

Monday, April 12th, 2004

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

The Member for Humber Valley (Ms. Goudie) made a Statement to pay tribute and offer condolences to the family of the late Mr. A.M. (Gus) Kerwin who served for many years as a councilor and Mayor of Deer Lake and who was a tireless volunteer for many causes in the Town.

The Member for Bellevue (Mr. Barrett) made a Statement to recognize twenty-five years of volunteer service of five firefighters of the Seaside Fire Department in the Districts of Bellevue and Trinity-Bay de Verde, namely: Messrs. Ronald Smith, Rex Hollett, Donald Bishop, Melvin Newhook and Alonzo Reid.

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Wiseman) made a Statement to congratulate the participants and volunteers of the Flying Blades Skating Club of Clarendville for another successful year and in particular for the performance at the year end ice show entitled The Wizard of O.

The Member for Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune (Mr. Langdon) made a Statement to congratulate an aspiring hockey player from his District, seventeen year old Lorna Tibbo for her active participation in female hockey tournaments, in particular, being a member of the provincial team in the 2004 Esso Women's National Hockey Championship recently held in Alberta.

The Member for Port au Port (Mr. Jim Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate the Royal Canadian Army Cadets on celebrating their one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary and in particular the Member paid tribute to the Cadet Corps on the Port au Port Peninsula as the only bilingual Cadet Corp in the Province.

The Member for Grand Falls-Buchans (Ms. Thistle) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Joanna Burke, a Grade 10 student at Exploits Valley High School, for attaining first place in the Knights of Columbus regional public speaking contest in Grand Falls-Windsor.

The Honourable the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment (Ms. Burke) made a Statement to advise Members of the most recent employment survey by Statistics Canada showing an encouraging growth in employment in Newfoundland and Labrador.

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The Honourable the Minister of Transportation, Works and Aboriginal Affairs (Mr. Rideout) made a Statement advising Members of Government's decision respecting the Labrador Coastal Marine Service. The Minister detailed the Labrador Coastal Marine Services configuration based on a modified version of a report prepared by Memorial University's Public Policy Research Centre.

The Member for Lake Melville (Mr. Hickey) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

AWHEREAS Canadian Forces Base 5 Wing Goose Bay has long been and remains one of Canada's strategically important military bases, as well as a key military training site for countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO);

AND WHEREAS the future of 5 Wing has been clouded in uncertainty in recent months, to the detriment of the people and economy of Happy Valley-Goose Bay;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada, with the support of the Canadian public, is strengthening its investment in national defence, particularly in light of concerns about global terrorism and Canada's ongoing military operations in Afghanistan and elsewhere;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada is advancing large strategic investments in military flight training at 3 Wing Bagotville (Québec) and 4 Wing Cold Lake (Alberta);

AND WHEREAS the Minister of National Defence has announced significant financial support for current training partners over the next two flying seasons and is engaged in developing and implementing marketing, training and cost allocation initiatives;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is committed to ensuring the future viability of foreign military training at 5 Wing and has been working cooperatively with the Goose Bay Citizens Coalition (GBCC) and the Government of Canada to achieve this objective;

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House call upon the Government of Canada to expeditiously develop and implement a new strategic plan for 5 Wing Goose Bay that includes substantial new investments in the base in order to make optimal use of the infrastructure, expertise, geography, climate and other tremendous advantages of 5 Wing while boosting the local economy and making Canada stronger.

By leave, the Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan), in accordance with section 28(4) (e) of the **Financial Administration Act**, tabled new Activity Expenditures under the Departments of Forest Resources & Agrifoods and Justice as authorized by Orders in Council 2003-476 and 2003-443.

By leave, the Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan), in accordance with section 26(5) of the **Financial Administration Act**, tabled copies of the following Orders in Council relating to the following funding pre-commitments for the year 2004-2005 to 2007-2008:

