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**Third Session — Thirty-Second Legislature**  
of the  
**Legislative Assembly of Manitoba**

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**DEBATES**  
and  
**PROCEEDINGS**

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authority of  
The Honourable D. James Walding  
Speaker*



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**VOL. XXXI No. 1 - 2:00 p.m., THURSDAY, 12 APRIL, 1984.**

**MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
**Thirty-Second Legislature**

**Members, Constituencies and Political Affiliation**

Name	Constituency	Party
ADAM, Hon. A.R. (Pete)	Ste. Rose	NDP
ANSTETT, Hon. Andy	Springfield	NDP
ASHTON, Steve	Thompson	NDP
BANMAN, Robert (Bob)	La Verendrye	PC
BLAKE, David R. (Dave)	Minnedosa	PC
BROWN, Arnold	Rhineland	PC
BUCKLASCHUK, Hon. John M.	Gimli	NDP
CARROLL, Q.C., Henry N.	Brandon West	IND
CORRIN, Q.C., Brian	Ellice	NDP
COWAN, Hon. Jay	Churchill	NDP
DESJARDINS, Hon. Laurent	St. Boniface	NDP
DODICK, Doreen	Riel	NDP
DOERN, Russell	Elmwood	IND
DOLIN, Hon. Mary Beth	Kildonan	NDP
DOWNNEY, James E.	Arthur	PC
DRIEDGER, Albert	Emerson	PC
ENNS, Harry	Lakeside	PC
EVANS, Hon. Leonard S.	Brandon East	NDP
EYLER, Phil	River East	NDP
FILMON, Gary	Tuxedo	PC
FOX, Peter	Concordia	NDP
GOURLAY, D.M. (Doug)	Swan River	PC
GRAHAM, Harry	Virten	PC
HAMMOND, Gerrie	Kirkfield Park	PC
HARAPIAK, Harry M.	The Pas	NDP
HARPER, Elijah	Rupertsland	NDP
HEMPHILL, Hon. Maureen	Logan	NDP
HYDE, Lloyd	Portage la Prairie	PC
JOHNSTON, J. Frank	Sturgeon Creek	PC
KOSTYRA, Hon. Eugene	Seven Oaks	NDP
KOVNATS, Abe	Niakwa	PC
LECUYER, Hon. Gérard	Radisson	NDP
LYON, Q.C., Hon. Sterling	Charleswood	PC
MACKLING, Q.C., Hon. Al	St. James	NDP
MALINOWSKI, Donald M.	St. Johns	NDP
MANNES, Clayton	Morris	PC
McKENZIE, J. Wally	Roblin-Russell	PC
MERCIER, Q.C., G.W.J. (Gerry)	St. Norbert	PC
NORDMAN, Rurik (Ric)	Assiniboia	PC
OLESON, Charlotte	Gladstone	PC
ORCHARD, Donald	Pembina	PC
PAWLEY, Q.C., Hon. Howard R.	Selkirk	NDP
PARASIUK, Hon. Wilson	Transcona	NDP
PENNER, Q.C., Hon. Roland	Fort Rouge	NDP
PHILLIPS, Myrna A.	Wolseley	NDP
PLOHMAN, Hon. John	Dauphin	NDP
RANSOM, A. Brian	Turtle Mountain	PC
SANTOS, Conrad	Burrows	NDP
SCHROEDER, Hon. Vic	Rossmere	NDP
SCOTT, Don	Inkster	NDP
SHERMAN, L.R. (Bud)	Fort Garry	PC
SMITH, Hon. Muriel	Osborne	NDP
STEEN, Warren	River Heights	PC
STORIE, Hon. Jerry T.	Flin Flon	NDP
URUSKI, Hon. Bill	Interlake	NDP
USKIW, Hon. Samuel	Lac du Bonnet	NDP
WALDING, Hon. D. James	St. Vital	NDP

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

Thursday, 12 April, 1984.

Time — 2:00 p.m.

At 2:00 p.m. the Sergeant-at-Arms, carrying the Mace shoulder high and followed by the Speaker and the Clerks of the Legislative Assembly, entered the House. The Sergeant-at-Arms proceeded to the main entrance of the House, the Speaker took his post on the east side of the House and the Clerks took their post on the west side of the House, standing and awaiting the arrival of the Honourable the Administrator.

The Premier, Members of the Executive Council, Military and Civil Aides, and offices comprising the Officer Escort, met in the Lieutenant-Governor's reception room.

The Premier, Members of the Executive Council, Military and Civil Aides, accompanied the Administrator from the reception room to the Chamber in the following order:

The Civil Aide on the right;  
The Military Aide on the left;  
The Officer Escort;  
The Members of the Executive Council;  
The Premier; and then  
The Administrator.

At the Bar of the House, the Military and Civil Aides, the Officer Escort, Members of the Executive Council and the Premier, halted and turned inwards to allow the Administrator to advance to the head of the Court where the Administrator was met by the Mace.

**DEPUTY SERGEANT-AT-ARMS, Mr. Myron Mason:**  
His Honour the Administrator.

### (Members of the Legislature and invited guests rose.)

The Administrator then, preceded by the Mace carried shoulder high and followed on his left by the Military Aide, and on his right by the Civil Aides, proceeded along the west side of the Chamber to the Throne. The Officer Escort divided when reaching the Table, the left file going to the east side of the Chamber, and the right file going to the west. The Premier proceeded along the east side and stood on the floor on the east side of the Chamber. The members of the Executive Council took their places.

