

FOURTH SESSION - TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

of the

# Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

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## DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

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(HANSARD) Published under the authority of The Honourable Dan D'Autremont Speaker

N.S. VOL. 57 NO. 36A WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015, 13:30

### Budget Suggestions

**Mr. Forbes:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The opposition New Democrats have been pushing this government to diversify our economy. Our natural resources are a gift, but we can't keep putting so many of our eggs in just one basket. We need more eggs and more baskets. We need to encourage growth in knowledge-based fields like research, science and technology, and in arts and culture including film and television.

We're grateful that this government changed its mind and agreed to support the legislation put forward by the Leader of the Opposition for a monthly Buy Local Day. We hope this government will also change its mind on the bill put forward by our Deputy Leader which would fix this government's procurement policy so that Saskatchewan businesses don't keep losing out to out-of-province corporations. We want this government to restore our film employment tax credit, and we want them to finally get serious about education and training opportunities for First Nations and Métis people because we know the U of S [University of Saskatchewan] economists say that we're missing out on a \$90 billion economic opportunity by failing to do that.

These are a few tangible steps that this government could take today to boost and diversify our economy and to ensure that our prosperity is sustainable over the long term. We hope they'll do that today, Mr. Speaker.