



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA**

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS** No. 27

**FIFTH SESSION, THIRTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE**

**PRAYER**

**10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.**

On motion of Hon. Mr. LEMIEUX, Bill (No. 22) – The Firefighters, Peace Officers and Workers Memorial Foundations Act/Loi sur les fondations à la mémoire des pompiers, des agents de la paix et des travailleurs, was read a First Time and had its purposes outlined.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mrs. ROWAT – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Provincial Government to consider stopping the removal of these positions from our community (Minnedosa), and to consider utilizing current technology in order to maintain these positions in their existing location. (G. Elliott, R. Block, J. Jackson and others)

Mrs. TAILLIEU – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Minister charged with the administration of The Liquor Control Act to consider allowing the owners of Headingley Foods to sell alcohol at their store, thereby supporting small business and the prosperity of rural communities in Manitoba. (L. Grandmont, B. Wahlers, L. Major and others)

Mrs. DRIEDGER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Health to consider developing a clear, immediate plan to address the ER doctor shortage and to consider taking all necessary steps to ensure the Grace Hospital emergency room does not close. (G. Varnes, W. Green, I.A. Varnes and others)

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Hon. Ms. MELNICK, Mrs. ROWAT, Hon. Mr. RONDEAU, Mrs. STEFANSON and Mr. CALDWELL made Members' Statements.

The House resumed the Adjourned Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. SELINGER:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

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

*THAT the Motion be amended by deleting all the words after "House" and substituting:*

therefore regrets that this budget neglects many of the current and future needs of Manitobans by:

- (a) failing to set out a coherent plan to stem the flow of people out of Manitoba, after the loss of 35,000 Manitobans to other provinces since 1999; and
- (b) failing to make Manitoba a “have” province, reduce the debt and decrease the NDP government’s reliance on federal transfer payments; and
- (c) failing to implement taxation measures to make Manitoba competitive with other provinces; and
- (d) failing to entice businesses to come to Manitoba and spur economic and job growth while Manitoba now ranks seventh in job creation as it falls even further behind other jurisdictions; and
- (e) failing to address serious issues of crime such as auto theft, gang activity, and violent crime; and
- (f) failing to address chronic problems in health care, which has led Manitoba to be ranked 10th out of 10 provinces on health by the Conference Board of Canada; and
- (g) failing to address the emergency physician shortage that has crippled Manitoba hospitals and threatens to close more emergency rooms; and
- (h) failing to implement an effective strategy to reduce wait times for diagnostic testing, surgical procedures and appointments with specialists; and
- (i) failing to address the needs of farm families, increase slaughter capacity, develop a comprehensive biofuel strategy, and provide a sustainable plan for growth of agriculture and the rural economy; and
- (j) failing to declare a definitive end to the NDP government’s practice of raiding Manitoba Hydro’s revenues, which has negatively impacted the Crown Corporation’s financial position; and
- (k) failing to address the fact that the government’s mismanagement of the child welfare system has led to vulnerable children falling through the cracks; and
- (l) failing to embark on a long-overdue, science-based effort to clean up Lake Winnipeg, contrary to the Premier’s earlier promise that the environment “trumps all other issues” in government; and
- (m) failing to acknowledge that the NDP government’s inaction on the environment resulted in a 480,000 tonne increase of Manitoba’s greenhouse gas emissions between 2004 and 2005, the highest percentage increase in Canada; and
- (n) failing to make meaningful progress to ensure the strength and competitiveness of our post-secondary institutions; and
- (o) failing to provide clear information about the Spirited Energy campaign, the subject of yet another investigation of the NDP government by the Auditor General; and
- (p) failing to be accountable to Manitobans for exorbitant cost overruns on the Floodway Expansion project and Manitoba Hydro office tower.

As a consequence, the Government has thereby lost the confidence of this House and the people of Manitoba.

And the proposed sub-amendment moved by Hon. Mr. GERRARD as follows:

*THAT the amendment be amended by adding thereto the following words:*

And further regrets that this budget also ignores the present and future needs of Manitobans by:

(q) failing to acknowledge that the province needs to stand shoulder to shoulder with Manitoba's First Nations and Métis Communities in responding to the major needs in the areas of housing, nutrition, wellness and other areas both by direct provincial action and by effectively calling the Federal Government to account for its shortcomings;

(r) failing to take adequate measures to protect children in the care of Manitoba Child and Family Services and to provide adequate transition to children in care so that they are not at high risk after leaving care;

(s) failing to provide an effective strategy to deal with child poverty;

(t) failing to provide Manitobans with the legal rights to timely, quality health care;

(u) failing to present an adequate approach to reduce phosphorous levels and algal blooms in Lake Winnipeg;

(v) failing to provide an adequate five year plan and the needed resources to address the child care needs of Manitobans;

(w) failing to provide adequate funding for the primary organization which provides provincial operating funding for health research the Manitoba Health Research Council;

(x) failing to provide a vision for rural communities and farm families outside of the City of Winnipeg;

(y) failing to provide adequate support for libraries in Manitoba – when libraries are one of the major building blocks needed to improve literacy in our province;

(z) failing to provide adequate support to municipalities and small farming operations to end the practice of winter spreading of animal manure and human bio-solids;

(aa) failing to make rapid transit a priority in the City of Winnipeg;

(bb) failing to install an environmental levy on cosmetic fertilizers containing phosphorous that continue to aggravate the algae problems on Lake Winnipeg.

**Friday, April 13, 2007**

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And the debate continuing on the sub-amendment,

And Mrs. TAILLIEU, Hon. Mr. SMITH and Mr. REIMER having spoken.

And Mr. NEVAKSHONOFF speaking at 12:30 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

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The House then adjourned at 12:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, April 16, 2007.

Hon. George HICKES,  
Speaker.