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Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS

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Saskatoon Cyclist Excels in Fundraising and Music

Mr. Forbes: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, and I appreciate this opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity to tell you about a constituent of mine who finished riding his bike on a 1600-kilometre trip from Tuktoyaktuk to Whitehorse in May of this year, playing bass workshops along the way and raising money for the United Way. Felipe kept his family, friends, and fans up to date through his bass and bike tour through a great blog.

In his May 3rd update he writes:

Eyes are burning and I'm aware of how dangerous and painful it can be. Snow-blind. So using toilet paper and a scarf, I built snow goggles. They seem to work quite good. First thing in the morning I am riding over the clouds, feeling epic and even yelling at the sky. Brakes don't work anymore and so I've used my boots to make the bike stop — not the safest way, but it works. It's so beautiful around here and I really enjoy that I am the only one around. It's like having my own castle to play with. There are bear tracks all over the place, so I keep the fire running all night.

Mr. Speaker, this was Felipe Gomez's third bike tour, including one last year from Saskatoon to St. John's. This is impressive enough, but upon his return this year, Felipe was notified that his latest album, *Dance of the Fox*, was nominated for the Best International Indigenous Release 2015 by the Indigenous Music Awards. And at the ceremony in September, Felipe walked away with the award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating Felipe Gomez on winning Best International Indigenous Release and thank him for the amazing lengths he's gone to raise money for the United Way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.