The Military Aide took up his position on the right of the Throne and the Civil Aide took up his position on the west side of the Chamber.

The Administrator seated himself on the Throne; the Mace made obeisance and retired to the east side of the Chamber.

The Civil Aide advanced from the position he had taken on the west side of the Chamber and, after the usual obeisance on each step, handed the Administrator the Speech from the Throne.

The Civil Aide then retired step by step and took up his position on the west side of the Chamber.

## SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

**HON. MR. JUSTICE GORDON C. HALL, Administrator of the Province of Manitoba:** Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Manitoba.

I welcome you to the Third Session of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the Province of Manitoba.

This Session, and the year ahead, will be of great importance to our province.

In just over three months, we will share, with great pride, the privilege of welcoming to Manitoba Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Prince Philip. Their visit, from July 24 through July 27, will include an observance of the 250th Anniversary of the LaVerendryes' exploration of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers. Her Majesty will also visit Brandon and Dauphin, while His Highness will travel to Thompson and will tour some of our northern hydro-electric generating sites on the Nelson River.

Then, on Sunday, September 16, Manitobans will also be honoured by the presence in our province of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II. His Holiness has earned worldwide respect and reverence for his quest for peace and social justice. His visit, too, will be welcomed with great joy and pride by all Manitobans and by the many thousands of guests from outside our borders who are expected to journey to our province to celebrate the Papal visit with us.

Our distinguished visitors will find a province which has weathered the effects of the international recession better than most, where Manitobans have emerged with an even greater sense of community and of commitment to a common purpose.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH CARE - KEY LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

During the last Session, members approved more than 100 acts, many of which required lengthy reviews. As a result of that important work, it will be possible for my government to propose a less extensive legislative agenda for this Session - an agenda which will concentrate on key priorities for our province. Consequently, Members of the Assembly will be able to devote maximum attention to those priorities - major new initiatives to encourage long-term economic development and to preserve health care and other vital public services.

Those two objectives:

- new economic development initiatives, and
- the preservation of health care

are my government's main goals for this Session.

## THE MANITOBA ECONOMY - RECOVERY AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES

The worst effects of the international recession now seem to be behind us. Although the aftermath of that

recession will remain with us for some time, it is clear that Manitoba's economy is turning around.

Substantial improvement in our economy and renewed growth across Canada are opening up vital new opportunities for Manitobans - opportunities we must pursue with the same dedication, imagination and resourcefulness which have served the people of our province so well in the past.

The budgetary and economic policies approved by this Legislature in the last two Sessions reflected those characteristics, and they, too, have served our province well. The recession challenged our strength and weakened our resources, but we were still able to record one of the best performances of any province during that period.

In 1982 and 1983, Manitoba's overall employment grew by about 1 percent a year, while the national percentage showed a negative growth. During the same period, about three times as many new jobs were created as in the previous two years, 1980 and 1981. For many months our unemployment rate was the second lowest across the country, until March, when we had the lowest rate of any province in Manitoba. Currently, there are 9,000 more Manitobans who are working than there were in December, 1981.

And, in June of last year, we recorded the largest annual increase in our population in 20 years - an increase of 12,000.

Annual growth in retail sales exceeded national growth by one-third in 1982 and 1983. And Manitoba's share of housing starts went up from 1.6 percent of the national total in 1981 to 3.7 percent in 1983. Housing starts last year were triple the 1982 level, and the largest number in five years.

My government's budgetary position has improved significantly as well. Revised projections at the end of the third quarter indicate that our current operating deficit for the 1983-84 fiscal year will be close to 20 percent lower than the original Budget estimate.

Recovery is also evident in investment activity. In contrast to a continuing national decline, investment increased in Manitoba by 10.5 percent in 1983, and, in 1984, investment is projected to increase a further 11.8 percent - the strongest growth forecast for any province in Canada.

Our economic record reflects the confidence and the hard work of the people of Manitoba, backed up by sound and innovative public policies. New initiatives such as the Interest Rate Relief program, Homes in Manitoba, and the Manitoba Jobs Fund all played an important part.

A key reason for our success has been the readiness of all major sectors of our economy - business, farmers, and labour - to co-operate and to work together to protect our economic base and maintain our public services.

That same kind of co-operation will be even more important as we move forward, to expand, diversify and modernize our economy, together, to build for tomorrow.

Since the day it took office, the most important, basic objective of my government has been sustained economic development, more and better jobs, secure incomes, and a better quality of life for all Manitobans to share. That objective guided the first phase of my government's strategy for recovery - and the special

measures which were necessary to protect our economic base.

Now, after two years of working toward recovery, we are in a position to take new and decisive action to accelerate our development, to invest in our future.

The second phase of my government's recovery strategy will focus, increasingly, on longer-term priorities for ensuring stability and growth in our economy.

Les Manitobains peuvent s'enorgueillir à juste titre de la performance économique de la province. Le taux de chômage le plus faible, les perspectives d'investissement les plus prometteuses, voilà deux réalisations parallèles importantes. Elles témoignent de notre succès à combattre la récession et démontrent que nous sommes prêts à mettre de l'avant des projets de développement économique à long terme afin de tirer le maximum des possibilités qui s'offriront à nous.

### **NEW, LONG-TERM ECONOMIC INITIATIVES - BUILDING FOR TOMORROW**

During this Session, this Assembly will be asked to show leadership in our development efforts by approving a series of new measures designed to strengthen and renew our productive capacity, and to help our young people entering the job market and those already in our work force become even better prepared to take full advantage of Manitoba's potential.

