



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 8

THIRD SESSION, FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

Mr. SWAN moved:

Resolution No. 1: Cuts to Outpatient Physiotherapy and Occupational Services

WHEREAS the Premier ordered the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority to cut outpatient physiotherapy and occupational therapy services, ending programs at seven different facilities across Winnipeg and laying off dozens of front line health care workers; and

WHEREAS the Premier's decision will result in the direct firing of dozens of physiotherapists and occupational therapists in Manitoba, forcing expert health care professionals out of work, increasing the likelihood they and their families will leave the province in the future; and

WHEREAS there were 21,000 outpatient physiotherapy visits at Health Sciences Centre in 2016/17, 10,598 visits at St. Boniface Hospital, more than 5,000 visits each at Concordia Hospital, Seven Oaks Hospital and Misericordia Health Centre while Grace Hospital had more than 4,200 visits; and

WHEREAS the Premier mistakenly claimed other provinces do not have privatized physiotherapy and occupational therapy services while in fact his cut would mean Manitoba would be the only province in Canada to not offer publicly insured outpatient physiotherapy and occupational therapy services; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government is forcing Manitobans to pay out of pocket for private physiotherapy, which can cost between \$75 to \$90 dollars a session, and putting essential health care out of reach for low-income Manitobans, seniors and families without access to private insurance; and

WHEREAS physiotherapists, occupational therapists, surgeons, doctors and health care professionals have repeatedly and vocally told the Provincial Government that access to publicly insured outpatient physiotherapy and occupational therapy services are key for patients preparing for and recovering from surgery and that it should reject these cuts that are driven solely by financial considerations; and

WHEREAS the Peachey report did not recommend cutting publicly insured physiotherapy and occupational therapy services and Dr. Peachey explicitly refused to endorse the Premier's cut to front line health care workers and services; and

WHEREAS funding for preventative health care like physiotherapy and occupational therapy saves the healthcare system money in the short and long term by reducing re-injury, re-hospitalization and complications from surgery by improving the quality of life of patients and families.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to condemn the shortsighted cuts to healthcare, immediately reinstate funding for outpatient services and rehire the dozens of health care professionals the Premier ordered fired so Manitobans can access the essential healthcare they need to recover from surgery and stay healthy at home.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. SWAN having spoken,

And Messrs. ISLEIFSON and WIEBE, Mrs. GUILLEMARD, Hon. Mr. GERRARD, Mr. JOHNSTON and Ms. KLASSEN having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Messrs. ISLEIFSON and WIEBE, Mrs. GUILLEMARD and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having spoken,

And Mr. JOHNSTON speaking at 12:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

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

(No. 7) – The Sustainable Watersheds Act (Various Acts Amended)/Loi sur les bassins hydrographiques durables (modification de diverses dispositions législatives)

(Hon. Ms. SQUIRES)

(No. 203) – The Insurance Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les assurances

(Hon. Mr. FLETCHER)

Pursuant to Rule 27(1), Hon. Mr. GOERTZEN, Messrs. SWAN and WOWCHUCK, Ms. LAMOUREUX and Mr. CURRY made Members' Statements.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. KINEW – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities. (N. Ross, A. Moman, S. McIntyre and others)

Mr. ALLUM – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities. (M. McKenzie, H. Dyck, P. Tripp and others)

Mr. SWAN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities. (L. Quiambao, V. Critchley, D. Nowsad and others)

Mr. MARCELINO (Tyndall Park) – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities.

Ms. MARCELINO (Logan) – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities.

Hon. Mr. GERRARD – That the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living to provide an additional 12 Primary Care or Intermediate Care paramedics to facilitate 24/7 coverage at the Grandview ambulance station, to provide a second ambulance vehicle at the Grandview station to allow for deployment to designated geo-positions, to make use of the vacant Manitoba Hydro building as a garage for the two ambulance vehicles and to install a computer based system in the ambulance vehicles to facilitate geo-positioning and dynamic and flexible deployment to any area covered in the proposed plan in this region. (W. Dkyzyk, G.D. Elliott, S. Elliot and others)

Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas) – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities. (B. Scheoborn, M. Victoruk, S. Lamothe and others)

Mr. LINDSEY – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities. (M. Wanlin, W. Rolfe, D. Jones and others)

Mr. MALOWAY – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities.

Ms. FONTAINE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities. (D. Smith, B. Pritchett, C. Grossmiveller and others)

Mr. SELINGER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities. (C. Carriere, M. Siemens, M. Berger and others)

Mr. WIEBE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities.

In accordance with Rule 29, Hon. Mr. FLETCHER rose on a Grievance.

In accordance with Rule 33(8), the Opposition House Leader announced that the Restore Public Transit Funding for Municipalities Resolution will be considered on the next Thursday of Private Members' Business.

Hon. Mrs. STEFANSON moved:

THAT Bill (No. 4) – The Legislative Assembly Amendment Act (Member Changing Parties)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'Assemblée législative (adhésion à un autre parti), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mrs. STEFANSON having spoken,

And Mr. ALLUM, Ms. FONTAINE, Mr. WIEBE, Hon. Mr. FLETCHER and Mr. SARAN having questioned the Minister,

And the debate continuing,

And Ms. FONTAINE, Messrs. LAGASSÉ and SWAN, Ms. LAMOUREUX and Mr. MARTIN having spoken,

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

During the debate, Hon. Mr. FLETCHER rose on a Matter of Privilege and requested an apology from the Opposition House Leader regarding alleged unparliamentary language.

And Ms. FONTAINE having spoken to the Matter of Privilege,

WHEREUPON the Deputy Speaker ruled that issues of language are matters of order and not matters of privilege.

Subsequently, during the debate, Hon. Mr. FLETCHER rose on a point of order regarding alleged unparliamentary language spoken by the Honourable Member for St. Johns.

Thursday, November 30, 2017

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

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, December 4, 2017.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,
Speaker.