

THIRD 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. 56 NO. 57A THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2014, 10:00

### May Day

**Mr. Forbes:** Thank you very much. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I stand today in solidarity with workers across the world as we recognize May Day, also known as International Labour Day.

May Day has its origins in the movement for an eight-hour workday that swept the United States and Canada during the mid-1880s. It was on this day in 1886 that thousands of North American workers mobilized and protested in Haymarket Square in Chicago. Now for over a century, May Day has become a time for workers around the world to acknowledge how far we've come and to celebrate what has been achieved. But it's also a time to refocus and to reaffirm our conviction to support workers' rights moving forward.

The tenacious and revolutionary spirit of May Day extends beyond our borders as people fight for safe and fair workplaces across the globe. Now more than ever, we should be setting the bar for labour standards and standing with workers around the world who are being denied their basic, fundamental labour rights. As Martin Luther King Jr. said, "No work is insignificant. All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence." Let us all celebrate May Day with this in mind.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that all members of this House join with me in recognizing May Day. I'm honoured to stand in solidarity with workers throughout the world in calling for fair and safe working conditions for everyone. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.