

Wednesday, March 18, 1998



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 20

FOURTH SESSION, THIRTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYERS

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The following petitions were presented:

Mr. HICKES - Minister of Health to put an end to the centralization and privatization of Winnipeg hospital food services (T. Chubaty, D. Martens, P. Kler and others)

Ms. BARRETT - Minister of Health to put an end to the centralization and privatization of Winnipeg hospital food services (T. Hudson, J. MacDuff, D. Stuski and others)

The following petitions were read and received:

Mr. HICKES - Minister of Health to consider immediately cancelling the hospital food proposal and concentrate on delivering quality health care instead of using health dollars to provide contracts for private firms (R. Schlamp, P. Doiron, G. Porter and others)

Ms. BARRETT - Minister of Health to consider immediately cancelling the hospital food proposal and concentrate on delivering quality health care instead of using health dollars to provide contracts for private firms (H. M. Reuben, L. A. Fossey and M. Sutherland)

During Oral Questions, Mr. REID rose on a point of order regarding the comments "unlike the fascist thinking of the Member for Dauphin" used by the Honourable Minister of Natural Resources and requested they be withdrawn,

WHEREUPON Hon. Mr. CUMMINGS voluntarily withdrew his remarks.

Pursuant to Rule 20(1), Messrs. PENNER, SALE, FAURSCHOU, EVANS (Brandon East) and TWEED and Ms. WOWCHUK made Members' Statements.

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Hon. Mr. FILMON moved:

WHEREAS Manitobans strongly believe that Quebec is a vital and welcome partner in the Canadian federation; and

WHEREAS nine premiers and the territorial leaders, meeting in Calgary in September, 1997, agreed on a Framework for Discussion on Canadian Unity; and

WHEREAS after discussions among the leaders of the three political parties represented in this Assembly, the Manitoba Legislative Task Force on Canadian Unity was established to consult Manitobans on the Calgary Framework and other issues relating to Canadian unity, and to renew the Manitoba tradition of building consensus on issues of Canadian unity; and

WHEREAS the said Task Force, having heard from Manitobans through a wide variety of consultative mechanisms, reported to this Assembly with respect to the Calgary Framework and other issues relating to Canadian identity and values; and

WHEREAS the Report of the Task Force concluded that Manitobans support the Calgary Framework; and

WHEREAS nothing in the Calgary Framework is intended to derogate from any Aboriginal or treaty right recognized by law; and

WHEREAS Manitobans have expressed their strong belief that better recognition of the rights and concerns of Aboriginal peoples is important to Canadian unity.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. This Assembly affirms that Quebec is a vital and welcome partner in the Canadian federation;
2. This Assembly affirms that better recognition of the Aboriginal and treaty rights of the Aboriginal peoples and full participation by the Aboriginal peoples in the federation are important to Canadian unity;
3. This Assembly supports the Calgary Framework, with amendment to point 4, as follows:
 1. All Canadians are equal and have rights protected by law.
 2. All provinces, while diverse in their characteristics, have equality of status.
 3. Canada is graced by a diversity, tolerance, compassion and an equality of opportunity that is without rival in the world.

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4. Canada's diversity includes Aboriginal peoples and cultures, the vitality of the English and French languages and a multicultural citizenry drawn from all parts of the world.
5. In Canada's federal system, where respect for diversity and equality underlies unity, the unique character of Quebec society, including its French speaking majority, its culture and its tradition of civil law, is fundamental to the well being of Canada. Consequently, the legislature and Government of Quebec have a role to protect and develop the unique character of Quebec society within Canada.
6. If any future constitutional amendment confers powers on one province, these powers must be available to all provinces.
7. Canada is a federal system where federal, provincial, and territorial governments work in partnership while respecting each other's jurisdictions. Canadians want their governments to work cooperatively and with flexibility to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the federation. Canadians want their governments to work together particularly in the delivery of their social programs. Provinces and territories renew their commitment to work in partnership with the Government of Canada to best serve the needs of Canadians.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. FILMON, Messrs. DOER and GAUDRY, Hon. Mr. TOEWS and Mr. EVANS (Brandon East) having spoken,

And Mrs. RENDER speaking at 5:00 p.m.,

The debate was allowed to remain in her name.

Mr. SANTOS moved:

Resolution No. 5: Professional and Technical Accreditation

WHEREAS human beings, considered as any country's most important resource, are not merely a material factor of production, but are instrumental to achieving non-tangible values of fairness, freedom and individual self-actualization; and

WHEREAS recent immigrants to Canada and to Manitoba tend to possess higher than average levels of education and skills that contribute to the enrichment of the Canadian diversity essential to securing a position of competitiveness in a global economy; and

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WHEREAS there are some new Canadians who settled in Manitoba, and elsewhere in Canada, who brought with them professional and technical education, skills and training which they are unable to use in Manitoba or elsewhere in Canada; and

WHEREAS there are institutionalized social structures in Manitoba and in Canada of vested self-interested and self-governing groups of professional and technical persons who collectively are exercising almost absolute autonomy to the extent that the federal, provincial and municipal levels of government have practically abdicated the inherent public regulatory power of the Crown over the education, training, internship, admission, disciplining and other related processes connected with the creation, empowerment and operations of professional and technical associations, societies and organizations; and

WHEREAS the utilization of the professional and technical education, skills and training of new Canadians would, without many social costs, be immediately beneficial to Canada in general and to the Province of Manitoba in particular.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to consider implementing an enlightened policy of formal recognition and accreditation in meritorious cases of the professional and technical education, skills and training brought into Canada by new Canadians; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Assembly ask the Provincial Government to consider holding public hearings to elicit the opinions and views of Manitobans, including new Canadians, on the desirability of forming formal Governmental Accreditation and Licensing Boards for each of the new self-governing professional and technical associations, societies and organizations; the Boards of which should have membership drawn from the respective and related professional and technical groupings, the Provincial Government, and lay members of the general public to ensure that members of such Boards will be trustees of the general public interest of all, instead of being privileged guardians of vested, self-governing groups.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. SANTOS, Hon. Mrs. VODREY and Mr. McALPINE having spoken,

And Mr. FAURSCHOU speaking at 6:00 p.m.,

The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

The House then adjourned at 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.

Hon. Louise Dacquay,
Speaker.