

PRAYER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

10:00 O'CLOCK A.M.

Mr. EWASKO moved:

THAT Bill (No. 201) – The Manitoba Emblems Amendment Act (Provincial Stone)/Loi modifiant la Loi sur les emblèmes du Manitoba (désignation de la pierre provinciale), be now read a Second Time and be referred to a Committee of this House.

And a debate arising,

And Mr. EWASKO having spoken,

And MLA PANKRATZ, Mr. NARTH, MLA CROSS and Messrs. BALCAEN and KING having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And MLA PANKRATZ, Mr. NARTH and MLA CROSS having spoken,

And MLA LOISELLE speaking at 11:00 a.m. The debate was allowed to remain in their name.

MLA KHAN moved:

Resolution No. 1: Calling on the Provincial Government to Remove the Federal Carbon Tax on Home Heating Bills for Manitobans

WHEREAS many Manitobans are struggling to make ends meet, and experiencing a cost of living crisis as the cost of essential goods and services are rising; and

WHEREAS home heating is an essential service in Manitoba, with an average of almost 200 days below zero degrees Celsius annually; and

WHEREAS the federal carbon tax is compounding Manitobans affordability concerns, costing households hundreds of dollars in additional costs for home heating, as well as making all goods more expensive; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government has realized the cost of living impact of its carbon tax, offering Atlantic Canadians a reprieve and tax exemption for their home heating oil over the next year; and

WHEREAS Manitobans deserve the same consideration for their home heating needs and cost of living concerns; and

WHEREAS it is counterintuitive to exempt heating oil, while still collecting a carbon tax on the much cleaner burning natural gas that a majority of Manitoba homes utilize; and

WHEREAS Manitoba is one of the only provincial jurisdictions to have not agreed with the stance that all Canadians home heating bills should be exempt from the carbon tax; and

WHEREAS political leaders across party lines have called for a Canada-wide carbon tax exemption for home heating; and

WHEREAS Manitoba is a leader in developing one of the cleanest and greenest electricity systems in the world as its total natural gas consumption is less than 2% of Canada's total demand; and

WHEREAS Provincial leadership in other jurisdictions have already committed to removing the federal carbon tax from home heating bills; and

WHEREAS this Premier has previously publicly committed to pursuing an exemption, and acknowledged that "We also need to show flexibility".

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba urge the Provincial Government to remove the federal carbon tax on home heating bills for all Manitobans to provide them much needed relief.

And a debate arising,

And MLA KHAN having spoken,

And MLA MOYES, Mr. BALCAEN, MLA LAMOUREUX and Messrs. KING and PERCHOTTE having questioned the Member,

And the debate continuing,

And MLA MOROZ, Mr. KING, Ms. DELA CRUZ and MLA LAMOUREUX having spoken,

And MLA SANDHU speaking at 12:00 p.m. The debate was allowed to remain in their name.

1:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

Hon. Mr. SIMARD, the Minister of Sport, Culture, Heritage and Tourism, made a statement regarding Human Rights Day.

Mr. NARTH and, by leave, MLA LAMOUREUX commented on the statement.

Pursuant to sub-rule 28(1), Hon. Min. MARCELINO, MLAs KHAN and MOROZ, Ms. STEFANSON and Mr. WASYLIW made Member's statements.

The following petition was presented and read to the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba:

MLA LAMOUREUX – To urge the Provincial Government to consider hearing loss as a medical treatment under Manitoba Health; and to provide income based coverage for hearing aids to all who need them as hearing has been proven to be essential to Manitobans' cognitive, mental, and social health and well-being.

Hon. Min. MARCELINO moved:

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.

And the debate continuing,

And Hon. Min. MARCELINO, Mrs. COOK and Hon. Min. SIMARD having spoken,

The Speaker advised the House that in accordance with sub-rule 45(5), the Honourable Member for Steinbach would be splitting his designated speaking time with the Honourable Member for Fort Whyte.

And Mr. GOERTZEN, MLAs KHAN and LAMOUREUX and Hon. Min. ASAGWARA having spoken,

The debate was, on motion of Hon. Min. FONTAINE, adjourned.

Her Honour Anita NEVILLE, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Manitoba, having entered the House at 4:05 p.m., and being seated on the Throne:

The Speaker addressed Her Honour in the following words:

"Your Honour,

At this sitting, the Legislative Assembly has passed certain Bills that I ask Your Honour to give assent to."

The Journals Clerk of the Legislative Assembly read the titles of the Bills to be assented to as follows:

(No. 2) – The Louis Riel Act/Loi sur Louis Riel

(No. 3) – The Fuel Tax Amendment Act (Fuel Tax Holiday)/Loi modifiant la Loi de la taxe sur les carburants (période d'exonération de la taxe sur les carburants)

(No. 4) – The Employment Standards Code Amendment and Interpretation Amendment Act (Orange Shirt Day)/Loi modifiant le Code des normes d'emploi et la Loi d'interprétation (Journée du chandail orange)

To these Bills, the Royal Assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly as follows:

"In His Majesty's name, Her Honour assents to these Bills."

At 4:09 p.m., Her Honour was then pleased to retire.

The House then adjourned at 4:13 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, 2024.

Hon. Tom LINDSEY, Speaker.