



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 38

THIRD SESSION, FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

In accordance with Rule 33(8), the Opposition House Leader announced that the Private Member's Resolution titled "Calling Upon the Provincial Government to Respect Working Manitobans" will be considered on the next Thursday of Private Members' Business.

MLA ASAGWARA moved:

THAT Bill (No. 214) – The Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur le dépistage systématique des déficiences auditives chez les nouveau-nés, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And MLA ASAGWARA having spoken,

And Mr. NESBITT, Ms. ADAMS, Hon. Mr. GERRARD, Messrs. WISHART, WOWCHUK and MARTIN having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. NESBITT, Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas), Mr. WISHART and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having spoken,

And Mr. WOWCHUK speaking at 11:00 a.m. The debate was allowed to remain in their name.

Ms. LATHLIN moved:

Resolution No. 14: Immediate Supports to Ensure Childcare is Affordable and Accessible

WHEREAS all Manitoba families deserve quality childcare that is affordable and accessible in all areas of the province; and

WHEREAS over 90% of Manitoba children receive childcare through a non-profit licensed centre; and

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WHEREAS since taking office, the Provincial Government has failed to meaningfully invest in quality, public childcare for Manitoba families and the waitlist has grown exponentially under its power; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has frozen operating funding for the last four years despite growing costs associated with childcare; and

WHEREAS many early childhood educators are leaving the sector as a result of low wages because of this lack of government funding; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has provided no additional financial support to public childcare centres even though they have faced increased costs associated with lost parent fees due to COVID-19 closures and spent thousands on PPE to keep kids safe when open; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government spent less than 1% of the \$18 million Temporary Child Care Service Grant; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government cut nursery school grants which will result in parent fees increasing for thousands of families from \$5 a day to over \$10 a day beginning April 1, 2021, making childcare less affordable and accessible; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government passed Bill 34, *The Budget Implementation and Tax Statutes Amendment Act, 2020*, which removed the cap on childcare fees for private sector businesses; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government gave KPMG double their contract, \$600,000, to conduct a review that will raise parent fees and lay the groundwork for privatization.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to reverse changes made to the nursery school grant and to end the freeze on childcare operating grants while committing to keeping childcare public, affordable and accessible for all Manitoban families.

And a debate arising,

And Ms. LATHLIN having spoken,

And Ms. MORLEY-LECOMTE, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. LAMOUREUX, Messrs. GUENTER, PIWNIUK and LAGASSÉ questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Ms. MORLEY-LECOMTE, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. GUENTER, Ms. LAMOUREUX and Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas) having spoken,

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

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

Hon. Mr. PEDERSEN presented:

Report on Nutrient Levels through 2019 and Action Underway, dated January 2021.
(Sessional Paper No. 47)

Madam Speaker presented:

Auditor General's Report – Follow-Up of Previously Issued Audit Recommendations, dated March 2021.
(Sessional Paper No. 48)

By leave, the House reverted to "Introduction of Bills".

The following Bill was read a First Time and had its purposes outlined:

(No. 201) – The Restricting Mandatory Overtime for Nurses Act (Various Acts Amended)/Loi sur la réduction du temps supplémentaire obligatoire des infirmières (modification de diverses lois)
(MLA ASAGWARA)

Hon. Ms. SQUIRES, the Minister for Francophone Affairs, made a statement regarding International Day of La Francophonie in Manitoba.

Mr. SALA commented on the statement.

Hon. Ms. CLARKE, the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Relations, made a statement regarding International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Mr. BUSHIE and, by leave, Ms. LAMOUREUX commented on the statement.

Pursuant to Rule 27(1), Hon. Ms. CLARKE, Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas), Mr. SMITH (Lagimodière), Ms. NAYLOR and Hon. Mr. GERRARD made Members' Statements.

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

Hon. Mr. GERRARD – To urge the Provincial Government to provide financing for upgrades to the cochlear implant covered under Medicare, or provide funding assistance through the Cochlear Implant Speech Processor Replacement Program, to assist with the replacement costs associated with a device upgrade.

Ms. LAMOUREUX – To urge the Minister of Health and Seniors Care to implement free access to period necessities within public schools and Manitoba’s health care system; and to acknowledge the prevalence of people within Manitoba who are unable to afford essential period items

Mr. MALOWAY – To urge the Provincial Government to immediately demand Dynacare maintain all the phlebotomy (blood sample) sites existing prior to the Covid-19 public health emergency, and allow all Manitobans to get their blood and urine tests done when visiting their doctor, thereby facilitating local access to blood testing services.

Mr. WASYLIW – To urge the Provincial Government to reverse changes to the nursery school grants and to end the freeze on childcares operating grants while committing to keeping public childcare affordable and accessible for all Manitoban Families.

Hon. Ms. SQUIRES moved:

THAT Bill (No. 19) – The Minor Amendments and Corrections Act, 2020 (2)/Loi corrective n° 2 de 2020, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Ms. SQUIRES having spoken,

And Ms. MARCELINO and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having questioned the Minister,

And the debate continuing,

And Hon. Mr. GERRARD having spoken,

And the Question being put. It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of this House.

Hon. Mr. HELWER moved:

THAT Bill (No. 12) – The Crown Land Dispositions Act (Various Acts Amended)/Loi sur les aliénations de terres domaniales (modification de diverses dispositions législatives), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

(Recommended by Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor)

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. HELWER having spoken,

And Mr. BRAR and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having questioned the Minister,

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And the debate continuing,

And Messrs. BRAR and WASYLIW and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having spoken,

The debate was, on motion of Ms. FONTAINE, adjourned.

Hon. Mr. HELWER presented:

Message from Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor recommending the disposition of public revenue for Bill (No. 12).

(Sessional Paper No. 49)

Hon. Mr. FRIESEN moved:

THAT Bill (No. 26) – The Human Rights Code Amendment Act/Loi modifiant le Code des droits de la personne, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. FRIESEN having spoken,

And Ms. FONTAINE and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having questioned the Minister,

And the debate continuing,

And Ms. FONTAINE speaking at 5:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in their name.

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, March 22, 2021.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,
Speaker.