These measures will be aimed at two main sources of growth:

First, our traditional sources of strength - the backbone of Manitoba's economy: agriculture, our other resource industries, manufacturing, our growing and productive service sector, and the small businesses which contribute so much to Manitoba. Our record during the recession proved the value of a balanced and diverse economy. Now, the same diversity that has given us such important stability is opening up a wide range of new opportunities for expansion and for increased economic security in the years ahead.

The second major source of growth is the rapid and dramatic expansion of new opportunities, in technology and in domestic and international trade, as the economies of virtually all western nations proceed further into a period of major structural change and adjustment. Here, the possibilities extend to the limits of our imagination and creativity. But that imagination must be applied prudently, because there can also be significant risks. New development options must be assessed rigorously, and where public expenditures are proposed, there must be a clear, public justification for those expenditures, in terms of the potential costs and the potential benefits to the people of Manitoba.

### **THE MANITOBA JOBS FUND - INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE**

The focal point for my government's new longer-term economic development initiatives will be the Manitoba Jobs Fund - with a broadened mandate to help lead the second phase of our recovery.

Employment, the creation and preservation of jobs for the people of our province, will continue to be the

single most important criterion for measuring the effectiveness of the Manitoba Jobs Fund. However, with improvement in our economy, my government's efforts to expand employment will concentrate increasingly on longer-term job opportunities - opportunities which offer better-quality jobs and more secure jobs, and which promise stability and growth in the years ahead.

Most of these efforts will involve the private sector. They will include encouragement of private sector investment and private sector jobs. In fact, significant expansion in the private sector is one of the principal aims of my government's recovery strategy.

In its first year, the Manitoba Jobs Fund had a remarkable record of success. More than 21,000 Manitobans were employed on Jobs Fund projects, and Jobs Fund investments attracted about 157 million in additional commitments from the private sector, the Government of Canada, and other sources.

Members of the Assembly will be asked to approve budgetary authority to make possible the completion of certain Jobs Fund projects for which commitments were made during the last fiscal year. Members will also be asked to provide additional authority for new Manitoba Jobs Fund initiatives, aimed at priority sectors of our economy. Amendments to The Jobs Fund Act will be introduced for your consideration as well.

Co-ordination of my government's employment and other economic policy priorities was facilitated by the creation of the Jobs Fund. That co-ordination is being improved still further by the restructuring of government departments which was announced last fall, and by the consolidation, in the Economic and Resource Investment Committee of Cabinet, of lead responsibilities for the Manitoba Jobs Fund and for overall economic policy formulation and review.

### **INVESTMENT IN INDUSTRY, TECHNOLOGY, AND EXPORT DEVELOPMENT**

In the coming year, with the help of financing from the Manitoba Jobs Fund, the new Department of Industry, Trade and Technology will undertake several major initiatives in support of economic renewal in Manitoba. As the Session progresses, members will be informed of details concerning:

A new Manitoba Investment Program, to assist major companies already established in our province to expand their activities here, and to encourage new enterprises to locate in Manitoba;

Two new Trade Promotion Programs, to concentrate, first, on improving exports from selected sectors and, secondly, on specific firms, in a large number of other sectors, with high export potential;

A newly-developed Technology Policy to meet the economic and social needs of Manitoba in the decade ahead. Specific program initiatives will be designed to improve technology transfer, to assist in the development of new, technology-oriented businesses, and to increase understanding, in all sectors, of the benefits of new technology and of the importance of ensuring that these benefits are shared equitably. As in other economic initiatives, ongoing consultation with business and labour representatives will be essential for effective program design and implementation.

A new Information Technology Program, to stimulate markets for new technological advances affecting industry, education and the public sector. These initiatives, to be introduced in part through the Department of Education, have been discussed extensively with educators and other specialists in the field, and will involve the setting up of Canada's first Industry-Government Educational Technology Centre.

My Ministers are confident that these and other initiatives will increase private investment spending in Manitoba, and improve both the technological and trade competitiveness of our industries and commercial establishments.

### **INVESTMENT IN SMALL BUSINESS**

Small business is, in many ways, the heart of the Manitoba economy. My government has recognized its particular importance through a variety of special measures designed to assist small business people to expand their activity in their home province.

In its first year, the Manitoba Jobs Fund provided substantial support to small businesses throughout our province. This year, the small business sector will be designated as a specific priority under the Manitoba Jobs Fund, and, early in the Session, a number of new development initiatives will be introduced. These measures will be designed both to strengthen existing businesses and to encourage the establishment of new businesses here in Manitoba. In the next few years, it is estimated that around 60 percent of all new employment opportunities will arise in the small business sector.

Through the Manitoba Jobs Fund and the new Department of Business Development and Tourism, increased emphasis will also be placed on assisting small business operators to improve their management skills. Similarly, added program support will be provided for young people in order to help them take greater advantage of their entrepreneurial talent and potential.

Steps will be taken as well to strengthen local community and regional development opportunities. These will include continued support to regional development corporations throughout the province, along with new resources to assist businesses in remote communities, including native-operated businesses in Northern Manitoba.

### **INVESTMENT IN ENERGY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

As a result of efforts over the last two years, Manitoba now has one of the most comprehensive energy conservation and job creation programs in Canada. Thousands of Manitoba homeowners, small business people and community groups are now benefiting from a series of programs offering loans, grants, and advice for energy conservation. The coming year will see both a consolidation and a broadening of these efforts.

