



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA**

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 35**

**FIFTH SESSION, FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE**

**PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.**

The Clerk formally advised the Assembly that the Speaker was unavoidably absent and called upon the Deputy Speaker to take the Chair pursuant to the Statutes. The Deputy Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

Prior to Routine Proceedings, MLA ASAGWARA rose on a Matter of Privilege alleging that the Minister of Health deliberately misled the House regarding the departure of Nurses from the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program. Specifically, the Member stated that the Minister had commented to them in the Chamber: “how much did you pay the [SANE] nurses to resign?”, and moved:

THAT this House condemn the Health Minister for deliberately misleading the Legislature and that this matter be immediately referred to a permanent Standing Committee of this House for investigation.

And Hon. Messrs. GOERTZEN and GERRARD having spoken.

WHEREUPON Mr. Deputy Speaker informed the House he would take the matter under advisement.

Hon. Mr. GOERTZEN presented:

Reply to Written Questions (Nos. 1 to 3), asked by Mr. LAMONT, on March 6, 2023:

1. Media reported that a Freedom of Information request showed that during the “Convoy Occupation” of the Manitoba Legislature and the blockade at the Emerson border, there were no written records or notes of discussions between the Ministry of Justice, Police services, and the convoy. Why were none of the discussions recorded and who was responsible for making that decision?
2. How did the Provincial Government make decisions, give advice, track and plan operations without recording discussions surrounding the “Convoy Occupation” at the Manitoba Legislature that lasted many days, and also caused slowdowns on highways and blockades at the U.S. border involving multiple police and security forces such as the Winnipeg Police Service, RCMP, and legislative security?

3. It is a matter of public record that the “Convoy Occupation” included threats, intimidation, occupations and blockades, and its organizers like Pat King had made repeated threats of implied violence on social media for months, stating that politicians and others would be targeted with live ammunition. Will the Premier share the RCMP’s full assessment report with Manitobans considering that she wrote to the Prime Minister that based on the advice of the RCMP the Provincial Government was “unaware of any activity involving espionage or sabotage, clandestine foreign-influenced activities or any serious threats of violence directed toward the violent destruction or overthrow of the Canadian government.”?

(Sessional Paper No. 42)

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Hon. Mr. GOERTZEN, on behalf of Hon. Ms. GORDON presented:

Reply to Written Question (No. 7), asked by Hon. Mr. GERRARD, on March 6, 2023:

7. Can the Minister of Health explain the Provincial Government’s current policy regarding critical incident reporting, and how the policy supports health care workers who have been involved in a critical incident?

(Sessional Paper No. 43)

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Hon. Mr. CULLEN presented:

Reply to Written Question (No. 4), asked by Mr. LAMONT, on March 6, 2023:

4. Since assuming leadership, has the current CEO of Manitoba Hydro consulted with First Nations governance on Manitoba Hydro projects, including, but not limited to, Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak in northern Manitoba, and if so how many consultations been conducted?

(Sessional Paper No. 44)

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Hon. Ms. SQUIRES presented:

Reply to Written Questions (Nos. 5 and 6), asked by Ms. LAMOUREUX, on March 6, 2023:

5. In December 2022, whistleblowers at “The Link”, formerly MacDonald Youth Services, alleged that the organization is in difficulties, with 50% staff turnover, allegations of mistreatment of staff and clients, including Indigenous youth, and questionable financial decisions made by the CEO and Board, with allegations dating back to at least 2019. Is the Minister of Families aware of any complaints or letters of concern to her department about The Link prior to the letters from whistleblowers in December 2022 and January 2023 and further, can the Minister of Families advise who is performing the third party investigation into The Link and what is their mandate?
6. Can the Minister of Families advise why the CEO and Board of “The Link” were not relieved of their duties after it was decided that serious allegations that included suggestions of preferential hiring of friends and family into management and spending on extensive renovations and furnishing in its brand new building warranted an investigation?

(Sessional Paper No. 45)

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Hon. Ms. SQUIRES presented:

Reply to Written Question (No. 8), asked by Hon. Mr. GERRARD, on March 6, 2023:

8. Lions' Place was originally built to provide affordable housing for seniors and the Provincial Government has agreed to cover the cost of the rent after Lions management requested a 10% rental increase as of April, 2022. Why is the province willing to provide a direct subsidy to a private corporate landlord from Alberta, when it would cost less in the long term to directly support the Lions Foundation?

