



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 21

FIFTH SESSION, FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

The Deputy Clerk formally advised the Assembly that the 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.

MLA ASAGWARA moved:

THAT Bill (No. 205) – The Restricting Mandatory Overtime for Nurses Act (Various Acts Amended)/Loi sur la réduction du temps supplémentaire obligatoire des infirmiers (modification de diverses lois), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And MLA ASAGWARA having spoken,

And Mr. HELWER, Ms. LAMOUREUX and Messrs. BRAR, WOWCHUCK, MICHALESKI and ISLEIFSON having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Messrs. HELWER, ALTOMARE and WOWCHUK and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having spoken,

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

Ms. LATHLIN moved:

Resolution No. 3: Calling on the Provincial Government to Stop Breaking Its Promises and Provide Better Support for Sexual Assault Survivors through the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program

Thursday, March 2, 2023

WHEREAS in 2018 Manitoba had a rate of more than 113 sexual assault cases for every 100,000 people, which is significantly higher than the national rate; and

WHEREAS this number is likely much higher as the majority of sexual assault cases aren't reported to the police; and

WHEREAS timely access to quality care after a sexual assault is key for survivors to get the support they need and for evidence to be collected so justice can be served; and

WHEREAS the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program, run out of the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg, provides critical support to sexual assault survivors and helps collect evidence for potential prosecution; and

WHEREAS the SANE program only has one full-time nurse and just over a dozen others who are on call to conduct sexual assault examinations in their off hours; and

WHEREAS demand is rising for the SANE program, with 764 sexual assault survivors receiving treatment from April 2022 to January 2023, a nearly 50% increase since 2017-18; and

WHEREAS in April 2022 the Provincial Government promised to spend \$640,000 annually to support the SANE program, hire five additional nurses and a provincial coordinator; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has broken all of these promises, thereby contributing to the current staffing crisis and is failing to support sexual assault survivors and SANE nurses; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has also failed to provide adequate supports for sexual assault survivors in Northern and rural Manitoba, including children; and

WHEREAS SANE program staffing shortages has resulted in at least 14 sexual assault survivors being sent home with the instruction to not shower or wipe themselves until they return when staff are available to treat them; and

WHEREAS urgent action is needed to fix the SANE program staffing shortage and to ensure that sexual assault survivors are supported with timely access to care; and

WHEREAS the SANE program's staffing shortage is just one example of how the Provincial Government's cuts to Manitoba's healthcare system and frontline health care workers is causing Manitobans harm.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urges the Provincial Government to stop breaking its promises to nurses and to provide better supports for sexual assault survivors by expanding support for the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program by ensuring it is properly staffed.

And a debate arising,

And Ms. LATHLIN having spoken,

And Mr. MARTIN, MLA FONTAINE, Hon. Mr. GERRARD, Mr. ISLEIFSON and Ms. COX having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Hon. Ms. SQUIRES, MLA FONTAINE, Hon. Ms. MORLEY-LECOMTE and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having spoken,

And Hon. Ms. CLARKE speaking at 12:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in their name.

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

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

(No. 221) – The Fatality Inquiries Amendment Act (Overdose Death Reporting)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les enquêtes médico-légales (rapport sur les décès par surdose)

[Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas)]

(No. 222) – The Public Schools Amendment Act (Nutrition Programs)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques (programmes d'alimentation)

(Mr. ALTOMARE)

Hon. Mr. GOERTZEN presented:

Annual Report of the Provincial Court of Manitoba for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022.

(Sessional Paper No. 9)

Madam Speaker presented:

Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Adjudicator for the year ending December 31, 2022.

(Sessional Paper No. 10)

Hon. Ms. GORDON, the Minister of Health, made a statement regarding Black History Month.

Mr. MOSES and, by leave, Mr. LAMONT commented on the statement.

Hon. Ms. SQUIRES, the Minister of Families, made a statement regarding Social Work Month.

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

Pursuant to Rule 28(1), Mr. HELWER, MLA ASAGWARA, Hon. Mr. TEITSMA and Messrs. SALA and LAMONT made Members' Statements.

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

Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas) – To urge the Provincial Government to take steps to implement Punjabi bilingual programs in public schools similar to existing bilingual programs and take steps to implement Punjabi language instruction in other levels of education in Manitoba.

Mr. REDHEAD – 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. ALTOMARE – [English version of a bilingual Petition] To request the Minister of Labour, Consumer Protection and Government Services to consider granting the auditorium to the JRL by March 1st, 2023; to request the Minister of Education to recognize the value that JRL provides to the student population of EHS as well as the communities of Village de St Pierre Jolys and the RM De Salaberry; to request the Minister of Education and the Minister of Francophone Affairs to recognize that an MOU between the RRVSD and JRL is morally, financially and culturally beneficial; to request the Minister of Sport, Culture and Heritage to recognize the heritage potential of this important building and its status in the community; and to request the Minister of Sport Culture and Heritage to prevent any renovations to the auditorium that would destroy and devalue the architectural integrity of the building.

MLA LINDSEY – To urge the Minister of Health and the Minister of Seniors and Long-Term Care to immediately increase investment in homecare services so that homecare workers can be paid a fair wage and clients can receive the level of service they require.

Mr. MALOWAY – To urge the Provincial Government to immediately contact all home and property owners in Manitoba with lead water pipes connecting to the City watermain line, and provide full financial support to them for lead water pipe replacement so their access to clean water is assured and exposure to lead and its health risks are eliminated.

MLA MARCELINO – To urge the Provincial Government to take steps to implement Punjabi bilingual programs in public schools similar to existing bilingual programs and take steps to implement Punjabi language instruction in other levels of education in Manitoba.

Mr. MOSES – To urge the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure to consult with noise specialists and other experts to help determine the most effective way to reduce the traffic noise and to commit to meaningful action to address resident concern; and to help address this issue with a noise barrier wall along residential portions of the South Perimeter from St. Anne's Road to St. Mary's Road and for River Park South residents.

Mr. SALA – To urge the Provincial Government to take steps to implement Punjabi bilingual programs in public schools similar to existing bilingual programs and take steps to implement Punjabi language instruction in other levels of education in Manitoba.

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Mr. SANDHU – To urge the Provincial Government to take steps to implement Punjabi bilingual programs in public schools similar to existing bilingual programs and take steps to implement Punjabi language instruction in other levels of education in Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Lagimodière) moved:

THAT Bill (No. 9) – The Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Control Amendment and Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la réglementation des alcools, des jeux et du cannabis et la Loi sur la Société manitobaine des alcools et des loteries, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. SMITH (Lagimodière) having spoken,

And Messrs. SALA and LAMONT having questioned the Minister,

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. SALA, MLA MARCELINO and Messrs. LAMONT and BRAR having spoken,

And Mr. SANDHU 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. Monday, March 6, 2023.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,
Speaker.