Wednesday, May 22, 2024



PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SITTING AT 1:30 P.M.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Hon. Min. SCHMIDT -

(No. 12) - The Environment Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'environnement

Hon. Min. NAYLOR -

(No. 26) – The Residential Tenancies Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la location à usage d'habitation

Hon. Min. MARCELINO -

(No. 27) - The Labour Relations Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les relations du travail

Hon. Min. MARCELINO –

(No. 28) – The Labour Relations Amendment Act (2)/Loi nº 2 modifiant la Loi sur les relations du travail

Hon. Min. SALA -

(No. 32) - The Manitoba Hydro Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'Hydro-Manitoba

Hon. Min. ASAGWARA-

(No. 35) - The Seniors' Advocate Act/Loi sur le protecteur des aînés

Mr. BALCAEN -

(No. 204) - The Change of Name Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur le changement de nom

Mrs. COOK –

(No. 205) – The Beneficiary Designation (Retirement, Savings and Other Plans) Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la désignation de bénéficiaires (régimes de retraite, d'épargne et autres)

Mrs. STONE -

(No. 206) – The Intimate Image Protection Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la protection des images intimes

Mr. WASYLIW-

(No. 210) – The Homeowner Protection from Unsolicited Purchase Offers Act/Loi sur la protection des propriétaires contre les offres d'achat non sollicitées

Mr. Johnson -

(No. 214) – The Manitoba Hydro Amendment Act (Net-Metering Agreements)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'Hydro-Manitoba (ententes de facturation nette)

Mr. PERCHOTTE -

(No. 215) – The Highway Traffic Amendment Act (Passing Vehicle on Shoulder)/Loi modifiant le Code de la route (dépassement des véhicules sur l'accotement)

MLA LAGASSÉ -

(No. 217) – The Men's Mental Health Awareness Week Act (Commemoration of Days, Weeks and Months Act Amended)/Loi sur la Semaine de sensibilisation à la santé mentale des hommes (modification de la Loi sur les journées, les semaines et les mois commémoratifs)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TABLING OF REPORTS

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

ORAL QUESTIONS

PETITIONS

Mr. BALCAEN MLA BEREZA Ms. BYRAM Mrs. COOK Mr. EWASKO Mr. GOERTZEN Mr. GUENTER Mrs. HIEBERT Mr. Jackson Mr. Johnson Mr. King MLA Lamoureux Mr. Narth Mr. Nesbitt Mr. Nesbitt Mr. Perchotte Mr. Schuler Mrs. Stone Mr. Wharton

GRIEVANCES

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY (98 hours 15 minutes)

REPORT STAGE AMENDMENTS:

Hon. Min. CABLE -

(No. 10) – The Advanced Education Administration Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration de l'enseignement postsecondaire

Specified Bill [Amendment (1) – Hon. Min. CABLE]

CONCURRENCE AND THIRD READINGS:

Hon. Min. CABLE -

(No. 5) – The Adult Literacy Act/Loi sur l'alphabétisation des adultes Specified Bill

Hon. Min. FONTAINE -

(No. 6) – The Manitoba Assistance Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les allocations d'aide du Manitoba

Specified Bill

Hon. Min. FONTAINE -

(No. 8) – The Safe Access to Abortion Services Act/Loi sur l'accès sécuritaire aux services d'interruption volontaire de grossesse

Specified Bill

Hon. Mr. WIEBE -

(No. 11) – The Statutes and Regulations Amendment and Interpretation Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les textes législatifs et réglementaires et la Loi d'interprétation Specified Bill

Hon. Min. ASAGWARA-

(No. 13) – The Emergency Medical Response and Stretcher Transportation Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les interventions médicales d'urgence et le transport pour personnes sur civière Specified Bill

Hon. Mr. WIEBE -

(No. 14) – The Minor Amendments and Corrections Act, 2024/Loi corrective de 2024 Specified Bill

Hon. Min. SALA -

(No. 15) – The Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les caisses populaires et les credit unions

Specified Bill

Hon. Min. MARCELINO -

(No. 17) – The Workplace Safety and Health Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la sécurité et l'hygiène du travail

Specified Bill

Hon. Min. ALTOMARE -

(No. 18) – The Community Child Care Standards Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la garde d'enfants

Specified Bill

Hon. Mr. WIEBE -

(No. 19) – The Drivers and Vehicles Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les conducteurs et les véhicules

