



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 29

FIFTH SESSION, THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

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

(No. 20) – The Biofuels Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les biocarburants
(Hon. Mr. RONDEAU)

(No. 216) – The Municipal Assessment Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'évaluation municipale
(Mr. REIMER)

(No. 218) – The Elections Amendment and Elections Finances Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi électorale et la Loi sur le financement des campagnes électorales
(Mr. LAMOUREUX)

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. LAMOUREUX – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Premier and his Government to consider improving and strengthening the Provincial Nominee Program in order to recognize and acknowledge how important immigration is to our province. (E. Savella, C. Savella, K. A. Savella and others)

Mrs. ROWAT – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Provincial Government to consider stopping the removal of these positions from our community (Minnedosa), and to consider utilizing current technology in order to maintain these positions in their existing location. (M. A. Howard, D. Trott, J. Birch and others)

Mrs. DRIEDGER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Health to consider developing a clear, immediate plan to address the ER doctor shortage and to consider taking all necessary steps to ensure the Grace Hospital emergency room does not close. (L. Thompson, L. Voth, J. Thiessen and others)

Mrs. TAILLIEU – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Family Services and Housing to consider re-staffing the Social Worker position(s) in Lynn Lake in order to provide needed services to Northwestern Manitoba in a timely manner and to consider mediating outstanding accounts payable due to the Lynn Lake Friendship Centre by Cree Nation Child and Family Caring Agency in order to allow the Designated Safe House and Receiving Home to resume regular operations and services, and continued utilization of these operations and services. (P. Meraty, B. Cooper, F. Linklater and others)

Mr. Speaker presented:

Annual Report of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 22)

Hon. Ms. MCGIFFORD, the Minister of Advanced Education and Literacy made a statement regarding the horrific tragedy at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia,

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

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Mrs. TAILLIEU, Mr. JENNISSEN, Mrs. ROWAT, Mr. SWAN and Mrs. MITCHELSON made Members' Statements.

The House resumed the Interrupted Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. SELINGER:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

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

THAT the Motion be amended by deleting all the words after “House” and substituting:

therefore regrets that this budget neglects many of the current and future needs of Manitobans by:

- (a) failing to set out a coherent plan to stem the flow of people out of Manitoba, after the loss of 35,000 Manitobans to other provinces since 1999; and
- (b) failing to make Manitoba a “have” province, reduce the debt and decrease the NDP government’s reliance on federal transfer payments; and
- (c) failing to implement taxation measures to make Manitoba competitive with other provinces; and
- (d) failing to entice businesses to come to Manitoba and spur economic and job growth while Manitoba now ranks seventh in job creation as it falls even further behind other jurisdictions; and
- (e) failing to address serious issues of crime such as auto theft, gang activity, and violent crime; and

- (f) failing to address chronic problems in health care, which has led Manitoba to be ranked 10th out of 10 provinces on health by the Conference Board of Canada; and
- (g) failing to address the emergency physician shortage that has crippled Manitoba hospitals and threatens to close more emergency rooms; and
- (h) failing to implement an effective strategy to reduce wait times for diagnostic testing, surgical procedures and appointments with specialists; and
- (i) failing to address the needs of farm families, increase slaughter capacity, develop a comprehensive biofuel strategy, and provide a sustainable plan for growth of agriculture and the rural economy; and
- (j) failing to declare a definitive end to the NDP government's practice of raiding Manitoba Hydro's revenues, which has negatively impacted the Crown Corporation's financial position; and
- (k) failing to address the fact that the government's mismanagement of the child welfare system has led to vulnerable children falling through the cracks; and
- (l) failing to embark on a long-overdue, science-based effort to clean up Lake Winnipeg, contrary to the Premier's earlier promise that the environment "trumps all other issues" in government; and
- (m) failing to acknowledge that the NDP government's inaction on the environment resulted in a 480,000 tonne increase of Manitoba's greenhouse gas emissions between 2004 and 2005, the highest percentage increase in Canada; and
- (n) failing to make meaningful progress to ensure the strength and competitiveness of our post-secondary institutions; and
- (o) failing to provide clear information about the Spirited Energy campaign, the subject of yet another investigation of the NDP government by the Auditor General; and
- (p) failing to be accountable to Manitobans for exorbitant cost overruns on the Floodway Expansion project and Manitoba Hydro office tower.

