



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 2

THIRD SESSION, THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

9:30 O'CLOCK A.M.

As previously agreed to by the House, Hon. Mr. DOER, Mr. MCFADYEN and Hon. Mr. GERRARD provided tributes to the memory of Oscar LATHLIN, the late Honourable Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs and the Member for the constituency for The Pas.

By leave, the House then recessed until 10:15 a.m.

Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table of the House:

To His Honour the Lieutenant Governor in Council:

We, Dave CHOMIAK and Eric ROBINSON, Members of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, hereby give notice that a vacancy exists in the representation in the Legislative Assembly, of the Electoral Division of The Pas due to the passing of Oscar LATHLIN, the Member elected in this Electoral Division.

Pursuant to Section 25 of "*The Legislative Assembly Act*" we request Your Honour in Council to pass an order-in-council for the filling of the vacancy in the representation of this Electoral Division in the Legislative Assembly under the provisions of "*The Elections Act*".

Dated at Winnipeg this 18th day of November, AD 2008.

(Signed) Dave Chomiak,
Member of the Legislative Assembly

Eric Robinson,
Member of the Legislative Assembly

(Sessional Paper No. 1)

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. BRIESE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to consider developing a comprehensive recovery strategy aimed at addressing both the immediate and the long-term effects of this year's excess moisture conditions and flooding; and to consider examining all types of programming to help producers recover from this disaster, including emergency, one-time programs, as well as improvements to the crop insurance program to address its shortfalls; and to consider addressing shortcomings with drainage and the processing of drainage permits. (R. Ross, E. Campbell, M. Sucharyna and others)

Mr. BOROTSIK – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Education Citizenship and Youth to consider removing education funding by school tax or education levies from all property in Manitoba and to consider finding a more equitable method of funding education such as general revenue following the Constitutional funding of education by the Province of Manitoba. (E. Stolar, H. Stolar, A. Konowakchuk and others)

Mr. LAMOUREUX – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Premier of Manitoba to consider the important role that community police offices can play in making our communities safer. (J. Sokolsoki, H. Sokolsoki, T. Sokolsoki and others)

Hon. Mr. SWAN presented:

Annual Report of the Canada/Manitoba Economic Partnership Agreement for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008.

(Sessional Paper No. 2)

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Mr. DERKACH, Ms. HOWARD, Messrs. BOROTSIK, SARAN and HAWRANIK made Members' Statements.

Prior to Orders of the Days, Hon. Mr. GERRARD rose on a Matter of Urgent Public Importance and moved:

THAT under Rule 36(1) the ordinary business of the House be set aside to discuss a Matter of Urgent Public Importance, namely, the numerous children who have died and continue to die as a result of homicide while under the care of Child and Family Services.

And Hon. Mr. GERRARD, Mrs. MITCHELSON and Hon. Mr. CHOMIAK having spoken to the urgency of the motion,

WHEREUPON Mr. Speaker ruled as follows:

I thank the Honourable Members for their advice to the Chair on whether the motion proposed by the Honourable Member for River Heights should be debated today. The notice required by Rule 36(1) was provided. Under our Rules and Practices, the subject matter requiring urgent consideration must be so pressing that the public interest will suffer if the matter is not given immediate attention. There must also be no other reasonable opportunities to raise the matter.

I have listened very carefully to the arguments put forward, however I was not persuaded that the ordinary business of the House should be set aside to deal with this issue today. Although this is an issue that many Members may have a concern about, I do not believe that the public interest will be harmed if the business of the House is not set aside to debate the motion today.

Additionally, I would like to note that there are other avenues for Members to raise this issue, which include the Throne Speech Debate, questions in Question Period and Members Statements.

Therefore, with the greatest of respect, I must rule that this matter does not meet the criteria set by our Rules and Precedents and I rule the motion out of order as a Matter of Urgent Public Importance.

Ms. SELBY moved, seconded by Ms. BLADY:

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 Third Session of the Thirty-Ninth Legislature of Manitoba.

And a debate arising,

And Ms. SELBY and Ms. BLADY having spoken.

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

The House then adjourned at 12:20 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, November 24, 2008.

Hon. George HICKES,
Speaker.