

SECOND 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

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### Essay Celebrates a Colleague

Mr. Forbes: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Alex Sokalski, a constituent of Saskatoon Centre, for the selection of one of his essays to be included in a commemorative collection of dissertations honouring Alex's friend and colleague, François Moureau.

Alex visited Paris, France where he attended a reception on November 16th to celebrate the work and life of François. Alex is one of the esteemed few whose academic essays were selected for a festschrift, a collection of academic papers that are prepared in honour of a retiring professor. And, Mr. Speaker, this is a common practice among post-secondary institutions in Europe.

Mr. Speaker, Alex feels honoured to have been part of this tribute. He said, and I quote:

A number of very celebrated scholars have participated. I'm fortunate that my work is published alongside a very elite group of those who have studied and done research in this particular field. I feel I've reached my pinnacle goal.

Alex is an avid volunteer and the current secretary-treasurer for the Saskatchewan branch of Canadian Parents for French. He is a lifetime academic scholar whose first language is English. He has taught various courses in French culture and history at the University of Saskatchewan for over 30 years. Alex explains his love of the French language by saying:

My journey began in college, when I had a French instructor who led me into what would become a fascination with eighteenth century French literature. My interest and love for French and for how people live their language has always been strong.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating Alex for the inclusion of his essay in this very important publication. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.