



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 29

FOURTH SESSION, FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

MLA ASAGWARA moved:

THAT Bill (No. 226) – The Public Schools Amendment Act (Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques (fourniture de produits d'hygiène menstruelle), 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 Ms. MORLEY-LECOMTE, Ms. NAYLOR, Ms. LAMOUREUX and Messrs. MARTIN and ALTOMARE having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Hon. Ms. SQUIRES, Ms. NAYLOR, Hon. Mr. EWASKO and Ms. LAMOUREUX having spoken,

And Ms. MORLEY-LECOMTE speaking at 11:00 a.m. The debate was allowed to remain in their name.

Mr. WIEBE moved:

Resolution No. 8: Calling on the Provincial Government to Resolve the Surgical and Diagnostic Backlog

WHEREAS prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Manitoba had one of the longest wait times for hip, knee, and cataract surgery in Canada under the current Provincial Government and the pandemic has now exacerbated this issue; and

WHEREAS other provinces have taken effective steps to address their surgical and diagnostic backlogs, thereby showing that Manitoba's growing backlog could have been and still can be addressed through similar actions; and

Thursday, March 24, 2022

WHEREAS as of February 2022 Manitoba had an estimated backlog of 52,327 surgeries, an increase of 2,168 from the preceding month; and

WHEREAS as of February 2022 Manitoba had an estimated backlog of 42,489 diagnostic imaging procedures; and

WHEREAS as of February 2022 Manitoba had an estimated backlog of 66,679 other procedures, including endoscopies, mammograms, sleep disorder and lung function assessments; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government's creation of a surgery backlog task force was repeatedly delayed and is now led by Matthew Lister, an advocate of further cuts to the public healthcare system; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has left nearly 75% of the funds promised to address the surgical backlog this current fiscal year unspent; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government expanded highway medicine, by announcing a plan to send spinal patients to North Dakota for surgery without having an agreement in place with North Dakota or a timeline to do so; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has not made one single announcement on investments or how they plan to address the growing backlog of nearly 162,000 Manitobans here at home.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Government immediately invest in addressing the surgical and diagnostic backlog and commit to a date to clear the backlog

And a debate arising,

And Mr. WIEBE having spoken,

And Mr. SCHULER, Ms. FONTAINE, Hon. Mr. GERRARD and Messrs. WOWCHUK and MARTIN having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Messrs. SCHULER, MOSES and MARTIN and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having spoken,

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

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

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

(No. 227) – The Turban Day Act/Loi sur la Journée du turban

(Mr. BRAR)

Madam Speaker presented:

Auditor General's Report – Aging Information Systems Independent Audit Report, dated February 2022

(Sessional Paper No. 15)

Hon. Mr. EWASKO, the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, made a statement regarding Spring Send-off for Students, Teachers, and Support Staff.

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

Pursuant to Rule 27(1), Hon. Ms. GORDON, Mr. KINEW, Hon. Mr. WHARTON, Ms. FONTAINE and Mr. LAMONT and made Members' Statements.

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

Ms. LAMOUREUX – To urge the Provincial Government to immediately provide comprehensive and free 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 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 health care without jeopardizing their ability to remain in Canada.

Mr. WIEBE – 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.

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. FONTAINE – To urge the Provincial Government to immediately ensure effective and safe access to abortion services for individuals regardless of where they reside in Manitoba and to ensure that buffer zones are immediately legislated.

Mr. MALOWAY – To urge the Provincial Government to bring Consumer Protection legislation requiring scrap metal recyclers to keep proper records so only legitimate sales are allowed and criminals can be caught.

Ms. NAYLOR – To urge the Provincial Government to support a declaration that the first week in February of each year be known as Eating Disorders Awareness Week.

By unanimous consent, it was agreed to further amend the Sessional Order passed by the House on October 8, 2020, and subsequently amended, so that in the first paragraph “April 4, 2022” is replaced with “June 10, 2022”.

In accordance with Rule 33(8), the Opposition House Leader announced that the Private Members’ Resolution titled “Calling on the Provincial Government to Stop Raising Hydro Rates” will be considered on the next Thursday of Private Members' Business.

Hon. Mr. LAGIMODIERE moved:

THAT Bill (No. 4) – The Path to Reconciliation Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la réconciliation, be concurred in and be now read a Third Time and passed.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. LAGIMODIERE, Mr. BUSHIE, Ms. LAMOUREUX, MLA LINDSEY, Ms. FONTAINE and Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas) having spoken,

And the Question being put. It was agreed to.

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

Hon. Mr. JOHNSON moved:

THAT Bill (No. 12) – The Peak of the Market Reorganization Act/Loi sur la réorganisation de Peak of the Market, be concurred in and be now read a Third Time and passed.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BRAR, Hon. Mr. GERRARD and Mr. MOSES having spoken,

And the Question being put. It was agreed to.

Thursday, March 24, 2022

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

His Honour, Chief Justice Richard J. CHARTIER, Administrator of the Province of Manitoba, having entered the House at 4:39 p.m., and being seated on the Throne:

The Speaker addressed His Honour in the following words:

Your Honour,

At this sitting, the Legislative Assembly has passed certain Bills that I ask Your Honour to give assent to.

(No. 4) – The Path to Reconciliation Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la réconciliation

(No. 12) – The Peak of the Market Reorganization Act/Loi sur la réorganisation de Peak of the Market

To these Bills the Royal Assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly as follows:

"In Her Majesty's name, His Honour assents to these Bills."

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

The House then adjourned at 4:42 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, April 4, 2022.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,
Speaker.