As a consequence, the Government has thereby lost the confidence of this House and the people of Manitoba.

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

THAT the amendment be amended by adding thereto the following words:

And further regrets that this budget also ignores the present and future needs of Manitobans by:

- (q) failing to acknowledge that the province needs to stand shoulder to shoulder with Manitoba's First Nations and Métis Communities in responding to the major needs in the areas of housing, nutrition, wellness and other areas both by direct provincial action and by effectively calling the Federal Government to account for its shortcomings;

- (r) failing to take adequate measures to protect children in the care of Manitoba Child and Family Services and to provide adequate transition to children in care so that they are not at high risk after leaving care;
- (s) failing to provide an effective strategy to deal with child poverty;
- (t) failing to provide Manitobans with the legal rights to timely, quality health care;
- (u) failing to present an adequate approach to reduce phosphorous levels and algal blooms in Lake Winnipeg;
- (v) failing to provide an adequate five year plan and the needed resources to address the child care needs of Manitobans;
- (w) failing to provide adequate funding for the primary organization which provides provincial operating funding for health research the Manitoba Health Research Council;
- (x) failing to provide a vision for rural communities and farm families outside of the City of Winnipeg;
- (y) failing to provide adequate support for libraries in Manitoba – when libraries are one of the major building blocks needed to improve literacy in our province;
- (z) failing to provide adequate support to municipalities and small farming operations to end the practice of winter spreading of animal manure and human bio-solids;
- (aa) failing to make rapid transit a priority in the City of Winnipeg;
- (bb) failing to install an environmental levy on cosmetic fertilizers containing phosphorous that continue to aggravate the algae problems on Lake Winnipeg.

And the debate continuing on the sub-amendment,

And Mr. FAURSCHOU, Ms. BRICK, Mr. CUMMINGS, Hon. Mr. DOER, Messrs. ROCAN and HAWRANIK and Hon. Mr. SELINGER having spoken.

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

And the Question being put on the amendment. It was negatived, on the following division:

YEA

CULLEN
CUMMINGS
DERKACH
DRIEDGER
DYCK
EICHLER
FAURSCHOU
GERRARD
GOERTZEN
HAWRANK

LAMOUREUX
MAGUIRE
MCFADYEN
MITCHELSON
PENNER
REIMER
ROWAT
SCHULER
STEFANSON
TAILLIEU 20

NAY

AGLUGUB
ALLAN
ALTEMEYER
ASHTON
BJORNSON
BRICK
CALDWELL
CHOMIAK
DEWAR
DOER
IRVIN-ROSS
JENNISSEN
JHA
KORZENIOWSKI
LATHLIN
LEMIEUX
MACKINTOSH

MALOWAY
MARTINDALE
MCGIFFORD
MELNICK
OSWALD
REID
ROBINSON
ROCAN
RONDEAU
SALE
SANTOS
SCHELLENBERG
SELINGER
SMITH
STRUTHERS
SWAN
WOWCHUK 34

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

YEA

AGLUGUB	MALOWAY
ALLAN	MARTINDALE
ALTEMEYER	MCGIFFORD
ASHTON	MELNICK
BJORNSON	OSWALD
BRICK	REID
CALDWELL	ROBINSON
CHOMIAK	ROCAN
DEWAR	RONDEAU
DOER	SALE
IRVIN-ROSS	SANTOS
JENNISSEN	SCHELLENBERG
JHA	SELINGER
KORZENIOWSKI	SMITH
LATHLIN	STRUTHERS
LEMIEUX	SWAN
MACKINTOSH	WOWCHUK..... 34

NAY

CULLEN	LAMOUREUX
CUMMINGS	MAGUIRE
DERKACH	MCFADYEN
DRIEDGER	MITCHELSON
DYCK	PENNER
EICHLER	REIMER
FAURSCHOU	ROWAT
GERRARD	SCHULER
GOERTZEN	STEFANSON
HAWRANIK	TAILLIEU..... 20

In accordance with Rule 31(8), the Government House Leader announced that the Apprenticeship Resolution will be considered next Tuesday, April 24, 2007.

The House then adjourned at 4:43 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, 2007.

Hon. George HICKES,
Speaker.