Specified Bill

Hon. Mr. WIEBE -

(No. 20) – The Highway Traffic Amendment Act/Loi modifiant le Code de la route Specified Bill

Hon. Min. ASAGWARA-

(No. 22) – The Celebration of Nigerian Independence Day Act (Commemoration of Days, Weeks and Months Act Amended)/Loi sur la Journée de la célébration de l'indépendance du Nigeria (modification de la Loi sur les journées, les semaines et les mois commémoratifs)

Specified Bill

Hon. Min. NAYLOR -

(No. 23) – The Change of Name Amendment Act (2)/Loi n° 2 modifiant la Loi sur le changement de nom

Specified Bill

Hon. Mr. WIEBE –

(No. 24) – The Intimate Image Protection Amendment Act (Distribution of Fake Intimate Images)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la protection des images intimes (distribution de fausses images intimes) Specified Bill

DEBATE ON SECOND READINGS:

Hon. Min. MARCELINO -

(No. 7) – The Public Sector Construction Projects (Tendering) Repeal Act/Loi abrogeant la Loi sur les projets de construction dans le secteur public (appels d'offres) (Hon, Mr. WIEBE)

Designated Bill

Hon. Min. MARCELINO -

(No. 9) - The Employment Standards Code Amendment Act/Loi modifiant le Code des normes d'emploi

(Mr. NESBITT – 19 minutes) Designated Bill

SECOND READINGS:

Hon. Mr. WIEBE -

(No. 16) – The Regulatory Accountability Reporting Act and Amendments to the Statutes and Regulations Act/Loi sur la remise de rapports relativement à la responsabilisation en matière de réglementation et modification de la Loi sur les textes législatifs et réglementaires

Designated Bill

Hon. Min. ALTOMARE -

(No. 21) – The Public Schools Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les écoles publiques (Recommended by Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor) Designated Bill Hon. Min. NAYLOR -

(No. 33) – The Change of Name Amendment Act (3)/Loi n° 3 modifiant la Loi sur le changement de nom

Hon. Mr. WIEBE -

(No. 34) – The Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Control Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur la réglementation des alcools, des jeux et du cannabis

Hon. Min. ASAGWARA-

(No. 36) – The Regulated Health Professions Amendment Act/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les professions de la santé réglementées

Hon. Min. SALA -

(No. 37) – The Budget Implementation and Tax Statutes Amendment Act, 2024/Loi d'exécution du budget de 2024 et modifiant diverses dispositions législatives en matière de fiscalité (Recommended by Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor)

DEBATE ON GOVERNMENT MOTIONS:

Hon. Min. MARCELINO -

THAT the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba condemn efforts that put the pensions of all Canadians at risk and affirm collective support for the Canada Pension Plan and measures and strategies that strengthen the national pension plan for seniors, retirees and all workers in the province and country. (Hon. Min. FONTAINE)

Hon. Min. MARCELINO -

THAT the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba affirm its commitment to immediately call for a ceasefire in the Israel and Gaza war to address the famine crisis.

(Open)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS – ACCEPTED BUT NOT RETURNED:

Mrs. COOK -

1. Could the Minister of Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care provide a list of all RFSAs signed by the Diagnostic and Surgical Recovery Task Force while the DSRTF was active, broken down by service type and facility, with an updated status on whether the RFSA has been renewed for fiscal year 24/25?

2. Could the Minister of Labour and Immigration advise how many workers have been brought over and are working in Manitoba in total in 2024 thus far through the Philippines Recruitment Program?

Mr. Johnson –

- 3. Can the Premier of Manitoba advise upon the makeup and time frame for the establishment of the all-party committee on homecare that he previously committed to creating?
- 4. Can the Minister of Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care disclose the date that parking fees at all Manitoba Health Care facilities will be eliminated so as to ensure that "…how much is in someone's wallet should not be a barrier to access in this health-care system" and the total annual offsetting financial resources to facilities from the Provincial Government?

Mr. GUENTER –

5. In March of 2022, STARS Air Ambulance services in Manitoba were extended by two years with an extension of its contract. Considering the essential services that STARS provides, especially the peace of mind given to rural Manitobans, can the Minister of Consumer Protection and Government Services provide an update on the status of this contract and the provision of these services to Manitobans?

