



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 5

THIRD SESSION, FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

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

(No. 3) – The Canadian Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Labour Mobility Act and Regulated Health Professions Act Amended)/Loi sur la mise en œuvre de l'Accord de libre-échange canadien (modification de la Loi sur la mobilité de la main-d'œuvre et de la Loi sur les professions de la santé réglementées)

(Hon. Mr. PEDERSEN)

(No. 208) – The Conflict of Interest Act/Loi sur les conflits d'intérêts

(Hon. Mr. FLETCHER)

(No. 210) – The Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la Société d'assurance publique du Manitoba

(Hon. Mr. FLETCHER)

Hon. Mr. PEDERSEN, the Minister of Growth, Enterprise and Trade, made a statement regarding the Canadian Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act.

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

Pursuant to Rule 27(1), Mr. MICKLEFIELD, Ms. MARCELINO (Logan) and Messrs. PIWNIUK, ALTEMEYER and MICHALESKI made Members' Statements.

Following Oral Questions, Madam Speaker made the following ruling:

During Private Member's business on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 the Honourable Member for Fort Richmond rose on a point of order addressing comments made by the Honourable Member for St. Johns during debate that morning. The Member for Fort Richmond indicated that the Member for St. Johns "said that I had used humour to dismiss the seriousness of suicide". The Member for Fort Richmond rejected that interpretation of her remarks. The Member for St. Johns spoke to the point of order as well, stating that she felt it was inappropriate for the Member for Fort Richmond to have commented on the apparel of two female MLAs in the House.

The Deputy Speaker took the matter under advisement.

In reviewing the Hansard transcript from that morning I feel that some comments were misconstrued which led to strong words being exchanged. I believe this to be a dispute over facts and opinions, and accordingly I would find that there is no Point of Order.

I would like to remind all Members to be mindful of their words and actions in this place. It is clear to me that both Members in this case hold strong feelings on the matter that was before the House, and this is entirely appropriate. What is not appropriate is for divergent opinions to lead to accusations and the exchange of harsh words.

I will leave the House with a quote from O'Brien and Bosc's House of Commons Procedure and Practice (page 594), which I believe to be instructive, and worthy of your attention:

"One of the guiding principles of parliamentary procedure is that debate and other proceedings in the House... be conducted in terms of a free and civil discourse. Accordingly, the House has adopted rules of order and decorum governing the conduct of Members towards each other and towards the institution as a whole. Members are expected to show respect for one another and for viewpoints differing from their own; offensive or rude behaviour or language is not tolerated. Emotions are to be expressed verbally rather than acted out; opinions are to be expressed with civility and freely, without fear of punishment or reprisal."

I thank Members for their attention to these words, and to this ruling.

The following petition was presented and read:

Hon. Mr. GERRARD – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to cancel plans to close the Corydon Primary Care Clinic and to reopen the Misericordia Urgent Care Centre. (B. Lower, M. Lower, E. Sweshone and others)

The House resumed the debate on the Proposed Motion of Ms. MORLEY-LECOMTE:

THAT the following address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor:

We, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba thank your Honour for the gracious speech addressed to us at this Third Session of the Forty-First Legislature of Manitoba.

And the proposed amendment moved by Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas) as follows:

THAT the Motion be amended by adding the following words at the end:

But this House regrets that the Provincial Government failed to:

- (a) failed to protect front line health care services that Manitoba families and seniors depend on by pushing ahead with the closure of emergency rooms, urgent care centres and the elimination of outpatient physiotherapy and occupational therapy services; and
- (b) failed to invest in upstream interventions in health care such as primary prevention, pharmacare and home care in order to keep Manitobans healthy at home; and
- (c) indicated an intention to cut more front line workers, on top of the thousands of job losses already ordered, hitting Manitobans hard, especially in northern communities like Churchill, which was not even mentioned in the Throne Speech; and
- (d) failed to have a jobs plan for the future to address technology change; and
- (e) failed to offer a climate change plan which sees all revenue from a price on carbon directed to initiatives that fight global warming and help low-income Manitobans access green options; and
- (f) indicated plans to further download responsibility for services onto municipalities across the province, including road renewal, after freezing grants for two years and eliminating an historic cost sharing agreement with municipalities for public transit; and
- (g) failed to put forward a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy that raises families and children out of the cycle of poverty and has instead cut funding for prevention supports, increased tuition for post-secondary education, and put the availability of child care further out of reach for many Manitoba families.

