

Monday, April 5th, 2004

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for St. John's Centre (Mr. Skinner) made a Statement to congratulate the many hundreds of volunteers in the curling fraternity who were instrumental in organizing the successful World Curling Tour event completed at Mile One Stadium. The Member also recognized the participation of two local curling teams skipped by Mark Noseworthy and Brad Gushue.

The Member for Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Jamie Pye of Forteau for recently being named a recipient of the 2003 Youth of the Year Award for Innovation. The Member also congratulated other youth who were named as winners in other categories and for their outstanding contribution to the social and economic development of the Province.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Michael Ryder of Bonavista on his tremendous success in the National Hockey League this season.

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) made a Statement to recognize the Volunteer Fire Department of the Towns of Hughes Brook, Irishtown and Summerside and the long service records of the founding members of the Volunteer Fire Department.

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Wiseman) made a Statement to congratulate the Trinity Historical Society on receiving the Manning Award in the provincial importance category for the restoration of the Green Family Forge.

The Member for Carbonear-Harbour Grace (Mr. Sweeney) made a Statement to recognize and congratulate Ms. Kim White, a student from Carbonear who had recently been selected to travel to Ottawa to participate in the Forum for Young Canadians.

The Member for Bellevue (Mr. Barrett) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

WHEREAS there are unfortunately 20,000 public service employees on a legal strike resulting in serious service disruptions;

AND WHEREAS there was no consultation with their elected representatives as promised by the Premier in his address to the NAPE convention in September, 2001;

Monday, April 5th, 2004

AND WHEREAS there have been very few real negotiations between government as the employer and the union negotiators;

AND WHEREAS the Premier has made threatening remarks regarding the strikers being punished and left off the job until the cows come home;

AND WHEREAS the Premier has engaged personally in unfair labour practices by passing the elected leaders and the negotiators in attempting to divide and conquer the unions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly call upon the government to return to meaningful negotiations with professional negotiators in an attempt to reach a mutually-agreed new contract;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Assembly call upon the Premier to restate his commitment to respect the bargaining process and not to use the legislature to impose an agreement.

The Member for Bellevue also announced that his Resolution would be debated on Private Members' Day on Wednesday.

The Member for Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune (Mr. Langdon) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

WHEREAS the government committed in their election platform to reduce ferry rates to the equivalent of road travel;

AND WHEREAS the recent budget saw increases of 25% instead;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly call upon the government to recommit to its stated plan and log out a time line for when the people of the province can expect the plan to be implemented.

The Member for Carbonear-Harbour Grace (Mr. Sweeney) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

WHEREAS a strong and dedicated civil service is an important part of maintaining and improving both the social and economic life of people in this Province;

Monday, April 5th, 2004

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House of Assembly does not agree with a downgrading of the civil service in this Province.

The Member for Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of her District requesting the Minister of Transportation & Works to release immediately the report on the Labrador Coastal Marine Service and to make a decision on the Coastal Marine Service.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District asking the government to amend the policy immediately so that all residents of Labrador West could avail of the same medical services at the same cost as any other resident living in Labrador in order to travel to Goose Bay for medical services.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the motion ^AThat This House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government (the Budget Speech).

At 3:05 o'clock in the afternoon, the fire alarms in the parliamentary precinct sounded whereupon the Speaker (Mr. Fitzgerald) recessed the House.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 3:45 o'clock in the afternoon.

Debate continued on the Budget Speech.

During the debate, the Member for Grand Falls-Buchans (Ms. Thistle) moved that the debate on the Budget Speech be adjourned.

The Speaker put the question on the motion and declared the motion defeated.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Byrne) moved pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

Various points of order were raised respecting the necessity of the House sitting in the evening.

It was agreed to stop the clock at 5:30 o'clock.

The Speaker put the question on the motion and declared the motion carried.

Monday, April 5th, 2004

By agreement the House recessed at 5:45 o'clock in the afternoon for the dinner break.

The Speaker (Mr. Hodder) resumed the Chair at 7 o'clock in the evening.

Debate continued on the Budget Speech and on motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

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 Tuesday, April 6th, 2004.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 6th at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly at 9:47 o'clock in the evening.

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