

can make some plans and have a little money [on the side].  
You're not always sure of a lot of other things when you farm . . .

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. minister.  
Calgary-West.

### Child Safety Reporting and Investigations

**Mr. Ellis:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday the Premier said, "Our hearts also go out . . . to all Albertans who are concerned for vulnerable children across this province." Premier, Albertans' hearts are broken. Their faith in your government is shattered. We cannot comprehend the excuses this government offered for leaving children in a home where a little girl was beaten, starved, and sexually assaulted and from which her siblings were rescued. Premier, will you commit today to calling a public inquiry so all Albertans can have answers and Serenity can have justice?

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Children's Services.

**Ms Larivee:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. [interjections]

**The Speaker:** Order, hon. members.

**Ms Larivee:** Mr. Speaker, again I will say that I am sharing more information for Albertans later this afternoon. I do want to continue to caution the members of this House about making statements without the facts . . . [interjections]

**The Speaker:** Hon. members.

**Ms Larivee:** . . . which, in fact, leads to inaccurate information being given to the public. I want to continue to assure all Albertans that we monitor the situation, and if there was evidence of abuse of a child, that child would be apprehended immediately because we take the safety of every Alberta child very seriously. [interjections]

**The Speaker:** You continue to yell at a level where I am unable to hear the minister. Please contain that volume. There are several of you. Member for Strathmore-Brooks, I'm speaking to you as well as to the other members, to all of you. Please keep your volume down here. Please. Thank you.

The hon. member. It's the first supplemental.

**Mr. Ellis:** Thank you. Minister, we'll just do it in two years' time, then.

Given that the minister said yesterday, "I would urge all Albertans that if they have concerns about the safety of a child, please let Children's Services know" and given that it is good to hear the minister address the public in this way, because according to the Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act all adults have a legal obligation to report the matter to a director, Minister, can you specifically tell Albertans today who a director is and how you would contact them?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Ms Larivee:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would certainly say that if any Albertan has concern about the safety of a child, they can contact any Children's Services office or call the child abuse hotline. You know, once again I want to say that, absolutely, Children's Services and this government take the safety of Alberta's children very seriously. We're thankful for the co-operation of Albertans to assist us with that in reporting all concerns about abuse. We will follow up, we will assess, and we will ensure . . .

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. minister.

**Mr. Ellis:** Well, let me run through this very convoluted process for you, Minister. Given that to seek intervention for a child, Albertans have to go to the Children's Services website and then they need to know to look under Abuse and Intervention, click on Child Intervention, and then scroll down to How to Get Help, eventually finding a phone number to call, and given that my proposal for Serenity's law makes it very simple – adults must call the police if they know a child is in need of intervention, but the government claimed last fall that it ran out of time to make this change – Minister, will you make it very simple and change the legislation now?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Ms Larivee:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I would encourage all Albertans, if they are concerned about the safety of a child, to call the child abuse hotline or to contact their local Children's Services. But I have to say that this government has a very strong record of being very concerned about the safety and well-being of Alberta's children. That has not changed. We will take action to ensure the ongoing safety and well-being of Alberta's children, and you have our commitment on that.

**The Speaker:** Edmonton-Whitemud.

2:40

### Electronic Cigarettes

**Dr. Turner:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Control of inhalation of cigarette smoke is a very important preventive health measure. There has been a steady increase in usage of e-cigarettes in Alberta in recent years. Given that Health Canada is currently looking at how best to address and regulate this industry, to the Minister of Health: what plans does this government have to address concerns my constituents and I have regarding vaping?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Ms Hoffman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and to the member for his important question as well as the expertise that he brings forward as an oncologist and as somebody who's been a cancer prevention advocate for decades. We're very grateful for that. I am proud that our government has a strong working relationship with the federal government. We are working to make sure that provincial regulations would of course flow from the federal legislation and working in partnership with other jurisdictions across Canada. I am working with the ministry to bring forward options that ensure safety and best regulatory approaches as we move forward.

**The Speaker:** First supplemental.

**Dr. Turner:** Thank you again, Mr. Speaker. Given that in recent years municipalities across Alberta, including Red Deer, Cold Lake, and Bonnyville, have introduced bylaws restricting the use of e-cigarettes in public spaces and given that vaping may occur near children, to the Minister of Health: is this government considering similar regulations?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Ms Hoffman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and to the member again for his question. The municipalities that have been named certainly have done important work in this regard. As well, I know a number of school jurisdictions have made efforts as well,

and we want to commend them for their work in that area. We'll continue to review all of the moving pieces. Within Alberta obviously the regulations or guidelines would flow from federal decisions as well, so we want to ensure that we have safety but respect and want to commend local municipalities for making efforts that they think will provide best safety for their communities.

