



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 47

SECOND SESSION, FORTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

Mrs. COOK moved:

THAT Bill (No. 226) – The Health System Governance and Accountability Amendment Act (Reporting When Timely Care Not Available)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la gouvernance et l'obligation redditionnelle au sein du système de santé (communication de renseignements en cas d'impossibilité de fournir des soins en temps opportun), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Mrs. COOK having spoken,

And Hon. Min. ASAGWARA, Mr. SCHULER, Ms. BYRAM and Mr. KING having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Hon. Mins. ASAGWARA and NAYLOR, Mr. BRAR and MLA CORBETT 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.

Mrs. HIEBERT moved:

Resolution No. 11: Addictions Recovery and Treatment

WHEREAS other Canadian jurisdictions are actively closing down injection sites for illegal and lethal drugs in favour of additional recovery-oriented programs, such as Alberta's establishment of the Canadian Centre of Recovery Excellence; and

WHEREAS Manitoba has an opportunity to invest in recovery-oriented programming and give Manitobans battling addictions the support they need to get their life back; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government Budget 2025-26 has failed to allocate needed resources for the expansion of life-saving recovery spaces, instead opting to fund failed consumption sites for illegal and lethal drugs; and

WHEREAS there is a demonstrated need to expand the successful and in-demand services of Rapid Access to Addictions Medicine (RAAM) clinics which provide not only treatment, but a pathway into access to additional services and programs, all in an environment under the supervision of medical professionals; and

WHEREAS the previous PC Provincial Government created seven RAAM Clinics, and since the current Minister of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness cut the ribbon on the seventh PC site, there has been no additional RAAM capacity added; and

WHEREAS the consumption model utilized by the Provincial Government is not supervised by trained and qualified medical staff but instead often relies upon a peer mentorship approach, despite the massive health concerns around addictions.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to provide funding immediately for additional recovery-oriented treatment beds and associated medical treatment services as well as additional funding to ensure current RAAM Clinics are fully staffed with extended hours of operation, rather than funding consumption spaces for illegal and lethal drug injection.

And a debate arising,

And Mrs. HIEBERT having spoken,

And MLA LOISELLE, Mr. GUENTER and Hon. Ms. SMITH having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Hon. Ms. SMITH, Mr. BALCAEN and MLA PANKRATZ having spoken,

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

In accordance with Rule 34, the Opposition House Leader announced that the Private Member's resolution titled "School Tax and Education Property Tax Increases" will be considered on the next Thursday of Private Members' Business.

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

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

(No. 214) – The Board Parity and Diversity Act/Loi sur la parité et la diversité au sein des conseils d'administration

(Mr. WASYLIW)

(No. 46) – The Budget Implementation and Tax Statutes Amendment Act, 2025/Loi d'exécution du budget de 2025 et modifiant diverses dispositions législatives en matière de fiscalité

(Hon. Min. SALA)

Hon. Mr. WIEBE tabled:

Annual Report on the Repeal of Acts Not in Force.

(Sessional Paper No. 30)

Hon. Min. MOROZ, the Minister of Innovation and New Technology, made a statement regarding Yom HaShoah.

Mr. PERCHOTTE and, by leave, MLA LAMOUREUX commented on the statement.

Hon. Min. SCHMIDT, the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, made a statement regarding the Week of the Early Childhood Educator, April 27 to May 3, 2025.

Mr. EWASKO commented on the statement.

Pursuant to sub-rule 28(1), Hon. Min. ASAGWARA, Mr. JOHNSON, MLA COMPTON, Mr. WHARTON and Hon. Min. MOROZ made Member's statements.

The following petitions were presented and read to the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba:

Ms. BYRAM – To urge the Provincial Government to support the investment and placement of a CT scanner machine in the Neepawa Health Centre in Neepawa, Manitoba.

MLA LAMOUREUX – To urge the Provincial Government, including associated service providers, to adopt Marin’s Principle and to comply with Supreme Court of Canada judgments, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and the Human Rights Code; to ensure public classroom teachers are fully trained in methods and philosophies explicitly created for children with learning disabilities with no restriction to a single program or product; to commit to funding for private literacy services, (for children at their parent’s discretion), for all who are currently learning-disabled (diagnosed/suspected), with no penalty of discontinued instruction in public school, so they can become functionally literate and gain knowledge and skills like their peers; to commit funding for private counselling so each learning-disabled adult, diagnosed/suspected, has their choice of therapist to help overcome education trauma due to adverse provincial curriculum and policies, for private literacy instruction, at their discretion, to become functionally literate and for access to evidence-aligned senior year classes that were missed so they can graduate with the education they have always had a right to receive; and to provide compensation for harm and loss of income for Manitobans with learning disabilities who remain functionally illiterate (level two) after the age of 18.

Mrs. STONE – To urge the Provincial Government to remove the federal carbon tax on home heating bills for all Manitobans to provide them much needed relief.

Mr. EWASKO – To urge the Provincial Government to take immediate and decisive action on bail reform to address serious deficits in enforcement by utilizing all available provincial mechanisms to strengthen warrant enforcement, increasing bail supervision, and opposing release of offenders, thus ensuring that repeat violent offenders are held accountable and that public safety is prioritized over leniency; and to lobby the Federal Government to immediately repeal provisions of the Criminal Code that allow for the continued victimization of law-abiding Manitobans while granting repeat offenders additional rights.

Mr. BALCAEN – To urge the Provincial Government to order an out-of-province review of the prosecutor’s decision to not prosecute the accomplice in the death of Jordyn Reimer.