Saving energy makes good sense; so does selling it when the economic development prospects of our province are enhanced. I am informed that the discussions with neighbouring utilities on the sale of Manitoba-produced electricity are progressing well. In addition, my Ministers are continuing discussions with

power-intensive customers, whose interest in locating in Manitoba derives from the economical energy source we possess. My Ministers hope that, over the medium term, these discussions will result in arrangements which will lead to significant economic development and the commencement of hydro construction in Northern Manitoba.

### **INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE**

Agriculture represents a major cornerstone of the Manitoba economy. My government is committed to strengthening the family farm as the basic economic and social unit of rural Manitoba. My Ministers are continuing to develop policies and programs which will not only preserve this vital farm structure, but also foster expanded production of commodities which will enhance food processing activities in other sectors of the Manitoba economy.

The difficult financial circumstances of many farmers is a major concern of my government. Several years of adverse weather, high interest rates and low product prices have inflicted severe economic hardship on farmers with low equity and on those who recently started farming. My government will intensify its efforts through special programs and expanded management and credit assistance to assist farmers to recover from the effects of these adverse circumstances.

Interest rate relief assistance has aided many Manitoba farmers. As well, the \$40 million invested in Beef and Hog Stabilization Programs has provided needed support for both the rural farm community and the meat-packing industry. My Ministers will continue to assist Manitoba farmers to safeguard the economic stability of rural Manitoba.

My government is committed to strengthening the performance of national marketing plans for milk, eggs, chicken and turkeys. In recent years, Manitoba has not been able to realize its full potential within these plans because competitive advantage has not been recognized fully in the process of allocating production quotas. My Ministers will work with producer boards to restore comparative advantage as the dominant criterion for allocating production among provinces.

My government is aware of the problems that Manitoba farmers may face as a result of low soil moisture levels and recent dry weather conditions. In these circumstances, my Ministers urge farm producers to take advantage of the protection afforded by Manitoba's crop insurance programs. My government will be monitoring moisture conditions across the province on a continuing basis and will be reporting regularly on the situation to the House.

### **INVESTMENT IN HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

My government recognizes the critical importance of a well-trained and skilled workforce to the realization of Manitoba's economic potential. The pace of change, the growth of knowledge and the development of new technologies is accelerating, and our businesses and labour force must keep pace with these changes if we are to maintain and improve our competitive position in national and international markets.

My Ministers, through the new Department of Employment Services and Economic Security, and the

Department of Education, are developing a provincial training strategy to improve the co-ordination of provincial activities in this vital area. That strategy will be consistent with Manitoba Jobs Fund initiatives and will be the subject of detailed consultation with the private sector. The provincial training strategy will seek to increase the flexibility and responsiveness of our training institutions and to link institutional and job-related training initiatives more closely. In addition, it will ensure that training is relevant not only to those entering or re-entering the labour force, but also to those already in the labour force who need upgrading of their skills or retraining for the requirements of modernized industries. My government will increase its efforts to ensure that both institutional and job-related training are accessible on an equitable basis to all Manitobans.

My government will use the community colleges and new adult education programs to lead major new thrusts in post-secondary training. These initiatives will include an attack on adult illiteracy, improvements in adult basic education, and expanded and innovative approaches in the English as-a-second-language program.

One of the most pressing problems today is job displacement. My government intends to introduce a new program to retrain workers whose jobs may disappear because of technological change.

Given the increasing variety of working and living patterns in our society, such as women entering or re-entering the labour force, a significant increase in opportunities for part-time study and training will also be emphasized.

Manitobans can be justly proud of our advanced training facilities and educational expertise. This human resource has been recognized by other countries and had led to frequent requests that we share our knowledge. To extend the role of our province in international technical assistance, and to increase international opportunities for Manitoba business, it is the intention of my government to establish an International Technical Assistance Office in the Department of Education.

### **YOUTH - TRAINING AND JOBS FOR YOUNG MANITOBBANS**

On January 1, 1985, the International Year of Youth will begin. In the coming months, my Ministers will be exploring with youth organizations and agencies a range of new options to focus the attention of our community on the contributions and needs of our young people. Their objective is to be build on a substantial base of government youth programming, including Manitoba Jobs Funds programs, to achieve more comprehensive community involvement in ensuring every possible opportunity for Manitoba's young people to contribute to and participate in the social and economic life of our province.

Our young people are among our greatest resources. But too much of the potential contribution that young Manitobans can make to the social and economic development of our province is being wasted through unemployment. Through the Manitoba Jobs Fund, my government has introduced several substantial measures to address this problem. Careerstart is one of the most successful programs of its kind in Canada,

Thursday, 12 April, 1984

providing a career-related experience and income to some 6,000 students last year. In addition, the Manitoba Employment Action Program has provided employment for many more young people. My Ministers are pleased that youth unemployment is significantly lower in Manitoba than in Canada as a whole. However, my Ministers will intensify their efforts to increase the employment opportunities available to our young people and to facilitate the transition from education to work.

### **FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CO-OPERATION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Improved consultation, co-operation and co-ordination among governments are of major importance to the future development not only of Manitoba's economy, but also of the economies of all provinces across Canada.

Our federal system cannot function effectively when the governments of Canada and the provinces consult, on major fiscal and economic problems, only on an irregular basis or under near-crisis conditions. Events in the coming months at the national level will offer an opportunity for a review of federal-provincial relations and, it is to be hoped, for a renewal of the spirit of co-operative federalism.

Members of this Assembly are well aware of the continuing, negative consequences for our budgetary position of the changes to the federal-provincial fiscal arrangements - the equalization formula and the established programs financing arrangements - which have been imposed in recent years by the Government of Canada. My Ministers are continuing to seek modifications in those arrangements to prevent further serious cutbacks in federal transfer payments in the coming years.

