



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 23

THIRD SESSION, FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

10:00 O’CLOCK A.M.

Mrs. COOK moved:

THAT Bill (No. 207) – The Health System Governance and Accountability Amendment Act (Reporting When Timely Care Not Available)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la gouvernance et l’obligation redditionnelle au sein du système de santé (communication de renseignements en cas d’impossibilité de fournir des soins en temps opportun), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Mrs. COOK having spoken,

And MLA COMPTON, Ms. BYRAM, Hon. Min. ASAGWARA, Messrs. NARTH and KING, MLA DELA CRUZ and Mrs. HIEBERT having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Hon. Min. ASAGWARA, Ms. BYRAM and MLA PANKRATZ having spoken,

And MLA DELA CRUZ speaking at 11:00 a.m. The debate was allowed to remain in their name.

In accordance with Rule 34, the Deputy Opposition House Leader announced that the Private Member’s resolution titled “Calling on the Provincial Government to Increase the Personal Tax Exemption” will be considered on the next Thursday of Private Members’ Business.

Mrs. COOK moved:

Resolution No. 3: Calling on Provincial Government to Launch Public Inquiry on Deaths in Emergency Rooms

WHEREAS Genevieve Price died in the St. Boniface Hospital Emergency Department on November 22nd, 2025, after spending 30 hours waiting for appropriate care; and

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WHEREAS Luca Teng, a 6-month-old child, died on January 13th, 2026, in Children's Hospital Emergency Department after waiting over nine hours for care; and

WHEREAS Stacey Ross died on January 16th, 2026, after an 11 hour wait for admission in the St. Boniface Hospital Emergency Department, and her family was subsequently told that the long wait was a factor in her death, and;

WHEREAS Judy Burns died on January 21st, 2026, at St. Boniface Hospital, and her family has raised serious concerns about the care that she received; and

WHEREAS this Provincial Government made a commitment to Manitobans to fix healthcare, but has failed by every measurable metric; and

WHEREAS over the last two years emergency room wait times have consistently risen and are at historic highs; and

WHEREAS front line health care workers have been sounding the alarm about persistent staff shortages and serious safety concerns in Manitoba emergency rooms; and

WHEREAS Manitobans are losing their faith in the healthcare system and have expressed a fear of visiting Manitoba's emergency rooms; and

WHEREAS Critical Incident Reviews are important internal learning opportunities but lack the independence and investigative power to answer families' questions and restore Manitobans' faith in emergency health care.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba is urged to call on the Provincial Government to immediately undertake a public inquiry into the systemic failures in the healthcare system that have resulted in at least four Manitobans dying in emergency rooms since November 2025, with the inquiry including an opportunity for impacted families to present their experiences.

And a debate arising,

And Mrs. COOK having spoken,

And MLA CORBETT, Messrs. GUENTER and WOWCHUK and Mrs. STONE having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Hon. Min. ASAGWARA, Mr. GUENTER and Hon. Min. CABLE having spoken,

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

1:30 O’CLOCK P.M.

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

(No. 29) – The University of Winnipeg Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l’Université de Winnipeg

(Hon. Min. CABLE)

(No. 35) – The Adult Learning Centres Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les centres d’apprentissage pour adultes

(Hon. Min. CABLE)

(No. 30) – The Intimate Partner Violence Death Review Committee Act/Loi sur le Comité d’examen des décès causés par de la violence de la part d’un partenaire intime

(Hon. Mr. WIEBE)

(No. 31) – The Highway Traffic Amendment Act/Loi modifiant le Code de la route

(Hon. Mr. WIEBE)

(No. 8) – The Long-Bladed Weapon Control Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la réglementation des armes à lame longue

(Hon. Mr. WIEBE)

(No. 9) – The Street Weapons Control Act/Loi sur la réglementation des armes de rue

(Hon. Mr. WIEBE)

(No. 10) – The Employment Standards Code Amendment Act (Attachment Leave for Adoption and Surrogacy)/Loi modifiant le Code des normes d’emploi (congé d’attachement en cas d’adoption ou de recours à la gestation pour autrui)

(Hon. Min. MARCELINO)

(No. 11) – The Employment Standards Code Amendment Act (Sick Notes for Employee Absences)/Loi modifiant le Code des normes d’emploi (notes du médecin en cas d’absence d’un employé)

(Hon. Min. MARCELINO)

(No. 14) – The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les divulgations faites dans l’intérêt public (protection des divulgateurs d’actes répréhensibles)

(Hon. Min. SALA)

(No. 16) – The Mental Health Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la santé mentale

(Hon. Ms. SMITH)

(No. 17) – The Adult Abuse Registry Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur le registre des mauvais traitements infligés aux adultes

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(No. 18) – The Waste Reduction and Prevention Amendment Act (Strengthening Enforcement)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la réduction du volume et de la production des déchets (renforcement de l'application de la Loi)

(Hon. Min. MOYES)

(No. 19) – The Animal Care Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur le soin des animaux

(Hon. Mr. KOSTYSHYN)

(No. 33) – The Planning Amendment and City of Winnipeg Charter Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'aménagement du territoire et la Charte de la ville de Winnipeg

(Hon. Mr. SIMARD)

Hon. Min. FONTAINE, the Minister responsible for Women and Gender Equity, made a statement regarding March 8, 2026, being International Women's Day.

