



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 1

FIRST SESSION, THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

This being the first meeting of the Thirty-Ninth Legislature for the dispatch of business pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour John Harvard, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Manitoba, Patricia Chaychuk, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, laid upon the Table of the House the names of the elected candidates, submitted by the Chief Electoral Officer pursuant to section 174 of The Elections Act, returned at the General Election held on May 22, 2007, to serve in this Legislature. The Clerk having been authorized to administer the Oath to the Members present who, after having taken the Oath and subscribed the Roll, took their seats in the House.

ELECTORAL DIVISION	MEMBER ELECTED
Arthur-Virden	MAGUIRE, Larry
Assiniboia	RONDEAU, Jim
Brandon East	CALDWELL, Drew
Burrows	MARTINDALE, Doug
Carman	PEDERSEN, Blaine
Charleswood	DRIEDGER, Myrna
Concordia	DOER, Gary
Dauphin-Roblin	STRUTHERS, Stan
Elmwood	MALOWAY, Jim
Emerson	GRAYDON, Cliff
Flin Flon	JENNISSEN, Gerard
Fort Garry	IRVIN-ROSS, Kerri
Fort Rouge	HOWARD, Jennifer
Fort Whyte	MCFADYEN, Hugh
Gimli	BJORNSON, Peter
Inkster	LAMOUREUX, Kevin
Interlake	NEVAKSHONOFF, Tom
Kildonan	CHOMIAK, Dave
Kirkfield Park	BLADY, Sharon
La Verendrye	LEMIEUX, Ron
Lac du Bonnet	HAWRANIK, Gerald
Lakeside	EICHLER, Ralph

Lord Roberts	MCGIFFORD, Diane
Minnedosa	ROWAT, Leanne
Minto	SWAN, Andrew
Morris	TAILLIEU, Mavis
Pembina	DYCK, Peter George
Point Douglas	HICKES, George
Portage La Prairie	FAURSCHOU, David
Radisson	JHA, Bidhu
Riel	MELNICK, Christine
River Heights	GERRARD, Jon
Rossmere	BRAUN, Erna
Rupertsland	ROBINSON, Eric
Russell	DERKACH, Len
Seine River	OSWALD, Theresa
Selkirk	DEWAR, Greg
Southdale	SELBY, Erin
Springfield	SCHULER, Ron
St. Boniface	SELINGER, Greg
St. James	KORZENIOWSKI, Bonnie
St. Johns	MACKINTOSH, Gord
St. Norbert	BRICK, Marilyn
St. Vital	ALLAN, Nancy
Ste. Rose	BRIESE, Stu
Steinbach	GOERTZEN, Kelvin
Swan River	WOWCHUK, Rosann
The Maples	SARAN, Mohinder
The Pas	LATHLIN, Oscar
Thompson	ASHTON, Steve
Transcona	REID, Daryl
Turtle Mountain	CULLEN, Cliff
Tuxedo	STEFANSON, Heather
Wellington	MARCELINO, Flor
Wolseley	ALTEMEYER, Rob

(Sessional Paper No. 1)

His Honour, John HARVARD having entered the House, took his seat on the Throne.

Hon. Mr. CHOMIAK then said:

"I am directed by His Honour the Lieutenant Governor to inform you that he will not declare the causes of calling this Legislature until a Speaker has been elected in accordance with the Law."

His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

Pursuant to the provisions of Rule 6, the House proceeded to the Election of the Speaker.

The Clerk then informed the House that Mr. George Hickes, Member for the Electoral Division of Point Douglas, had been duly elected to the Office of the Speaker in accordance with Sub-rule 8(2).

After being declared, Mr. George HICKES was conducted to the Chair by Hon. Mr. DOER and Mr. MCFADYEN, and invested with the Speaker's robes of office, he then returned his acknowledgements to the House as follows:

"Honourable Members of the Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly:

I wish to thank the Members for the high honour the House has conferred on me. I leave the floor of this House to take the Speaker's chair. I leave behind all political and partisan feelings and I intend to carry out the important duties of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly with impartiality and to the best of my ability."

His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor, having re-entered the House, took his seat on the Throne.

Mr. Speaker then addressed his Honour:

Your Honour, the Legislative Assembly has elected me as its Speaker. On behalf of the Assembly, it is my duty to claim all the Assembly's traditional rights and privileges, especially the privilege of freedom of speech in debate and access to your Honour when required. I ask you to give the most favourable consideration to the Assembly's proceedings.

Hon. Mr. CHOMIAK then said:

"Mr. Speaker:

His Honour is confident that the Assembly's proceedings will be conducted with wisdom and prudence. In addition, His Honour grants the Assembly's claim to its traditional rights and privileges. His Honour will now declare the causes of calling this Legislative Assembly."

His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor, was pleased to open the session with the following gracious speech:

MR. SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE MANITOBA LEGISLATURE:

I welcome you to the First Session of the Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly of the Province of Manitoba.

Congratulations and best wishes to all new Members of the Legislative Assembly, and to those who are returning to this House. Your constituents and the people of Manitoba have entrusted you with important responsibilities: to serve the public interest; to provide vision and leadership; and to make decisions in this Chamber that will shape the future of Manitoba and improve the lives of our citizens.

All candidates who put their names forward in the general election deserve to be recognized for the leadership they have shown and their commitment to the democratic process.

Among those elected there is a diversity which reflects the face of Manitoba. It is particularly gratifying to see the number of women taking their seats in this Chamber. Our Legislature now has the largest proportion of women of any Legislature in Canada.