However, while fiscal transfers remain a major concern, my government has been encouraged by very significant, ground-breaking progress in the co-ordination of federal and provincial economic development programming, and in the readiness of the Government of Canada to join with the Government of Manitoba in making a substantial financial commitment to key economic priorities in our province. The new Canada-Manitoba Economic and Regional Development Agreement and the subsidiary agreements and understandings which accompany it are expected to involve a combined federal-provincial commitment of more than \$400 million to jointly-determined initiatives in several key sectors over the next five years. Provincial contributions toward these new initiatives will be financed, in large part, through the Manitoba Jobs Fund.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

The largest set of agreements covers the transportation sector. A total of \$275 million has been allocated to a wide range of transportation opportunities, such as upgrading and modernization of facilities to assure the long-term viability of the Port of Churchill, and establishing Winnipeg as a key national centre for transportation research and development, as well as for advanced, "state-of-the art" bus manufacturing and technology.

### **AGRICULTURE**

Within a short time, my government expects to sign a new Agricultural Development Agreement as a follow-up to a formal memorandum of understanding which commits the Federal and Provincial Governments to expenditures of \$38.3 million over the next five years for major new initiatives in the areas of drainage, soil erosion control, and water management to improve soil productivity throughout the province. The new Agri-Food Agreement will be approximately double the size of the former federal-provincial agreement which it replaces.

My government feels that there is much more to be done in alerting Manitobans to the condition of our soil and water resources. The concept of conservation districts has served us well, yet great areas of the province lack the benefits of this integrated approach. Measures will be put into effect in 1984 to organize additional efforts to promote, develop and support the creation and operation of such districts to ensure delivery of resource programs at the local level.

### **FORESTRY**

Vigorous steps are being taken to protect and revitalize our forest resources through the implementation of the 20-year forestry plan prepared in 1981. To complement Manitoba's forest development efforts, my Ministers have also entered into a new Forest Renewal Agreement with the Government of Canada which will involve a five-year joint program commitment of \$27.2 million toward new forestry initiatives. As members are aware, an agreement was reached earlier under which the Government of Canada will contribute toward a portion of the costs associated with expansion and modernization of the Manfor complex at The Pas.

### **MINERALS**

A new, five-year, \$24.7 million Mineral Development Agreement will stimulate mineral exploration and improve mining and processing technology, with a view to creating a more efficient and competitive mining industry in this province. Programs under this agreement will focus on those communities in Northern Manitoba whose long-term existence depends upon a viable mining industry.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND CULTURAL ENTERPRISES**

In the near future, too, my Ministers expect to enter into a federal-provincial Communications and Cultural Enterprises Development Agreement which will focus on the economic and social benefits of Manitoba's cultural resources and on our numerous advantages in the field of communications.

### **TOURISM**

My government also expects to enter into a new Tourism Development Agreement with the Government of Canada later this year. In committing itself to a new agreement, the Government of Canada also undertook to extend the previous Destination Manitoba Agreement by a further 12 months to permit the fulfillment of joint program obligations.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

This list of federal-provincial development initiatives is by no means complete. Under a \$3 million Canada-Manitoba Economic Development Planning Agreement, potential new joint measures will be identified and assessed and, where appropriate, translated into further development agreements for our province. Among the priorities which are already under review are possible initiatives in the fields of science and technology, trade, service industries, Crown corporations and water development.

Joint activities will also continue under federal-provincial agreements signed earlier, such as the Northern Development Agreement, the Core Area initiative, and the agreement covering redevelopment of the north of Portage area. Members will be asked to grant authority for provincial contributions toward these development initiatives in the coming year.

In the Speech from the Throne opening the current Session of the Parliament of Canada, the Federal Government described the signing of the Canada-Manitoba Economic and Regional Development Agreement, along with those expected in other provinces, as the start of "a new era of federal-provincial planning and consultation . . ." "My Ministers believe that the good will and co-operation which have marked the "ERDA" negotiations here in Manitoba will serve as a clear demonstration that co-operative federalism is still possible, and that it does offer significant, tangible benefits for our province and for Canada.

### **NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT**

The five-year Canada-Manitoba Northern Development Agreement is now near its mid-point, and an expansion of activities is planned for 1984-85. The Manfor modernization program is also under way, and the initiatives under the new Churchill Development Agreement, including the construction, by Manitoba Hydro, of a new hydro transmission line to serve the port and the community, will proceed in the near future. The new Minerals Agreement will make a significant contribution to the North, too, as will the program of northern road construction planned by the Department of Highways to provide improved access to remote and northern communities.

Each of these major investments in the future of Northern Manitoba will create jobs, permanent assets, and new economic opportunities for residents of the north. Together, they underscore my government's strong commitment to northern development. And that commitment will be reaffirmed in other initiatives to be announced later in the Session.

### **LABOUR-MANAGEMENT CO-OPERATION AND WORKER PROTECTION**

One of the most important prerequisites for stable, long-term economic development is a healthy, co-operative relationship between labour and management. Manitoba has benefited from an excellent industrial relations climate, and my government is committed to maintaining and strengthening that positive climate wherever possible.

The announcement earlier this year of a negotiated agreement on the maintenance of essential hospital

services during work stoppages is just one example of the importance of such co-operation to Manitoba.

