



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS No. 38

SECOND SESSION, THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

PRAYER

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

By leave, it was agreed for the House to deal with Second Reading of Bill (No. 214).

Mrs. TAILLIEU moved:

THAT Bill (No. 214) – The Labour Relations Amendment Act (Information in Employee's Language)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les relations du travail (renseignements fournis dans la langue des employés), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Mrs. TAILLIEU, Ms. HOWARD, Mr. FAURSCHOU, Hon. Ms. ALLAN, Messrs. LAMOUREUX and REID having spoken,

The debate was allowed to remain open.

In accordance with Rule 31(9), the Opposition House Leader announced that the Interprovincial Trade Agreements and Decreased Barriers to Trade Resolution will be considered next Thursday, May 15, 2008.

Mrs. MITCHELSON moved:

Resolution No. 8: Pharmacare Deductible Increases

WHEREAS Pharmacare is a drug benefit program for any Manitoban, regardless of age, whose income is seriously affected by high prescription drug costs; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has increased Pharmacare deductibles six times in the last seven years, indeed every year since 2002 except during the 2007 election year; and

WHEREAS these increases account for a cumulative 34 percent increase in Pharmacare deductible rates for Manitobans; and

WHEREAS seniors and low income Manitobans on fixed incomes are the most negatively affected by these increases often having to choose between purchasing much needed medications and groceries;

WHEREAS in a nation wide assessment of drug coverage the Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ) found that Manitoba does not in fact have the most comprehensive drug coverage in Canada as the Minister of Health frequently asserts;

WHEREAS the CMAJ found that in some instances Manitoba seniors pay far more than their counterparts across Canada for the same prescriptions; and

WHEREAS in a 2006 audit of Manitoba's Pharmacare Program the Auditor General found that the Provincial Government has not sufficiently explored all avenues available to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Pharmacare and to contain the cost growth of the program and improve the efficiency; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government is forcing seniors and low income earning Manitobans to pay for its failure to properly manage the Pharmacare Program.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to consider reversing its decision to increase Pharmacare deductibles by 5 percent in the 2008 Provincial Budget; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to consider reducing health care bureaucracy, as previously promised, and to consider directing those savings into sustaining Pharmacare and improving patient care.

And a debate arising,

And Mrs. MITCHELSON, Hon. Ms. OSWALD, Messrs. GOERTZEN and JENNISSEN and Mrs. ROWAT having spoken,

And Ms. HOWARD speaking at 12:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in her name.

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

On motion of Mr. LAMOUREUX, Bill (No. 211) – The Environment Amendment Act (Methamphetamine)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'environnement (méthamphétamine), was read a First Time and had its purposes outlined.

The following petitions were presented and read:

Mr. BRIESE – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Minister of Family Services and Housing to consider addressing the shortage of Early Childhood Educators by enabling child care centres to provide competitive wages and benefits; and to consider adequately planning for the future child care needs of growing communities, and to consider making the development of a sustainable and accessible child care system a priority; and to consider the development of a governance body that would provide direction and support to the volunteer boards of child care centres and to consider the development of regionalized central wait lists for child care; and to encourage all Members of the Legislative Assembly to consider becoming more closely involved with the operations of the licensed daycare facilities in their constituencies. (J. Manouer, C. Gomes, N. Dias and others)

Mr. DYCK – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to request the Minister of Health to strongly consider giving priority for funding to develop and staff a new 100 bed long-term-care facility so that clients are not exposed to unsafe conditions and so that Boundary Trails Health Centre beds remain available for acute care patients instead of waiting placement clients. (M. Reimer, B. Salmonson, K. Friesen and others)

Mrs. ROWAT – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Premier to consider reversing his decision to increase Pharmacare deductibles by 5 percent in Budget 2008 and to consider reducing health care bureaucracy, as previously promised, and to consider directing those savings into sustaining Pharmacare and improving patient care. (S. Murray, B. Noble, C. Brown and others)

Mrs. STEFANSON – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to amend The Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club from a for-profit corporation to a not-for-profit corporation, to update the object and, to make other incidental changes to the act. (J. Banfield, A. Fast, T. Ormiston and others)

Mr. CULLEN – Legislative Assembly of Manitoba to urge the Minister for Infrastructure and Transportation to consider implementing a speed zone on Provincial Trunk Highway #2 adjacent to the Village of Glenboro. (D. Richmond, J. Vertz, L. Snider and others)

Mr. MALOWAY, Vice-Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, presented its Third Report, which was read as follows:

Meetings:

Your Committee met on the following occasions:

- July 29, 2002
- October 28, 2003
- December 1, 2003
- December 5, 2003
- September 7, 2004
- September 8, 2004
- November 28, 2005
- December 9, 2005
- February 2, 2006

- December 10, 2007
- May 7, 2008

All meetings were held in Room 255 of the Legislative Building.