Your government is honoured to have received a strong and clear mandate to move Manitoba forward. The new mandate will focus on the following priorities:

- *Moving forward in health care* – with further increases in the training and recruitment of health professionals, and added measures to shorten wait times. Community health options and prevention programs will be expanded. Investments in health facilities will continue to be made in every part of the province, with a special focus on emergency rooms, dialysis treatment and care for the elderly.
- *Moving forward with a cleaner, healthier environment* – while continuing to seize the opportunities of the emerging “green economy.” Initiatives will be introduced to further strengthen the protection of our waterways, forests and air quality. In addition, Manitoba will build on our leadership position in environmentally sustainable technologies and the production of clean energy.
- *Moving forward with education and training opportunities for young people here at home.* Post-secondary education will be kept affordable for Manitoba students, and for northern and rural residents new programs will be provided *closer to home*. Your government will work with employers and educators to expand apprenticeship training and ensure that our provincial skills strategy remains responsive to the growth sectors in our economy.
- *Moving forward by making our communities safer* – by hiring more police, prosecutors and firefighters; by adding community *Lighthouses* and other options for youth recreation; and by working with the federal government to introduce tougher consequences for those who break the law.

- *Moving forward by preserving affordability* – ensuring that Manitoba remains one of the most affordable places to own a home or operate a business; to study; to work; and to raise a family. Personal income and business taxes will be further reduced, and homeowners will benefit from increased property tax credits and a multi-year plan to fund 80% of school costs from provincial revenues. An increase in the Manufacturing Investment Tax Credit will provide further relief to companies dealing with the impacts of a rapidly rising dollar.
- *Moving forward by keeping Manitoba Hydro owned by and for the citizens of Manitoba.* Manitobans will continue to benefit from the lowest electricity rates in North America, as well as the economic opportunities resulting from new hydro facilities and wind turbines.
- *And moving forward with our building agenda* – to establish a foundation for future growth in each region of our province.

All Manitoba communities will benefit from an historic \$4 billion investment in road construction and upgrades.

In the North, construction of the Wuskwatim dam is underway; the Conawapa project has started; and a major expansion of the University College of the North is set to begin in Thompson, The Pas and over a dozen Aboriginal communities.

The settlement of Treaty Land Entitlements is an economic necessity for First Nations. Manitoba will continue to provide lands for transfer to the Federal government, and will support a long-overdue, major acceleration of TLE claims through a more decisive settlement process.

In rural Manitoba, new capital investments are being made to expand the production of smart foods and smart fuels. Research in nutraceuticals and functional foods is triggering investment in food processing plants and the development of new consumer markets. Ethanol, bio-diesel and wind power production are providing a major supplement to the agricultural economy.

In Winnipeg and Brandon major college and university additions will be launched in the coming year, overlapping with the completion of Manitoba Hydro's downtown headquarters, the new James Richardson Airport Terminal and the floodway expansion project.

Many of the initiatives underway to achieve these commitments were already presented to this Chamber in the 2006 Speech from the Throne, which was debated and passed by Members in November, and the 2007/08 Budget, which was debated and passed in April.

A motion to reintroduce the Budget will follow the vote on the Speech from the Throne, allowing the work of the Legislature to continue.

Today is the anniversary of D-Day, the assault on the beaches of Normandy in 1944 that began the liberation of western Europe. This anniversary is an opportunity to remember those citizens of Manitoba and Canada who fought to preserve our liberties, and to pay tribute to the men and women who serve our country today.

In closing I want to thank our guests, and in particular the families and friends of our newly elected Members, for joining us today for the first session of the Thirty-Ninth Legislature of Manitoba. I also wish to thank our Speaker and all Members of the Legislature for the hard work that lies ahead.

As you proceed to carry out the responsibilities the people of Manitoba have entrusted to you, I trust that Divine Providence will guide your deliberations in the best interests of all our citizens.

His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor was then pleased to retire.

MR. SPEAKER IN THE CHAIR

PRAYER

Immediately following the Prayer, Mr. LAMOUREUX rose on a point of order regarding the proper procedure and tradition for circulating copies of the Throne Speech before it has been actually completed.

WHEREUPON Mr. Speaker informed the House he would take the matter under advisement.

On motion of Hon. Mr. DOER:

ORDERED that Bonnie KORZENIOWSKI, Member for the Electoral Division of St. James, be Chairperson of the Committees of the Whole House and Deputy Speaker.

On motion of Hon. Mr. DOER:

ORDERED that Rob ALTEMEYER, Member for the Electoral Division of Wolseley, be Deputy Chairperson of the Committees of the Whole House.

On motion of Hon. Mr. DOER:

ORDERED that Marilyn BRICK, Member for the Electoral Division of St. Norbert, be Deputy Chairperson of the Committees of the Whole House.

On Motion of Hon. Mr. DOER, Bill (No. 1) – An Act Respecting the Administration of Oaths of Office/Loi sur la prestation des serments d'entrée en fonction, was read a First Time.

On motion of Hon. Mr. DOER:

THAT a Special Committee consisting Hon. Mr. ASHTON, Ms. BRICK, Hon. Mr. CHOMIAK, Messrs. DEWAR, GOERTZEN, MAGUIRE and DYCK be appointed to prepare the proportional membership representation to compose the Standing Committees provided under Sub-rule 83(1).

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

On motion of Hon. Mr. DOER:

ORDERED that the Speech of His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor be taken into consideration today.

Ms. HOWARD moved, seconded by Ms. MARCELINO:

THAT the following address be presented to His 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 First Session of the Thirty-Ninth Legislature of Manitoba.

And a debate arising,

And Ms. HOWARD and Ms. MARCELINO having spoken,

The debate was, on motion of Mr. MCFADYEN, adjourned.

The House then adjourned at 2:32 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Thursday, June 7, 2007.

Hon. George HICKES,
Speaker.