Greater involvement of workers in the major decisions affecting their working conditions and their livelihoods is becoming recognized, increasingly, as a key to further improvements in industrial relations. In support of the principle of worker participation, my government is taking concrete action to encourage direct worker involvement in important management decisions in provincial Crown corporations and agencies.

My Ministers will also propose measures to streamline and modernize labour relations procedures.

Measures will also be taken to improve health and safety in the workplace. As economic recovery progresses, it is important to increase efforts to control the costs of workplace accidents and disease to industry, government and society. Legislation passed in the last Session represented major progress in this direction. In January, 1984, the rights of workers to refuse dangerous work were strengthened, and there has been a significant increase in the number of Workplace Safety and Health Committees.

### **IMPROVED PRIVATE SECTOR CONSULTATIONS**

My government has emphasized, from the first day it took office, that the development of our province is the shared responsibility of all sectors - all partners - in our economy.

My Ministers have endeavoured to establish a public policy environment which, by being balanced and fair, is consistent with the principle of shared responsibility, and which strengthens the mutual commitment to that principle. My government also has sought to provide leadership in encouraging the kind of improved consultation and co-operation which are essential to make the partnership among business, labour, government and other sectors successful and constructive.

One of the accomplishments in which my Ministers take the greatest pride is the continuing, positive response to their efforts to open up the process of public policy development, to ensure significant and frequent input from the private sector. My Ministers firmly believe that no other administration in the history of this province has made a greater effort to be accessible and to listen to the concerns and suggestions of representatives of business, labour, agricultural groups and others on so many key development issues, including medium and long-term directions and goals for our economy, and the budgetary and other policies required to achieve those objectives.

Building on their experience with the highly successful Manitoba Economic Summit and subsequent discussions, my Ministers will bring forward proposals for extending and strengthening consultative arrangements to ensure regular advice from the private sector on economic priorities and programs, including Manitoba Jobs Fund initiatives.

My Ministers inform me that their extensive pre-Budget consultations with Manitobans from every walk of life in communities throughout the province have been extremely valuable in shaping important decisions for the new fiscal year. The consultations confirmed broad support both for increased emphasis on



measures to improve the long-term development of our economy and for the preservation and enhancement of health care and other essential public services.

### **PROTECTING PUBLIC SERVICES FOR MANITOBBANS**

Early in this Session, my government will present, for consideration by members, a combined Budget for the 1984-85 fiscal year which will include Estimates of expenditures for the public service of the province, Estimates of capital authority requirements, and Estimates of provincial revenues. The Public Accounts for the 1982-83 fiscal year will also be presented for review by the Assembly.

My government's budgetary proposals for the 1984-85 fiscal year will take into account the impact on our financial situation, and particularly on our operating deficit, of the national recession. As more favourable economic conditions return to our province, it is essential that the size of the current operating deficit be contained and reduced. But, while important, control of the deficit must not be the single-minded preoccupation of a government whose mandate is based on human concerns, on compassion, on caring about the condition and the future of our fellow Manitobans. My Ministers are determined to ensure that their Budget policies will safeguard and improve the public services in this province - health, education, community services, and so many others - which have brought an important measure of equity and justice to our society.

The aim of my government's Budget policy will be to strike a realistic and sustainable balance among these objectives - to provide resources for economic development, improvement in public services, and deficit reduction.

In recent years, the two largest government departments - Health and Education - have been allocated increases in expenditure authority well in excess of the rate of inflation. This has permitted expansion and improvement in these services, with the result that their quality continues to compare most favourably with others across the country.

In line with reduced inflationary pressures and my government's overall efforts to meet its economic and budgetary priorities, quite stringent limits have been placed on growth in expenditures this year. My Ministers appreciate the co-operation they have received from those involved in the delivery of these services in formulating their plans within these guidelines and in reallocating resources from lower to higher priorities. As a result, improvements in these services will continue. In addition, the rates of increase provided for health and education will be among the largest in the Estimates for 1984-85.

### **DEVELOPING AND ENSURING QUALITY HEALTH CARE**

Manitobans place an extremely high value on our health care system. In fact, the majority of our citizens probably regard health care as the most important public service provided by the Provincial Government. My government is proud of the fact that our province can offer among the best quality health programs in

Canada, without resorting to regressive premium taxes or punitive and unfair user charges.

To address the long-range health needs of Manitobans with maximum effectiveness, my government will place special emphasis in the coming year on the prevention of lifestyle-related disease, the promotion of maternal and child health, the development of reproductive health services, the expansion of the Children's Dental Program, as well as extended services for senior citizens. An expansion of the Adult Day Care program for seniors will be implemented in areas of the province not previously served. In addition to providing social and recreational activity to dependent adults, this program will also help to reduce the use of hospital facilities and to prevent or delay institutionalization.

The coming year will mark the completion of several major health projects now under construction. These include the new Children's Hospital, the Adolescent Psychiatric Hospital, and the new cancer treatment facility at the St. Boniface General Hospital.

These measures serve as clear evidence of my government's strong commitment to maintaining high standards in health care programs and services. That commitment was also reflected in my government's support, in principle, for the major provisions of The Canada Health Act introduced recently by the Government of Canada. The federal legislation continues to have my government's general support, although my Ministers believe certain of its provisions should be changed. My government is seeking federal-provincial consultations on these issues and on the restoration of a more equitable national financing system for Medicare. My Ministers will continue to make representations to the Federal Government for a return to cost-sharing for the entire range of public health services and for additional, special financial support in recognition of the increasing percentage of elderly people in our population and their requirements for a variety of health and social services.

