Monday, May 5, 2025



PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SITTING AT 1:30 P.M.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Mr. GOERTZEN -

(No. 200) – The Occupiers' Liability Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la responsabilité des occupants

Mr. WASYLIW-

(No. 204) – The Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Reason for Traffic Stop)/Loi modifiant le Code de la route (obligation de motiver tout ordre d'arrêt)

Mr. WASYLIW-

(No. 211) – The Local Elections Voter Eligibility Act (Various Acts Amended)/Loi sur l'admissibilité des électeurs aux élections locales (modification de diverses lois)

MLA DELA CRUZ -

(No. 216) – The Health System Governance and Accountability Amendment Act (Plebiscite Before Permanent Emergency Room Closure)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la gouvernance et l'obligation redditionnelle au sein du système de santé (plébiscites sur la fermeture permanente de salles d'urgence)

Mr. WASYLIW –

(No. 217) – The Energy Efficiency Disclosure Act/Loi sur la présentation de rapports sur l'efficacité énergétique

Mr. WASYLIW-

(No. 220) – The Criminal Property Forfeiture Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la confiscation de biens obtenus ou utilisés criminellement

Mr. WASYLIW-

(No. 229) – The Human Rights Code Amendment Act (Non-Disclosure Agreements)/Loi modifiant le Code des droits de la personne (accords de confidentialité)

Mr. WASYLIW-

(No. 230) – The Grocery Store Food Waste Prevention Act/Loi sur la prévention du gaspillage alimentaire dans les épiceries

Mr. WASYLIW-

(No. 231) – The Elections Amendment Act (Election Day on Saturday)/Loi modifiant la Loi électorale (jour du scrutin fixé à un samedi)

Mr. BALCAEN -

(No. 232) – The Victims of Impaired Drivers Commemoration Day Act (Commemoration of Days, Weeks and Months Act Amended)/Loi sur la Journée de commémoration des victimes de conducteurs aux facultés affaiblies (modification de la Loi sur les journées, les semaines et les mois commémoratifs)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TABLING OF REPORTS

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

ORAL QUESTIONS

PETITIONS

Mr. BALCAEN MLA BEREZA Ms. BYRAM Mrs. COOK Mr. EWASKO Mr. GOERTZEN Mr. GUENTER Mrs. HIEBERT Mr. JOHNSON Mr. KHAN Mr. KING MLA LAMOUREUX Mr. NARTH Mr. NESBITT Mr. PERCHOTTE Mr. PIWNIUK

Mr. SCHULER Mrs. STONE Mr. WHARTON Mr. WOWCHUK

GRIEVANCES

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

(99 hours 51 minutes)

REPORT STAGE AMENDMENTS:

Hon. Mr. WIEBE -

(No. 5) – The Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Impaired Driving Measures)/Loi modifiant le Code de la route (mesures en cas d'infractions de conduite avec facultés affaiblies) (amended – Committee) [Amendment (2) – Mr. BALCAEN] Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SCHMIDT -

(No. 39) – The Public Schools Amendment Act (Campaign Financing for School Trustees)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques (financement des campagnes électorales pour les élections scolaires)

[Amendment (3) – Mr. EWASKO] Specified Bill

CONCURRENCE AND THIRD READINGS:

Hon. Mr. SIMARD -

(No. 3) – The City of Winnipeg Charter Amendment and Planning Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Charte de la ville de Winnipeg et la Loi sur l'aménagement du territoire

Specified Bill

Hon. Mr. SIMARD-

(No. 4) – The Planning Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'aménagement du territoire Specified Bill Hon. Min. SCHMIDT -

(No. 6) – The Public Schools Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SALA -

(No. 14) – The Insurance Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les assurances Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SALA-

(No. 15) - The Real Estate Services Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les services immobiliers

Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SCHMIDT –

(No. 16) – The Municipal Councils and School Boards Elections Amendment and Public Schools Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les élections municipales et scolaires et la Loi sur les écoles publiques

Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SCHMIDT -

(No. 17) – The Public Schools Amendment Act (Nutrition Equality for Lasting Learning Outcomes)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques (équité alimentaire pour un apprentissage durable) Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SCHMIDT -

(No. 18) – The Public Schools Amendment Act (Indigenous Languages of Instruction)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques (enseignement en langue autochtone) Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SCHMIDT –

(No. 19) – The Public Schools Amendment Act (Safe Schools)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques (milieu scolaire sûr)

Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SCHMIDT -

(No. 20) – The Community Child Care Standards Amendment and Education Administration Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la garde d'enfants et la Loi sur l'administration scolaire Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SALA-

(No. 27) – The Income Tax Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SALA-

(No. 28) – The Manitoba Hydro Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'Hydro-Manitoba Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SANDHU-

(No. 31) – The Property Controls for Grocery Stores and Supermarkets Act (Various Acts Amended)/Loi sur les instruments de contrôle de biens-fonds visant des épiceries et des supermarchés (modification de diverses lois)

Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SALA-

(No. 37) – The Manitoba Financial Services Authority Act and Amendments to Various Other Acts/Loi sur l'Autorité des services financiers du Manitoba et modifiant diverses autres lois Specified Bill

DEBATE ON SECOND READINGS:

Hon. Min. SCHMIDT -

(No. 40) – An Act respecting "O Canada" and Other Observances and Land and Treaty Acknowledgements in Schools (Education Administration Act and Public Schools Act Amended)/Loi sur les activités scolaires soulignant notamment l'« Ô Canada » et la reconnaissance des territoires et des traités (modification de la Loi sur l'administration scolaire et de la Loi sur les écoles publiques)

> (Open) Designated Bill

SECOND READINGS:

