

CLERK: Please be seated.

At the close of nominations for the Office of the Speaker at 4:30, Friday, June 7, 2019, one candidate put his name forward.

Accordingly, further to suborder 4(4) of the Standing Orders, I declare Mr. Perry Trimer, Member for the District of Lake Melville, elected as Speaker for the 49th General Assembly.

(Applause.)

(The hon. the Premier and the hon. the Leader of the Official Opposition lead Mr. Trimer to the Speaker's Chair.)

MR. SPEAKER (Trimer): Well, it's still a great view. I said that the last time I had the honour of standing in this place and representing you all as your Speaker.

I would like to thank all of the colleagues, and also I would like to, as the Lieutenant-Governor did this morning, congratulate each and every one of you. While I have the honour of sitting in this Chair, I'm an MHA just like the rest of you, so congratulations to everyone in this House.

I was thinking, and in the spirit of recycling and issues that are going on at the national, provincial and even municipal level, it's good for myself to be thinking I could be used for a second time. So I appreciate that opportunity here today.

I would like to start with a couple of thank-yous. Of course, to my wife, Caroline – she's up in Labrador. I appreciate and love her very much, she's a great supporter and I think we all know and realize how important family and friends are to what we do in this political adventure.

I also need to thank and I need to single out the District of Lake Melville and thank them for their support in allowing me to represent them again for this 49th General Assembly. Also, and I think on behalf of us all, we need to thank and express our appreciation to all the people of Newfoundland and Labrador.

I had an interesting thing just happen to me this morning, and I'd like to share with you. It's not a place for props, but I was just handed this card from the Clerk Assistant here, and it's about Sir Thomas More. She gave this me to for perhaps some inspiration, but also just some thought about the history of the job of the Speaker. And we all know quite a bit about Sir Thomas More, but it's interesting that in 1523 he became Speaker of the House of Commons. He proposed at that time free speech and he defended the liberty of the House of Commons.

It was interesting that some – what was it – 12 years later he was tried and executed. However, I take some solace in the fact that about 400 years later he was canonized by the Pope, so maybe there's some opportunity to be thanked for your role as the Speaker in the future.

I do believe, and for those who've watched me sit in this Chair and in this position over the last two years, that I believe each of you has the right to be heard and be listened to, and I work very hard on that. So, I will give you all my assurance that I will do my best to ensure that continues to happen.

Again, in the spirit of props, which are not allowed in this House but I will take one little exception, if I may today only, but I was at the Labrador Cup recently, and for those who follow soccer, the officials

came up to me, knowing my interest in becoming the Speaker and continuing as the Speaker, and they said: Here's an official yellow card that you could use at some point in the House. They also gave me a red card for two violations, but that's the last time you'll see those in this House.

I guess a final thanks and appreciation to the entire staff of the House of Assembly. They're the folks that you see before us, but there are many more that are in Broadcast that are recording *Hansard* that helped us all get through that very unique and very interesting swearing-in ceremony this morning. We have a tremendous crew. They're all available to each and every one of you and I advise you each to reach out to them with any questions, particularly, the new Members.

Now, we do have a lot of work to do, so I will say let's get started.

So, with that, I will thank you all very much.

(...)

PREMIER BALL: May it please Your Honour, the House of Assembly, agreeable to Your Honour's command, have proceeded to the choice of Speaker and have elected Mr. Perry Trimper, who is the Member for the District of Lake Melville, to that office, and by their direction I present him for the approbation of Your Honour.

HER HONOUR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR (PC, ONL): On behalf of Her Majesty, I assure you of my sense of your efficiency and I do most fully approve and confirm you as Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Your Honour having approved the choice of this House in constituting me as their Speaker, it now becomes my duty in the name of the representatives of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, the people of the province, respectively, to claim of Your Honour their accustomed rights and privileges, especially that they shall have freedom of speech in their debates, that they may be free from arrest during their attendance in Parliament, and that I, as Speaker, may have full access to Your Honour's presence at all reasonable times and that they have confirmed to them all their ancient rights and privileges which have been confirmed to them by Your Honour's predecessors.

HER HONOUR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR (PC, ONL): Mr. Speaker, I do confirm this House, on behalf of Her Majesty, in the enjoyment of all of its ancient and undoubted rights and privileges.