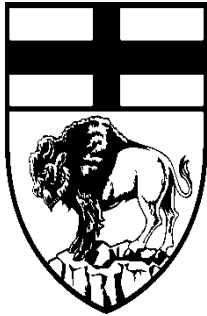


Thursday, October 27, 2011



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

ORDER PAPER No. 6
and NOTICE PAPER

FIRST SESSION, FORTIETH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

SITTING AT 1:30 P.M.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

PETITIONS

Mrs. ROWAT
Mr. BRIESE
Mr. MAGUIRE
Mr. GRAYDON
Mr. SMOOK

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TABLING OF REPORTS

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

ORAL QUESTIONS

MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

ADJOURNED DEBATE (Fifth Day of Debate):

On the Proposed Motion of Ms. CROTHERS –

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 First Session of the Fortieth Legislature of Manitoba.

And the Proposed Motion of Mr. MCFADYEN in amendment thereto as follows:

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

But this House regrets:

- (a) That the Throne Speech failed to acknowledge the Provincial Government's inability to pay for its commitments without raising taxes on Manitoba families or to acknowledge that adding to our debt at a rate of 10% each year and relying on equalization is not sustainable; and
- (b) That these are uncertain economic times, and yet the Throne Speech failed to lay out an economic strategy for the Province of Manitoba or to eliminate wasteful spending; and
- (c) That the Throne Speech did not mention the importance of trade to our economy, or make any references to entering into trade agreements to spur our economy; and
- (d) That the Throne Speech did not demonstrate a commitment to protecting Manitoba Hydro from political interference that is forcing Hydro to cut back and delay critical capital expenditures; and
- (e) That the Throne Speech failed to acknowledge the catastrophic mistake of following the far western route for Manitoba's next high voltage direct current transmission line; and
- (f) That the Throne Speech failed to demonstrate what steps the Provincial Government will take to shed Manitoba's title as the violent crime capital of Canada which was reinforced by a summer punctuated by arsons, stabbings and homicides putting Winnipeg on course to have a record number of homicides in 2011; and
- (g) That the Throne Speech failed to acknowledge the ongoing socioeconomic hardship and disruption caused by the 2011 flood and failed to commit the Provincial Government to undertake a comprehensive independent review of provincial actions and resources in the 2011 flood, as well as a review of provincial flood compensation to ensure all Manitobans are being fairly compensated; and
- (h) That the Throne Speech reinforced the Provincial Government's ongoing indifference to the needs of Manitoba's farm families and rural communities whose economic well being is so important to the health of the provincial economy; and
- (i) That the Throne Speech failed to outline a plan to reverse the inter-provincial loss of more than 1,800 doctors over the last decade, meaning thousands of Manitobans will remain without a family doctor; and

- (j) That this Provincial Government, after 12 years, has not restrained the growth of health care bureaucracy, which fails to make front line patient care a priority; and
- (k) That the Throne Speech did not provide a plan for improving access to Manitoba's post-secondary institutions, nor did it lay out a plan to tackle truancy or improve grade school students' test scores which have dropped to among the lowest in Canada; and
- (l) That the Throne Speech failed to address the circumstances that have led to Manitoba again being the child poverty capital of Canada, that have not improved food security for the thousands of Manitobans who rely on food banks annually or that have not curbed the growth in the number of Manitobans who rely upon employment and income assistance to survive.

And as a consequence, the Provincial Government has thereby lost the trust and confidence of the people of Manitoba and this House.

(Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS – 24 mins.)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS:

Mrs. ROWAT –

1. Could the Minister of Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors explain what the delay is in implementing and mandating a province-wide universal newborn hearing screening program?
 2. Will the Minister of Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors provide details of the great deal of empirical research that identifies the outcomes of early intervention for children with hearing loss and attests to the benefits of early intervention?
 3. Could the Minister of Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors provide evidence to dispute the contention that early identification of hearing loss will result in fewer requirements for services as the child enters school? For example, signing interpreters, deaf and Hard of Hearing consultants, Ministry involvement, school classroom modifications to reduce sound levels, etc.
 4. Could the Minister of Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors provide a detailed explanation if he does not agree that universal newborn hearing screening can be performed by any audiologist or public health nurse provided they are properly trained?
 5. Could the Minister of Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors explain what steps would have to be taken to implement universal screening programs in Winnipeg similar to those in rural Manitoba?
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Mr. PEDERSEN –

6. In choosing a route for Bipole III, will private landowners be offered an easement or outright purchase of land for the right of way and how will land values for either an easement or purchase be determined?
 7. Manitoba Hydro has stated publicly it is not able to use expropriation as a tool for determining right of ways. Will the Government of Manitoba expropriate privately held land on behalf of Manitoba Hydro for Bipole III if landowners are unable to reach suitable terms with Manitoba Hydro?
 8. What will be the minimum separation distance between Bipole III and residences, yard sites, and livestock operations?
 9. What are Manitoba Hydro's criteria for determining effects on livestock from Bipole III?
 10. What is the effect on cellular phone service, GPS guidance systems, and other electronic equipment in the proximity to Bipole III?
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