Matters under Consideration

- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2003 (Volume 1)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2003 (Volume 2)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2003 (Volume 3)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2003 (Volume 4)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2004 (Volume 1)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2004 (Volume 2)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2004 (Volume 3)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2004 (Volume 4)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2005 (Volume 1)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2005 (Volume 2)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2005 (Volume 3)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2005 (Volume 4)
- Auditor General's Report – Audit of the Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2005 including a Review of School Division Financial Accounting and Reporting
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2006 (Volume 1)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2006 (Volume 2)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2006 (Volume 3)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2006 (Volume 4)
- Auditor General's Report – Audit of the Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2006
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2007 (Volume 1)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2007 (Volume 2)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2007 (Volume 3)
- Auditor General's Report – Audit of the Public Accounts for the year ending March 31, 2007
- Provincial Auditor's Report – Investigation of an Adult Learning Centre ("The Program") in Morris–Macdonald School Division #19 dated September, 2001

Committee Membership

Committee Membership for the July 29, 2002 meeting:

- Ms. ALLAN
- Hon. Mr. GERRARD
- Mr. GILLESHAMMER
- Mr. LOEWEN
- Mr. MALOWAY
- Mr. PITURA
- Mr. REID
- Mr. RONDEAU
- Hon. Mr. SELINGER
- Mr. STRUTHERS

Your Committee elected Mr. PITURA as the Chairperson at the July 29, 2002 meeting.

Your Committee elected Mr. MALOWAY as the Vice-Chairperson at the July 29, 2002 meeting.

Committee Membership for the October 28, 2003 meeting:

- Ms. ALLAN
- Ms. BRICK
- Mr. FAURSCHOU
- Hon. Mr. GERRARD
- Mr. LOEWEN
- Mr. MALOWAY (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Ms. OSWALD
- Mr. REIMER(*Chairperson*)
- Mr. RONDEAU
- Hon. Mr. SELINGER
- Ms. TAILLIEU

Substitutions received during committee proceedings at the October 28, 2003 meeting:

- Mr. DEWAR for Ms. BRICK
- Mr. SCHELLENBERG for Mr. RONDEAU
- Mr. MAGUIRE for Mr. FAURSCHOU

Committee Membership for the December 1, 2003 meeting:

- Mr. DERKACH
- Mr. DEWAR
- Hon. Mr. GERRARD
- Mr. LOEWEN
- Mr. MALOWAY (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Mr. NEVAKSHONOFF
- Ms. OSWALD
- Mr. REIMER(*Chairperson*)
- Mr. SANTOS
- Hon. Mr. SELINGER
- Mrs. TAILLIEU

Substitutions received during committee proceedings at the December 1, 2003 meeting:

- Mrs. MITCHELSON for Mrs. TAILLIEU

Committee Membership for the December 5, 2003 meeting:

- Mr. AGLUGUB
- Hon. Mr. GERRARD
- Mr. LOEWEN
- Mr. MALOWAY (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Mr. MARTINDALE

- Mrs. MITCHELSON
- Ms. OSWALD
- Mr. REIMER (*Chairperson*)
- Mr. SANTOS
- Hon. Mr. SELINGER
- Mrs. TAILLIEU

Committee Membership for the September 7, 2004 meeting:

- Mr. AGLUGUB
- Hon. Mr. GERRARD
- Ms. IRVIN-ROSS
- Mr. LOEWEN
- Mr. MALOWAY (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Mr. MARTINDALE
- Mrs. MITCHELSON
- Ms. OSWALD
- Mr. REIMER (*Chairperson*)
- Hon. Mr. SELINGER
- Mrs. TAILLIEU

Committee Membership for the September 8, 2004 meeting:

- Mr. AGLUGUB
- Hon. Mr. GERRARD
- Ms. IRVIN-ROSS
- Mr. LOEWEN
- Mr. MALOWAY (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Mr. MARTINDALE
- Mrs. MITCHELSON
- Ms. OSWALD
- Mr. REIMER (*Chairperson*)
- Hon. Mr. SELINGER
- Mrs. TAILLIEU

Substitutions received during committee proceedings at the September 8, 2004 meeting:

- Mrs. ROWAT for Mrs. MITCHELSON

Committee Membership for the November 28, 2005 meeting:

- Mr. CALDWELL
- Mr. CUMMINGS
- Mr. HAWRANIK
- Mr. MAGUIRE
- Mr. MALOWAY (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Mr. MARTINDALE

- Mr. NEVAKSHONOFF
- Mr. REIMER (*Chairperson*)
- Mr. SANTOS
- Hon. Mr. SELINGER

Committee Membership for the December 9, 2005 meeting:

- Mr. AGLUGUB
- Mr. CUMMINGS
- Mr. DEWAR
- Mr. HAWRANIK
- Ms. KORZENIOWSKI
- Hon. Mr. GERRARD
- Mr. MAGUIRE
- Mr. MALOWAY (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Mr. REIMER(*Chairperson*)
- Hon. Mr. SELINGER
- Mr. SWAN

Committee Membership for the February 2, 2006 meeting:

- Mr. AGLUGUB
- Mr. CUMMINGS
- Mr. HAWRANIK
- Ms. KORZENIOWSKI
- Mr. LAMOUREUX
- Mr. MAGUIRE
- Mr. MALOWAY (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Mr. REIMER (*Chairperson*)
- Mr. SANTOS
- Hon. Mr. SELINGER
- Mr. SWAN

