



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 26

FIRST SESSION, THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

By leave, it was agreed to waive Rule 92(4) in order for the previously announced Standing Committee meetings to meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, October 29, 2007.

Hon. Mr. GERRARD moved:

THAT Bill (No. 210) – The Workplace Safety and Health Amendment Act (Harassment in the Workplace)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la sécurité et l'hygiène du travail (harcèlement dans le lieu de travail), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. GERRARD, Messrs. MARTINDALE and SARAN and Hon. Ms. ALLAN having spoken,

The debate was, on motion of Mr. ALTEMEYER, adjourned.

Hon. Mr. GERRARD moved:

THAT Bill (No. 212) – The Waste Reduction and Prevention Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la réduction du volume et de la production des déchets, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Messrs. GERRARD and STRUTHERS having spoken,

And Hon. Mr. RONDEAU speaking at 11:00 a.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

In accordance with Rule 31(9), the Opposition House Leader announced that the Age of Protection Resolution will be considered next Thursday, November 1, 2007.

Mr. DYCK moved:

Resolution No. 8: Agricultural Input Costs

WHEREAS the rising costs of agricultural inputs such as fuel and fertilizer are having an impact on Manitoba producers' bottom lines; and

WHEREAS according to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, in 2005, the cost of fuel and fertilizer accounted for 15 per cent of total Canadian farm expenses, or \$4.5 billion Canadian; and

WHEREAS with respect to fertilizer costs, every one cent per kilogram increase in the price adds about \$61 million Canadian to Canadian farmers' annual fertilizer bill; and

WHEREAS the findings of a national Ipsos Reid survey conducted for the Canadian Fertilizer Products Forum – which was released in October 2007 -- found that producers want “to have access to a variety of high-quality fertilizers and supplements in a timely fashion.”; and

WHEREAS the Ipsos Reid survey found that farmers said they “pay close attention to the cost of fertilizers and supplements when choosing their products...”; and

WHEREAS the Ipsos Reid survey found that farmers “said they would like to have more choice, for example, in nitrogen and phosphate products.”; and

WHEREAS a recent study commissioned by the Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP) examined the prices that producers from Manitoba and North Dakota paid for similar fuel and fertilizer products in the spring in 2007; and

WHEREAS the study commissioned by KAP found that on a variety of fertilizer products, Manitoba producers paid an average of 33% more than their North Dakota counterparts, and, in the case of anhydrous ammonia they paid 63% more than their North Dakota counterparts; and

WHEREAS KAP and many producers have expressed concerns that fertilizer prices are not competitive in Manitoba compared with United States prices; and

WHEREAS KAP has indicated that they will ask the Competition Bureau to investigate fertilizer pricing in Canada; and

WHEREAS significant cross-border disparities in fuel and fertilizer prices make it more difficult for Manitoba's producers to compete in global agricultural markets.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Manitoba consider supporting KAP as it pursues the issue of fertilizer pricing with the Competition Bureau and the federal government.

By leave, it was agreed to amend the resolution by deleting the 10th WHEREAS clause and replacing the THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED clause with the following:

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WHEREAS the first shipment in recent years of fertilizer on October 17, 2007 through the Port of Churchill offers producers an additional source of supply of fertilizers; and

WHEREAS the competition bureau have declined to investigate fertilizer pricing in Canada.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Government continue to raise the issue of high fertilizer pricing with the Federal Government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Provincial Government explore options to bring greater quantities of fertilizer through the Port of Churchill to provide producers with the broadest range of suppliers possible.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. DYCK, Hon. Ms. WOWCHUK, Mr. EICHLER, Hon. Mr. ROBINSON, Messrs. BRIESE and NEVAKSHONOFF having spoken,

The debate was allowed to remain open.

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. BRIESE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Health to consider the feasibility of a joint health centre, including an emergency room, to service Neepawa, Minnedosa and the surrounding area and to consider sustaining health care services in this area by working with local physicians and the Assiniboine Regional Health Authority on this initiative. (W. Reiner, S. Ferguson, M. Manko and others)

Mr. LAMOUREUX – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Premier to consider attending the November 5th public meeting at the Munroe Public Library which is located in his constituency. (V. S. Vitug, S. Artuz, E. Rosas-Cantada and others)

Hon. Ms. IRVIN-ROSS for Hon. Ms. OSWALD presented:

Annual Report of The Addictions Foundation of Manitoba for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 116)

During Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker interjected and requested that the words "smarmy Minister of Finance" spoken by the Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition be withdrawn.

WHEREUPON Mr. MCFADYEN withdrew his remarks.

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Subsequently during Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker interjected and cautioned all Honourable Members regarding the use of the words "34 seals".

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Ms. BRICK, Mrs. TAILLIEU, Messrs. ALTEMEYER and MAGUIRE and Ms. BRAUN made Members' Statements.

