

Monday, April 11, 2022



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 34

FOURTH SESSION, FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

Hon. Mr. GOERTZEN presented:

Annual Report on Fatality Inquiries according to section 43(1) of The Fatality Inquiries Act for the year ending December 31, 2021.

(Sessional Paper No. 22)

Hon. Ms. SQUIRES, the Minister of Families, made a statement regarding Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

MLA MARCELINO and, by leave, Ms. LAMOUREUX commented on the statement.

Pursuant to Rule 27(1), Mr. SCHULER, MLA MARCELINO, Messrs. MICHALESKI and MALOWAY and Hon. Mr. LAGIMODIERE made Members' Statements.

Prior to Oral Questions, Madam Speaker made the following statement:

I have been reflecting on recent events in this House. As you know I have had many concerns about the deterioration of decorum in this place, which I have shared with you before, and unfortunately feel that I have had to do that on too many occasions. However, today I need to raise a more specific issue regarding decorum. This is not a procedural matter, but rather a matter of courtesy and respect.

The world has changed a great deal in the 151 years this Assembly has been in operation, and it has even changed a great deal in the last 10 or 20 years. Specifically, the manner in which individuals wish to be addressed has been a part of recent wide-ranging changes in our society. As Members should know, in our society today many people have expressed that they do not identify with gender specific pronouns, but instead ask to be addressed with gender neutral pronouns.

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The right to be addressed with gender neutral pronouns must be respected without question and without judgement, both in this Assembly and in our society. I strive to comply with these wishes at all times as I believe it is a matter of respect and understanding, but unfortunately I know that on occasion I do make mistakes, and I have misgendered. I apologize for that and I will strive to do better in the future.

I would ask the same of every Member in this House. Accordingly, I would like to remind all Members that everyone deserves the respect of being referred to by their preferred pronouns, including gender neutral pronouns. This aligns with the respectful policies we strive to uphold in the Chamber.

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

MLA ASAGWARA – To urge the Provincial Government to provide the services of two nurses to restore essential medical foot care treatment to the City of Thompson effective April 1, 2022.

Mr. BRAR – To urge the Provincial Government to provide the services of two nurses to restore essential medical foot care treatment to the City of Thompson effective April 1, 2022.

Mr. BUSHIE – To urge the Provincial Government to provide the services of two nurses to restore essential medical foot care treatment to the City of Thompson effective April 1, 2022.

Mr. MALOWAY – To urge the Premier to financially assist the City of Winnipeg in her new 2022 provincial budget to build this three-lane bridge in each direction to maintain this vital link between northeast Winnipeg, Transcona and the downtown; and to recommend that the City of Winnipeg keep the old bridge fully open to traffic while the new bridge is under construction; and to consider the feasibility of keeping the old Louise Bridge open for active transportation in the future.

Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas) – To urge the Provincial Government to provide the services of two nurses to restore essential medical foot care treatment to the City of Thompson effective April 1, 2022.

Ms. NAYLOR – To urge the Provincial Government to immediately provide comprehensive and free public healthcare coverage to all residents of Manitoba regardless of immigration status, including refugee claimants, migrant workers, international students, dependent children of temporary residents, and undocumented residents; to urge the Minister of Health and Seniors Care to undertake a multilingual communication campaign to provide information on expanded coverage to all affected residents; to inform all healthcare institutions and providers of expanded coverage for those without public health insurance and the details on how necessary policy and protocol changes will be implemented; and to create and enforce strict confidentiality policies and provide staff with training to protect the safety of residents with precarious immigration status and ensure they can access public health care without jeopardizing their ability to remain in Canada.

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MLA LINDSEY – To urge the Provincial Government to provide the services of two nurses to restore essential medical foot care treatment to the City of Thompson effective April 1, 2022.

Ms. FONTAINE – To urge the Provincial Government to provide the services of two nurses to restore essential medical foot care treatment to the City of Thompson effective April 1, 2022.

Mr. WIEBE – To urge the Provincial Government to provide the services of two nurses to restore essential medical foot care treatment to the City of Thompson effective April 1, 2022.

Hon. Mr. GOERTZEN moved:

THAT Bill (No. 32) – The Victims' Bill of Rights Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Déclaration des droits des victimes, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

(Recommended by His Honour, the Administrator)

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. GOERTZEN having spoken,

And MLA LINDSEY, Hon. Mr. GERRARD and Mr. BUSHIE having questioned the Minister,

And the debate continuing,

And MLA LINDSEY, Mr. WISHART, Ms. FONTAINE, Hon. Mr. GERRARD and Mr. BUSHIE 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.

Hon. Mr. GOERTZEN presented:

Message from His Honour, the Administrator recommending the disposition of public revenue for Bill (No. 32).

(Sessional Paper No. 23)

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By leave, in accordance with section 36 of the Sessional Order passed by this House on October 7th, 2020 and subsequently amended, it was agreed to further amend that same Sessional Order so that:

1. Section 5 is repealed and replaced with the following:
 - *Members are to provide two hours' written notice to the Speaker and the Clerk of their intent to participate virtually on any sitting day.*
 - a. *In the event that this notice requirement is not met, a Member may appeal to the Speaker in writing for an exception.*
 - b. *With two hours' written notice to the Speaker and the Clerk, if necessary Members may participate virtually in the proceedings of any Committee of the Assembly, even if they have participated in House proceedings in person that same day.*
2. Sections 31 and 33 are repealed, with the remaining Sections to be renumbered accordingly, and
3. Section 35(a) is repealed and replaced with the following:
 - *Public presentations to Bills at Standing Committees may take place remotely or in person, with presenters appearing either virtually, by telephone, or by being present in the committee rooms.*

By leave, it was agreed to by the House to retroactively consider all previous references regarding the Sessional Order stating October 8, 2020 be recognized as October 7, 2020.

The House resumed the debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. GOERTZEN:

THAT Bill (No. 8) – The Court of Appeal Amendment and Provincial Court Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la Cour d'appel et la Loi sur la Cour provinciale, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And the Question Period continuing,

And Ms. FONTAINE having questioned the Minister,

And the debate continuing,

And Ms. FONTAINE 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. Tuesday, April 12, 2022.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,
Speaker.