As a consequence of these and many other failings, the Provincial Government has thereby lost the trust and confidence of the people of Manitoba and this House.

And the proposed sub-amendment moved by Ms. LAMOUREUX as follows:

THAT the motion be amended by adding after clause (g) the following clauses:

- (h) failed to commit to reversing the decisions to: dismantle collaborative health care teams; increase senior management positions in health by creating another bureaucratic arm of the government with Shared Health Services; or to fire the two lactation consultants, two recreational therapists for Mental Health Patients and two audiologists; and
- (i) failed to commit to improving issues relating to supportive housing, independent living, hospice and personal care homes or reversing the decision to raise costs on Senior Care Programs; and
- (j) failed to commit to community and employee input and evidence based outcomes for health care changes, to lowering ambulance fees by 50% this year or placing insulin pumps and hearing aids under Medicare; and

- (k) failed to commit to implementing an addictions plan to respond to the growing meth and opioid crisis in Manitoba or implementing recommendations from the 2016 Liberal Caucus Brain Health Report; and
- (l) failed to commit to reversing the decision to only allow large out of province retailers to sell cannabis in Manitoba; and
- (m) failed to commit to reversing the decision to end funding to the John Howard residential bail program; and
- (n) failed to commit to reversing the decisions to make student bursaries funding largely dependent on private funding or to cancel the tuition fee tax rebate; and
- (o) failed to commit to funding the Wasagamack airstrip; and
- (p) failed to commit to providing fair compensation for taxi owners; and
- (q) failed to commit to ending the practice of clawing back the children's special allowances from kids in CFS, particularly those who are in unpaid care; and
- (r) failed to commit to recognizing the role of agricultural producers and support them in reducing Manitoba's carbon footprint; and
- (s) failed to commit to not allowing MLA's who own or invest in agricultural companies to vote on the carbon tax; and
- (t) failed to commit to better polling reliability for getting input from Manitobans; and
- (u) failed to commit to improving the outdated technology systems utilized in government departments; and
- (v) failed to commit to including the criminalization of mental illness and addictions in the justice system review or to the development and implementation of a provincial suicide strategy; and
- (w) failed to commit to reversing the decision to charge Provincial Nominee Program applications; and
- (x) failed to commit timely construction of the road network connecting communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg; and
- (y) failed to commit to addressing the urgent need for First Nations housing or developing Emergency Management protocols for northern and remote communities; and
- (z) failed to commit to implementing, together with First Nations and Metis people in Manitoba, a plan to improve nutrition and to decrease diabetes in our Province; and

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- (aa) failed to commit to developing strategies to work with the Federal Government to insure that all Manitoba First Nation communities have better access to improved nursing stations, health care, clean running water, internet and phone connectivity, teachers and land and air transportation; and
- (bb) failed to commit to fulfilling the 2016 Throne Speech promises of creating a new provincial housing strategy, providing for self-regulation for Manitoba's paramedics, reforming conflict of interest laws or the Look North Recommendation of updating and releasing the "duty to consult" framework for Indigenous communities; and
- (cc) failed to commit to fulfilling the Provincial Government's election promises of supporting Urban Aboriginal Economic Development Zones, raising the personal tax exemption to the national average, fast tracking the construction of 1200 personal care home beds, opening a dedicated stroke unit, developing a mental health and addictions strategy and to work positively and respectfully with Indigenous people and communities.

And the debate continuing on the sub-amendment,

And Mr. LINDSEY, Hon. Ms. CLARKE and Messrs. WIEBE, HELWER, SWAN, SMOOK and MARCELINO (Tyndall Park) having spoken.

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

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 28, 2017.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,
Speaker.