



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA**

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS** No. 24

**THIRD SESSION, FORTIETH LEGISLATURE**

**PRAYER**

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

The following petition was presented and read:

Mrs. STEFANSON – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to not raise the PST without holding a provincial referendum. (L. Boleros, L. Moralee, M. Finley and others)

Hon. Mr. LEMIEUX presented:

The Manitoba Liquor Control Commission, Quarterly Report, Nine Months, April 1 to December 31, 2013.

(Sessional Paper No. 17)

Manitoba Lotteries Corporation, Quarterly Report, Nine Months, April 1 to December 31, 2013.

(Sessional Paper No. 18)

Hon. Ms. IRVIN-ROSS, the Minister responsible for the Status of Women, made a statement regarding March 8, 2014, being International Women's Day.

Mrs. ROWAT and, by leave, Hon. Mr. GERRARD commented on the statement.

Hon. Mrs. KOSTYSHYN, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, made a statement regarding the struggle farmers are having with getting their grain to market.

Mr. PEDERSEN and, by leave, Hon. Mr. GERRARD commented on the statement.

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Messrs. GAUDREAU, FRIESEN and RONDEAU, Mrs. ROWAT and Mr. MARTIN made Members' Statements.

The House resumed the Adjourned Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Ms. HOWARD:

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

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. PALLISTER having spoken,

And Mr. PALLISTER moved an amendment as follows:

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

therefore regrets that this budget neglects the priorities of Manitobans by:

- a) failing to repeal the massive tax and fee increases imposed in Budget 2012 and Budget 2013 including the PST hike the Provincial Government previously referred to as "ridiculous" and promised never to impose; and
- b) disrespecting Manitobans by refusing to hold the legally required referendum before increasing the PST and going to court in 2014 to permanently remove the rights of Manitobans to vote on major tax increases; and
- c) breaking the promise to eliminate the structural deficit of nearly \$400 million created by years of government mismanagement and overspending despite record federal transfers, historically low interest rates and record government revenues; and
- d) failing to address the growing threat to services Manitobans count on such as health and social supports which are severely impacted by the more than \$32 billion provincial debt, a debt which was created by overspending even with record federal transfers, historically low interest rates and record government revenues; and
- e) breaking the promise to seniors by failing to provide promised tax relief; and
- f) neglecting vulnerable Manitobans by ignoring repeated calls from the Official Opposition and anti-poverty coalitions to immediately raise the Employment and Income Assistance rental allowance rates to 75% of median market rents; and
- g) failing to relieve the income tax burden for low income families; and
- h) ignoring repeated calls from the Official Opposition and independent experts to review the Provincial Government's \$25 billion Manitoba Hydro expansion gamble which has already resulted in dramatic hydro rate increases for Manitoba families and will continue to impose dramatic hydro rate increases for generations to come; and

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- i) failing to encourage business confidence by stifling economic growth through excessive red tape and worsening the already uncompetitive tax environment by raising the PST; and
- j) continuing the Provincial Government's isolationist trade policies by failing to act on the repeated calls of the Official Opposition, leading employers and industry groups to join the New West Partnership.

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

WHEREUPON Mr. Speaker ruled the amendment in order.

And the debate continuing on the amendment,

And Hon. Mr. ASHTON 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, March 10, 2014.

Hon. Daryl REID,  
Speaker.