

Tuesday, June 2, 1998



## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

### VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 57

FOURTH SESSION, THIRTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

#### PRAYERS

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

The following petitions were presented:

Mr. JENNISSEN - Minister of Energy and Mines to consider transferring the account of the Mining Reserve Fund to a banking service in Lynn Lake should such a facility meet provincial standards (Y. McCann, K. McCann and T. McCann)

Mr. EVANS (Brandon East) - The passing of an Act to amend the Brandon Area Foundation Incorporation Act (The Brandon Area Foundation)

The following petitions were read and received:

Ms. WOWCHUK - Estey Grain Transportation Review Report (W. Griffith, L. Graham, D. Long and others)

Mr. JENNISSEN - Minister of Energy and Mines to consider transferring the account of the Mining Reserve Fund to a banking service in Lynn Lake should such a facility meet provincial standards (D. Grenier, L. Grenier and R. Grenier)

Mr. LAURENDEAU, Chairperson of the Committee of Supply presented the Report of the Proceedings of the Committee of June 1, 1998 as follows:

#### IN THE COMMITTEE

The following Resolutions were adopted:

10.3 RESOLVED that there be granted to HER MAJESTY a sum not exceeding TEN MILLION, SEVENTY-THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS for INDUSTRY, TRADE AND TOURISM:

TOURISM AND SMALL BUSINESS ..... \$10,073,000.00

for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1999.

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14.1 RESOLVED that there be granted to HER MAJESTY a sum not exceeding TWO MILLION, THREE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for CULTURE, HERITAGE AND CITIZENSHIP:

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE ..... \$2,350,100.00

for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1999.

14.3 RESOLVED that there be granted to HER MAJESTY a sum not exceeding NINE MILLION, SIX HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS for CULTURE, HERITAGE AND CITIZENSHIP:

INFORMATION RESOURCES ..... \$9,674,800.00

for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1999.

14.4 RESOLVED that there be granted to HER MAJESTY a sum not exceeding THREE MILLION, SIX HUNDRED SIX THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for CULTURE, HERITAGE AND CITIZENSHIP:

CITIZENSHIP AND MULTICULTURALISM ..... \$3,606,100.00

for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1999.

14.5 RESOLVED that there be granted to HER MAJESTY a sum not exceeding FOUR MILLION, NINE HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for CULTURE, HERITAGE AND CITIZENSHIP:

EXPENDITURES RELATED TO CAPITAL - GRANT ASSISTANCE..... \$4,977,100.00

for the fiscal year ending the 31st day of March, 1999.

Resolutions were reported.

Report was received and the Committee of Supply obtained leave to sit again.

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Hon. Mr. PRAZNIK, the Minister Responsible for French Language Services, made a statement regarding the Report and Recommendations on French Language Services within the Government of Manitoba prepared by the Commissioner Honourable Judge Richard Chartier,

Mr. CHOMIAK commented on the statement.

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During Oral Questions, Mr. ASHTON rose on a point of order stating that the Honourable Minister of Family Services had contravened Beauchesne Citation 417,

And Hon. Mr. McCRAE having spoken to the point of order,

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

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Following Oral Questions, Madam Speaker made the following ruling:

On May 7, 1998 during Question Period I took under advisement, in order to peruse Hansard, a point of order raised by the Honourable Member for Transcona.

In his point of order, the Honourable Member asked that I review Hansard as to exactly what words the Honourable Member for St. Johns had used. Hansard shows that the Member for St. Johns said: "When was he (referencing the Minister of Justice) telling the truth, Madam Speaker? To the reporter yesterday or in the House now or are they both lies, are they both ruses, I ask the minister." At the time I asked the Honourable Member for St. Johns to withdraw the word "lies." The Member for Transcona argued that the word "lies" was used in reference to statements, and was not used in reference to any Member of this Legislative Assembly.

The Honourable Member for Transcona did not have a point of order. The Honourable Member for St. Johns clearly referenced the Minister of Justice as not telling the truth and described comments made by the Minister as "lies."

To return to the original matter, on May 7 I asked the Honourable Member for St. Johns to withdraw the word "lies" and I am now requesting that he do so.

WHEREUPON Mr. MACKINTOSH withdrew his remarks.

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Pursuant to Rule 20(1), Messrs. SVEINSON, HICKES, HELWER, SANTOS and KOWALSKI made Members' Statements.

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Following Routine Proceedings, Mr. MARTINDALE rose on a matter of urgent public importance and moved:

THAT under Rule #31 that the ordinary business of the House be set aside to discuss a matter of urgent public importance namely the record numbers of children in care, the huge workloads for social workers, and the overall crisis in child welfare in Manitoba.

And Mr. MARTINDALE and Hon. Mr. McCRAE having spoken to the urgency of the motion,

WHEREUPON Madam Speaker ruled as follows:

I thank all Honourable Members for their advice on whether the motion proposed by the Honourable Member for Burrows should be debated today. The notice required under Rule 31(1) was indeed provided.

According to Rule 31 and Beauchesne citations 389 and 390, there are two tests for a matter of urgent public importance to proceed: one, is the subject matter so pressing that the ordinary opportunities for debate will not allow it to be brought out early enough, and (2), has it been shown that the public interest will suffer if the matter is not given immediate attention.

With respect to whether there are other opportunities to debate this matter, I note that the estimates of the Department of Family Services are concluded. The Honourable Member for Burrows could, however, use the vehicle of an Opposition Day motion. Further I am not convinced that the public will suffer if the matter is not debated this day. Therefore I am ruling the matter does not meet the criteria set by our rules and practices.

