

JOURNALS AND PROCEEDINGS
of the
FIRST SESSION
of the
FORTY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of
NEWFOUNDLAND and LABRADOR
2004

Begun and holden at St. John's in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador on Thursday, the Eighteenth Day of March, Two Thousand and Four, being the Fifty -Third year of the Reign of Her Majesty Our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth the Second by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada, and Her Other Realms and Territories, QUEEN, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

Thursday, March 18th, 2004

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Edward Roberts, Q.C. issued the following proclamation:

ÆLIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her Other Realms and Territories **QUEEN**, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

Edward Roberts
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Thomas Marshall
MINISTER OF JUSTICE

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME,

GREETING:

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS a General Election of Members of the General Assembly of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador was held on October 21, 2003;

AND WHEREAS under section 128 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, I, as Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, administered the Oaths or Affirmations of Allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to those persons elected to be Members of the House of Assembly in the said General Election on November 12, 2003;

AND WHEREAS, the Members of the Forty-Fifth House of Assembly chose their Speaker on November 12, 2003;

Thursday, March 18th, 2004

AND WHEREAS I think fit to summon the Forty-Fifth General Assembly;

I DO, THEREFORE, by this My Proclamation summon the said General Assembly to meet for the dispatch of business of the First Session of the Forty-Fifth General Assembly at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, the 18th day of March, 2004 of which all persons concerned are hereby required to take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

WITNESS: Our truly and well-beloved the Honourable Edward Roberts, one of Her Majesty's Counsel learned in the law, Lieutenant Governor in and for Our Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

AT OUR GOVERNMENT HOUSE in Our City of St. John's this 18th day of March in the year of Our Lord two thousand and four in the fifty-third year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND,

Jack Byrne
REGISTRAR GENERAL.

At 2 o'clock in the afternoon the Sergeant-at-Arms notified the Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Hodder) that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Edward Roberts, Q.C., had arrived.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Assembly Chamber preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Speaker left the Chair, whereupon the Lieutenant Governor having taken his seat, the Honourable the Premier (Mr. Williams) addressed His Honour as follows:

May it please Your Honour:

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The House of Assembly, agreeable to Your Honour's Command, have proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, and have elected Harvey Hodder, Esquire, Member for the District of Waterford Valley, to that office, and by their direction, I present him for Your Honour's approval.

His Honour was then pleased to reply:

On behalf of Her Majesty, I assure you of my sense of your efficiency and I do most fully approve and confirm you as the Speaker.

Whereupon the Speaker addressed His Honour as follows:

Your Honour having approved the choice of this House in constituting me as its Speaker, it now becomes my duty in the name of the representatives of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, the people of this Province respectfully, 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.

His Honour was pleased to reply:

On behalf of Her Majesty, I do confirm this House in the enjoyment of all its ancient and undoubted rights and privileges.

His Honour was then pleased to open the Session with a Speech From the Throne.

His Honour then left the Assembly Chamber.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Edward Byrne) and by leave of the House, a Bill entitled, An Act To Amend The Student Assistance Act (Bill No. 1) was introduced and read a first time.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 1 be read a second time on tomorrow.

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The Speaker announced that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor had been pleased to make a Speech to the Members met in the General Assembly and that for greater accuracy he had obtained a copy.

It was unanimously agreed that the Speech should be taken as read and copies distributed to Members.

It was moved by the Member for Trinity-Bay de Verde (Ms. Johnson) and seconded by the Member for Lake Melville (Mr. Hickey) that an Address of Thanks be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor in reply to the Gracious Speech with which he had been pleased to open the present Session of the Legislature, and that a Select Committee be appointed to draft the Address in Reply.

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Grimes), the Member for Signal Hill-Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) and the Honourable the Premier (Mr. Williams) spoke to the motion.

The motion was adopted by the House and it was ordered accordingly that the following Members be appointed to the Select Committee:

Ms. Charlene Johnson, Member for Trinity-Bay de Verde
Mr. John Hickey, Member for Lake Melville
Mr. Roland Butler, Member for Port de Grave.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider certain Resolutions for the granting of Interim Supply to Her Majesty (Bill No. 2).

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Edward Byrne) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon and that the House not adjourn at 10 o'clock in the evening on Monday, March 22nd, 2004.

It was ordered that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Monday, March 22nd at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

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On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

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