### **DAY CARE AND FAMILY SERVICES**

In the area of social services, my government has placed primary emphasis on services for children and their families. The Department of Community Services has been reorganized to ensure that all services for child and family support are in a single division, providing a full spectrum of services for children - ranging from day care for working parents, to residential care for severely handicapped children. The restructuring of child and family service agencies in the City of Winnipeg will be completed with the creation of six new community-based and community-owned agencies. These agencies will allow community and family-based support services to be mobilized as the first line of defence where children may be in danger. Further, major initiatives to modernize Manitoba's child welfare system will be proposed.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of our child day care program. Manitoba's program, with the introduction last year of new standards for care, is recognized as one of the foremost child care programs in the nation. My government is committed to the continued strengthening and development of this program, which supports both the requirements of

working parents and the needs of an increasing number of Manitoba children. For this year, additional funding to day care facilities and increased subsidies to eligible parents are planned. Additional funds to assist centres to meet new fire and safety regulations will also be available.

Within the Department of Employment Services and Economic Security, my government will be working to build more effective linkages between employment and training programming and social allowance recipients. The objective of these efforts is to reduce the level of welfare dependency by ensuring access to employment and training services for these clients.

My government also places a high priority on provision of more adequate income security measures, both in our province and across the country. My Ministers will be working with their provincial counterparts to build upon the lead taken by my government in the last Session with amendments to The Pension Benefits Act. Consultations will be held with a view to standardizing legislation dealing with employer-sponsored private pensions across Canada. My government will also be discussing with the other provinces and with the Federal Government various options for improving the Canada Pension Plan.

## **JUSTICE AND PROTECTION FOR WOMEN**

National poverty statistics reveal that single women - and particularly elderly women - have the most urgent need for more adequate income protection and support. In time, improved income security programs and private and public pensions may alleviate this problem, but, now - today - these figures offer stark evidence of the failure of our society to provide genuine social or economic equality for women.

In recent years, the women's movement has provided important leadership in articulating longstanding concerns about the injustices faced by women, and in identifying and advocating the reforms necessary to reduce and ultimately to end those injustices. Progress has been made, both here in our province and across Canada, but it has been too slow and inadequate when measured against the reasonable aspirations of women, much less the standards of equity which should apply in our society. My government recognizes this fact and is committed to using the full range of policy instruments and all the influence available to it to work toward genuine economic equality and social justice for Manitoba women.

In late May, my government will participate in a federal-provincial conference of Ministers Responsible for the Status of Women - a conference which my Ministers hope will result in a concerted national effort to deal with the tragedy of wife abuse - its complex causes, and its devastating effects. My Ministers have already taken initial steps to confront and deter wife abuse here in Manitoba. Financial assistance is available for agencies providing counselling, shelter and other forms of support for victims of abuse. All police forces in Manitoba have been instructed to institute criminal proceedings in cases involving assault of a spouse.

Violent pornography is often cited as a major contributor to problems of both wife and child abuse. My government has made its policy clear on this matter as well. My Ministers support the changes to the

Criminal Code proposed by the Federal Government to broaden the definition of obscenity and have advocated further changes, to penalize the exploitation of children in obscene material. At the same time, my government has declared its intention to proceed by way of indictment rather than by summary conviction in cases where material alleged to be obscene concentrates on brutality, violence, or some other act of degradation. Initiatives will be taken in a number of other areas of concern to women as well, and resources are being redeployed to add further support to these efforts.

## **ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

On April 1 of this year, the federal Young Offenders Act was proclaimed, and is now operational in Manitoba. Changes in provincial legislation will be proposed to take account of the significant consequences of this new system.

My government has already taken a number of steps to deal with the costly social problem of drinking and driving. Instructions intended to strengthen enforcement of Criminal Code provisions have been issued, but additional strong measures are clearly indicated. In this Session, legislation will be proposed to strengthen The Blood Test Act with respect to sobriety tests. In addition, my government will be working with police departments to support and extend the ALERT Program. An important part of our ALIVE traffic safety program and of the continuing work of the Manitoba Traffic Committee will be carried out by a broadly-based Committee on Impaired Driving which will be appointed shortly.

## **HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE**

My government's housing initiatives have proven extremely effective in stimulating activity in the residential construction sector, in creating jobs, and in helping Manitobans buy new homes.

Early in this Session, my Ministers will propose several major new housing initiatives and will also seek the authority of the Legislature to continue and expand the highly-successful Affordable New Homes Program.

Among my government's priorities in this field is the encouragement of co-operative housing. In addition, through the Department of Co-operative Development, my government will be undertaking several other initiatives aimed at extending the use of the co-operative model as a basis for a variety of services for Manitobans.

Members will also be asked to provide authority for the increases in assistance to local governments which have already been announced for 1984. Municipal authorities are to be commended for their overall success in keeping their planned expenditure growth within reasonable limits for the coming year. Those limits, coupled with the increases in provincial support for municipal services and education, generally have prevented excessive pressure on local tax bases.

Main Street Manitoba has proven to be successful, and members will be asked to approve authority to continue the program for 1984-85.

## CONSUMER AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Consumer protection continues to be a high priority for my government. During this Session, members will be asked to consider amendments to The Consumer Protection Act and to The Public Utilities Act.

In November, 1982, my government announced the initiation of a Hazardous and Special Waste Management Program for Manitoba. Since that time, a proposed Dangerous Goods Handling Act has been developed and reviewed as part of an extensive public consultation process. Members will be asked to consider specific legislative proposals arising from the consultative process during this Session. The legislation will deal not only with the protection of the environment and the handling of dangerous goods, but also with the monitoring, generation, treatment and disposal of hazardous wastes in Manitoba.