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The Bills:

(No. 3) - The Elections Finances Amendment and Consequential Amendments Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur le financement des campagnes électorales et modifications corrélatives

(No. 5) - The Agricultural Credit Corporation Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur la Société du crédit agricole

(No. 6) - The Animal Liability and Consequential Amendments Act; Loi sur la responsabilité à l'égard des animaux et modifications corrélatives

(No. 7) - The Public Utilities Board Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur la Régie des services publics

(No. 9) - The Mines and Minerals Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur les mines et les minéraux

were severally read a Third Time and passed.

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Hon. Mr. McCRAE moved:

THAT Bill (No. 15) - The Dutch Elm Disease Act; Loi sur la graphiose, be now read a Third Time and passed.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. LAMOUREUX having spoken,

And the Question being put,

It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a Third Time and passed.

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Hon. Mr. McCRAE moved:

THAT Bill (No. 17) - The Legislative Assembly Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'Assemblée législative, be now read a Third Time and passed.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. LAMOUREUX having spoken,

And the Question being put,

It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a Third Time and passed.

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

THAT Bill (No. 25) - The Highway Traffic Amendment Act; Loi modifiant le Code de la route, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. JENNISSEN having spoken,

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And the Question being put,

It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of this House.

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

THAT Bill (No. 21) - The Communities Economic Development Fund Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur le Fonds de développement économique local, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And the debate continuing,

And leave having been denied to have the matter remain in the name of Mr. MARTINDALE,

And Messrs. ASHTON and LAMOUREUX having spoken,

And the Question being put,

It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of this House.

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The House resumed the Interrupted Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mrs. MITCHELSON:

THAT Bill (No. 4) - The Child and Family Services Amendment and Consequential Amendments Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur les services à l'enfant et à la famille et modifications corrélatives, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. SANTOS concluding his remarks,

And Mr. REID having spoken,

And the Question being put,

It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of this House.

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

THAT Bill (No. 12) - The Addictions Foundation Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur la Fondation manitobaine de lutte contre les dépendances, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And the debate continuing,

And leave having been denied to have the matter remain in the name of Mr. SALE,

And Messrs. MARTINDALE and LAMOUREUX having spoken,

And the Question being put,

It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of this House.

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The House resumed the Adjourned Debate on the Proposed Motion of Hon. Mr. TOEWS:  
THAT Bill (No. 14) - The Executions Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'exécution des jugements, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And the debate continuing,

And leave having been denied to have the matter remain in the name of Mr. DEWAR,

And Messrs. MACKINTOSH and LAMOUREUX having spoken,

And the Question being put,

It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of this House.

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

THAT Bill (No. 16) - The Water Resources Administration Amendment Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'aménagement hydraulique, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

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And the debate continuing,

And Messrs. STRUTHERS and LAMOUREUX having spoken,

And the Question being put,

It was agreed to.

The Bill was accordingly read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of this House.

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

THAT Bill (No. 36) - The City of Winnipeg Amendment and Consequential Amendments Act; Loi modifiant la Loi sur la Ville de Winnipeg et modifications corrélatives, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And the debate continuing,

And Ms. BARRETT concluding her remarks,

The debate was allowed to remain in the name of Mr. DEWAR, by leave.

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Mr. MACKINTOSH moved:

THAT Bill (No. 201) - The Crime Victims' Bill of Rights and Consequential Amendments Act; Loi sur la déclaration des droits des victimes d'actes criminels et modifications corrélatives, be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. MACKINTOSH having spoken,

The debate was, on motion of Mr. LAURENDEAU, adjourned.

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By leave, it was agreed that the Standing Committee on Law Amendments would meet at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, June 4, 1998, concurrently with the House.

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Mr. HICKES moved:

Resolution No. 36 - Immigration Head Tax

WHEREAS immigration has a net economic and social benefit for our society by providing labour and investment, purchasing power for goods and services, attendance at universities and stimulation for job creation; and

WHEREAS in the 1993 election, the Federal Liberal Party promised to maintain a fair immigration policy; and

WHEREAS the Federal Liberal Government has imposed a \$975 right-of-landing fee combined with a \$500 application fee for permanent residence, while reducing opportunities to sponsor relatives for family reunification; and

WHEREAS in addition, there is a wide range of other fees affecting immigrants such as \$200 to take out Canadian citizenship and \$75 for a proof of citizenship card; and

WHEREAS these fees prove to be prohibitive for many potential new immigrants; and

WHEREAS stemming immigration hurts Manitoba's economy and stifles attempts to revitalize our province.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Federal Government to keep its promises on fair immigration policies, especially as they apply to family reunification; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Assembly urge the Federal Government to abolish the discriminatory "head tax" on new immigrants.

And a debate arising,

And Messrs. HICKES, LAMOUREUX and McCRAE having spoken,

Hon. Mr. McCRAE moved in amendment as follows:

THAT the final paragraph in the resolution be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

Be it further resolved that the Members of this Assembly urge the Federal Government to review the fees it charges immigrants in the interest of greater fairness and equity.

WHEREUPON Madam Speaker ruled the amendment in order.

And the debate continuing on the amendment,

And Messrs. SANTOS and LAMOUREUX having spoken,

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And the Question being put on the amendment,

It was agreed to.

And the debate continuing,

And Mr. LAURENDEAU having spoken,

Mr. LAURENDEAU moved in further amendment as follows:

THAT the fourth "WHEREAS" clause be deleted and that the third "WHEREAS" clause be amended by adding "an already existing" preceding "a \$500.00 application fee."

WHEREUPON Madam Speaker ruled the sub-amendment in order.

And the Question being put on the sub-amendment,

It was agreed to.

And the Question being put on the main motion as amended, and subsequently further amended,

It was agreed to.

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The House then adjourned at 6:02 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. tomorrow.

Hon. Louise Dacquay,  
Speaker.