



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA**

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**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 2**

**FOURTH SESSION, FORTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE**

**PRAYER**

**1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.**

Immediately following the Prayer, Ms. FONTAINE rose on a Matter of Privilege regarding circumstances surrounding the provision of the text of yesterday's Throne Speech to the media, prior to the speech being read in the House and moved:

To immediately empower an all party committee of this House to investigate the breach of this privilege and to make recommendations to the House of how to avoid this situation from taking place again.

And Hon. Messrs. GOERTZEN and GERRARD having spoken.

WHEREUPON Madam Speaker informed the House she would take the matter under advisement.

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Madam Speaker presented:

Annual Report of the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021.

(Sessional Paper No. 1)

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Hon. Ms. GORDON, the Minister responsible for Mental Health, Wellness and Recovery, made a statement regarding National Addictions Awareness Week.

Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas) and, by leave, Hon. Mr. GERRARD commented on the statement.

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Pursuant to Rule 27(1), Mr. MICKLEFIELD, Ms. ADAMS, Messrs. LAGASSÉ and WASYLIW and Hon. Mr. FRIESEN made Members' Statements.

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

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 bridge open for active transportation in the future.

Ms. LAMOUREUX – To urge the Provincial Government to encourage the Federal Government to amend the Canada Health Act by adding prescription medicines prescribed by a licensed practitioner to the definition of covered services in accordance with an established formulary; and to develop, jointly with the Federal Government, a universal, single payer, evidence based, sustainable public drug plan that contains: purchasing power to secure best available pricing; a list of essential medicines addressing priority health needs and; the ability to expand to a comprehensive permanent plan that would promote the health and well-being of all Canadians.

Hon. Mr. GERRARD – To urge the Provincial Government to provide financing for upgrades to the cochlear implant covered under Medicare, or provide funding assistance through the Cochlear Implant Speech Processor Replacement Program, to assist with the replacement costs associated with a device upgrade.

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Mr. SMITH (Lagimodière) moved, seconded by Ms. MORLEY-LECOMTE:

THAT the following address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor:

We, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba thank your Honour for the gracious speech addressed to us at this Fourth Session of the Forty-Second Legislature of Manitoba.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. SMITH (Lagimodière), Ms. MORLEY-LECOMTE and Mr. KINEW having spoken,

And Mr. KINEW moved an amendment as follows:

*THAT the motion be amended by adding at the end the following words:*

But this House regrets that the Provincial Government has:

- a) failed to provide any plan to make life more affordable for Manitobans by not mentioning affordability and the rising cost of living due to higher hydro bills, grocery bills, and more as Manitobans head into the holiday season; and

- b) failed to call an independent public inquiry into Manitoba's pandemic response to learn from its mistakes and bring forward changes to improve the lives of Manitoba families and strengthen the healthcare system; and
- c) failed to provide any immediate supports to address the healthcare crisis across the province, from the north to the south; and
- d) failed seniors and elders in part by forcing them to move across Manitoba to make room in hospitals because of its failure to build new personal care home beds and address the healthcare crisis in the province; and
- e) failed to commit to any real investments or changes to address the growing surgical and diagnostic backlog in the province; and
- f) tried to change the channel from former Premier Brian Pallister but failed by repeating 16 of his previous commitments; and
- g) continued to put the long-term success of Manitoba students at risk by pushing ahead with an out of date "review" of the education system commissioned by former Premier, Brian Pallister; and
- h) continued the interference initiated by former Premier Brian Pallister in post-secondary institutions, leading to an ongoing strike at the University of Manitoba which is impacting the ability of students to learn; and
- i) offered no commitment to implement a living wage, paid sick days or health and safety supports for working Manitobans to help them out of poverty and keep them safe and healthy at work; and
- j) failed to mention Manitoba Hydro and offer a plan to use the clean advantage of Hydro to address climate change, create jobs, advance reconciliation and keep rates low and keep life affordable; and
- k) continued to fight with the City of Winnipeg by pushing a failed attempt at privatization that will cost Manitobans jobs, delaying upgrades to the North End Waste Water Treatment plant which would help protect the lakes and rivers of the province; and

- l) failed to provide any substantial targets or initiatives to address climate change, to prevent devastating weather events that impact producers, the length and quality of winter roads, the environment, the economy, and all Manitobans; and
- m) neglected to provide any real commitments to advancing reconciliation or apologize for the failures and racially insensitive comments of former Premier Brian Pallister; and
- n) failed to present clear measures to support women and gender-diverse Manitobans by committing to support the provision of menstrual products for women, girls and gender diverse people in schools or committing to ensure reproductive health care falls under the purview of the Minister of Health and Seniors Care; and
- o) failed to commit to supports for other major communities such as Brandon and Dauphin, and ending the funding freeze to municipalities; and
- p) failed to produce a meaningful strategy to revive Manitoba's creative industries or present a real strategy for Manitoba jobs in different sectors; and
- q) refused to address the addictions and housing crisis by failing to provide long-term investments into harm reduction initiatives and affordable social housing.

As a consequence of these and many other failings, the Provincial Government has thereby lost the trust and confidence of the people of Manitoba and this House.

WHEREUPON the Acting Speaker ruled the amendment in order.

And the debate continuing on the amendment,

And Hon. Mr. FIELDING, Ms. FONTAINE and Mr. LAMONT having spoken,

And Mr. LAMONT moved a sub-amendment as follows:

*THAT the motion be amended by adding after clause (q) the following clauses:*

- r) failed to provide any substantial change in course, or concrete actions, to address multiple crises currently facing Manitobans that desperately require bold action while the Provincial Government only produced a "plan to plan"; and
- s) failed to provide solutions for all Manitobans, instead offering boutique policies that cater to a few while leaving the majority out in the cold; and

- t) failed to refrain from continuing to engage in a pitched battle with talented Manitoba researchers and educators to the extent that many are pondering leaving the province; and
- u) failed to commit to fair and free bargaining with public sector workers or meddling with Crown Corporations and allowing for them to operate independently as they are intended; and
- v) failed to commit to reconsidering all of its disastrous health care reforms, and only reconsidering changes for rural Manitoba, and not for care centres in the City of Winnipeg which serve the entire province; and
- w) failed to bring in the critically needed province-wide prevention approaches to conditions like diabetes, osteoporosis, heart, kidney, lung and brain diseases including learning disabilities, addictions, stroke and dementia; and
- x) failed to recognize the role of low wages in Manitoba's labour shortages, commit to increasing the minimum wage, or outline how the Province will utilize the Provincial Nominee Program to address gaps in Manitoba's workforce; and
- y) failed to articulate any meaningful plan for economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, choosing empty platitudes about "attracting investment" over concrete actions, and leaving Manitobans and Manitoba businesses on their own to continue to be innovative and be resilient in true Manitoba fashion; and
- z) failed to commit to return the \$338 Million of Federal Special Allowance for children in care that was taken and put into general revenue by previous PC and NDP Provincial Governments; and
- aa) failed to make commitments on making Manitoba more sustainable; and
- bb) failed to recognize anything related to the safety of Manitobans, when substance use overdose deaths are at all time highs and the mental health of Manitobans requires urgent attention.

WHEREUPON Madam Speaker ruled the sub-amendment in order.

And the debate continuing on the sub-amendment,

And Messrs. ISLEIFSON and BUSHIE having spoken,

And Hon. Mrs. GUILLEMARD speaking at 5:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in their name.

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The House then adjourned at 5:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Thursday, November 25, 2021.

Hon. Myrna DRIEDGER,  
Speaker.