



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA**

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 77**

**FIRST SESSION, FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE**

**PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**10:00 O’CLOCK A.M.**

The House resumed the debate on the proposed motion of MLA LAGASSÉ:

THAT Bill (No. 217) – The Men’s Mental Health Awareness Week Act (Commemoration of Days, Weeks and Months Act Amended)/Loi sur la Semaine de sensibilisation à la santé mentale des hommes (modification de la Loi sur les journées, les semaines et les mois commémoratifs), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And the debate continuing,

And MLA MOROZ 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.

Pursuant to Rule 34, the Deputy Opposition House Leader announced that the Private Member’s resolution titled “Removing Land Transfer Tax for First-Time Home Buyers” will be considered on the next Thursday of Private Members’ Business.

Mr. JOHNSON moved:

THAT Bill (No. 214) – The Manitoba Hydro Amendment Act (Net-Metering Agreements)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l’Hydro-Manitoba (ententes de facturation nette), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. JOHNSON having spoken,

And MLA DEVGAN and Messrs. NESBITT and NARTH having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Hon. Mr. SIMARD, Mr. NESBITT and MLA DEVGAN having spoken,

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

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Ms. BYRAM moved:

Resolution No. 24: Including an MRI in Portage District General Hospital

WHEREAS an MRI is a noninvasive medical imaging technique that uses a magnetic field and computer-generated radio waves to produce detailed images of internal structures in the human body; and

WHEREAS early detection and diagnosis of cancers and other diseases and injuries using MRI not only saves lives, but reduces pressure on the healthcare system; and

WHEREAS there are currently more than 24,000 Manitobans waiting for an MRI scan; and

WHEREAS in the City of Portage la Prairie, a \$450 million state of the art Regional Healthcare Facility is currently under construction; and

WHEREAS the Portage District General Hospital Foundation has generously pledged \$5 million in funding towards having an MRI located at the new hospital; and

WHEREAS having an MRI located in Portage la Prairie's new hospital would reduce the number of people waiting for a scan by approximately 8,000; and

WHEREAS local doctors and health-care professionals support the inclusion in the new construction and have called on the government to do so, describing the lack of scanner as "a glaring omission" that will hurt patients; and

WHEREAS thousands of Portage la Prairie residents have signed petitions urging the government to reconsider and include an MRI scanner in the new hospital; and

WHEREAS having diagnostic imaging closer to home would benefit many surrounding communities and First Nations reducing transportation costs for patients as well as reducing the burden on ambulatory and stretcher services; and

WHEREAS two of the fastest growing communities, Oak Bluff and Headingley, would also benefit from an MRI located in Portage la Prairie; and

WHEREAS wait times for MRIs are up by over 16% in Manitoba in the past year, with hospitals in Winnipeg seeing waits as high as over 46 weeks; and

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WHEREAS the invitation from the Member for Portage la Prairie to the Minister of Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care to participate in an MRI townhall event to hear directly from the local community has gone unanswered.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to listen to the calls from over thirty-five local doctors and thousands of community residents to include an MRI scanner in the new Portage la Prairie hospital to reduce wait times for diagnostic imaging and provide care closer to home.

And a debate arising,

And Ms. BYRAM having spoken,

And MLA CROSS, Mrs. COOK and MLA BEREZA having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And MLAs COMPTON, BEREZA and PANKRATZ having spoken,

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

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**1:30 O’CLOCK P.M.**

Hon. Min. FONTAINE tabled:

Revised sequence for consideration of the Estimates by the Committee of Supply for October 17, 2024, only.

(Sessional Paper No. 186)

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Pursuant to sub-rule 28(1), Hon. Min. ASAGWARA, Mrs. COOK, Hon. Min. SCHMIDT, Mr. KHAN and MLA PANKRATZ made Member’s statements.

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The House resolved into the Committee of Supply.

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The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, October 28, 2024.

Hon. Tom LINDSEY,  
Speaker.