



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 35

THIRD SESSION, FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

By leave, the House agreed to expedite the appointment of the Ethics Commissioner as follows:

1. To allow the Standing Committee on Legislative Affairs to meet this afternoon at 3:30, concurrent with this House sitting.
2. To interrupt Budget debate tomorrow at the beginning of Orders of the Day for the consideration of the appointment resolution without notice, with the sitting day to still count as a day of Budget debate.

The following Bill was read a First Time and had its purposes outlined:

(No. 234) – The Registered Landscape Architects Act/Loi sur les architectes paysagistes
(Mr. OXENHAM)

The Speaker tabled:

Auditor General's Report – Managing the Risks of Using Cloud Service Providers, dated March 2026.
(Sessional Paper No. 16)

Auditor General's Report – Child Care Access and Inclusivity in Manitoba, dated March 2026.
(Sessional Paper No. 17)

Hon. Mr. WIEBE tabled:

Annual Report of the Manitoba Court of Appeal for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2025.
(Sessional Paper No. 18)

Hon. Min. NAYLOR, the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, on behalf of Hon. Min. FONTAINE, the Minister of Families, made a statement regarding March 31, 2026, being Two-Spirit and Transgender Day of Visibility.

Ms. BYRAM commented on the statement.

Pursuant to sub-rule 28(1), Hon. Min. NAYLOR, Messrs. WOWCHUK, BLASHKO and NARTH and MLA PANKRATZ made Member's statements.

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

Mr. JOHNSON – To urge the Provincial Government to address the conditions of Provincial Trunk Highway 34, making the necessary upgrades to RTAC standard and to resurface the road once the new bridge has been completed.

Mr. BALCAEN – 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.

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

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

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. KHAN having spoken,

And Mr. KHAN moved an amendment as follows:

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

therefore regrets that this budget fails to adequately address the current cost-of-living crisis by:

- (a) failing to take action to mitigate the escalating cost pressures on Manitobans, while simultaneously generating hundreds of millions of dollars in new tax revenues from families already facing financial hardship; and
- (b) cancelling the indexation of the Basic Personal Amount and personal income tax brackets, thereby denying the ability of Manitobans to keep more money from their paycheques and earn more before paying income tax; and
- (c) failing to uphold its commitment not to raise taxes, as evidenced by increases to school taxes, education property taxes, and the termination of income tax indexation; and
- (d) allowing education property taxes to skyrocket to 19.5% since last year without presenting a plan to meet the growing needs of the education system or offer meaningful long-term relief for homeowners; and

- (e) abandoning 4,600 students and 500 staff by refusing to provide the necessary funding to support the transition of learners displaced by the defunding of the Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology; and
- (f) failing to support agriculture producers, who are essential to addressing rising food prices and driving economic growth; and
- (g) failing to provide effective stewardship of Manitoba's public utilities, thereby contributing to annual increases in Hydro rates and MPI premiums; and
- (h) failing to bring forward or execute an economic plan designed to stimulate economic growth and lessen the burdens imposed on Manitoba families and businesses by trade wars and increasing fuel prices; and
- (i) failing to take necessary measures to restore public safety in communities across Manitoba, as this budget contains no plan to address rising property crime or to advance reforms to the bail system aimed at keeping violent offenders and repeat criminals in custody; and
- (j) adopting a tax policy that places additional burdens on physicians and other critical skilled professionals, diminishing Manitoba's competitiveness in recruiting and retaining the expertise necessary for a strong health-care system and economy; and
- (k) failing to enact and enforce necessary measures to address repeat violent offenders and armed drug traffickers who continue to endanger and victimize hardworking Manitobans; and
- (l) refusing to take decisive action in response to grave safety concerns raised by staff and patients at health-care facilities, including multiple sexual assaults, resulting in three hospitals being grey-listed by nurses for the first time in the province's history; and
- (m) failing to take meaningful action to resolve the growing diagnostic and surgical caseloads, thereby forcing Manitoba families to endure unprecedented delays in accessing essential care; and
- (n) neglecting the mental-health needs of Manitobans by failing to expand access to primary mental-health services and failing to establish a single Rapid Access to Addictions Medicine clinic to support those struggling with addictions; and
- (o) failing to present a balanced budget in its first term and failing to present a credible plan to balance the Public Accounts or reduce the Province of Manitoba's deficit and debt; and
- (p) refusing to acknowledge or act on the reality that half of Manitoba families are within \$200 a month of being unable to pay their bills; and
- (q) failing to take meaningful action to address inflation and the escalating costs of groceries, fuel, and housing; and

- (r) implementing the job-killing “Manitoba Jobs Agreement”, which arbitrarily selects winners and losers and overrides the choice of the 88% of Manitoba construction workers who have chosen to not be associated with a union, thereby driving up the price of schools, hospitals and other infrastructure.

As a consequence, of these and many other failings, the Provincial Government has thereby lost the trust and confidence of this House and the people of Manitoba.

WHEREUPON the Speaker ruled the amendment in order,

And the debate continuing on the amendment,

And MLA CHEN, Mrs. STONE, MLAs PANKRATZ and CROSS and Mr. NARTH having spoken,

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

During the debate, the Acting Government House Leader sought and received leave for the Assembly to, for the remainder of the 43rd Legislature, provide live interpretation of Indigenous languages and non-Indigenous languages other than English and French spoken by Members during House or committee proceedings, under the following terms:

- A Member wishing to address the House or a Committee in a non-Indigenous language other than English or French:
 - must provide adequate notice to the Clerk of the language they wish to speak so that the appropriate interpretation and translation services can be arranged; and
 - must provide notice 90 minutes before the commencement of the House or committee proceedings to Members of other Recognized Parties and Independent Members.
- The Assembly will endeavour to provide interpretation services for all requests. In the event that no interpreters are available, the text of the Member’s speech in the Indigenous or other language, followed by the English translation, will be included in the Hansard transcript.

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. Friday, March 27, 2026.

Hon. Tom LINDSEY,
Speaker.