



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 42

THIRD SESSION, FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

Pursuant to sub-rule 28(1), Mmes. SCHOTT and STONE, MLA MALOWAY and Mr. EWASKO made Member's statements.

During Oral Questions, the Speaker interjected and requested that the word "lied", spoken by the Honourable Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, be withdrawn.

WHEREUPON Hon. Min. SCHMIDT withdrew their comments.

Following Oral Questions, the Speaker made the following ruling:

Following Oral Questions and the raising of a matter of privilege on March 17, 2026, the Honourable First Minister rose on a point of order alleging that, in his response to the matter of privilege, the Honourable Official Opposition House Leader had reflected on the Chair, in violation of the Rules.

The Honourable Official Opposition House Leader spoke to this point of order, and I took it under advisement.

Reflecting on the Chair is a serious circumstance in any parliament or legislature. In the fourth edition of *House of Commons Procedure and Practice*, Janse and LeBlanc state in citations 7.7 and 7.8 that:

7.7

The actions of the Speaker and [any] other chair occupants may not be criticized in debate or by any means except by way of a substantive motion.

7.8

Reflections on the character or actions of the Speaker (an allegation of bias, for example) could be taken by the House as breaches of privilege and punished accordingly.

In the Hansard transcript from the exchange in question, the Honourable Opposition House Leader did mention that I had to call government Members to order on several occasions. In making such a comment, I would say the Member came dangerously close to reflecting on the Chair, and I would urge the Honourable Official Opposition House Leader to take more care with his comments in the future.

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

I am ruling that the Honourable First Minister did not have a point of order in this instance. However, while I am on this topic, I would note that there have been numerous occasions in recent weeks when Members have criticized the actions of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker.

I am respectfully requesting that, in the future, all Members carefully consider their comments before they speak in the House to ensure that what they say cannot be taken as a reflection on the Chair, on the role of the Chair, on a ruling of the Chair, or on the performance of the individuals in the Chair.

Thank you for your attention to this ruling.

Immediately following the Speaker's ruling, Hon. Min. FONTAINE rose on a matter of privilege alleging that the Honourable Member for Lac du Bonnet created an unsafe workplace by making disparaging and racist comments regarding the First Minister, and moved:

THAT this be referred to a committee of the House.

And Mr. JOHNSON having spoken.

WHEREUPON the Speaker informed the House they would take the matter under advisement.

The House resolved into Committee of Supply.

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. Thursday, April 16, 2026.

Hon. Tom LINDSEY,
Speaker.