Wednesday, May 12th, 2004

The House met at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Andersen) made a Statement to congratulate the Canadian Rangers Makkovik Patrol for winning the Avalon Shield Competition.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate the players and coaches of the Amalgamated Academy Jaguars Junior Volleyball Team who recently won their fourth provincial tournament.

The Honourable the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment (Ms. Burke) made a Statement to advise Members that through the sponsorship of the Interchange on Canadian Studies, ten students from different regions across Newfoundland and Labrador would attend a national bilingual conference in North Bay, Ontario.

The Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (Mr. Shelley) made a Statement to advise Members with respect to exciting tourism information concerning the 2004 tourism season which indicated a fifteen per cent increase over the 2003 season.

The Member for Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) presented a petition on behalf of residents of Southern Labrador and travellers generally to the region requesting access to the most effective mode of transportation between Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Cartwright through an increased number of trips of the Sir Robert Bond during the 2004 operating season.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Fortune Bay - Cape La Hune (Mr. Langdon):

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.

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The Speaker put the question on the Resolution.

The House divided.

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

Against: Mr. Edward Byrne; Ms. Dunderdale; Mr. Taylor; 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. Wiseman; Mr. Denine; Mr. Harding; Mr. Young; Mr. Jackman; Ms. Johnson; Ms. Goudie; Mr. Skinner; Mr. Oram; Mr. Ridgley.

The Speaker declared the motion defeated.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, May 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.