



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 37

SECOND SESSION, FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The Speaker tabled:

Certificate of Election respecting MLA Shannon CORBETT, the newly elected Member for Transcona.
(Sessional Paper No. 19)

MLA Shannon CORBETT, Member for the Electoral Division for Transcona, was conducted by Hon. Mr. KINEW and Hon. Min. FONTAINE to the floor of the House in front of the Speaker.

Hon. Mr. KINEW then said:

Honourable Speaker, I have the honour to present to you MLA Shannon CORBETT, the Honourable Member for the Constituency of Transcona, who has taken the Oath and signed the Roll, and now claims their right to take their seat.

The Speaker thereupon said:

On behalf of all Honourable Members, I welcome you to the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba and I wish you well in your parliamentary career.

MLA CORBETT then advanced to the Chair, shook hands with the Speaker and took their seat.

The Speaker tabled:

Annual Report of the Ombudsman for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024.
(Sessional Paper No. 20)

Pursuant to sub-rule 28(1), MLA DELA CRUZ, Mr. PERCHOTTE, MLA LOISELLE, Mrs. COOK and MLA PANKRATZ made Member's statements.

The following petition was presented and read to the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba:

MLA BEREZA – To urge the Provincial Government to support the investment and placement of an MRI machine in the Portage Regional Health Facility in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

Hon. Min. SCHMIDT tabled:

Reply to Written Questions (Nos. 1 to 5), asked by Mr. WASYLIW, on March 6, 2025:

1. In 2012, the Province of Manitoba sued major tobacco companies to recover the costs of providing healthcare services for tobacco-related illness. During the election campaign, the now-Provincial Government promised to build a new headquarters for CancerCare. On May 5, 2024, it was reported that the Premier told Manitobans that the tobacco lawsuit had settled, and that the money would be used to construct the new headquarters. The Premier indicated the settlement, ranging from hundreds of millions to up to half of a billion dollars, would arrive by early 2025, yet the province has still not received any money. What is the policy of the Provincial Government in relation to building the CancerCare headquarters and when will it get built?
2. While in Opposition, the NDP held up Bill 22, which overturned a ban on cosmetic pesticides, citing the health of Manitoban children were being placed at risk. On August 29, 2023, during the provincial election campaign, at the Environment and Climate Forum, the NDP pledged that they would reinstate the ban on cosmetic pesticides. What is the Provincial Government's current policy on cosmetic pesticides, and will a new ban be forthcoming?
3. The Provincial Government announced that beginning in February, the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg will move people into housing from one encampment at a time. What are the criteria for determining which encampment is prioritized to be moved, and when will the Southwood encampment in the University Heights neighbourhood of Fort Garry be scheduled to be moved?
4. During the 2023 election campaign, the Provincial Government pledged to hold gas companies accountable by giving the Public Utilities Board new powers to review, investigate and regulate retail gasoline prices in Manitoba. It was reported that the Premier cited Atlantic provinces that ban 'surge pricing' of gas during the summer and on long weekends as an example. Is this still the policy of the Provincial Government, and when will Public Utilities Board receive those new powers?
5. The Provincial Government committed to reinstating International Student health coverage during the previous election campaign. Is this still the current policy of the Provincial Government and what is the reason for the delay in reinstating this coverage?

(Sessional Paper No. 21)

By leave, it was agreed that sponsorship of Bill (No. 218) – The Climate Action Month Act (Commemoration of Days, Weeks and Months Act Amended)/Loi sur le Mois de lutte contre les changements climatiques (modification de la Loi sur les journées, les semaines et les mois commémoratifs), currently standing in the name of Hon. Min. MOYES, be transferred to MLA LOISELLE.

The House resumed debate on the proposed motion of Hon. Min. SALA:

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

And the proposed amendment moved by Mr. EWASKO as follows:

THAT the motion be amended by deleting all of the words after “House” and substituting:

regrets that this budget neglects the priorities of Manitobans by:

- (a) failing to address the rising costs that Manitobans are facing today by collecting over a billion dollars more in taxes and other fees while Cabinet Ministers receive a pay increase; and
- (b) failing to offer a strategy to address the Chinese and American tariffs impacting Manitoba’s agriculture producers and businesses; and
- (c) failing to deliver a new education funding model, which in turn has resulted in a historic rise in education property taxes for Manitoban homeowners; and
- (d) failing to commit to lowering the education tax for Manitoba businesses; and
- (e) failing Manitoba parents by cutting childcare funding by hundreds of millions of dollars; and
- (f) failing to address the Provincial Government’s “Bail Reform” policy when it comes to violent criminals and repeat offenders; and
- (g) failing to increase investment in the RCMP in Manitoba and law enforcement as a whole; and
- (h) failing to invest in the protection of Manitobans from violent crime; and
- (i) failing to address the diagnostic and surgical wait time backlog; and
- (j) failing to produce a meaningful plan to recruit, train, and retain health-care workers in Manitoba; and
- (k) failing to support Manitoba’s local sports, heritage, and creative sectors by eliminating the previous Provincial Government’s “Arts, Culture and Sport in Community” funding program; and

- (l) failing to justify cuts to the Urban/Hometown Green Team and the Building Sustainable Communities Fund, and neglecting to adequately fund local community projects and organizations; and
- (m) failing to provide necessary funding to maintain and repair Manitoba roads; and
- (n) failing to make cost-efficient and timely progress on major infrastructure projects, instead causing unnecessary delays and budget overruns; and
- (o) failing to come forward with a meaningful plan to address the many issues in Manitoba's vulnerable communities; and
- (p) failing to prioritize new school builds, resulting in exponential cost increases on Manitobans, and
- (q) failing to make effective use of government resources by disregarding years of collaborative work already conducted by the previous Provincial Government on numerous initiatives, such as a new public-school funding model, a comprehensive critical minerals strategy, an Indigenous excellence in education policy, a strategy to recruit and retain French-speaking educators, and consultations on Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin channels projects; and
- (r) failing to provide the necessary investment to recruit and train needed conservation officers in Manitoba; and
- (s) failing to prioritize the expansion of Manitoba conservation offices; and
- (t) failing to provide a realistic plan to balance the budget by 2027.

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

And the debate continuing on the amendment,

And Messrs. NARTH, OXENHAM and PERCHOTTE, Hon. Min. MOYES, Messrs. SCHULER and WASYLIW and Hon. Mr. KINEW having spoken,

And the Question being put on the amendment. It was negatived, on division.

And the Question being put on the main motion. It was agreed to, on the following division:

AYE

ASAGWARA
BLASHKO
BRAR
BUSHIE
CABLE
CHEN
COMPTON
CORBETT
CROSS
DELA CRUZ
DEVGAN
FONTAINE
KENNEDY
KINEW
KOSTYSHYN
LATHLIN

LOISELLE
MALOWAY
MARCELINO
MOROZ
MOSES
MOYES
NAYLOR
OXENHAM
PANKRATZ
REDHEAD
SALA
SANDHU
SCHMIDT
SCHOTT
SIMARD
SMITH
WIEBE33

NAY

BALCAEN
BEREZA
BYRAM
COOK
EWASKO
GOERTZEN
GUENTER
HIEBERT
JOHNSON
KHAN
KING

LAGASSÉ
LAMOUREUX
NARTH
NESBITT
PERCHOTTE
PIWNIUK
SCHULER
STONE
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The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 8, 2025.

Hon. Tom LINDSEY,
Speaker.