



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA**

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 34**

**FIFTH SESSION, FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE**

**PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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

Mr. ALTOMARE moved:

THAT Bill (No. 222) – The Public Schools Amendment Act (Nutrition Programs)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques (programmes d'alimentation), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. ALTOMARE having spoken,

And Messrs. MICHALESKI and MOSES, Ms. LAMOUREUX and Mr. WISHART having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Hon. Mr. EWASKO, Ms. NAYLOR, Mr. MICHALESKI and Ms. LAMOUREUX having spoken,

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

Mr. SALA moved:

Resolution No. 6: Calling on the Provincial Government to Listen to Doctors and Stop the Cuts at the Grace Hospital

WHEREAS for months Grace Hospital doctors, nurses, allied health workers and other front line health care workers have been calling on the Provincial Government to stop the cuts, fill vacancies and improve the quality of care patients receive; and

WHEREAS to date the Provincial Government and the Minister of Health have ignored these calls for help, which has resulted in inadequate overnight shift coverage, cuts to beds and according to Grace hospital doctors, a sub-standard level of care; and

WHEREAS 45 doctors from Grace Hospital sent a letter to the Minister of Health on March 9, 2023, expressing concern about a lack of oversight for patients in the hospital; and

WHEREAS Grace Hospital doctors called on the Provincial Government to take urgent action to end the acute staffing shortage at the Grace Hospital by approving funding for a position to help ensure patient safety overnight at the hospital in November 2022; and

WHEREAS these doctors also raised concerns about patient and staff safety due to an increase in baseline safety concerns and critical incidents that is caused by a lack of doctors on the medicine in-patient ward overnight; and

WHEREAS the doctors wrote that they “cannot emphasize enough that patient safety remains severely compromised at the Grace Hospital because of the current inadequate response and commitment to properly fund a position;” and

WHEREAS this issue was first raised by doctors in November, when they sent a proposal to the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority to bring Grace Hospital in line with standards at other Winnipeg hospitals, which was rejected, and a second proposal was met with silence; and

WHEREAS the consequences of acute staffing shortages are being felt in hospitals across Manitoba, not just the Grace Hospital; and

WHEREAS these acute staffing shortages highlight years of cuts and inaction by the Provincial Government to the healthcare system; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has failed healthcare workers all across the province by years of cutting healthcare including cutting beds at the Grace Hospital, leaving nursing positions vacant and failing to recruit and retain the healthcare staff needed to provide the quality of care Manitobans deserve, including at the Grace Hospital.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba condemn the Provincial Government for failing to listen to nurses and doctors and other front line health care workers and urge the Provincial Government to fix the healthcare crisis at Grace Hospital by stopping its health care cuts.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. SALA having spoken,

And Messrs. MICKLEFIELD and BUSHIE, Hon. Mr. GERRARD and Mr. PEDERSEN having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Hon. Min. KLEIN, MLA ASAGWARA, Mr. MICKLEFIELD and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having spoken,

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

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1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The following Bill was read a First Time and had its purposes outlined:

(No. 38) – The Builders' Liens Amendment Act (Prompt Payment)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur le privilège du constructeur (paiement rapide)

(Hon. Mr. TEITSMA)

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Hon. Mr. CULLEN presented:

Annual Report of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* for the year ending March 31, 2022.

(Sessional Paper No. 40)

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Pursuant to Rule 28(1), Hon. Mr. WHARTON, Mr. SANDHU, Mrs. COX, MLA FONTAINE and Ms. LAMOUREUX made Members' Statements.

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

Mr. ALTOMARE – 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.

Ms. LATHLIN – To urge the Minister of Infrastructure to complete an assessment of PR 224 and implement the appropriate repairs using public funds as quickly as possible.

Mr. MALOWAY – To urge the new Premier to financially assist the City of Winnipeg on building this three-lane bridge in each direction to maintain this vital link between northeast Winnipeg, Transcona and the downtown; to urge the Provincial Government 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 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.

MLA MARCELINO – To urge the Provincial Government to take action to reduce people’s exposure to lead in Winnipeg and to implement the recommendations proposed by the Provincial Government’s independent review, including the creation of an action plan for the Weston neighbourhood, developing a lead awareness, communications and outreach program, requisitioning a more in-depth study and creating a tracking program for those tested for blood lead levels so that medical professionals can follow up with them.

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.

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. 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.

Hon. Mr. GERRARD – To urge the Provincial Government to change the requirements for accessing Community Living and disABILITY Services so that these requirements are based on the needs of individuals with specific or nonspecific disabilities, including executive function or a combination of disabilities, rather than solely on the basis of their IQ.

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By leave, it was agreed to transfer sponsorship of Private Member’s Resolution (No. 7) – Commending the Provincial Government for Investing in Diabetic Supports, from the Honourable Member for La Vérendrye to the Honourable Member for Kildonan-River East.

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In accordance with Rule 34(8), the Opposition House Leader announced that the Private Members’ Resolution titled “Calling on the Provincial Government to restore Thompson’s Foot Care Clinic” will be considered on the next Thursday of Private Members’ Business.

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Hon. Mr. EWASKO moved:

THAT Bill (No. 35) – The Education Administration Amendment Act (Teacher Certification and Professional Conduct)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l’administration scolaire (brevets d’enseignement et conduite professionnelle), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

(Recommended by Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor)

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mr. EWASKO having spoken,

And Messrs. ALTOMARE and LAMONT having questioned the Minister,

And the debate continuing,

**Thursday, March 23, 2023**

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And Mr. ALTOMARE, MLA ASAGWARA, Mr. LAMONT and Ms. NAYLOR having spoken,

And Mr. BUSHIE speaking at 5:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in their name.

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Hon. Mr. EWASKO presented:

Message from Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor recommending the disposition of public revenue for Bill (No. 35).

(Sessional Paper No. 41)

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The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, April 3, 2023.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,  
Speaker.