**The Speaker:** Second supplemental.

**Dr. Turner:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Given that families in my constituency are very concerned about the accessibility of e-cigarettes to children, to the same minister: will this government ensure its policies protect the health of children and youth?

**The Speaker:** The hon. minister.

**Ms Hoffman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I want to highlight one that I think has very quickly addressed that in the past in a related manner, and that is of course ensuring that we banned flavoured tobacco products, including menthol, which the previous government failed to do. The research was clear. Flavoured products are an attraction to youth. We moved on that. We'll continue to monitor the research in this regard and work with cancer prevention organizations, with the federal government, and with the families that continue to be involved as well as with retailers. We're happy to continue to work in partnership with those parties as we make best decisions moving forward.

**The Speaker:** In 30 seconds we'll recommence.

### Members' Statements

*(continued)*

#### Airdrie Food Bank

**Mrs. Pitt:** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about one of the most recognized not-for-profits that exist in many of our communities across Alberta, Canada, and the world. In particular, I would like to talk about the important work being done in my community at the local Airdrie Food Bank. The Airdrie Food Bank is responsible for providing assistance to their clients within Airdrie, Crossfield, Balzac, Beiseker, Madden, and the surrounding area of Rocky View county. They provide many invaluable services to the community such as the community kitchen, a program designed to help people gain basic cooking skills and the ability to create well-rounded meals with food that's available.

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to say that in my community the Airdrie Food Bank has been nominated for a national award titled Excellence in Food Banking. I know that the executive director, Lori McRitchie, and all of her staff and the volunteers will be successful given that they provide exceptional services with hamper programs, partnerships with schools, and other community-based nutrition.

No child, mother, or family should go without food, not in Airdrie, not in Alberta, not in Canada. It's a sad reality, but more and more Albertans are turning to these resources because of the economy, job losses, and rising costs. Wildrose has rallied hard to have exemptions brought forward for the carbon tax to ensure these amazing not-for-profits are not harmed by this government's risky, ideological carbon tax on absolutely everything. These pressures and other poor NDP policies have forced food banks across our province to do more with less.

I would encourage all NDP members to reach out to their local food banks and hear their stories first-hand. To the Airdrie Food Bank and all of the food banks: thanks for everything you do and

for being leaders in creating healthy, strong communities and families.

Thank you.

### Tabling Returns and Reports

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Calgary-Hays.

**Mr. McIver:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to table five copies of an article from the CBC news website entitled Calgary Girl with Rare Cancer Gets Liver Transplant in U.S.

**The Speaker:** Any others, hon. members? Strathmore-Brooks? No.

**Mr. Fildebrandt:** I'm all out.

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

**Mr. Dach:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to table five copies of the preamble included in the March 2016 Canadian Real Estate Association's code of ethics, which I quoted during the recent Bill 204 debate. As noted in the preamble, realtors are dedicated and committed to the protection of property rights in this province.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Any others, hon. members? The hon. Member for Spruce Grove-St. Albert.

**Mr. Horne:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm happy to table the requisite number of copies of an article talking about the order for the Trans Mountain pipeline using recycled Canadian steel from a unionized shop in Regina, and some of the metal is from Alberta.

### Tablings to the Clerk

**The Acting Clerk:** I wish to advise the Assembly that the following document was deposited with the office of the Clerk: on behalf of the hon. Ms McLean, Minister of Service Alberta and Minister of Status of Women, response to a question raised by Mr. Cyr, the hon. Member for Bonnyville-Cold Lake, on April 12, 2017, Ministry of Service Alberta 2017-18 main estimates debate.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, I believe we are at points of order. If I recall, it's the Opposition House Leader with respect to point of order 1.

**Mr. Cooper:** Yes. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to withdraw point of order 1.

**The Speaker:** It's headed in the right direction.

**Mr. Cooper:** I can speak to point of order 2 if you like.

**The Speaker:** Point of order 2 would be nice.

### Point of Order

#### Referring to the Absence of a Member

**Mr. Cooper:** Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Earlier today during question period, in response to a question from the opposition, the Deputy Premier referred to the Premier being in Toronto at this moment. We all know that referring to the absence or the presence of a member inside the Chamber is wildly inappropriate, and while she may have been pleased to talk about that, it still would be inappropriate to do so.