

Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005

The House met at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Grand Bank (Ms. Foote) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Nancy Mugford and the music pupils of Lake Academy of Fortune on receiving the "Kodaly Society of Canada Music Education Excellence Award".

The Member for Lake Melville (Mr. Hickey) made a Statement to recognize the Mealey Mountain Collegiate boys soccer team which won the fifth provincial soccer championship on the weekend of October 27<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Member for Grand Falls - Buchans (Ms. Thistle) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Brian Cooke, a Grand Falls-Windsor basketball coach who recently received the Newfoundland and Labrador Basketball Association's Achievement Award.

The Member for Mount Pearl (Mr. Denine) made a Statement to recognize Mr. Jerry Byrne of Mount Pearl who has received the Ernest & Young "Turn a-round Entrepreneur of the Year" Award.

The Honourable the Minister of Education (Ms. Burke) made a Statement to inform the House that as incoming Chair of the Council of Ministers of Education she had addressed leaders in postsecondary education at a National Dialogue on Higher Education.

The Honourable the Minister of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development (Ms. Dunderdale) made a Statement to inform the House that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador in partnership with the Government of Ireland through the Ireland Business Partnerships had issued a request for proposals to develop a plan for providing seabed mapping services to international markets.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Gander (Mr. O'Brien):

**"WHEREAS** a consequence of the relocation of weather forecasting services from this province has been that the workplace and social activities of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians are being conducted in a hazardous environment;

**AND WHEREAS** the social, economic, business and commercial operations of our province are impacted negatively by inaccurate weather forecasts at a far greater rate of frequency than in the past, in particular by

- (a) threats to the safety of fishermen,
- (b) havoc and lost productivity inflicted upon the operation of educational institutions,

Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005

- (c) turmoil and chaotic conditions that are created when patients must reschedule long awaited appointments because of cancellations due to inaccurate forecasting of impending storms, and
- (d) impairment of groups such as business committees, sports organizations, and volunteer groups to conduct their affairs in a timely, economic and effective manner so as to maintain a reasonable flow of activity;

**AND WHEREAS** as a result of undependable weather forecasting, it is clearly evident that this province is paying an economic penalty far greater than could be anticipated, owing to

- (a) the economic impact upon the coastal and rural workforce,
- (b) the loss of productivity and added costs within the medical field when hours of work for specialists and medical staff are not fully utilized because of rescheduling caused by erroneous weather predictions,
- (c) the added costs to patients and all citizens who are forced to make repeated journeys when appointments are rescheduled because of inaccurate weather forecasts, and
- (d) the negative economic impact on specific aspects of our tourist industry like adventure tourism, who rely on accurate forecasting for their livelihood;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador make representation to the Government of Canada to rescind the decision to move weather forecasting services from Gander to mainland sites and to return full weather forecasting services to this province.”

The Speaker put the question on the Resolution and declared the Resolution carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.