



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 45

THIRD SESSION, FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

Hon. Mrs. STEFANSON, the Minister of Health and Seniors Care, made a statement regarding Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day).

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

Pursuant to Rule 27(1), Mr. WISHART, Ms. NAYLOR, Messrs. LAGIMODIERE and BRAR and Hon Mr. GERRARD made Members' Statements.

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

Ms. ADAMS – To urge the Provincial Government to reverse changes to the nursery school grants and to end the freeze on childcares operating grants while committing to keeping public childcare affordable and accessible for all Manitoban Families.

Mr. BUSHIE – To urge the Provincial Government to reverse changes to the nursery school grants and to end the freeze on childcares operating grants while committing to keeping public childcare affordable and accessible for all Manitoban Families.

Ms. LATHLIN – To urge the Provincial Government to reverse changes to the nursery school grants and to end the freeze on childcares operating grants while committing to keeping public childcare affordable and accessible for all Manitoban Families.

Mr. MALOWAY – To urge the Provincial Government to immediately demand Dynacare maintain all the phlebotomy (blood sample) sites existing prior to the Covid-19 public health emergency, and allow all Manitobans to get their blood and urine tests done when visiting their doctor, thereby facilitating local access to blood testing services.

Mr. SALA – To urge the Provincial Government to reverse changes to the nursery school grants and to end the freeze on childcares operating grants while committing to keeping public childcare affordable and accessible for all Manitoban Families.

Mr. SANDHU – To urge the Minister of Justice to immediately reverse the decision to close the DCC and proceed with the previous plan to build a new correctional and healing centre with an expanded courthouse in Dauphin.

Mr. WIEBE – To urge the Minister of Justice to immediately reverse the decision to close the DCC and proceed with the previous plan to build a new correctional and healing centre with an expanded courthouse in Dauphin.

In accordance with Rule 33(8), the Opposition. House Leader announced that the Private Member's Resolution titled "Increase Staffing and Support for Personal Care Homes and for Seniors" will be considered if the House is sitting in Private Members' Business on Thursday morning, April 15, 2021.

The House resumed the Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. FIELDING:

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

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. KINEW having spoken,

And Mr. KINEW 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) refusing to learn the lessons of the pandemic by further reducing healthcare funding and holding it to below the inflation rate, compromising bedside care and failing to prepare for a potential third wave; and
- b) cutting emergency acute care funding while spending millions on the Health Transformation Office to cut nurses and other front line health care workers and close rural ERs; and
- c) failing to invest in rural and northern healthcare to ensure all Manitobans have access to the care they need close to home by freezing doctor and nurse recruitment efforts; and
- d) cutting the health capital budget, which means less investments in services, such as a seizure clinic, and new technology and refusing to invest in training for frontline health professionals, such as nurses to help Manitobans get quality care; and
- e) failing to improve long term care and home care for seniors after the Maples and Parkview Place tragedies by cutting long term care funding; and

- f) failing to provide any funding or details on addressing the failing vaccine rollout, while freezing funding for the Emergency Measures Office which assists with logistics and planning; and
- g) compromising the Crown Corporation, Manitoba Hydro, by trying to influence Manitoba Hydro operations and continuing their unconstitutional wage freezes, by refusing to repeal Bill 28, which has caused a strike for members of IBEW; and
- h) failing to be transparent with Manitobans with its plans to increase hydro rates this year after raising their rates in last year's budget; and
- i) failing to be transparent with its plan to privatize Manitoba Hydro; and
- j) providing millions in funds for insurance brokers but refusing to pay a fair wage to employees of Manitoba Public Insurance; and
- k) jeopardizing access to rural broadband by pursuing privatization and failing to provide investments to ensure rural and northern communities can get connected to highspeed internet; and
- l) continuing to reduce education funding, cutting literacy and learning supports and supports for children with exceptional needs, compromising children's success and their ability to catch up after the pandemic; and
- m) requiring educators to pay out of pocket to meet the educational needs of children because of inadequate educational funding; and
- n) failing to implement a universal school breakfast program and cutting supports for food security in the north, to ensure every child succeeds in the classroom; and
- o) refusing to provide menstrual products in schools, to make sure no student is subjected to period poverty; and
- p) continuing to cut funding for post-secondary institutions which will raise tuition, making education less affordable and accessible, cutting supports for apprentices and adult literacy, hindering Manitoba's economic recovery; and
- q) failing to provide any additional aid for small businesses or communities suffering job losses to ensure their success and economic recovery during and after the pandemic; and
- r) failing to adequately fund public childcare after five years of funding freezes and opening up public dollars to for-profit centers, all while cutting subsidies for families; and
- s) refusing to invest in local mental health supports and ignoring the addictions and homelessness crisis, while refusing to invest in supports such as a safe consumption site or building new social and affordable housing units; and

- t) failing to address climate change by continuing a court challenge on carbon pricing, while cutting its own Climate and Green Plan Implementation Office; and
- u) charging people more fees for government services, such as Park Passes, during a pandemic when more Manitobans are trying to get outside; and
- v) refusing to fund improvements for the North End Sewage Treatment Plant to help save Lake Winnipeg; and
- w) cutting funding to municipalities compromising their ability to fund services and priorities such as transit; and
- x) failing to support agricultural producers during what is anticipated to be a year of drought, by cutting risk management and support programs and cutting funding for Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation; and
- y) failing to provide support for women, BIPOC, newcomers and low-income Manitobans to fully assist in a social and economic recovery from the pandemic, including training and credential recognition; and
- z) failing to provide targeted supports with racialized, workplace and geographic data in mind while refusing to implement a living wage for Manitobans; and
- aa) cutting Indigenous and Northern Relations budget by millions, compromising consultation and reconciliation efforts and freezing supports from Community Economic Development Fund and refusing to include representatives of the Métis nation in its pandemic response; and
- bb) cutting the Sports, Culture and Heritage budget by millions, including the Status of Women, which further jeopardizes economic recovery for women and recreation opportunities for children; and
- cc) failing to match the commitment of Manitobans who have worked together heroically and sacrificed collectively to fight COVID-19; and
- dd) failing to have any Members of the Provincial Government caucus stand up against this budget.

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

WHEREUPON Madam Speaker ruled the amendment in order.

And the debate continuing on the amendment,

And Messrs. WISHART and WASYLIW, Ms. MORLEY-LECOMTE and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having spoken.

And Hon. Mr. GERRARD moved a sub-amendment as follows:

THAT the amendment be amended by adding after clause (dd) the following clauses:

- ee) failing to adhere to the most basic standards of honesty, competence and human decency, with a budget that gaslights Manitobans with empty promises while denying the basic necessities of life of housing, food, clean water and lifesaving and enabling medications and devices; and
- ff) failing utterly to learn from its own catastrophic failures and incompetence in mishandling the second wave of COVID-19, business supports and the vaccine rollout, and choosing to plow ahead with radical right-wing policies that will eviscerate public services and the families and communities who depend on them; and
- gg) failing the basic obligations of every government in a crisis, to place the common good ahead of blind partisanship and ideology, choosing instead to present a budget that steals from the poor and gives to the rich, loots the public treasury while running up billions in debt in order to cut cheques that enriches itself and its political cronies.

WHEREUPON Mr. Deputy Speaker ruled the sub-amendment in order.

And the debate continuing on the sub-amendment,

And Mr. JOHNSTON having spoken.

And Mr. ALTOMARE 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 10:00 a.m. Friday, April 9, 2021.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,
Speaker.