



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 44

FIRST SESSION, FORTIETH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

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

(No. 38) – The Statutes Correction and Minor Amendments Act, 2012/Loi corrective de 2012
(Hon. Mr. SWAN)

(No. 217) – The Portage Diversion Compensation Act (Water Resources Administration Act Amended)/Loi sur l'indemnisation relative au canal Portage (modification de la Loi sur l'aménagement hydraulique)

(Mr. EICHLER)

(No. 301) – The Young Men's Christian Association of Brandon Incorporation Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi constituant en corporation «The Young Men's Christian Association of Brandon »

(Mr. CALDWELL)

The following petition was presented and read:

Mr. GOERTZEN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request that the Minister of Health to ensure additional personal care homes and long-term care space are made available in the City of Steinbach on a priority basis. (G. Gryba, K. Harder, E. Topnik others)

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker made the following ruling:

Following Grievances on Thursday, May 3, 2012, the Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition raised a point of order suggesting that the Attorney General should put the independence of his office ahead of partisanship. The Honourable Leader of the Official Opposition spoke in relation to the Attorney General's comments on a previous point of order regarding the issue of a Cabinet minister breaking a law. He stated that such comments from the Attorney General were inappropriate because, as the head of the department of Justice, he should maintain some separation, distance and independence from debates dealing with illegal actions. The Honourable Minister of Justice also spoke to this point of order. I took the Matter under advisement to review Hansard and consult the procedural authorities.

This point of order originated with a dispute over the role of the Attorney General, as well as a dispute over the interpretation of a ruling from the Elections Commissioner. As I have noted previously, while these may be valid matters of debate in the House, O'Brien and Bosc note on page 634 of the *House of Commons Procedure and Practice* (second edition) that Members "may not direct remarks to the House or engage in debate by raising a matter under the guise of a point of order."

As I have indicated previously, it is not the Speaker's role to decide on questions of facts, or to determine whether or not information brought before the House is correct. All Members of this Chamber are Honourable Members, and as Speaker I accept the word of each Honourable Member. It is also not the Speaker's role to determine or comment on the nature of the role of the Attorney General or any other Member of this House.

I would also like to advise the House that the Speaker has no authority to determine questions of law. This point is supported by rulings from Speaker Rocan in 1994, Speaker Dacquay in 1996, Speaker Hickes in 2006 and 2009, and by an earlier ruling I made as Speaker.

Accordingly, I respectfully rule that there is no point of order.

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Messrs. GAUDREAU and PEDERSEN, Hon. Mr. RONDEAU, Mrs. DRIEDGER and Mr. PETTERSEN made Members' Statements.

Hon. Mr. LEMIEUX moved:

THAT Bill (No. 20) – The Planning Amendment Act (Inland Port Area)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'aménagement du territoire (zone intermodale), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. LEMIEUX, Mr. BRIESE and Hon. Mr. GERRARD 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.

Hon. Mr. LEMIEUX moved:

THAT Bill (No. 31) – The Bilingual Service Centres Act/Loi sur les centres de services bilingues, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

(Recommended by His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor)

And a debate arising,

Monday, June 4, 2012

And Hon. Mr. LEMIEUX, Mr. BRIESE and Hon. Mr. GERRARD 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.

Hon. Mr. LEMIEUX presented:

Message from His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor recommending the disposition of public revenue for Bill (No. 31).

(Sessional Paper No. 59)

Hon. Mr. LEMIEUX moved:

THAT Bill (No. 32) – The Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Powers of Traffic Authorities over Cycling Traffic)/Loi modifiant le Code de la route (pouvoirs des autorités chargées de la circulation à l'égard des bicyclettes), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. LEMIEUX, Mr. BRIESE and Hon. Mr. GERRARD 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.

Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS moved:

THAT Bill (No. 10) – The Securities Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les valeurs mobilières, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS, Mrs. STEFANSON and Hon. Mr. GERRARD 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.

Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS moved:

THAT Bill (No. 18) – The Affordable Utility Rate Accountability Act/Loi sur la responsabilisation en matière de tarifs de services publics abordables, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

(Recommended by His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor)

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS, Mr. HELWER and Hon. Mr. GERRARD 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.

Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS presented:

Message from His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor recommending the disposition of public revenue for Bill (No. 18).

(Sessional Paper No. 60)

Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS moved:

THAT Bill (No. 27) – The Insurance Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les assurances, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS, Mrs. STEFANSON and Hon. Mr. GERRARD 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.

Hon. Mr. ASHTON moved:

THAT Bill (No. 3) – The Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Speed Limits in School Zones)/Loi modifiant le Code de la route (limites de vitesse dans les zones scolaires), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

Monday, June 4, 2012

And Hon. Mr. ASHTON, Mr. EICHLER and Hon. Mr. GERRARD 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.

Hon. Mr. ASHTON moved:

THAT Bill (No. 5) – The Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Inter-City Bus Service)/Loi modifiant le Code de la route (service d'autobus interurbain), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. ASHTON, Mr. EICHLER and Hon. Mr. GERRARD 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.

The House then adjourned at 5:01 p.m. until 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 5, 2012.

Hon. Daryl REID,
Speaker.