Committee Membership for the December 10, 2007 meeting:

- Mr. ALTEMEYER
- Mr. BOROTSIK
- Ms. BRAUN
- Mr. DERKACH (*Chairperson*)
- Ms. HOWARD
- Mr. LAMOUREUX
- Mr. MAGUIRE
- Mr. MALOWAY (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Hon. Mr. SELINGER
- Mrs. STEFANSON
- Mr. SWAN

Committee Membership for the May 7, 2008 meeting:

- Mr. BOROTSIK
- Ms. BRAUN
- Mr. DERKACH (*Chairperson*)
- Ms. HOWARD
- Mr. JHA
- Mr. LAMOUREUX
- Mr. MAGUIRE
- Mr. MALOWAY (*Vice-Chairperson*)
- Mr. MARTINDALE
- Hon. Mr. SELINGER
- Mrs. STEFANSON

Officials Speaking on Record

Officials speaking on the record at the July 29, 2002 meeting:

- Jon Singleton, Auditor General
- Bonnie Lysyk, Deputy Auditor General and Chief Operating Officer

Officials speaking on the record at the October 28, 2003 meeting:

- Jon Singleton, Auditor General

Officials speaking on the record at the December 1, 2003 meeting:

- Jon Singleton, Auditor General
- Bonnie Lysyk, Deputy Auditor General and Chief Operating Officer

Officials speaking on the record at the December 5, 2003 meeting:

- Jon Singleton, Auditor General
- Bonnie Lysyk, Deputy Auditor General and Chief Operating Officer

Officials speaking on the record at the September 7, 2004 meeting:

- Jon Singleton, Auditor General
- Bonnie Lysyk, Deputy Auditor General and Chief Operating Officer

Officials speaking on the record at the September 8, 2004 meeting:

- Jon Singleton, Auditor General
- Bonnie Lysyk, Deputy Auditor General and Chief Operating Officer

Officials speaking on the record at the December 9, 2005 meeting:

- Hon. Mr. BJORNSON
- Gerald Farthing, Deputy Minister of Education, Training and Youth
- Bonnie Lysyk, Deputy Auditor General and Chief Operating Officer
- Jon Singleton, Auditor General

Officials speaking on the record at the February 2, 2006 meeting:

- Jon Singleton, Auditor General

Officials speaking on the record at the December 10, 2007 meeting:

- Carol Bellringer, Auditor General

Officials speaking on the record at the May 7, 2008 meeting:

- Carol Bellringer, Auditor General
- Hon. Mr. BJORNSEN
- Diane Gray, Deputy Minister of Finance

Reports Considered and Passed

Your Committee considered and passed the following reports as presented:

- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2003 (Volume 1)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2003 (Volume 2)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2003 (Volume 3)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2003 (Volume 4)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2004 (Volume 1)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2004 (Volume 2)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2004 (Volume 3)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2004 (Volume 4)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2005 (Volume 1)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2005 (Volume 2)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2005 (Volume 3)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2005 (Volume 4)
- Auditor General's Report – Audit of the Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2005 including a Review of School Division Financial Accounting and Reporting
- Provincial Auditor's Report – Investigation of an Adult Learning Centre ("The Program") in Morris–Macdonald School Division #19 dated September, 2001

Reports Considered but not Passed

Your Committee considered the following reports but did not pass them:

- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2006 (Volume 1)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2006 (Volume 2)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2006 (Volume 3)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2006 (Volume 4)
- Auditor General's Report – Audit of the Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2006
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2007 (Volume 1)
- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2007 (Volume 2)

Thursday, May 8, 2008

- Public Accounts for the year ended March 31, 2007 (Volume 3)
- Auditor General's Report – Audit of the Public Accounts for the year ending March 31, 2007

On motion of Mr. MALOWAY, the Report of the Committee was received.

Hon. Mr. STRUTHERS presented:

Annual Report of the Manitoba Association for Resource Recovery Corp. for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 41)

Hon. Mr. SELINGER presented:

Annual Report on French Language Services for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007.

(Sessional Paper No. 42)

Supplementary Information for Legislative Review 2008-2009 – Departmental Expenditure Estimates – Revenue Estimates.

(Sessional Paper No. 43)

Pursuant to Rule 26(1), Ms. MARCELINO, Mr. CULLEN, Ms. KORZENIOWSKI, Mr. MAGUIRE and Ms. BRAUN made Members' Statements.

By unanimous consent, it was agreed that each section of Committee of Supply to meet until 6:00 p.m. for Thursday, May 8, 2008.

By unanimous consent, it was agreed that on Monday, May 12, 2008, all Government Bills listed for Second Reading to be moved and adjourned with the understanding that any remaining Bills listed for Second Reading will be moved and adjourned on Tuesday, May 13, 2008.

The House resolving into Committee of Supply.

The House then adjourned at 6:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Monday, May 12, 2008.

Hon. George HICKES,
Speaker.