Tuesday, May 27, 2025



# PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

Mr. BLASHKO moved:

THAT Bill (No. 234) – The Pride Month Act (Commemoration of Days, Weeks and Months Act Amended)/Loi sur le Mois de la fierté (modification de la Loi sur les journées, les semaines et les mois commémoratifs), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. BLASHKO having spoken,

And Mr. PERCHOTTE, Hon. Min. NAYLOR and Mr. BALCAEN having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. PERCHOTTE and Hon. Mins. FONTAINE and ASAGWARA having spoken,

And the Question being put. Pursuant to sub-rule 24(7), the division was deferred to take place at 11:55 a.m. on Thursday, May 29, 2025.

Mr. BRAR moved:

Resolution No. 18: Supporting the Agricultural Industry in Manitoba

WHEREAS agriculture is an important part of the economic and cultural history of Manitoba and is vital to the prosperity of the province; and

WHEREAS the previous, failed PC Provincial Government shuttered 21 Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporations (MASC) and agricultural offices across the province, leaving producers without access to essential, in-person services; and

WHEREAS the previous, failed PC Provincial Government neglected to address issues the agricultural industry in Manitoba was facing; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government unequivocally supports farmers and agribusiness in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government is proud to support agricultural businesses in the face of tariffs and threatened tariffs from China and the United States; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government is proud to help keep life affordable for farmers by extending the rent freeze on agricultural Crown land into 2025; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government is proud to bring in-person services back to farmers by reopening two new MASC offices in Shoal Lake and Virden; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government is proud to help young farmers get the support they need by increasing the Young Farmer Rebate to \$40,000 with Budget 2025; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government is stepping up to complete the Prairie Innovation Centre for Sustainable Agriculture with \$60 million in capital funding and an additional \$60 million in bridge funding, adding hundreds of additional training seats and creating more jobs to meet the growing labour demand; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government was the first provincial government in the country to signal its support in 2025 for AgriStability in the face of tariffs and threatened tariffs from China and the United States; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government is investing \$13 million for Cereals Canada to develop the Global Agriculture Technology Exchange, a world-class centre in downtown Winnipeg that will support grain producers and processors in their ongoing efforts to establish new international trading partners.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly be urged to recognize and applaud the Provincial Government for its successful efforts in supporting and growing the agricultural industry in Manitoba.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. BRAR having spoken,

And MLAs BEREZA and DEVGAN, Mr. JOHNSON, MLA LAMOUREUX and Mr. NARTH having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And MLA BEREZA and Hon. Mr. KOSTYSHYN having spoken,

And Mr. JOHNSON speaking at 12:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in their name.

During the debate, the Honourable Member for Interlake-Gimli rose on a point of order regarding the use of incorrect titles with which the Honourable Minister of Agriculture had referred to Members of the Official Opposition, and requested that the Minister retract those statements and apologize.

And MLA PANKRATZ having spoken to the point of order,

WHEREUPON the Acting Speaker informed the House there was a point of order and cautioned the Minister.

Also during the debate, the Honourable Member for Interlake-Gimli rose on a point of order regarding the Honourable Minister of Agriculture referring to the Honourable Member for Portage la Prairie as the "MLA for Portage", and asked that Minister use the correct constituency name.

WHEREUPON the Acting Speaker informed the House there was a point of order and requested that Members refer to each other by the correct titles.

## 1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

Mr. GUENTER, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, presented its Sixth Report, which was read as follows:

### Meetings

Your Committee met on May 26, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chamber of the Legislative Building.

## Matters under Consideration

• Auditor General's Report – Addictions Treatment Services in Manitoba dated July 2023

#### **Committee Membership**

- Mr. BRAR
- MLA CHEN
- MLA COMPTON
- MLA DELA CRUZ
- MLA DEVGAN
- Mr. EWASKO
- Mr. GUENTER (*Chairperson*)
- MLA LAMOUREUX
- MLA MALOWAY (Vice-Chairperson)
- Mr. OXENHAM
- Mrs. STONE

## **Officials Speaking on Record**

- Tyson Shtykalo, Auditor General of Manitoba
- Charlene Paquin, Deputy Minister of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness
- Chris Christodoulou, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer, Shared Health
- Jitender Sareen, Shared Health Provincial Specialty Lead, Mental Health and Addictions

## **Reports Considered and Passed**

Your Committee considered and passed the following report as presented:

• Auditor General's Report - Addictions Treatment Services in Manitoba dated July 2023

On motion of Mr. GUENTER, the Report of the Committee was received.

