



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 47

SECOND SESSION, FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

Hon. Mr. PEDERSEN, the Minister of Infrastructure, made a statement regarding the National Emergency Preparedness Week.

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

Pursuant to Rule 27(1), Messrs. LINDSEY and LAGIMODIERE, Mrs. GUILLEMARD, Hon. Mrs. COX and Mr. SARAN made Members' Statements.

Following Oral Questions, Madam Speaker made the following ruling:

Following Oral Questions on Thursday, April 13, 2017, the Honourable Member for Keewatinook rose on a point of order regarding comments she attributed to the Honourable Member for Emerson. In raising the point of order, she advised the House that she had heard the Honourable Member for Emerson say "let them die on a doorstep," comments which shocked her and comments which she requested the Honourable Member for Emerson apologize for. I took the matter under advisement in order to verify the comments complained of in Hansard. Subsequent to taking this point of order under advisement, the Honourable Member for Emerson rose on a point of order to explain that his full comments "they sent them home in a taxi to die in a doorstep" in reference to policies and actions of the previous government. The Official Opposition House Leader also spoke to the same point of order. I then reminded the House that the point of order was taken under advisement in order to review Hansard.

I thank all Honourable Members for their advice to the Chair on this matter.

In reviewing Hansard for Thursday, April 13, 2017, the words complained of do not appear in Hansard; however the Honourable Member for Emerson did in the subsequent point of order advise that he did say the words "they sent them home in a taxi to die" which was not the same as "let them die on a doorstep." It is clear to me that this situation does not involve a breach of the rules or practices of the House, it is a case of a Member hearing one thing and a Member advising that he had said something different. Therefore there is no point of order.

Though there may not be a point of order in this situation, I would like to raise a concern with the House about the extent to which heckling has become a disruptive factor. As I have mentioned in the House recently, there will always be a degree of heckling, however in recent days heckling has been going too far in terms of noise level and with hurtful intent. Even when I am calling for order, no sooner have I sat down when Members immediately start up again. Members are even continuing to heckle while I am standing to bring the House to order, and this is demonstrating a lack of respect for the institution of the Office of Speaker and for the Assembly in general. I would respectfully request that when order is called for or when the Speaker stands, the Speaker is heard in silence as the procedural authorities instruct us.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind all Honourable Members of how powerful words can be, and of the hurt and damage they can inflict, even if uttered without that intent. I take the issue of having a respectful workplace very seriously, and as Speaker, I will always do my best to ensure that the Chamber is a place where Members can have differences of opinion while respectfully disagreeing with each other. I understand there are strong feelings held by most Members of this Assembly on a variety of matters, but it is important that we conduct ourselves in a dignified way and that we act with respect toward each other and in the performance of our duties of this House.

I thank the House for attention to these remarks, and I hope we can all move forward in continuing to share differences of opinion in a respectful manner.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. WIEBE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the decision to close Concordia Hospital’s emergency room so that families and seniors in northeast Winnipeg and the surrounding areas have timely access to quality health care services.

Mr. LINDSEY – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to withdraw its plans to deregulate the taxi industry including withdrawing Bill 30.

Mr. SELINGER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to withdraw its plans to deregulate the taxi industry including withdrawing Bill 30.

Ms. LATHLIN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to withdraw its plans to deregulate the taxi industry including withdrawing Bill 30.

Mr. SWAN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to recognize the need for excellent recreation facilities in all Manitoba schools, to reverse this regressive cut and to provide Kelvin High School with the funding necessary to complete a new gymnasium and wellness centre.

Mr. MALOWAY – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to withdraw its plans to deregulate the taxi industry including withdrawing Bill 30.

Monday, May 8, 2017

Mr. MARCELINO (Tyndall Park) – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to withdraw its plans to deregulate the taxi industry including withdrawing Bill 30.

Ms. MARCELINO (Logan) – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to withdraw its plans to deregulate the taxi industry including withdrawing Bill 30.

The House resolved into Committee of Supply.

The House then adjourned at 5:01 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 9, 2017.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,
Speaker.