

Friday, November 24, 2017



PRAYER

SITTING AT 10:00 A.M.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Hon. Mr. FIELDING –

(No. 2) – The Child and Family Services Amendment Act (Guardianship Support)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les services à l'enfant et à la famille (aide aux tuteurs)

Hon. Mr. PEDERSEN –

(No. 3) – The Canadian Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Labour Mobility Act and Regulated Health Professions Act Amended)/Loi sur la mise en œuvre de l'Accord de libre-échange canadien (modification de la Loi sur la mobilité de la main-d'œuvre et de la Loi sur les professions de la santé réglementées)

Hon. Mrs. STEFANSON –

(No. 4) – The Legislative Assembly Amendment Act (Member Changing Parties)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'Assemblée législative (adhésion à un autre parti)

Hon. Mr. FRIESEN –

(No. 5) – The Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les divulgations faites dans l'intérêt public (protection des divulgateurs d'actes répréhensibles)

Hon. Mr. FRIESEN –

(No. 6) – The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la divulgation de la rémunération dans le secteur public

Hon. Ms. SQUIRES –

(No. 7) – The Sustainable Watersheds Act (Various Acts Amended)/Loi sur les bassins hydrographiques durables (modification de diverses dispositions législatives)

Mr. MARTIN –

(No. 200) – The Planning Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'aménagement du territoire

Mr. LAGIMODIERE –

(No. 201) – The Manitoba Conservation Officers Recognition Day Act/Loi sur la Journée de reconnaissance des agents de conservation du Manitoba

Hon. Mr. FLETCHER –

(No. 202) – The Legislative Assembly Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'Assemblée législative

Hon. Mr. FLETCHER –

(No. 203) – The Insurance Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les assurances

Hon. Mr. FLETCHER –

(No. 205) – The Statutory Holidays Act (Various Acts Amended)/Loi sur les jours fériés (modification de diverses dispositions législatives)

Hon. Mr. FLETCHER –

(No. 206) – The Brookside Cemetery Recognition Act/Loi sur la désignation du cimetière Brookside

Hon. Mr. FLETCHER –

(No. 207) – The Legal Profession Amendment Act (Queen's Counsel Appointments)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la profession d'avocat (nomination de conseillers de la Reine)

Hon. Mr. FLETCHER –

(No. 208) – The Conflict of Interest Act/Loi sur les conflits d'intérêts

Hon. Mr. FLETCHER –

(No. 210) – The Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la Société d'assurance publique du Manitoba

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TABLING OF REPORTS

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

ORAL QUESTIONS

PETITIONS

Hon. Mr. GERRARD

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

ADJOURNED DEBATE (Third Day of Debate):

On the Proposed Motion of 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 Third Session of the Forty-First Legislature of Manitoba.

And the Proposed Motion of Mrs. SMITH (Point Douglas) in amendment as follows:

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

But this House regrets that the Provincial Government has:

- (a) failed to protect front line health care services that Manitoba families and seniors depend on by pushing ahead with the closure of emergency rooms, urgent care centres and the elimination of outpatient physiotherapy and occupational therapy services; and
- (b) failed to invest in upstream interventions in health care such as primary prevention, pharmacare and home care in order to keep Manitobans healthy at home; and
- (c) indicated an intention to cut more front line workers, on top of the thousands of job losses already ordered, hitting Manitobans hard, especially in northern communities like Churchill, which was not even mentioned in the Throne Speech; and
- (d) failed to have a jobs plan for the future to address technology change; and
- (e) failed to offer a climate change plan which sees all revenue from a price on carbon directed to initiatives that fight global warming and help low-income Manitobans access green options; and

- (f) indicated plans to further download responsibility for services onto municipalities across the province, including road renewal, after freezing grants for two years and eliminating an historic cost sharing agreement with municipalities for public transit; and
- (g) failed to put forward a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy that raises families and children out of the cycle of poverty and has instead cut funding for prevention supports, increased tuition for post-secondary education, and put the availability of child care further out of reach for many Manitoba families.

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.

And the Proposed Motion of Ms. LAMOUREUX in further amendment as follows:

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

- (h) failed to commit to reversing the decisions to: dismantle collaborative health care teams; increase senior management positions in health by creating another bureaucratic arm of the government with Shared Health Services; or to fire the two lactation consultants, two recreational therapists for Mental Health Patients and two audiologists; and
- (i) failed to commit to improving issues relating to supportive housing, independent living, hospice and personal care homes or reversing the decision to raise costs on Senior Care Programs; and
- (j) failed to commit to community and employee input and evidence based outcomes for health care changes, to lowering ambulance fees by 50% this year or placing insulin pumps and hearing aids under Medicare; and
- (k) failed to commit to implementing an addictions plan to respond to the growing meth and opioid crisis in Manitoba or implementing recommendations from the 2016 Liberal Caucus Brain Health Report; and
- (l) failed to commit to reversing the decision to only allow large out of province retailers to sell cannabis in Manitoba; and
- (m) failed to commit to reversing the decision to end funding to the John Howard residential bail program; and
- (n) failed to commit to reversing the decisions to make student bursaries funding largely dependent on private funding or to cancel the tuition fee tax rebate; and