Mr. Khan –

- 6. Can the Minister of Finance advise the locations and time frames for the establishment Manitoba Hydro customer service centres that would fulfil the Provincial Government's commitment of all customers being located within one hour of an office?
- 7. Can the Minister of Finance advise when the tax deduction he previously committed to establishing for Caisses Populaires and Credit Unions to benefit the francophone community in the province takes effect?
- 8. On February 22nd, 2024, during a meeting of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, the interim President and CEO of Manitoba Hydro, as well as the President of the Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board took multiple matters under advisement and committed to returning substantial answers to the matters raised and reply to the Committee through the Minister responsible for Manitoba Hydro. The estimated timeline to provide the response was "three to four weeks". Can the Minister produce those materials, as well as an explanation for the delay?
- 9. The Minister of Finance made reference, both in the House and in his Bill briefing, to research that the Department of Finance had done to ensure that any savings from a Fuel Tax Holiday would make their way to Manitobans. Will the Minister provide this documentation and table it in the Legislature?

Mr. BALCAEN -

10. The Minister of Justice advised that an immediate anti-opiate strategy that includes the "restriction of the sale of pill presses in this province to keep fentanyl off the streets" was required. Can the Minister disclose the date the ban takes effect?

Mr. PERCHOTTE –

11. The Minister of Advanced Education and Training has allocated attestation letters to allow international students to study at Manitoba institutions. Will the Minister provide for this House a breakdown of exactly how many attestation letters each institution has been allocated for the 2023/24 academic year, compared to how many international students the same institution had in the 2021/22 and 2022/23 academic years?

Mr. WOWCHUK -

12. With the emergent threat of zebra mussels in Clear Lake, there is great need for enhanced water monitoring upstream to ensure that further waterways are safe and secure. Can the Minister of Environment and Climate Change produce data on the frequency of testing of water coming out of Clear Lake, as well as any measures taken to ensure that the Aquatic Invasive Species spread is limited?

Mrs. HIEBERT -

13. The Minister of Families previously called for the installation of additional security cameras at Manitoba Housing units to enhance tenant safety. Can the Minister of Housing, Addictions and Homelessness advise how many additional cameras have been installed, their locations, cost and who is monitoring them?

MLA BEREZA –

14. The MLA for the Maples indicated that farmers from the Punjab province of India should be made a priority in terms of accelerating the immigration process for them through the Farm Strategic Recruitment Initiative. What steps has the Minister of Agriculture implemented to recruiting farmers from the Punjab province to Manitoba?

Mr. PIWNIUK –

- 15. On March 5th, 2024, during a meeting of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, the President and CEO of Manitoba Public Insurance took multiple matters under advisement and committed to returning substantial answers to the matters raised and reply to the Committee through the Minister responsible for MPI. Can the Minister produce those materials, as well as an explanation for the delay?
- 16. On February 27th, 2024, during a meeting of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, the CEO of Efficiency Manitoba took multiple matters under advisement and committed to returning substantial answers to the matters raised and reply to the Committee through the Minister responsible. Can the Minister produce those materials, as well as an explanation for the delay?

Mr. NARTH -

- 17. On February 13th, 2024, during a meeting of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, the President and CEO of Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation took multiple matters under advisement and committed to returning substantial answers to the matters raised and reply to the Committee through the Minister responsible for MBLL, estimating it would take a week. Can the Minister produce those materials, as well as an explanation for the delay?
- 18. On February 13th, 2024, during a meeting of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, the President and CEO of Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation was unable to provide substantial answers related to the operational and staffing costs for Liquor Mart Express outlets. Can the Minister provide these annual expenses?

NOTICE PAPER

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

PROPOSED RESOLUTION:

MLA MOYES – Supporting the Provincial Government's Universal Nutrition Program

18. WHEREAS the Provincial Government is making critical investments in education and affordability to support families and kids in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS the former PC Provincial Government failed to develop a comprehensive poverty strategy to address Manitoba's high child and family poverty rates; and

WHEREAS families in Manitoba have been struggling to pay their bills and get food on the table; and

WHEREAS research shows that access to healthy foods is essential to facilitating student learning, well-being and success; and

WHEREAS Food Banks Canada reported that in last March alone, over 20,000 children visited a food bank in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS the current Provincial Government is investing in this province's future by investing in the nutrition of our kids; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government has adopted a universal nutrition program so that no child will go to school hungry; and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government, starting in the next school year, is expanding food programs in all school divisions so that there will be food available in every school for every kid who needs it.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to keep investing in the province's future by strengthening education, feeding kids, and making life more affordable for families in Manitoba.