



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 30

FIFTH SESSION, THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

Immediately following the Prayer, Mrs. TAILLIEU rose on a Matter of Privilege and moved:

THAT this House find the Government in contempt and that the Minister of Finance and the Minister responsible for Manitoba Hydro and the Premier of Manitoba be censured for first withholding information, then providing contradictory information, and deliberately attempting to mislead this House by maintaining the cost of Bipole III was \$2.2 billion for at least 18 months even though they were aware of contradictory evidence about the true and escalating costs of Bipole III, and as recently as yesterday continued to bring conflicting information to this House.

And Hon. Ms. HOWARD and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having spoken.

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

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

(No. 18) – The Highway Traffic Amendment Act/Loi modifiant le Code de la route
(Hon. Mr. SWAN)

(No. 212) – The Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation Amendment Act (Elimination of Benefits for Auto Thieves)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la Société d'assurance publique du Manitoba (non-admissibilité aux prestations — voleurs d'automobiles)
(Mrs. TAILLIEU)

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. GOERTZEN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Justice to consider ensuring that all court orders for car thieves are vigorously monitored and enforced and to consider ensuring all breaches of court orders on car thieves are reported to police and vigorously prosecuted.
(M. Van Helvert, T. Stewart, B. Crone and others)

Mr. PEDERSEN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request that the Minister of Justice deny all MPI benefits to a person for injuries received in an accident if he or she is convicted of stealing a motor vehicle involved in the accident. (D. Rinn, L. Trumbla, R. Graham and others)

Mr. CULLEN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to build the Bipole III transmission line on the shorter and more reliable east side of Lake Winnipeg, in order to save each Manitoba family of four \$11,748. (D. Suffield, C. Klassen, B. Tardift and others)

Hon. Mr. ASHTON, the Minister responsible for Emergency Measures, made a statement regarding the status of flooding in Manitoba.

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

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Mr. FAURSCHOU, Hon. Mr. MACKINTOSH, Messrs. GRAYDON and JHA and Mrs. STEFANSON made Members' Statements.

The House resumed the Interrupted Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Ms. WOWCHUK:

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 acknowledges that this budget contains some worthy promises for Manitobans, including:

- (a) Finally applying federal support toward an increased police presence in the province of Manitoba; and
- (b) Allowing universities and colleges more certainty in their provincial funding and more flexibility to pursue excellence; and
- (c) Providing capital support for needed improvements to our medical, educational and recreational facilities such as the Grace Hospital emergency room, expansion of the hospital at Ste. Anne and schools in locations such as Sage Creek; and
- (d) Providing some additional resources for the protection of Manitobans from excess moisture conditions in both the short-term and longer-term; and
- (e) Providing modest tax relief for Manitoba families; including school tax relief.

However, this House must also point out that the budget could do more to address the needs of future generations of Manitobans by doing more to reduce waste and mismanagement in the provincial budget, and reduce the reliance on increasing the deficit and dependence on debt and avoid tax increases in non-election years.

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Therefore, this House resolves to support the positive promises referred to above, but amends the government's general budgetary policy as follows:

- (a) By calling on the Provincial Government to reduce waste and mismanagement, starting with allowing Manitoba Hydro to build BiPole III on the east side route, saving Manitoba families an extra \$11,748, protecting Manitoba Hydro's system reliability, reducing the impacts on the environment and lowering the long term summary deficit; and
- (b) By calling on the Provincial Government to implement efforts to lower the deficit and control debt through a spending review process that will reduce waste, protect frontline social services and bring a more balanced fiscal approach, therefore ensuring a prosperous future for Manitobans.

And the debate continuing on the amendment,

And Messrs. BRIESE, CALDWELL and CULLEN having spoken.

And Mr. ALTERMEYER speaking at 12:30 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

The House then adjourned at 12:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, April 18, 2011.

Hon. George HICKES,
Speaker.