

Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2004

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

The Member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Andersen) rose on a point of order to note that the Ministers of the Crown who represent Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs should be recognized by their full titles or portfolios. The Government House Leader (Mr. Byrne) spoke to concur in the matter. The Speaker noted that all occupants of the Chair would recognize the additional Labrador and Aboriginal titles of the two Ministers, namely the Minister of Fisheries & Aquaculture and Labrador Affairs and the Minister of Transportation & Works and Aboriginal Affairs.

The Member for Burgeo & LaPoile (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to recognize the heroic work and sacrifice of several citizens from Burnt Islands who had recently served with the Canadian Forces in Afghanistan, namely: Messrs. Conrad Keeping, Kyle Keeping, Craig Hatcher, Marty Bryan and Jeremy MacDonald. The Member also paid tribute to the late Corporal Jamie Murphy.

The Member for Mount Pearl (Mr. Denine) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mr. Kell Ashford, a former Mayor of the City of Mount Pearl who was instrumental in the foundation of the community.

The Member for Grand Bank (Ms. Foote) made a Statement to congratulate the Town of Grand Bank which celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> year as an incorporated town this past November.

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Wiseman) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Donna Butt on being recently named a member of the Order of Canada for her lifetime achievement in the performing arts in the Province.

The Member for Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune (Mr. Langdon) made a Statement to congratulate Mrs. Olive MacDonald of Harbour Breton who celebrated her 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

The Member for Lake Melville (Mr. Hickey) made a Statement to recognize and congratulate the organizing committee, sponsors and the people of the Communities of Happy Valley - Goose Bay, North West River, Mudlake and Sheshatshue for their efforts in organizing the successful outside event known as Snow Break 2004.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment and Conservation (Mr. Tom Osborne) made a Statement to announce that the Departments of Environment and Conservation and Transportation and Works would initiate a mandatory paper and cardboard recycling program in the Confederation Building Complex effective March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2004. Cardboard and

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paper would no longer be allowed to be discarded through regular garbage disposal.

The Honourable the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment (Ms. Burke) in her capacity as Minister Responsible for the Status of Women made a Statement to recognize that the Women's Health Network, Newfoundland and Labrador, would be hosting a policy workshop, promoting the advancement of physical activities for girls in the Province.

It was agreed to extend the time for Ministerial Statements.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Mr. Taylor) made a Statement to advise Members he had attended the International Boston Seafood Show, the foremost show for seafood products in North America. The Minister also commented on the professionalism of the Newfoundland and Labrador Pavilion and its exhibitors.

After Oral Questions, the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Byrne) rose on a point of order respecting the matter of the Premier answering questions on behalf of the Ministry. The Speaker advised Members with respect to the rules respecting this matter.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) rose on a further point of order alleging that the Member for Grand Bank (Ms. Foote) had made a disparaging remark towards the Honourable the Minister of Government Services (Ms. Whalen). After some debate, the Speaker took the matter under advisement and said he would review the House tapes.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones):

**WHEREAS** Health Care is one of the essential services provided by a government to the people of this province;

**AND WHEREAS** there is a demonstrated need for improvements to health care services in many areas of this province;

**AND WHEREAS** in several cases improvements to health care facilities have been put on hold without sufficient explanation;

**AND WHEREAS** the government has directed health care boards to produce cost saving plans that will result in service cuts in many rural areas;

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**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Members of the House of Assembly call on the Government to reaffirm that health care is a priority item that cannot be compromised;

**AND THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Members of the House of Assembly call on Government to proceed with all previously announced improvements to health care facilities as they were originally scheduled.

It was agreed to stop the clock.

The Speaker (Mr. Hodder) put the question on the Resolution.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour of the Resolution: Mr. Grimes; Mr. Parsons; Mr. Butler; Mr. Barrett; Mr. Langdon; Ms. Jones; Ms. Thistle; Mr. Reid; Mr. Andersen; Mr. Sweeney; Ms. Foote; Mr. Harris; Mr. Collins.

Against: Mr. Edward Byrne; Mr. Ottenheimer; Mr. Rideout; Mr. Taylor; Mr. Tom Marshall; Mr. Jack Byrne; Ms. Elizabeth Marshall; Mr. Shelley; Mr. Fitzgerald; Ms. Sheila Osborne; Mr. French; Ms. Burke; Mr. Tom Osborne; Ms. Whalen; Mr. Hedderson; Mr. Hickey; Mr. Wiseman; Mr. Denine; Mr. Harding; Mr. Young; Mr. Hunter; Mr. Jackman; Mr. Jim Hodder; Mr. Skinner; Mr. Oram; Mr. O'Brien; Mr. Ridgley

The Speaker declared the Resolution defeated.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. 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 Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004 at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**

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Clerk of the House of Assembly.