- (a) Order in Council 2003-354 authorized the Department of Government Services and Lands to spend \$1,525,000 to replace the Registry of Deeds and Companies computer systems;
- (b) Order in Council 2003-392 authorized the Department of Works, Services and Transportation to spend \$300,000 and \$400,000 on the Wind Power Demonstration Project;
- (c) Order in Council 2003-394 authorized the Department of Justice to spend \$1,170,000 to facilitate the design and construction of the Supreme Court facility in Happy Valley-Goose Bay;
- (d) Order in Council 2003-449 authorized the Department of Works, Services and Transportation to spend \$4,461,272 for the continued operation of the St. Barbe-Blanc Sablon Ferry Service;
- (e) Order in Council 2003-528 authorized the Department of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education to spend \$32,000 for the conclusion of government's financial commitment to the Abitibi retraining initiative;
- (f) Order in Council 2003-561 authorized the Department of Works, Services and Transportation to spend \$956,333 for road maintenance from Labrador West to Churchill Falls;
- (g) Order in Council 2003-564 authorized the Department of Health and Community Services to spend \$100,000 to facilitate payment of the contract with Med-Emerg International Inc. for the evaluation of the Primary Health Care Renewal Framework;

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- (h) Order in Council 2003-632 authorized the Department of Works, Services and Transportation to spend \$422,087 and \$298,352 for the extension of the Francois/Grey River-Burgeo Ferry Service contract;
- (i) Order in Council 2003-633 authorized the Department of Works, Services and Transportation to spend \$132,000 for the lease cost of four front-end loaders with snow equipment attachments, and \$403,369 for the purchase of the machines;
- (j) Order in Council 2003-671 authorized the Department of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education to spend \$650,000 to facilitate the completion of the Phase 2 renovations at the Prince Philip Drive Campus of the College of the North Atlantic;
- (k) Order in Council 2003-675 authorized the Treasury Board Secretariat to spend \$1,270,000 for completion of the Oracle11 upgrade external consulting contracts;
- (l) Order in Council 2003-676 authorized the Department of Works, Services and Transportation to spend \$15,120,000 and \$5,460,000 for highway projects under the Strategic Highway Infrastructure Program;
- (m) Order in Council 2004-054 authorized the Department of Education to spend \$4.0 million for the purchase of textbooks;
- (n) Order in Council 2004-055 authorized the Department of Works, Services and Transportation, Health and Community Services and Forest Resources and Agrifoods to spend \$4,029,000 for the signing of the helicopter services contract in February 2004;
- (o) Order in Council 2004-109 authorized the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation to spend up to \$500,00 for the purpose of tourism advertising;
- (p) Order in Council 2004-167 authorized the Department of Transportation and Works to spend \$575,000, \$560,000, \$580,000, \$35,000 for Alterations Block Funding for the HVAC Upgrade Project in the Grand Falls Public Building.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Byrne) gave notice and by leave moved that the following Members comprise the Public Accounts Committee:

- (a) Mr. Eddie Joyce, Member for Bay of Islands,
- (b) Mr. Harry Harding, Member for Bonavista North,
- (c) Mr. Ray Hunter, Member for Windsor-Springdale,
- (d) Mr. Wally Young, Member for St. Barbe,
- (e) Mr. Kathy Goudie, Member for Humber Valley,
- (f) Mr. Gerry Reid, Member for Twillingate-Fogo,
- (g) Ms. Yvonne Jones, Member for Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair.

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The Honourable the Government House Leader further moved that the appointments confirm the decisions of the Leader of the Opposition and the Premier following the swearing in of the new administration in November, 2003.

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

The Member for Grand Bank (Ms. Foote) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province and in particular residents of Bell Island requesting the Government of the Province to reconsider ferry rate increases and reduction in service, to renegotiate essential ferry service and to designate all inter-provincial ferry services as strike free.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

- A Bill, An Act To Amend The Fire Prevention Act, 1991" (Bill No. 6);
- A Bill, An Act To Amend The Municipal Affairs Act (Bill No. 8);
- A Bill, An Act To Amend The Emergency Measures Act (Bill Not. 5);
- A Bill, An Act To Amend The Financial Administration Act (Bill No. 16);
- A Bill, An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000" (Bill No. 7);
- A Bill, An Act To Revise The Law About The Practice Of Optometry (Bill No. 9);
- A Bill, An Act To Incorporate The Newfoundland And Labrador Centre For Health Information@ (Bill No. 17);
- A Bill, An Act To Amend The Survival Of Actions Act (Bill No. 11);
- A Bill, An Act To Amend The Corporations Act (Bill No. 4);
- A Bill, An Act To Amend The Services Charges Act (Bill No. 10).

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On motion it was ordered that the above noted Bills be read a second time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the motion That This House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government (the Budget Speech) and on motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 13th 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