

quote: for over 30 years she has been a leader in Canada's aboriginal communities, working to fight racism and address the obstacles to equality for aboriginal women, children, and family.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, she has been very involved in politics and in the Alberta NDP and was a candidate for our party on four separate occasions.

Please join me in recognizing the awards, the work, and the person Muriel Stanley Venne.

**The Speaker:** Hon. members, before we move on, I inadvertently failed to recognize an hon. member who wanted to do an introduction of guests. Might we revert briefly to Introduction of Guests?

[Unanimous consent granted]

head: **Introduction of Guests**  
(continued)

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Sustainable Resource Development.

**Dr. Morton:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm very pleased to introduce to you and through you to the members of this Assembly four constituents from the beautiful MD of Rocky View: two newly elected councillors, Hopeton Loudon and Mitch Yurchak, and our vice-reeve, Greg Boehlke, and his lovely wife, Lynn. Could you please rise and receive the warm welcome of this Assembly.

head: **Presenting Petitions**

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Peace River.

**Mr. Oberle:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to table a petition from a number of people across northwestern Alberta. They are objecting to the construction of a nuclear power facility at this time and urge the government to initiate consultation with Albertans.  
Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Mr. Elsalhy:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Today is National Housing Day, and I am continuing to table a petition, this time signed by 50 concerned Albertans from mostly Edmonton, Lethbridge, Athabasca, and Leduc. The petition reads:

Whereas the ongoing rent affordability crisis is contributing to Alberta's worsening homelessness situation, we, the undersigned residents of Alberta, hereby petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the Government of Alberta to take immediate, meaningful measures to help low-income and fixed-income Albertans, Albertans with disabilities and those who are hard-to-house maintain their places of residence and cope with the escalating and frequent increases in their monthly rental costs.

Thank you.

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

**Ms Blakeman:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to present a petition signed by 251 individuals primarily from Edmonton. They are urging the government to ensure that remuneration paid to employees working with persons with disabilities is standardized, that they are fairly compensated and wages remain competitive, that they have improved access to professional development opportunities, and urging the government to introduce province-wide service and outcomes-focused level of care standards.

Thank you.

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Edmonton-Gold Bar.

**Mr. MacDonald:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I have a petition today, and it reads: we the undersigned residents of Alberta petition the Legislative Assembly to urge the government of Alberta to launch a full public inquiry under the authority of the Public Inquiries Act into spying practices by the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board and the Minister of Energy's oversight role of the AEUB. This petition is signed by citizens from Edmonton, Daysland, Galahad, Alliance, and Bawlf.

Thank you.

head: **Introduction of Bills**

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

**Bill 52**  
**Corrections Amendment Act, 2007**

**Mr. Johnston:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to introduce Bill 52, the Corrections Amendment Act, 2007.

These amendments to the Corrections Act will provide for safer facilities and communities, support victims by providing greater access to information about offenders, and enhance inmate disciplinary procedures. The bill will allow for electronic monitoring or recording of inmate phone calls to enhance safety within the correctional facility and in the community. It will also give victims more information about an offender convicted of a crime against them, including the inmate's date of release and conditions of that release that relate to the victim, and ensure that inmates subject to discipline are dealt with by an independent hearing and appeal adjudicators.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

[Motion carried; Bill 52 read a first time]

**The Speaker:** The hon. Government House Leader.

**Mr. Hancock:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd move that Bill 52 be moved onto the Order Paper under Government Bills and Orders.

[Motion carried]

**The Speaker:** The hon. Minister of Environment.

**Bill 54**  
**County of Westlock Water Authorization Act**

**Mr. Renner:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to introduce a bill being Bill 54, the County of Westlock Water Authorization Act.

This bill will facilitate the delivery of treated municipal water within the county of Westlock and, recognizing that the county straddles two water basins, provide for the appropriate legislative approval for interbasin transfers of that water.

[Motion carried; Bill 54 read a first time]

**The Speaker:** The hon. Member for Drumheller-Stettler.

**Bill 55**  
**East Central Regional Water Authorization Act**

**Mr. Hayden:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request leave to introduce Bill 55, the East Central Regional Water Authorization Act.