Hon. Mr. BUSHIE, the Minister of Natural Resources and Indigenous Futures, made a statement regarding wildfire conditions throughout the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. WOWCHUK commented on the statement.

Hon. Min. MOYES, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, made a statement regarding June 1, 2025, being Environment Officer Recognition Day.

Mr. NESBITT commented on the statement.

Pursuant to sub-rule 28(1), Hon. Min. KENNEDY, Mr. WOWCHUK, Hon. Ms. SMITH, Mr. NESBITT and Hon. Min. SCHMIDT made Member's statements.

Mr. NARTH tabled:

Request for Opinion Regarding Compliance of Hon. Min. MOROZ with *The Conflict of Interest* (*Members and Ministers*) Act, dated May 27, 2025.

(Sessional Paper No. 63)

The following petitions were presented and read to the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba:

Mr. KING – To urge the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure to consider extending the newly paved section on Provincial Road 332 ending at Bohn Road towards Starbuck; and to recognize the crucial need to improve road conditions to enhance safety and accessibility for all who reside and travel along Provincial Road 332 and in Starbuck.

Mr. PERCHOTTE – To urge the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning to reverse recent amendments to the Teaching Certificates and Qualifications Regulation that weaken subject-area requirements for teacher certification, and to reinstate teachable majors and minors and early-middle years requirements, which are essential for ensuring teachers have strong knowledge in core subject areas; and to urge the Provincial Government to address teacher shortages through alternative measures that uphold rigorous subject-area standards, which are critical for providing quality education to all Manitoba students.

Mr. WOWCHUK – To urge the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure to take the necessary steps to upgrade Provincial Trunk Highway 45 from Russell to Provincial Trunk Highway 10 to meet RTAC standards.

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.

Ms. BYRAM – To urge the Provincial Government to meet RTAC road designation by providing upgrades and regular road maintenance to Provincial Road 352 in Manitoba specifically the 1.5-mile stretch from Birnie to Provincial Trunk Highway 5 and ensure the road remains paved with asphalt and not reduced to gravel; to reduce load weights on PR 352 until the upgrades can be completed; and to replace or repair the bridge located on the 1.5-mile stretch from Birnie to PTH 5, and to provide an integrity assessment.

Mrs. COOK – To urge the Provincial Government to proceed with the planned renovation and expansion of Phoenix School without further delay.

Mr. EWASKO – To urge the Provincial Government to take immediate and decisive action on bail reform to address serious deficits in enforcement by utilizing all available provincial mechanisms to strengthen warrant enforcement, increasing bail supervision, and opposing release of offenders, thus ensuring that repeat violent offenders are held accountable and that public safety is prioritized over leniency; and to lobby the Federal Government to immediately repeal provisions of the Criminal Code that allow for the continued victimization of law-abiding Manitobans while granting repeat offenders additional rights.

Mr. JOHNSON – To urge the Provincial Government to order an out-of-province review of the prosecutor's decision to not prosecute the accomplice in the death of Jordyn Reimer.

Mr. BALCAEN – To urge the Provincial Government to order an out-of-province review of the prosecutor's decision to not prosecute the accomplice in the death of Jordyn Reimer.

MLA LAGASSÉ - To urge the Provincial Government to order an out-of-province review of the prosecutor's decision to not prosecute the accomplice in the death of Jordyn Reimer.

Mr. GUENTER – To urge the Provincial Government to support Manitoba small businesses through specific funding to reimburse the expenses and insurance deductibles that they incur as a result of crime.

The House resumed the debate on the proposed motion of Hon. Mr. MOSES:

THAT Bill (No. 47) – The Fair Trade in Canada (Internal Trade Mutual Recognition) Act and Amendments to The Commemoration of Days, Weeks and Months Act (Buy Manitoba, Buy Canadian Day)/Loi sur le commerce équitable au Canada (reconnaissance mutuelle en matière de commerce intérieur) et modification de la Loi sur les journées, les semaines et les mois commémoratifs (Journée « Achetons manitobain, achetons canadien »), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And the debate continuing,

And Messrs. PERCHOTTE and GUENTER and Ms. BYRAM having spoken,

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

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 28, 2025.

Hon. Tom LINDSEY, Speaker.