Ms. BYRAM and, by leave, MLA LAMOUREUX commented on the statement.

Pursuant to sub-rule 28(1), MLA CROSS, Mr. EWASKO, Hon. Min. CABLE and Messrs. PERCHOTTE and BLASHKO made Member's statements.

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

Mr. KHAN – To urge the Provincial Government to fully implement recommendations in the *Bridging the Gaps* report and immediately implement official policies and procedures that are more respectful and collaborative which also minimize harm faced by families seeking help from Children's disABILITY Services; and to urge the Minister of Families to arrange for a full review of employment supports provided by Children's disABILITY Services for children with disabilities aged 12 to 17, including direct consultation with impacted families, and to explore a full spectrum of options to support families, empowering them to choose solutions that best fit their needs.

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

Mrs. STONE – 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.

Mr. NESBITT – To urge the Minister of Transportation to take the necessary steps to upgrade Provincial Road 482 to meet RTAC standards.

Mr. PERCHOTTE – To request the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure prioritize the construction of a series of passing lanes along Provincial Trunk Highway 8 between Provincial Trunk Highway 67 and Provincial Road 231 as soon as possible, before commencing the surface reconstruction and other potential improvements on PTH 8 from Provincial Road 230 to the Perimeter.

Mr. WOWCHUK – To urge the Minister of Transportation to take the necessary steps to upgrade Provincial Road 482 to meet RTAC standards.

Mr. JOHNSON – To unequivocally condemn those who employ violence, or attempt to justify violence, as a means of silencing speech; and to affirm that the proper way to settle political and social differences is through words, reason, and democratic debate.

Mr. GUENTER – To urge the Provincial Government to lobby the Federal Government to stop the expansion of medical assistance in dying to those for whom mental illness is the sole condition; and to protect Canadians struggling with mental illness by facilitating treatment, recovery, and medical assistance in living, not death.

Mr. NARTH – To urge the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning to immediately bring back the three portable classrooms to help alleviate the stress and overcrowding classrooms; and to urge the Provincial Government to reinstate the expansion project for Green Valley School.

Mr. GOERTZEN – 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.

MLA LAGASSÉ – 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 fully implement recommendations in the *Bridging the Gaps* report and immediately implement official policies and procedures that are more respectful and collaborative which also minimize harm faced by families seeking help from Children's disABILITY Services; and to urge the Minister of Families to arrange for a full review of employment supports provided by Children's disABILITY Services for children with disabilities aged 12 to 17, including direct consultation with impacted families, and to explore a full spectrum of options to support families, empowering them to choose solutions that best fit their needs.

Mr. KING – To urge the Provincial Government to reverse its decision to cut the funding for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Outlet Channels Project and to immediately take steps to expedite its completion.

Mr. EWASKO – To urge the Provincial Government to immediately reverse these unfair and punishing tax policy changes and restore education property tax rebates for all Manitobans.

Mr. SCHULER – 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.

Mrs. HIEBERT – To urge the Provincial Government to cancel drug-injection sites in the Point Douglas community, including the proposed location at 200 Disraeli Freeway; and to legislate that no future site will be proposed without community support.

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Hon. Mr. WIEBE moved:

THAT Bill (No. 4) – The Constitutional Questions Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les questions constitutionnelles, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. WIEBE having spoken,

And Messrs. NARTH, GUENTER, SCHULER and EWASKO having questioned the Minister,

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. GOERTZEN having spoken,

And the Question being put. It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of this House.

During the debate, the Speaker interjected and requested that the term “B.S.”, spoken by the Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet, be withdrawn and the Member apologize unequivocally.

WHEREUPON Mr. EWASKO apologized and withdrew their comments.

Hon. Min. SCHMIDT, for Hon. Min. FONTAINE, moved:

THAT Bill (No. 6) – The Sign Languages Recognition Act/Loi sur la reconnaissance des langues des signes, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Min. SCHMIDT having spoken,

And Ms. BYRAM, Mr. EWASKO and Mrs. HIEBERT having questioned the Minister,

And the debate continuing,

And Ms. BYRAM 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. Monday, March 9, 2026.

Hon. Tom LINDSEY,
Speaker.