- (o) failed to commit to funding the Wasagamack airstrip; and
- (p) failed to commit to providing fair compensation for taxi owners; and
- (q) failed to commit to ending the practice of clawing back the children's special allowances from kids in CFS, particularly those who are in unpaid care; and
- (r) failed to commit to recognizing the role of agricultural producers and support them in reducing Manitoba's carbon footprint; and
- (s) failed to commit to not allowing MLA's who own or invest in agricultural companies to vote on the carbon tax; and
- (t) failed to commit to better polling reliability for getting input from Manitobans; and
- (u) failed to commit to improving the outdated technology systems utilized in government departments; and
- (v) failed to commit to including the criminalization of mental illness and addictions in the justice system review or to the development and implementation of a provincial suicide strategy; and
- (w) failed to commit to reversing the decision to charge Provincial Nominee Program applications; and
- (x) failed to commit timely construction of the road network connecting communities on the east side of Lake Winnipeg; and
- (y) failed to commit to addressing the urgent need for First Nations housing or developing Emergency Management protocols for northern and remote communities; and
- (z) failed to commit to implementing, together with First Nations and Metis people in Manitoba, a plan to improve nutrition and to decrease diabetes in our Province; and
- (aa) failed to commit to developing strategies to work with the Federal Government to insure that all Manitoba First Nation communities have better access to improved nursing stations, health care, clean running water, internet and phone connectivity, teachers and land and air transportation; and
- (bb) failed to commit to fulfilling the 2016 Throne Speech promises of creating a new provincial housing strategy, providing for self-regulation for Manitoba's paramedics, reforming conflict of interest laws or the Look North Recommendation of updating and releasing the "duty to consult" framework for Indigenous communities; and

- (cc) failed to commit to fulfilling the Provincial Government's election promises of supporting Urban Aboriginal Economic Development Zones, raising the personal tax exemption to the national average, fast tracking the construction of 1200 personal care home beds, opening a dedicated stroke unit, developing a mental health and addictions strategy and to work positively and respectfully with Indigenous people and communities.

(Mr. ALLUM – 19 minutes)

NOTICE PAPER

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR THE NEXT THURSDAY OF PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

Mr. SWAN – Cuts to Outpatient Physiotherapy and Occupational Services

1. WHEREAS the Premier ordered the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority to cut outpatient physiotherapy and occupational therapy services, ending programs at seven different facilities across the Winnipeg and laying off dozens of front line health care workers; and

WHEREAS the Premier's decision will result in the direct firing of dozens of physiotherapists and occupational therapists in Manitoba, forcing expert health care professionals out of work, increasing the likelihood they and their families will leave the province in the future; and

WHEREAS there were 21,000 outpatient physiotherapy visits at Health Sciences Centre in 2016/17, 10,598 visits at St. Boniface Hospital, more than 5,000 visits each at Concordia Hospital, Seven Oaks Hospital and Misericordia Health Centre while Grace Hospital had more than 4,200 visits; and

WHEREAS the Premier mistakenly claimed other provinces do not have privatized physiotherapy and occupational therapy services while in fact his cut would mean Manitoba would be the only province in Canada to not offer publicly insured outpatient physiotherapy and occupational therapy services; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government is forcing Manitobans to pay out of pocket for private physiotherapy, which can cost between \$75 to \$90 dollars a session, and putting essential health care out of reach for low-income Manitobans, seniors and families without access to private insurance; and

WHEREAS physiotherapists, occupational therapists, surgeons, doctors and health care professionals have repeatedly and vocally told the Provincial Government that access to publicly insured outpatient physiotherapy and occupational therapy services are key for patients preparing for and recovering from surgery and that it should reject these cuts that are driven solely by financial considerations; and

WHEREAS the Peachey report did not recommend cutting publicly insured physiotherapy and occupational therapy services and Dr. Peachey explicitly refused to endorse the Premier's cut to front line health care workers and services; and

WHEREAS funding for preventative health care like physiotherapy and occupational therapy saves the healthcare system money in the short and long term by reducing re-injury, re-hospitalization and complications from surgery by improving the quality of life of patients and families.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to condemn the shortsighted cuts to healthcare, immediately reinstate funding for outpatient services and rehire the dozens of health care professionals the Premier ordered fired so Manitobans can access the essential healthcare they need to recover from surgery and stay healthy at home.
