

PRAYER

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The following Bills were respectively read a First Time and had their purposes outlined:

(No. 19) – The Public Schools Amendment Act (Continuity of Learning)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques (continuité de l'apprentissage)

(Hon. Mr. ALLUM)

(No. 207) – The Participation of Manitoba in the New West Partnership Act/Loi sur la participation du Manitoba au nouveau partenariat de l'Ouest

(Mrs. STEFANSON)

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Mr. JHA, Mrs. STEFANSON and Messrs. GAUDREAU, EICHLER and MARCELINO (Tyndall Park) made Members' Statements.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. GRAYDON – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Minister responsible for Manitoba Hydro to immediately provide a written explanation to all Members of the Legislative Assembly regarding what criteria were used and the reasons for selecting the preferred routing for the Minnesota-Manitoba Transmission Line including whether or not this routing represented the least intrusive option to residents of Tache, Springfield, St. Anne, Stuartburn, Piney and La Broquerie. (K. Rey, D. Lagimodiere, K. Orobko and others)

Mr. EWASKO – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request that the Minister of Education and Advanced Learning consider making funding available to eliminate the current waiting list for ABA school age services, maintain the current successful program, and fund true ABA Services for individuals diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder until they reach age 21. (J. Guenter, C. Toews, C. Froese and others)

Mr. PIWNIUK – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government keep its promise to the people to Manitoba and immediately bring forward the completed budget they are withholding from public scrutiny. (K. Mawser, K. Thompson, T. Riach and others)

Mr. SMOOK – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Minister responsible for Manitoba Hydro to immediately provide a written explanation to all Members of the Legislative Assembly regarding what criteria were used and the reasons for selecting the preferred routing for the Minnesota-Manitoba Transmission Line including whether or not this routing represented the least intrusive option to residents of Tache, Springfield, St. Anne, Stuartburn, Piney and La Broquerie. (P. Dyter, G. Hertes, M. Toews and others)

Mr. BRIESE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request that the Ministers of Family Services, Education and Advanced Learning, and Health consider making funding available to address the current waiting list for ABA Services. (W. Taycok, J. Hickman, W. Hickman and others)

Mrs. DRIEDGER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government keep its promise to the people to Manitoba and immediately bring forward the completed budget they are withholding from public scrutiny. (J. Currie, S. Brenot, C. Allbutt and others)

Mr. MARTIN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to develop and evolve community based brain injury services that include but are not limited to: case management services known also as service navigation; safe and accessible housing in the community; proctor or coach type assistance for community re-integration programs; improved access to community based rehabilitation services; and improved transportation especially for people living in rural Manitoba and to encompass financial and emotional supports for families and other caregivers in the model that is developed. (L. Elliott, S. Fayant, A. Baraniuk and others)

Prior to Grievances, Mr. PEDERSEN rose on a Matter of Urgent Public Importance and moved:

THAT in accordance with Rule 36(1), the ordinary business of the House be set aside to discuss a Matter of Urgent Public Importance, namely the conduct of Manitoba Hydro towards landowners in the path of construction of the Bi Pole III transmission line as a result of the direct pressure of this Provincial Government.

And Mr. PEDERSEN, Hon. Mr. ROBINSON and Hon. Mr. GERRARD (by leave) having spoken to the urgency of the motion,

WHEREUPON Mr. Speaker ruled as follows:

With respect to the matter of urgent public importance raised by the Honourable Member for Midland, I'd like to thank all Honourable Members for their advice on this matter. The notice required by Rule 36(1) was provided to my office, as I've indicated earlier, and under our Rules and Practices the subject matter requiring urgent consideration must be so pressing that the public interest will suffer if the matter is not given immediate attention. There must also be no other reasonable opportunities to raise this matter.

I have listened very carefully to the debate on both sides and carefully to the arguments that were put forward by Honourable Members commenting on this matter. Although the subject matter is one that some Manitobans could be concerned with, I do not believe that the public interest will suffer if the issue is not debated today. I would also note that there are other opportunities available to raise concerns regarding this issue such as asking questions in oral Question Period, making Members' Statements or raising a Grievance. And, with the greatest of respect for the above-noted comments that I've made, I therefore must rule that this motion is out of order as a Matter of Urgent Public Importance.

Hon. Mr. NEVAKSHONOFF moved:

THAT Bill (No. 5) – The Surface Water Management Act (Amendments to Various Acts to Protect Lakes and Wetlands)/Loi sur la gestion des eaux de surface (modification de diverses lois visant la protection des lacs et des terres humides), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

(Recommended by Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor)

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. NEVAKSHONOFF having spoken,

And Mr. MARTIN having questioned the Minister,

And the debate continuing,

And Messrs. MARTIN and HELWER, Hon. Mr. GERRARD and Mr. WISHART having spoken,

And Mr. PIWNIUK speaking at 5:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

Hon. Mr. NEVAKSHONOFF presented:

Message from Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor recommending the disposition of public revenue for Bill (No. 5).

(Sessional Paper No. 14)

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 1, 2016.

Hon. Daryl REID, Speaker.