MLA BEREZA – To urge the Provincial Government to support the investment and placement of an MRI machine in the Portage Regional Health Facility in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

Mr. NESBITT – To urge the Provincial Government to order an out-of-province review of the prosecutor’s decision to not prosecute the accomplice in the death of Jordyn Reimer.

Mrs. COOK – To urge the Provincial Government to proceed with the planned renovation and expansion of Phoenix School without further delay.

Mr. GUENTER – To urge the Provincial Government to lobby the Federal Government to stop the expansion of medical assistance in dying to those for whom mental illness is the sole condition; and to protect Canadians struggling with mental illness by facilitating treatment, recovery, and medical assistance in living, not death.

Mrs. HIEBERT – To urge the Provincial Government to take immediate action and recognize the critical need of this wastewater project for economic growth and environmental stability by committing to advocating and working with the Federal Government to close the gap with additional funding for Morden's wastewater treatment system; and to ensure all levels of government and regulatory bodies will expedite necessary funding and approvals necessary to advance the Morden wastewater project with no further delay and ensure no hindrance to growth and economic development for Morden and southern Manitoba.

Mr. JOHNSON – To urge the Provincial Government to support the investment and placement of an MRI machine in the Portage Regional Health Facility in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

Mr. NARTH – To urge the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning to immediately bring back the three portable classrooms to help alleviate the stress and overcrowding classrooms; and to urge the Provincial Government to reinstate the expansion project for Green Valley School.

Mr. WOWCHUK – To urge the Provincial Government to meet RTAC road designation by providing upgrades and regular road maintenance to Provincial Road 352 in Manitoba specifically the 1.5-mile stretch from Birnie to Provincial Trunk Highway 5 and ensure the road remains paved with asphalt and not reduced to gravel; to reduce load weights on PR 352 until the upgrades can be completed; and to replace or repair the bridge located on the 1.5-mile stretch from Birnie to PTH 5, and to provide an integrity assessment.

Mr. PERCHOTTE – To urge the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning to reverse recent amendments to the Teaching Certificates and Qualifications Regulation that weaken subject-area requirements for teacher certification, and to reinstate teachable majors and minors and early-middle years requirements, which are essential for ensuring teachers have strong knowledge in core subject areas; and to urge the Provincial Government to address teacher shortages through alternative measures that uphold rigorous subject-area standards, which are critical for providing quality education to all Manitoba students.

Mr. KING – To urge the Provincial Government to immediately restore funding and commence construction on the personal care home in Stonewall, ensuring that this essential project proceeds without further delay.

Mr. PIWNIUK – To urge the Provincial Government to take immediate and decisive action on bail reform to address serious deficits in enforcement by utilizing all available provincial mechanisms to strengthen warrant enforcement, increasing bail supervision, and opposing release of offenders, thus ensuring that repeat violent offenders are held accountable and that public safety is prioritized over leniency; and to lobby the Federal Government to immediately repeal provisions of the Criminal Code that allow for the continued victimization of law-abiding Manitobans while granting repeat offenders additional rights.

Mr. SCHULER – To urge the Provincial Government to support the investment and placement of an MRI machine in the Portage Regional Health Facility in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

Mr. WHARTON – To urge the Provincial Government to support the investment and placement of an MRI machine in the Portage Regional Health Facility in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

Mr. KHAN – To urge the Provincial Government to take immediate and decisive action on bail reform to address serious deficits in enforcement by utilizing all available provincial mechanisms to strengthen warrant enforcement, increasing bail supervision, and opposing release of offenders, thus ensuring that repeat violent offenders are held accountable and that public safety is prioritized over leniency; and to lobby the Federal Government to immediately repeal provisions of the Criminal Code that allow for the continued victimization of law-abiding Manitobans while granting repeat offenders additional rights.

The House resumed debate on the proposed motion of Hon. Min. FONTAINE:

THAT a Special Committee on Local Journalism be created to make recommendations on exploring the future of local journalism, including rural and cultural media such as French, Filipino, Punjabi and Chinese language publications, with the mandate to consider matters of public support for journalism, and report its conclusion to the Assembly within 30 days of the start of Fall Sitting 2025; and

THAT the composition of the Special Committee be:

- (a) four members designated by the NDP caucus, and
- (b) two members designated by the PC caucus; and

THAT the Special Committee be authorized to decide how it will conduct its business, including deciding to hold meetings at times and places it considers advisable to receive briefs and hear presentations; and

THAT, except as otherwise provided in this motion, the Special Committee shall have the same status and powers and follow the same rules and procedures as a Standing Committee of the House, including the power to establish a sub-committee for the purposes of carrying out any part of the Special Committee's work; and

THAT after adoption by the House, this motion may be amended only by:

- (a) unanimous consent of the House;
- (b) passage of a subsequent motion by the House; or
- (c) written agreement of all House Leaders if the House is not sitting.

And the proposed amendment moved by Mr. JOHNSON as follows:

THAT the first clause of the motion be deleted and the following substituted as the new first clause:

THAT a Special Committee on Local Journalism be created to make recommendations on exploring the future of local journalism, including rural and cultural media representing all ethnicities and non-official languages, so long as they do not promote hate speech or undermine the Manitoba values of inclusivity and respect for all races, religions, and backgrounds, with the mandate to consider matters of public support for journalism, and report its conclusion to the Assembly within 30 days of the start of Fall Sitting 2025; and

And the debate continuing on the amendment,

And Mr. GOERTZEN having spoken,

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

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, May 5, 2025.

Hon. Tom LINDSEY,
Speaker.