



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 6

SECOND SESSION, THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The following Bills were severally read a First Time and had their purposes outlined:

(No. 5) – The Witness Security Act/Loi sur la sécurité des témoins

(Hon. Mr. CHOMIAK)

(No. 6) – The Securities Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les valeurs mobilières

(Hon. Mr. SELINGER)

(No. 203) – The Liquor Control Amendment Act (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Prevention)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la réglementation des alcools (prévention de l'ensemble des troubles causés par l'alcoolisation fœtale)

(Mr. LAMOUREUX)

(No. 204) – The Milk Prices Review Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur le contrôle du prix du lait

(Mr. LAMOUREUX)

(No. 205) – The Elections Amendment and Elections Finances Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi électorale et la Loi sur le financement des campagnes électorales

(Mr. LAMOUREUX)

(No. 216) – The Personal Information Protection and Identity Theft Prevention Act/Loi sur la protection des renseignements personnels et la prévention du vol d'identité

(Mrs. TAILLIEU)

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mrs. TAILLIEU – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation to consider making the completion of the dividing of the Trans Canada Highway in Headingley in 2008 an urgent Provincial Government priority and to consider evaluating whether any other steps can be taken to improve motorist safety while the dividing of the Trans Canada Highway in Headingley is being completed. (W. F. Nielson, E. Czuczvara, P. Czuczvara and others)

Mr. MAGUIRE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Health to consider taking serious action to fill the nursing vacancies at personal care homes in the Town of Virden and to consider reopening the beds that have been closed as a result of this nursing shortage and to consider prioritizing the needs of those seniors that have been moved out of their community by committing to move those individuals back into Virden as soon as beds become available. (P. Waller, L. Logan, G. McWhirter and others)

Mr. SCHULER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to consider adequate funding for the PAA on a long-term basis to ensure that the current retired teachers, as well as all future retirees, receive a fair COLA. (B. Lobb, B. Brown, P. Connolly and others)

Mr. MCFADYEN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Minister of Education and the Premier to consider setting aside land and funds to construct new schools to accommodate the needs of the new provincial government development of Waverly West to allow kids attending schools in the southwest area of Winnipeg to remain in existing schools located closer to home. (K. Hamaberg, L. Herd, C. Stephens and others)

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Mrs. TAILLIEU, Mr. SARAN, Mrs. ROWAT, Mr. SWAN and Hon. Mr. GERRARD made Members' Statements.

The House resumed the Interrupted Debate on the Proposed Motion of Ms. BRAUN:

THAT the following address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor:

We, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba thank your Honour for the gracious speech addressed to us at this Second Session of the Thirty-Ninth Legislature of Manitoba.

And the proposed amendment moved by Mr. MCFADYEN as follows:

THAT the Motion be amended by adding at the end the following words:

But this House regrets

- (a) the government's misguided directive to Manitoba Hydro to construct the BiPole III transmission line on the west side of the province, resulting in more than \$500 million in additional capital costs, 40 megawatts of line loss and more than \$17 million annually in lost sale revenues; and
- (b) the government's refusal to provide answers to the 34,000 Manitobans who lost over \$100 million of their savings in the Crocus Investment Fund scandal; and
- (c) the government's failure to ensure that the safety of children in the care of Child and Family Services is a paramount consideration; and
- (d) the government's mismanagement of the health care system, resulting in a shortage of health care professionals, bloated bureaucracies, lengthy wait times for diagnostic tests and treatments, and the closure of 14 rural emergency rooms; and