The House resolving into Committee of Supply.

The concurrence motion required pursuant to Rule 78(1) having been considered in the Committee of Supply and reported to the House, it was subsequently concurred in.

Hon. Mr. SELINGER moved:

THAT there be granted out of the Consolidated Fund for Capital purposes, the sum of SEVEN HUNDRED NINETY-ONE MILLION, NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIX THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED dollars (\$791,986,900) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008.

And the Question being put. It was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. SELINGER moved:

THAT there be granted to Her Majesty for the Public Service of the Province for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2008, out of the Consolidated Fund, the sum of NINE BILLION, TWO MILLION, SIX HUNDRED SIXTY-TWO THOUSAND dollars (\$9,002,662,000), as set out in Part A (Operating Expenditure) and FIVE HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE MILLION THREE HUNDRED NINE THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED dollars (\$595,309,400), as set out in Part B (Capital Investment) of the estimates.

And the Question being put. It was agreed to.

On motion of Hon. Mr. SELINGER, Bill (No. 26) – The Appropriation Act, 2007/Loi de 2007 portant affectation de crédits, was read a First Time and ordered for Second Reading immediately.

On motion of Hon. Mr. SELINGER, Bill (No. 26) – The Appropriation Act, 2007/Loi de 2007 portant affectation de crédits, was read a Second Time and referred to Committee of the Whole.

On motion of Hon. Mr. SELINGER, Bill (No. 27) – The Loan Act, 2007/Loi d'emprunt de 2007, was read a First Time and ordered for Second Reading immediately.

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On motion of Hon. Mr. SELINGER, Bill (No. 27) – The Loan Act, 2007/Loi d'emprunt de 2007, was read a Second Time and referred to Committee of the Whole.

The House resolving into Committee of the Whole.

Bill (No. 26) – The Appropriation Act, 2007/Loi de 2007 portant affectation de crédits, was considered in Committee of the Whole and reported without amendment.

Bill (No. 27) – The Loan Act, 2007/Loi d'emprunt de 2007, was considered in Committee of the Whole and reported without amendment.

Bill (No. 28) – The Budget Implementation and Tax Statutes Amendment Act, 2007/Loi d'exécution du budget de 2007 et modifiant diverses dispositions législatives en matière de fiscalité, was considered in Committee of the Whole and reported without amendment.

Hon. Mr. CHOMIAK moved:

THAT Bill (No. 27) – The Loan Act, 2007/Loi d'emprunt de 2007, reported from Committee of the Whole, be concurred in and be now read for a Third Time and passed.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. CHOMIAK, Messrs. BOROTSIK, HAWRANIK and EICHLER, Hon. Mr. GERRARD, Messrs. FAURSCHOU and LAMOUREUX having spoken,

And the Question being put. It was agreed to, on division.

The Bill was accordingly concurred in, read a Third Time and passed.

Bill (No. 26) – The Appropriation Act, 2007/Loi de 2007 portant affectation de crédits, reported from the Committee of the Whole, was concurred in, read a Third Time and passed.

Hon. Mr. CHOMIAK moved:

THAT Bill (No. 28) – The Budget Implementation and Tax Statutes Amendment Act, 2007/Loi d'exécution du budget de 2007 et modifiant diverses dispositions législatives en matière de fiscalité, reported from Committee of the Whole, be concurred in and be now read for a Third Time and passed.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. CHOMIAK and Mr. BOROTSIK having spoken,

And the Question being put. It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly concurred in, read a Third Time and passed.

His Honour, John HARVARD, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Manitoba, having entered the House at 5:49 p.m., and being seated on the Throne:

Mr. Speaker addressed His Honour in the following words:

Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly of Manitoba asks Your Honour to accept the following Bills:

(No. 26) – The Appropriation Act, 2007/Loi de 2007 portant affectation de crédits

(No. 27) – The Loan Act, 2007/Loi d'emprunt de 2007

To these Bills the Royal Assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

"In Her Majesty's name, the Lieutenant Governor thanks the Legislative Assembly, and assents to these Bills".

* * *

Mr. Speaker then addressed His Honour in the following words:

Your Honour,

At this sitting, the Legislative Assembly has passed a Bill that I ask Your Honour to give assent to.

(No. 28) – The Budget Implementation and Tax Statutes Amendment Act, 2007/Loi d'exécution du budget de 2007 et modifiant diverses dispositions législatives en matière de fiscalité

To this Bill the Royal Assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly as follows:

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"In Her Majesty's Name, His Honour Assents to this Bill."

At 5:51 p.m., His Honour was then pleased to retire.

The House then adjourned at 5:54 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, October 29, 2007.

Hon. George HICKES,
Speaker.