



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 41

FOURTH SESSION, THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

The Clerk formally advised the Assembly that Mr. Speaker was unavoidably absent and called upon the Deputy Speaker to take the Chair pursuant to the Statutes. The Deputy Speaker took the Chair at 10:00 a.m.

By leave, it was agreed for the House to deal with Second Reading of Bill (No. 204).

Mrs. MITCHELSON moved:

THAT Bill (No. 204) – The Child and Family Services Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les services à l'enfant et à la famille, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Mrs. MITCHELSON, Hon. Mr. MACKINTOSH, Mr. GOERTZEN, Ms. SELBY, Mr. MARTINDALE and Hon. Mr. RONDEAU having spoken,

And Mr. DEWAR speaking at 11:00 a.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

Mr. PEDERSEN moved:

Resolution No. 7: Political Interference in Crown Corporations

WHEREAS Crown Corporations have a mandate to provide products and services to Manitobans efficiently and effectively; and

WHEREAS in order to fulfill this mandate, Crown Corporations require a degree of autonomy and freedom from interference by the political arm of government; and

WHEREAS Crown Corporations such as Manitoba Hydro and Manitoba Public Insurance have been subjected to undue political interference from the current Provincial Government; and

WHEREAS examples of political interference include the decision to build BiPole III on the west side of Lake Manitoba and the decision to force MPI to pay for Enhanced Identification Cards and the cost of driver licensing operations; and

WHEREAS the consequences of this political interference include draws on the Crown Corporations' financial resources to satisfy political objectives, increases in debt, and the inability to make decisions in the best interests of ratepayers; and

WHEREAS these consequences will ultimately impact Manitoba ratepayers in the form of increased rates and fees, compromising the next generation of Manitoba taxpayers who will be forced to pay for wasteful spending decisions in the form of taxes, higher rates, and fees.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to end political interference in Crown Corporations' financial operations, and instead insist on accountability to Manitoba ratepayers.

And a debate arising,

And Messrs. PEDERSEN, DEWAR, BOROTSIK and NEVAKSHONOFF and Mrs. TAILLIEU having spoken,

And Mr. WHITEHEAD speaking at 12:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The Clerk formally advised the Assembly that Mr. Speaker was unavoidably absent and called upon the Deputy Speaker to take the Chair pursuant to the Statutes. The Deputy Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

The following Bills were respectively read a First Time and had their purposes outlined:

(No. 226) – The Education Administration Amendment Act (Education About Donating Organs)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration scolaire (éducation sur le don d'organes)
(Mr. LAMOUREUX)

(No. 227) – The Employment Standards Code Amendment Act (Unpaid Leave Related to Donating an Organ)/Loi modifiant le Code des normes d'emploi (congé sans solde pour donneurs d'organes)
(Mr. LAMOUREUX)

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mrs. MITCHELSON – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to consider proceeding with the cheaper, shorter and more logical east side route, subject to necessary regulatory approvals, to save ratepayers hundreds of millions of dollars during these challenging economic times. (C. Kunau, C. Stocker, P. Sfordan and others)

Mrs. DRIEDGER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Minister of Health to consider rethinking her refusal to allow an ophthalmologist to practice in Swan River and to consider working with the community to provide this service without further delay. (S. Jersak, R. Lucan, F. Lucan and others)

Mr. BRIESE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the appropriate ministers of the Provincial Government to consider outlining to Parks Canada the importance that a viable recreational facility in the Mount Agassiz area would play in the local and provincial economies and to consider working with all stakeholders, including Parks Canada, to help develop a plan for a viable, multi-season recreation facility in the Mount Agassiz area. (R. Cripps, D. Cripps, B. Porter and others)

Mrs. STEFANSON – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request that the Provincial Government consider immediately providing Revlimid as a choice to patients with Multiple Myeloma and their health care providers in Manitoba through public funding. (H. Panchuk, T. McDonald, E. Schwarz and others)

Hon. Mr. GERRARD – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request that the Provincial Government ensures that landlords cannot discriminate against pet owners purely based on the fact that they have pets and that any provision in a tenancy agreement prohibiting the presence of animals in or about a residential complex should be void. (A. Downey, T. Dmytruk, R. Lefleur and others)

Mr. LAMOUREUX – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to consider how important it is to have a medical clinic located in the Weston/Brooklands area. (T. Kloschinsky, R. Kowal, D. Brassard and others)

Mr. DEWAR, Vice-Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, presented its Fourth Report, which was read as follows:

Meetings:

Your Committee met on the following occasions:

- September 9, 2009
- May 5, 2010

Matters under Consideration

- Auditor General's Report – Audit of the Workplace Safety and Health dated February 2007

Committee Membership

Committee Membership for the September 9, 2009 meeting:

- Mr. BOROTSIK
- Ms. BRAUN
- Ms. BRICK
- Mr. DERKACH (*Chairperson*)
- Mr. DEWAR
- Ms. HOWARD (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Mr. LAMOUREUX

- Mr. MARTINDALE
- Mr. MAGUIRE
- Ms. SELBY
- Mrs. STEFANSON

Committee Membership for the May 5, 2010 meeting:

- Mr. BOROTSIK
- Ms. BRAUN
- Ms. BRICK
- Mr. DERKACH (*Chairperson*)
- Mr. DEWAR (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Mrs. DRIEDGER
- Mr. LAMOUREUX
- Mr. MARTINDALE
- Mr. PEDERSEN
- Ms. WIEBE
- Hon. Ms. WOWCHUK

Officials Speaking on Record

Officials speaking on the record at the September 9, 2009 meeting:

- Ms. Carol Bellringer, Auditor General
- Hon. Ms. ALLAN
- Mr. Jeff Parr, Deputy Minister of Labour and Immigration

Officials speaking on the record at the May 5, 2010 meeting:

- Ms. Carol Bellringer, Auditor General
- Mr. Jeff Parr, Deputy Minister of Labour and Immigration

Reports Considered and Passed

Your Committee considered and passed the following reports as presented:

- Auditor General's Report – Audit of the Workplace Safety and Health dated February 2007

On motion of Mr. DEWAR, the Report of the Committee was received.

Hon. Ms. WOWCHUK presented:

Annual Report of the Crown Corporations Council for the year ending December 31, 2009.

(Sessional Paper No. 50)

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Hon. Ms. MCGIFFORD, Mrs. TAILLIEU, Ms. KORZENIOWSKI, Mrs. MITCHELSON and Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS made Members' Statements.

The House resolved into Committee of Supply.

Hon. Ms. WOWCHUK moved:

THAT Bill (No. 31) – The Budget Implementation and Tax Statutes Amendment Act, 2010/Loi d'exécution du budget de 2010 et modifiant diverses dispositions législatives en matière de fiscalité, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

(Recommended by His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor)

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Ms. WOWCHUK, Hon. Mr. GERRARD and Mr. LAMOUREUX having spoken,

The debate was allowed to remain open.

Hon. Ms. WOWCHUK presented:

Message from His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor recommending the disposition of public revenue for Bill (No. 31).

(Sessional Paper No. 51)

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, May 10, 2010.

Marilyn BRICK,
Deputy Speaker.