia held the world stage as Commonwealth Heads of Government, representing 47 nations, met in Vancouver.

Since the start of this session in March, 1987, my government has introduced important initiatives designed to create a stronger economy and new employment opportunities — and has enjoyed some considerable success.

This is evidenced by a steady improvement in the employment picture, with 95,000 more British Columbians working in January this year than a year earlier.

That represents an annual growth rate in the number of people actually employed of 7.3 per cent — compared to a national rate of 4.3 per cent, or an Ontario rate of 4.5 per cent.

Other welcome signs of our burgeoning economy are: a healthy forest industry, strong gains in manufacturing, improved mineral prices, increased natural gas sales, record high farm income, and continued strength in tourism.

As the Investment Dealers Association of Canada stated last month, British Columbia's economy has confounded the skeptics and shows a solid pattern of sustained growth.

A far-reaching policy undertaken this session has been the fundamental restructuring of government through two major initiatives — privatization and regionalization.

My government intends to use privatization as a tool to create new economic opportunity.

The impetus for this initiative flows from the work of two task forces — one private sector and one public sector — and the positive experiences here and in other jurisdictions, where privatization has reduced costs, lowered the public debt burden and encouraged employee ownership.

Regionalization will make government more accessible to British Columbians, involving the people of all regions in the decision-making process and matching solutions to regional priorities.

My government has begun putting this principle into action with the appointment of eight Ministers of State to facilitate regional development.

Consistent with this commitment to a new openness, my government has acted to provide radio news coverage of the Legislature.

In the session now ending, you have adopted some 70 pieces of legislation, many of them with broad significance for the province, including two key pieces of labour legislation.

These two Acts have ushered in a new era of fairness and stability in labor-management relations in British Columbia.

A new forest policy enunciated by my government, along with legislation approved by this House, will provide a fair return from the public resource and ensure a high level of reforestation.

This new policy was directly responsible for ending the 15 per cent countervailing duty imposed by the United States on British Columbia softwood exports.

In the realm of law enforcement, my government has launched support programs for victims of crime, so they are not lost in the shuffle of the justice system.

This House has also passed into law new and fairer expropriation legislation.

You are to be congratulated for the Sechelt Indian Band legislation — a model of self-government for native people.

New procedures have been put in place to keep adopted native children within the native community wherever possible.

This and other measures demonstrate my government's firm commitment to strengthening the family in British Columbia.

Funding for adoption has been increased and a new Adoption Registry now permits adopted children and their natural parents to be reunited, if both parties consent.

During this session, an increase in welfare rates has focused on the needs of families and single parents.

In the schools, my government has introduced a Family Life program to assist our young people on the road to becoming responsible adults.

Other education initiatives recognize this province's unique relationship with the Pacific Rim nations and offer student exchanges, scholarships, language training and other curriculum enhancements.

My government has also introduced the Passport to Education Program, giving high school students the opportunity to earn credits towards a post-secondary education.

It has provided increased funding for schools, including independent schools, as well as increased funding for universities and other post-secondary institutions.

In addition, it has substantially increased financial assistance to students in our universities and colleges.

You have approved an *Open Learning Agency Act*, providing opportunities for those who want to continue their education but cannot be present in the classroom and lecture hall.

This province's continuing commitment to such "distance education" was recognized when British Columbia was chosen as the coordinating centre for the Commonwealth Distance Education Network.

British Columbians continue to enjoy one of the finest health care systems in the world.

Its effectiveness was improved during this session with the addition of a program to assist in the prevention and treatment of substance abuse by young people.

A major education program was undertaken to inform the public about the dangers of the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome — AIDS.

Over the past year, my government has increased the area of wilderness protected under legislation by 810,000 hectares . . . not including the South Moresby area, a 145,000 hectare wilderness that is designated to become a national park.

My government has also created nine new provincial parks.

The total area of wilderness now protected under provincial legislation is 5.47 million hectares or approximately 5.8 per cent of the province.

To put it another way, there are about two hectares of protected wilderness for every resident of British Columbia, three times that of Ontario and the highest such ratio for any province in Canada.

Finally, this session has been noteworthy for the way government has actively sought public input.

There have been a significant number of task forces, inquiries and councils established to examine various issues. Some have completed their work.

Others — such as the Justice Reform Committee, the Royal Commission on Education, the Aquaculture Advisory Council, and the Royal Commission on Electoral Reform — continue their investigations.

And still others — such as the Premier's Economic Advisory Council and the Science and Technology Council — are permanently in place to provide continuing advice to government.

As this First Session of the Thirty-fourth Parliament of British Columbia comes to a close, I commend you for the careful consideration you have given to the many important measures that have come before you.

I thank you for your efforts on behalf of all British Columbians, and now relieve you of your legislative duties.

The Hon. *E. N. Veitch* (Provincial Secretary and Minister of Government Services) then said:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

It is His Honour the Lieutenant Governor's will and pleasure that this Legislative Assembly be prorogued until 3 o'clock p.m., Tuesday, March 15, 1988, and this Provincial Legislative Assembly is hereby prorogued accordingly.

44 Mr. *Clark* asked the Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways the following questions:

With reference to Highway 97 between Trout Lake and Summerland—

1. Has the Minister decided to approve work to expand this section of highway to four lanes during the 1988/89 fiscal year?
2. What is the estimated cost of widening this section of highway to four lanes?
3. What is the Minister's estimate of the construction time for this work?

The Hon. *C. S. Rogers* replied as follows:

- "1. Decision to follow presentation of budget to the Legislature.
- "2. Scope of project to follow presentation of budget to the Legislature.
- "3. Construction time schedules to follow determination of scope."

45 Mr. *Clark* asked the Hon. the Minister of Transportation and Highways the following questions:

With reference to Highway 97 between Penticton and Trout Lake—

1. What is the total estimated cost of the work?
2. Who are the contractors?
3. What were the tendered amounts?
4. How much has presently been paid to each contractor?
5. What proportion of the work has been completed by each contractor?
6. What is the anticipated completion date for the work?
7. Account for any additional work undertaken but not included in the original tender.

The Hon. *C. S. Rogers* replied as follows:

- "1. \$11.5 million.
- "2. Inland Contracting and Sweeping Ltd.; Peter Brothers Paving (1981) Ltd.; F.A. Dobbins and Sons Ltd.; plus day labour.

“3. (a) C-3764-0001, \$368,650; (b) C-3764-0002, \$855,634; and (c) C-3764-0003, \$98,875.

“4. Information to be available after fiscal year end once reconciliation is complete.

“5. (a) C-3764-0001, 5%; (b) C-3764-0002, 11%; and (c) C-3764-0003, 1.5%.

“6. June 1988.

“7. Information to be available after fiscal year end once reconciliation is complete.”

And then the House prorogued at 12.01 p.m.

PROCLAMATION

[L.S.]

R. G. ROGERS
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 Our Faithful Members Elected to Serve in the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of British Columbia, at Our City of Victoria—GREETING

A PROCLAMATION

B. R. D. SMITH { KNOW YE, that for divers causes and considerations and taking into consideration the
Attorney General { ease and convenience of Our Loving subjects, We have thought fit to hereby prorogue
Our said Legislature or Parliament on the eleventh day of March, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-eight at Our City of Victoria.

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 ROBERT GORDON ROGERS, Lieutenant Governor of Our Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our Province, this eleventh day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-eight, and in the thirty-seventh year of Our Reign.

By Command.

E. N. VEITCH
*Provincial Secretary and Minister of
Government Services*