



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 21

SECOND SESSION, THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

On motion of Hon. Mr. GERRARD, Bill (No. 224) – The Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Booster Seats)/Loi modifiant le Code de la route (sièges d'appoint), was read a First Time and had its purposes outlined.

On motion of Hon. Mr. RONDEAU, Bill (No. 15) – The Climate Change and Emissions Reductions Act/Loi sur les changements climatiques et la réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre, was read a First Time.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. LAMOUREUX – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Premier and his NDP Government to cooperate in uncovering the truth in why the Government did not act on what it knew and to consider calling a public inquiry on the Crocus Fund Fiasco. (H. Gill, J. Bailey, W. Gill and others)

Mr. PEDERSEN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to abandon the NDP Detour on the basis that it will result in massive environmental, social and economic, and damage to Manitoba and to consider proceeding with the route originally recommended by Manitoba Hydro, subject to necessary regulatory approvals. (R. D. McIntyre, I. Takuam, J. Wolfe and others)

Mr. MAGUIRE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Health to consider taking serious action to fill the nursing vacancies at personal care homes in the Town of Virden and to consider reopening the beds that have been closed as a result of this nursing shortage and to consider prioritizing the needs of those seniors that have been moved out of their community by committing to move those individuals back into Virden as soon as beds become available. (J. Wiens, D. Burke, E. More and others)

Mr. SCHULER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to consider adequate funding for the PAA on a long-term basis to ensure that the current retired teachers, as well as all future retirees, receive a fair COLA. (C. Lamb, T. Donie, K. A. Hudson and others)

Mr. DYCK – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Health to strongly consider giving priority for funding to develop and staff a new 100 bed long-term-care facility so that clients are not exposed to unsafe conditions and so that Boundary Trails Health Centre beds remain available for acute care patients instead of waiting placement clients. (B. Zacharias, S. Wiebe, A. Zacharias and others)

Mr. BRIESE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Health to consider the feasibility of a joint health centre, including an emergency room, to service Neepawa, Minnedosa and the surrounding area and to consider sustaining health care services in this area by working with local physicians and the Assiniboine Regional Health Authority on this initiative. (M. Anderson, P. Elliott, D. James and others)

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Mr. SARAN, Mrs. DRIEDGER, Ms. BRAUN, Mrs. ROWAT and Mr. ALTEMEYER made Members' Statements.

The House resumed the Adjourned Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. SELINGER:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. MCFADYEN having spoken,

And Mr. MCFADYEN moved an amendment as follows:

That the Motion be amended by deleting all the words after “House” and substituting:

therefore regrets that this budget fails to address the priorities of Manitobans by:

- (a) failing to move Manitoba forward towards achieving its true potential and becoming more competitive both within Canada and internationally; and
- (b) increasing Manitoba’s reliance on the taxpayers of other provinces through equalization payments; increasing spending by over 6% without any emphasis on getting results for Manitobans; and
- (c) continuing to channel billions into taxpayer funded projects at the expense of private investment which is the true basis for a wealthy society; and
- (d) neglecting to reduce taxes which are increasing out of line with taxes charged in other places with \$9 of new spending for every dollar of tax relief; and
- (e) increasing Manitoba’s staggering debt load rather than doing what all responsible families and governments across Canada are doing in good economic times, which is to reduce debt; and

- (f) ignoring the priorities of Manitobans by failing to provide adequate resources to combat crime and put an end to the revolving door justice system; and
- (g) raising Pharmacare deductibles yet again, forcing seniors and low-income Manitobans to bear the brunt of wasteful spending decisions; and
- (h) failing to end hallway medicine, as promised, while at the same time nearly doubling the health care budget; and
- (i) ignoring the City of Brandon, Manitoba's second largest urban centre; and
- (j) extending the tuition freeze for yet another year and weakening our universities and colleges; and
- (k) failing to plan for and meet the urgent infrastructure, education, and child care needs of growing communities throughout the province; and
- (l) neglecting to better protect Manitoba's most vulnerable children in the care of the child welfare system; and
- (m) abandoning rural Manitobans through punitive regulations and the lack of a long-term plan to grow the rural economy; and
- (n) failing to address the challenges facing the cattle and pork sectors as they deal with low commodity prices, the impact of the high Canadian dollar, rising input costs, pending Country of Origin Labeling, and the extension of the moratorium on the hog industry; and
- (o) failing to provide a strategy to deal with the more than four dozen boil water advisories in Manitoba; and
- (p) postponing any significant progress on greenhouse gas emissions targets until beyond the scope of the current government's mandate; and
- (q) neglecting to reverse the misguided political decision to run BiPole III down the West Side of Lake Winnipeg, thereby abandoning East Side communities, wasting \$1.5 billion, and mortgaging the future of Manitoba children.

As a consequence, the Government has thereby lost the confidence of this House and the people of Manitoba.

WHEREUPON Mr. Speaker ruled the amendment in order.

And the debate continuing on the amendment,

And Hon. Mr. ASHTON and Mr. GOERTZEN having spoken,

And Mr. MARTINDALE speaking at 12:30 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

Friday, April 11, 2008

The House then adjourned at 12:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, April 14, 2008.

Hon. George HICKES,
Speaker.