Hon. Mr. WIEBE -

(No. 8) – The Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Control Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la réglementation des alcools, des jeux et du cannabis

Designated Bill

Hon. Ms. SMITH-

(No. 12) – The Housing and Renewal Corporation Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la Société d'habitation et de rénovation

Designated Bill

Hon. Mr. WIEBE -

(No. 23) – The Public Interest Expression Defence Act/Loi visant à défendre l'expression sur des questions d'intérêt public

Designated Bill

Hon. Mr. WIEBE -

(No. 30) – The Election Financing Amendment and Elections Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur le financement des élections et la Loi électorale

(Recommended by Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor) Designated Bill

Hon. Min. SALA -

(No. 46) – The Budget Implementation and Tax Statutes Amendment Act, 2025/Loi d'exécution du budget de 2025 et modifiant diverses dispositions législatives en matière de fiscalité (Recommended by Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor)

DEBATE ON GOVERNMENT MOTION:

Hon. Min. FONTAINE - Special Committee on Local Journalism

THAT a Special Committee on Local Journalism be created to make recommendations on exploring the future of local journalism, including rural and cultural media such as French, Filipino, Punjabi and Chinese language publications, with the mandate to consider matters of public support for journalism, and report its conclusion to the Assembly within 30 days of the start of Fall Sitting 2025; and

THAT the composition of the Special Committee be:

- (a) four members designated by the NDP caucus, and
- (b) two members designated by the PC caucus; and

THAT the Special Committee be authorized to decide how it will conduct its business, including deciding to hold meetings at times and places it considers advisable to receive briefs and hear presentations; and

THAT, except as otherwise provided in this motion, the Special Committee shall have the same status and powers and follow the same rules and procedures as a Standing Committee of the House, including the power to establish a sub-committee for the purposes of carrying out any part of the Special Committee's work; and

THAT after adoption by the House, this motion may be amended only by:

- (a) unanimous consent of the House;
- (b) passage of a subsequent motion by the House; or
- (c) written agreement of all House Leaders if the House is not sitting.

And the Proposed Motion of Mr. JOHNSON in amendment thereto as follows:

THAT the first clause of the Motion be deleted and the following substituted as the new first clause:

THAT a Special Committee on Local Journalism be created to make recommendations on exploring the future of local journalism, including rural and cultural media representing all ethnicities and non-official languages, so long as they do not promote hate speech or undermine the Manitoba values of inclusivity and respect for all races, religions, and backgrounds, with the mandate to consider matters of public support for journalism, and report its conclusion to the Assembly within 30 days of the start of Fall Sitting 2025; and

(Mr. SCHULER – 13 minutes)

NOTICE PAPER

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR THE NEXT THURSDAY OF PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

Mrs. COOK – School Tax and Education Property Tax Increases

13. WHEREAS the current Provincial Government has allowed out-of-control, double-digit school tax increases across Winnipeg and Manitoba, pushing property tax bills to unsustainable levels for homeowners, seniors, workers, and families; and

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has called the Provincial Government's property tax grab "historic", as residents across Winnipeg are opening property tax bills this week showing hundreds of dollars more coming out of their pockets; and

WHEREAS according to City of Winnipeg data, residents are facing school tax increases of 14% in Pembina Trails, 17% in Louis Riel, 14% in River East Transcona, and 15% in Winnipeg School Division; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government plans to collect \$182 million more in education property taxes in Budget 2025 through tax increases and the elimination of the 50% school tax rebate; and

WHEREAS this amount is on top of the \$150 million more collected from Manitobans through education property tax increases in Budget 2024; and

WHEREAS the previous, PC Provincial Government began eliminating education property taxes by introducing a 50% rebate for all homeowners, seniors, and farmers, and reduced education property taxes on businesses by 10%; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has failed to introduce a new education funding formula as promised and has instead increased education property taxes on homeowners, small businesses and cottage owners; and

WHEREAS this is a direct result of the Provincial Government eliminating the PCs' universal 50% school tax rebate and replacing it with a limited tax credit that applies only to primary residences—leaving cottagers, small businesses, and others having to pay more; and

WHEREAS Manitoba seniors on fixed incomes should not be taxed out of their homes due to reckless decisions made by the Finance Minister; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government must stop punishing working families with exorbitant school tax hikes, especially when Manitobans are already struggling with a cost-of-living crisis; and

WHEREAS families and businesses are facing double-digit education property tax increases across the province.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to stop these harmful tax hikes and eliminate school taxes from properties in Manitoba.

NOTICE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

The Standing Committee on JUSTICE will meet in Room 254, Legislative Building, Winnipeg, Manitoba on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, if necessary, at 9:00 a.m. to consider Bills referred.

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The Standing Committee on PUBLIC ACCOUNTS will meet in the Chamber, Legislative Building, Winnipeg, Manitoba on Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following reports referred:

- Auditor General's Report Oversight of Post-Secondary Institutions dated October 2020
- Auditor General's Report Follow Up of Previously Issued Recommendations dated March 2023

 Oversight of Post-Secondary Institutions
- Auditor General's Report Follow Up of Previously Issued Recommendations dated February 2025
 - Oversight of Post-Secondary Institutions

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The Standing Committee on PUBLIC ACCOUNTS will meet in the Chamber, Legislative Building, Winnipeg, Manitoba on Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following reports referred:

- Annual Report and Public Accounts of the Province of Manitoba for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023
- Auditor General's Report Public Accounts and Other Financial Statement Audits dated December 2023
- Annual Report and Public Accounts of the Province of Manitoba for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024
- Auditor General's Report Public Accounts and Other Financial Statement Audits dated December 2024