



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 51

SECOND SESSION, THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

By leave, it was agreed for the House to deal with Second Reading of Bills (No. 232) and (No. 233).

Ms. SELBY moved:

THAT Bill (No. 232) – The Public Schools Amendment Act (Anaphylaxis Policies)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques (politiques sur l'anaphylaxie), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Ms. SELBY and Mrs. STEFANSON having spoken,

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

Hon. Mr. GERRARD moved:

THAT Bill (No. 233) – The Jordan's Principle Implementation Act/Loi sur la mise en œuvre du principe de Jordan, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. GERRARD, Hon. Ms. IRVIN-ROSS, Mrs. ROWAT, Messrs. MARTINDALE and LAMOUREUX having spoken,

And Ms. BRAUN speaking at 11:00 a.m. The debate was allowed to remain in her name.

Mr. REID moved:

Resolution No. 13: National Housing Strategy

WHEREAS affordable housing is a basic human and social right of every individual; and

WHEREAS homelessness is a major social issue with reverberations on physical and mental health and well-being; and

WHEREAS rising costs of living have lead to a significant housing need among not only low-income individuals and families, but also many middle-income individuals, students and young professionals; and

WHEREAS the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative (WHHI) is a joint effort between the Provincial Government, the Federal Government and the City of Winnipeg to address homelessness, declining housing stock and the revitalization of Winnipeg's older neighbourhoods; and

WHEREAS since 2000, the WHHI partnership has committed over \$99 million to repair, rehabilitate, or construct over 4,000 housing units as well as assist those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless; and

WHEREAS a part of the Provincial Government's four-pillar low-income housing strategy is HOMEWORKS!, a project which it has invested \$188 million in to prioritize inner-city revitalization with a focus on housing for refugees and immigrants, older Manitobans, the homeless, Aboriginals living in urban areas, and northern Manitobans; and

WHEREAS HOMEWORKS! allocates a minimum of \$42 million to Een Dah Aung (Our Home), a program for Aboriginal off-reserve housing, and \$6 million to extend neighbourhood housing assistance for three years to support community-driven revitalization efforts in the designated neighbourhoods under the Neighbourhoods Alive! program; and

WHEREAS in the 2007 Throne Speech a commitment was made under the Foundations pillar of the low-income housing strategy to construct new affordable housing in urban centres across the province, and to revitalize over 13,000 existing public housing units; and

WHEREAS under the authority of Bill 21, 238 new housing units in the Spence and North Portage neighbourhoods were recently announced under the newly-enacted Housing Development and Rehabilitation Fund which will direct MHRC profits from suburban developments towards revitalizing the inner-city neighbourhoods; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government has consistently cutback its housing policies and devolved responsibilities to provincial governments resulting in higher rates of homelessness; and

WHEREAS Provincial and Territorial Senior Housing Officials consider the lack of long-term federal housing funding a top priority and continue to pressure the Federal Government to increase funding levels to address the need for new affordable housing throughout the country; and

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WHEREAS despite the efforts of the Provincial Government, there is still clearly a great need for more affordable housing for lower-income Manitobans.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba support the efforts of the Provincial Government in continuing to construct supportive and affordable housing across the province and in revitalizing the existing units in order to help meet the demand for affordable housing for low-income Manitobans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Provincial Government to work with other provinces to strongly urge the Federal Government to increase funding levels to address the urgent need for new affordable housing throughout the country.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. REID, Mrs. ROWAT, Ms. MARCELINO, Mr. BRIESE and Hon. Mr. MACKINTOSH having spoken,

And Mrs. TAILLIEU speaking at 12:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in her name.

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. BRIESE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Water Stewardship to consider placing a moratorium on the harvesting of any species of fish on Lake Dauphin and its tributaries for the period April 1st to May 15th annually and to consider doing regular studies of fish stocks on Lake Dauphin to help gauge the health of the fishery and to consider determining any steps needed to protect or to enhance those stocks. (J. Bell, S. Storzok, J. Martin and others)

Mr. DYCK – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Health to strongly consider giving priority for funding to develop and staff a new 100 bed long-term-care facility so that clients are not exposed to unsafe conditions and so that Boundary Trails Health Centre beds remain available for acute care patients instead of waiting placement clients. (B. Affleck, I. Affleck, D. Isaak and others)

Mr. GRAYDON – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Premier to consider reversing his decision to increase Pharmacare deductibles by 5 percent in Budget 2008 and to consider reducing health care bureaucracy, as previously promised, and to consider directing those savings into sustaining Pharmacare and improving patient care. (S. Hamm, A. Stoesz, P. Dick and others)

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Hon. Mr. DOER, the First Minister made a statement to commemorate the life of Captain Richard Steve Leary who died tragically west of Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Mr. MCFADYEN and, by leave, Hon. Mr. GERRARD commented on the statement.

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Mrs. ROWAT, Ms. MARCELINO, Messrs. MAGUIRE, JENNISSEN and LAMOUREUX made Members' Statements.

The House resolving into Committee of Supply.

In accordance with Rule 31(8), the Deputy Government House Leader announced that the Daycares – Early Childhood Family Support Resolution will be considered next Tuesday, June 10, 2008.

The House then adjourned at 5:01 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 4, 2008.

Hon. George HICKES,
Speaker.