



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 16

THIRD SESSION, FORTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

By leave, it was agreed for the House to deal with Second Reading of Bill (No. 213).

Mr. SWAN moved:

THAT Bill (No. 213) – The Allied Healthcare Professionals Recognition Week Act/Loi sur la Semaine de reconnaissance des professionnels paramédicaux, was read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. SWAN having spoken,

And Mr. TEITSMA, Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas), Hon. Mr. FLETCHER, Mr. SMITH (Southdale), Hon. Mr. GERRARD and Mr. MICHALESKI having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. TEITSMA, Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas), Mr. SMITH (Southdale) and Hon. Mr. GERRARD having spoken,

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

Mr. KINEW moved:

Resolution No. 4: Cuts to the Special Drugs Program

WHEREAS Manitobans are calling on the Federal Government to immediately implement a publicly funded, national pharmacare program that provides all Canadians with the prescription medicines they need; and

WHEREAS all political parties in Manitoba need to join together to ensure that a new national pharmacare program will be based on the values of universality, accessibility, public administration, comprehensiveness and portability as outlined in the Canada Health Act; and

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WHEREAS the Provincial Government has cut the Special Drugs Program (SDP), which helped alleviate the financial burden of high medication costs on the most vulnerable Manitobans; and

WHEREAS for more than 20 years, the SDP helped more than 700 families, about 1,100 individuals, with very serious health conditions manage high out-of-pocket costs for life saving medications; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government's cut means these SDP recipients will have to pay extremely high deductibles for the medication they need to cope with their disease, some as high as \$12,000 a year; and

WHEREAS many Manitobans and patient advocacy groups have spoken out against this cut, including Manitobans living with cystic fibrosis, diabetes, and cancer; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government's skewed perception of fairness means forcing the most vulnerable Manitobans to pay thousands rather than increasing access to life saving drugs coverage for everyone; and

WHEREAS access to essential prescription medication must be an essential part of the universal health care system which must be protected and valued; and

WHEREAS a recent Canadian survey says nearly one million Canadians go without food and basic life necessities in order to afford their prescriptions in 2016 and more than 1.6 million opted to not fill a prescription at all.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to reverse its damaging cut to the SDP program, immediately restore service and to call on the Federal Government to immediately establish a national pharmacare program without delay so that all Manitobans have universal access to essential life saving medications.

And Mr. KINEW having spoken,

And Mr. ISLEIFSON, Ms. FONTAINE, Hon. Mr. FLETCHER, Ms. LAMOUREUX, Mrs. GUILLEMARD, Mr. MICKLEFIELD and Hon Mr. GERRARD having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And Messrs. ISLEIFSON and SWAN, Mrs. GUILLEMARD and Ms. LAMOUREUX having spoken,

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

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

On motion of Hon. Mr. SCHULER, Bill (No. 14) – The Traffic and Transportation Modernization Act/Loi sur la modernisation des lois relatives à la circulation et au transport, was read a First Time and had its purposes outlined.

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Hon. Ms. SQUIRES, the Minister responsible for Status of Women, made a statement regarding today, March 8, 2018, being International Women's Day.

Ms. FONTAINE and, by leave, Ms. LAMOUREUX commented on the statement.

Hon. Mr. EICHLER, the Minister of Agriculture, made a statement regarding Canadian Agriculture Safety Awareness Week.

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

Hon. Mr. SCHULER, the Minister of Infrastructure, made a statement regarding Bill (No. 14) – The Traffic and Transportation Modernization Act/Loi sur la modernisation des lois relatives à la circulation et au transport.

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

Pursuant to Rule 27(1), Mr. EWASKO, Ms. FONTAINE, Mr. LAGASSÉ, Ms. KLASSEN and Mr. HELWER made Members' Statements.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. KINEW – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities. (H. King, J. Turner, T. Patterson and others)

Mr. SWAN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients' ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba's public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba's health facilities.

Mr. LINDSEY – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to recognize the absolute necessity of maintaining and improving the Northern Patient Transportation Program by continuing to respect Northern Patient Transfer agreements and funding these services in accordance with the needs of northern Manitobans.

Mr. ALTEMEYER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients’ ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba’s public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba’s health facilities.

Hon. Mr. FLETCHER – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to take the necessary steps to ensure that the Vimy Arena site is not used for an addiction treatment facility.

Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas) – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Provincial Government to reverse the cuts and closures that negatively impact patients’ ability access to timely, quality health care and to make real investments in Manitoba’s public health care system that will provide a direct benefit to patients, such as: increasing access to primary care; the development of a provincial health human resource plan; increasing publicly funded personal care homes across Manitoba; and increasing the efficiencies of diagnostic testing in Manitoba’s health facilities. (L. O’Driscoll, N. Vystrail, E. Holden and others).

Hon. Mrs. STEFANSON moved:

THAT a Special Committee on Proactive Disclosure Requirements for Provincial Candidates (the Special Committee) be established to study and make recommendations regarding the requirement of candidates seeking office in, but not limited to, the Manitoba Legislative Assembly to disclose matters including (but not limited to):

- a) past criminal background checks;
- b) adult and child abuse registry checks, and
- c) other matters which may be relevant for those who are seeking or holding office; and

THAT, except as otherwise provided in this motion, the Special Committee shall have the same status and follow the same practices and rules as a Standing Committee of the House, including:

- a) having the same membership composition as the current composition of the Standing Committees of the House; and
- b) having the power to establish a sub-committee for the purposes of carrying out any part of the Special Committee’s work; and

THAT, within the parameters of the practices and Rules of the House and the instructions of this motion, the Special Committee be authorized to decide how it will conduct its business, including deciding to hold meetings at such times and places it considers advisable to receive briefs and hear presentations; and

THAT, despite Rule 4(12) the committee may meet in the months of June, July and August; and

THAT the Special Committee be able to call witnesses, including, but not limited to, the Chief Electoral Officer of Elections Manitoba, representatives from political parties, academia and other experts in ethics, political science or whatever field the Special Committee deems appropriate; and

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THAT the Special Committee must report to the House by October 3, 2018.

And a debate arising,

And Hon. Mrs. STEFANSON, Messrs. ALTEMEYER and EWASKO, Ms. KLASSEN, Ms. MARCELINO (LOGAN) and Mr. MARTIN having spoken,

And Hon Mr. FLETCHER speaking at 5:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in his name.

The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, March 12, 2018.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,
Speaker.