

# Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan **DEBATES and PROCEEDINGS**

(HANSARD)

Published under the authority of The Honourable Don Toth Speaker

**N.S. VOL. 50 NO. 19A WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2008, 1:30 p.m.**

## **STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

**The Deputy Speaker:** — I recognize the member from Saskatoon Centre.

### **2008 Woman of Distinction Award**

**Mr. Forbes:** — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I had the pleasure of attending the eighth annual Women with Disabilities luncheon on March 7. This luncheon, held in recognition of International Women's Day, celebrates the wonderful contributions women make, including those living with a disability.

The 2008 Woman of Distinction Award was given to Donna Duxbury of Saskatoon. First diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1977, Donna became active in helping others. She started a local MS [multiple sclerosis] support group, then a local MS chapter in Weyburn and area in 1985.

Donna went on to serve as president of the Saskatchewan Voice of People with Disabilities. During her time the North Saskatchewan Independent Living Centre was established. Work was done in northern Saskatchewan to educate First Nations people with disabilities on how to establish a voice of their own. From those efforts, the Gary Pinker federation in La Ronge was established.

Donna went on to represent the Voice nationally on the Council of Canadians with Disabilities. She has the MS Society's Certificate of Merit and the Certificate of Inspiration and the Award of Distinction. All of these awards highlight just a few of the contributions Donna has made to the disability movement over the past 20 years. Donna is now semi-retired and is volunteering with new immigrants in a transition to life here in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members to join me in congratulating Donna on her very well-deserved award and wish her the very best in her future.

Thank you.

**Some Hon. Members:** — Hear, hear!