(Sessional Paper No. 46)

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Hon. Mr. REYES presented:

Annual Report of The Manitoba Labour Board for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022.

(Sessional Paper No. 47)

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Hon. Ms. SQUIRES, the Minister of Families, made a statement regarding Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

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

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Pursuant to Rule 28(1), Mr. LAGASSÉ, MLA MARCELINO, Hon. Ms. CLARKE and Messrs. WIEBE and ISLEIFSON made Members' Statements.

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The following petitions were presented and read to the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba:

Mr. ALTOMARE – To urge the Provincial Government to immediately provide comprehensive and free public healthcare coverage to all residents of Manitoba regardless of immigration status, including refugee claimants, migrant workers, international students, dependent children of temporary residents, and undocumented residents; to urge the Minister of Health and Seniors Care to undertake a multilingual communication campaign to provide information on expanded coverage to all affected residents; to inform all healthcare institutions and providers of expanded coverage for those without public health insurance and the details on how necessary policy and protocol changes will be implemented; and to create and enforce strict confidentiality policies and provide staff with training to protect the safety of residents with precarious immigration status and ensure they can access public health care without jeopardizing their ability to remain in Canada.

Ms. LATHLIN – To urge the Minister of Infrastructure to complete an assessment of PR 224 and implement the appropriate repairs using public funds as quickly as possible.

Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas) – To urge the Provincial Government to take steps to implement Punjabi bilingual programs in public schools similar to existing bilingual programs and take steps to implement Punjabi language instruction in other levels of education in Manitoba.

Mr. REDHEAD – To urge the Provincial Government to provide the services of two nurses to restore essential medical foot care treatment to the City of Thompson effective April 1, 2022.

MLA MARCELINO – To urge the Provincial Government to stop breaking its promises to Manitobans and to provide basic and respectful health care for sexual assault survivors through the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program by ensuring it is properly staffed so that no prosecution of perpetrators of sexual violence is compromised by the failure to collect evidence.

Mr. SANDHU – To urge the Provincial Government to take steps to implement Punjabi bilingual programs in public schools similar to existing bilingual programs and take steps to implement Punjabi language instruction in other levels of education in Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. GERRARD – To urge the Provincial Government to change the requirements for accessing Community Living and disABILITY Services so that these requirements are based on the needs of individuals with specific or nonspecific disabilities, including executive function or a combination of disabilities, rather than solely on the basis of their IQ.

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The House resumed the debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. CULLEN:

THAT Bill (No. 14) – The Budget Implementation and Tax Statutes Amendment Act, 2023/Loi d'exécution du budget de 2023 et modifiant diverses dispositions législatives en matière de fiscalité, reported from the Committee of the Whole, be concurred in and be now read a Third Time and passed.

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. SALA, Ms. LATHLIN, Hon. Mr. GERRARD, MLA LINDSEY and Messrs. BUSHIE and ALTOMARE having spoken,

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

**YEA**

CLARKE	MICHALESKI
CULLEN	MORLEY-LECOMTE
EICHLER	NESBITT
EWASKO	PEDERSEN
GOERTZEN	PIWNIUK
GUENTER	REYES
HELWER	SCHULER
ISLEIFSON	SMITH (Lagimodière)
JOHNSON	SMOOK
JOHNSTON	SQUIRES
KHAN	STEFANSON
KLEIN	TEITSMA
LAGASSÉ	WHARTON
LAGIMODIERE	WISHART
MARTIN	WOWCHUK.....30

NAY

ALTOMARE	MALOWAY
ASAGWARA	MARCELINO
BRAR	MOSES
BUSHIE	NAYLOR
FONTAINE	REDHEAD
GERRARD	SALA
LAMONT	SANDHU
LAMOUREUX	SMITH (Point Douglas)
LATHLIN	WASYLIW
LINDSEY	WIEBE ..... 20

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

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Her Honour, Anita NEVILLE, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Manitoba having entered the House at 4:37 p.m., and being seated on the Throne:

Mr. Deputy Speaker addressed Her 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. 14) – The Budget Implementation and Tax Statutes Amendment Act, 2023/Loi d'exécution du budget de 2023 et modifiant diverses dispositions législatives en matière de fiscalité

To this Bill the Royal Assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

"In His Majesty's name, Her Honour assents to this Bill".

At 4:40 p.m., Her Honour was then pleased to retire.

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The House then adjourned at 4:42 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 4, 2023.

Andrew MICKLEFIELD,  
Deputy Speaker.