Amendments to The Clean Environment Act will be proposed to cover the application of pesticides by the public sector in this province, including mosquito control programs.

The potential harmful effects of the Garrison Diversion Project remain one of Manitoba's most serious environmental concerns. However, all members can take some encouragement from the growing support for our position in the United States. My Ministers' efforts to make Manitoba's views heard and understood will continue.

## NATIVE RIGHTS AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Early in March, the First Ministers of Canada met with leaders of Canada's aboriginal peoples to discuss aboriginal constitutional priorities. The outcome of that conference was a major disappointment for many of the participants, including my government and the Native organizations. In the year leading up to the next conference on this subject, in the spring of 1985, my government will continue to consult closely with representatives of aboriginal organizations here in Manitoba in order that they may advance, as persuasively as possible, proposals for recognition and protection of Native rights in the Constitution and measures to ensure economic justice for Native Canadians.

## MANITOBA'S HERITAGE AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

My government is committed to strengthening community identities within Manitoba. In this Session, My Ministers will present Heritage Legislation designed to preserve heritage resources and to encourage community participation in identification and conservation of Manitoba's history. In addition, my Ministers will provide increased resources in support of community-based activities that celebrate various aspects of Manitoba's heritage. Operating support for cultural, heritage and recreational institutions will be maintained, and capital support for libraries and other facilities will be broadened. Further, my government will introduce improved support programs for Manitoba's community museums in order that their collections may be better preserved and interpreted for present and future generations.

My government will continue to work closely with Manitoba's ethno-cultural communities, as represented by the newly-established Manitoba Intercultural Council. As well, my Ministers will strengthen programs supporting ethno-cultural organizations, in recognition of their valuable contributions to the cultural, social and economic enrichment of Manitoba.

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The legislative proposals concerning French language services which members considered during the latter stages of the last Session are no longer before this Assembly. The Supreme Court of Canada will soon begin a review which, as all members will recognize, could have an outcome of historic significance for this Legislature and for the people of Manitoba.

It is a tradition of our parliamentary system that, when a matter is before the courts, any proposal for legislative debate bearing on that subject should take that fact into account. That tradition will be respected by my government. When appropriate, however, my Ministers will advise the Assembly of developments related to the province's involvement in the court proceedings.

My Ministers will also be making statements to the House early in the Session concerning such matters as education financing, mobility aids for the handicapped, and Motor Carrier Regulations.

The legislative agenda now before this Assembly is both concentrated and comprehensive.

In many respects, it is also urgent.

After weathering an extremely difficult period, our province is now moving forward again.

New opportunities - genuine opportunities for long-term economic expansion and job creation - are open to us.

But we must move decisively, and act effectively, to take advantage of those opportunities.

Manitobans have the chance to make real progress in the year ahead, in renewing our economy, in improving health care and other vital public services, and in strengthening our budgetary position.

These are practical goals - for this Assembly, and for the citizens of our province.

They are achievable.

And their importance for our future development is clear.

But while government can provide leadership and encouragement, ultimately it is the people of Manitoba - the working people, the small business operators, the farmers, and so many others - whose dedication, co-operation, and mutual support will determine our success in expanding our economy and building a stronger Manitoba.

In leaving you, I pray Divine Providence may guide you and enlighten you in your deliberations and your decisions.

May God bless the Queen and our country

## (GOD SAVE THE QUEEN WAS SUNG)

The Civil Aide advanced and after obeisance received the Speech from the Administrator and retired to the west side of the Chamber.

The Mace then made obeisance before the Administrator and preceded him along the east side

of the Chamber to the Bar of the House, accompanied by the Premier and the Aides.

The Premier returned to his seat in the Chamber.

The Speaker proceeded to the Chair after the Administrator had passed the Bar of the House.

The Sergeant-at-Arms proceeded to the Speaker who was standing before the Chair. The Mace made obeisance and returned to the Table.

**MR. SPEAKER, Hon. J. Walding:** O Eternal and Almighty God from Whom all power and wisdom come, we are assembled here before Thee to frame such laws as may tend to the welfare and prosperity of our province; grant O Merciful God, we pray Thee, that we may desire only that which is in accordance with Thy Will; that we may seek it with wisdom, know it with certainty and accomplish it perfectly for the Glory and Honour of Thy name and for the welfare of all our people. Amen.

(The Speaker bowed to the members and seated the House.)

### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

**HON. H. PAWLEY** introduced Bill No. 1, An Act respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office; Loi sur la prestation des serments d'entrée en fonction.

### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**MR. SPEAKER:** I wish to inform the House that in order to prevent mistakes, I have obtained a copy of the Address of the Honourable the Administrator, which was read.

I am also pleased to inform the House that Mr. James E. Diack has been appointed Sergeant-at-Arms for the Third Session of the Thirty-Second Legislature.

The Honourable First Minister.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs, that the Votes and Proceedings of the House be printed, having first been perused by the Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing thereof, and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move, seconded by the Honourable Minister of Energy and Mines, that the Speech of the Honourable the Administrator be taken into consideration tomorrow.

**MOTION presented and carried.**

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Honourable First Minister.

**HON. H. PAWLEY:** Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Before putting the motion to the House, may I inform everyone present that there will be a receiving line forming shortly in Room 200 at the far end of the building, and that refreshments will be served in Room 254.

**MOTION presented and carried** and the House accordingly adjourned and will stand adjourned until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow (Friday).