- (e) the government's wasteful expenditure of \$3 million on the ineffective Spirited Energy campaign; and
- (f) the government's complacency towards making Manitoba competitive with other western provinces, particularly Saskatchewan; and
- (g) the government's failure to make Manitoba an attractive place for our young people, resulting in the loss of 35,000 Manitobans who have left for greener pastures in other provinces; and
- (h) the government's growing dependence on federal transfer payments; and
- (i) the government's cancellation of the previous government's debt repayment plan and failure to apply some of the record federal transfer revenues to reduce debt, leaving a legacy of debt to our children and grandchildren; and
- (j) the government's failure to address the unprecedented number of shootings and criminals in possession of illegal firearms; and
- (k) the government's lack of efforts to develop strategies to help the agricultural sector dealing with challenges such as the effects of the rising Canadian dollar, high input costs, and the potential effects of Country of Origin Labelling, among others; and
- (l) the government's inability to facilitate and promote the development of a strong and vibrant rural economy; and
- (m) the government's ineffectiveness in addressing ongoing infrastructure challenges in key areas such as bridges, highways, roads, sewage and water treatment, and telecommunications such as rural broadband; and
- (n) the government's lack of a long-term strategy to address education infrastructure needs in rapidly growing communities; and
- (o) the government's chronic under-funding of our post-secondary institutions for almost a decade; and
- (p) the government's inaction on important environmental initiatives in spite of countless announcements and promises of action, including improving the health of Lake Winnipeg, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and moving forward on a Progressive Conservative proposal to implement a beverage container deposit return system; and
- (q) the government's broken promises to end hallway medicine, put in place a Privacy Commissioner, and make our communities safer; and
- (r) the government's lack of fairness and accountability in important areas of government such as the awarding of contracts, elections legislation, legislative committees and privacy legislation; and
- (s) the government's demonstrated disrespect for the role of a provincial government by acting as a property developer, thereby putting taxpayers' dollars at risk; and

(t) the government's mismanagement of Manitoba Housing and its failure to address the deplorable conditions that low income Manitobans have been forced to endure, such as bed bugs, mould, and chronic violence and drug activity within public housing.

AND AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE GOVERNMENT HAS THEREBY lost the trust and confidence of the people of Manitoba and this House.

And the proposed sub-amendment moved by Hon. Mr. GERRARD as follows:

THAT the Amendment be amended by adding the following after clause (t):

(u) that though the government has chosen to follow Liberal-led phosphorus initiatives to clean up Lake Winnipeg, there have been no real targets set out in the reduction of nutrient-loading into Lake Winnipeg; and

(v) the government has been timid by setting inadequate targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in Manitoba in particular with respect to agricultural greenhouse gas emissions, an industry that is responsible for about one-third of all emissions within the province; and

(w) the government's refusal to move forward with the comprehensive Liberal initiative to ban plastic bags; and

(x) the government's sloth-like approach to cleaning up this province's mine sites and the failure to clean up contaminated soil in Flin Flon; and

(y) the government's failure to even mention rapid transit for Winnipeg which is an important step in improving the quality of life in Winnipeg and an important step in reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

(z) the government's failure to mention the badly needed reform of the RHA system; and

(aa) the government's failure to ensure quick access to quality health care in Manitoba; and

(bb) the government's failure to ensure province-wide specialist networks in Manitoba; and

(cc) the government's continuing to commit an injustice to the children in this province by failing to reduce child poverty and even to present an adequate plan to reduce poverty starting with setting targets to reduce child poverty by 50% over the next four years; and

(dd) the government's continuing refusal to sufficiently address the societal issues surrounding crime and its failure to realize that the solution to Manitoba's crime problem does not lie only in more law enforcement; and

(ee) the government's negligence in not adequately improving FASD programs within the province, with the result that this has had a negative impact on health care, education, child and family services and justice in Manitoba; and

Tuesday, November 27, 2007

(ff) the government's failure to include full disclosure of costs and benefits and in addressing the Bipole III hydroelectric power transmission line from northern Manitoba to southern Manitoba, and the government's failure to move towards plebiscites on both sides as called for by the Manitoba Liberals; and

(gg) the government's failure to substantively address agricultural needs in Manitoba, especially with respect to livestock producers and with respect to the needed province-wide roll-out of an ALUS-like program providing financial support to farmers for the environmental services they provide to all Manitobans.

And the debate continuing on the sub-amendment,

And Messrs. MAGUIRE, CALDWELL, EICHLER, JHA and GOERTZEN, Ms. MARCELINO and Mrs. DRIEDGER having spoken,

And the Question being put on the sub-amendment. It was negatived.

And the debate continuing on the amendment,

And Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS having spoken,

And Mr. FAURSCHOU speaking at 5:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

By leave, it was agreed to waive Rules 31(2) and 31(3) regarding the timing for submission and prioritizing of Private Members' Resolutions with the understanding that the time frames for submission and prioritization will be determined by the House Leaders.

In accordance with Rule 31(8), the Government House Leader announced that the Women Minorities and Aboriginal People in the Legislature Resolution will be considered next Tuesday, December 4, 2007.

By unanimous consent, it was agreed to waive the quorum requirement and any recorded votes arising in the House after Question Period on Wednesday, November 28, 2007.

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 28, 2007.

Hon. George HICKES,
Speaker.