

Monday, May 1st, 2006

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

The Member for Twillingate & Fogo (Mr. Reid) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Rick Woodford former Member of the House of Assembly for Humber Valley who died tragically on April 16th. By leave the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) and the Member for Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) also paid tribute to the late Mr. Woodford.

The Member for St. John's Centre (Mr. Skinner) made a Statement to recognize Volunteer Week and to honour all volunteers.

The Member for Grand Falls - Buchans (Ms. Thistle) made a Statement to congratulate the Grand Falls-Windsor Heritage Society on winning the Historic Sites Association of Newfoundland and Labrador's Manning Award for the history book *Grand Falls-Windsor : The Place and it's People* published as a legacy project for the 2005 Centennial Celebrations.

The Member for Lake Melville (Mr. Hickey) made a Statement to pay tribute to the later Mr. Steve Ramey of Happy Valley-Goose Bay who was tragically killed in a motor vehicle accident on November 10th, 2004.

The Member for Carbonear - Harbour Grace (Mr. Sweeney) made a Statement to congratulate the Conception Bay CeeBee Stars, the 2005-2006 Herder Memorial Senior Hockey Champions.

The Member for St. John's North (Mr. Ridgley) made a Statement to inform the House about the Holocaust Memorial Service which was held at Prince of Wales Collegiate on April 30th.

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services (Ms. Whalen) made a Statement to recognize North American Occupational Safety and Health Week.

The Member for Bonavista North (Mr. Harding), as Chair of the Resource Committee, reported that the Committee had considered the matters to it referred and had passed, without amendment, the following Heads of Expenditure:

**Business,
Environment and Conservation,
Fisheries and Aquaculture and Aboriginal Affairs,
Innovation, Trade and Rural Development,
Natural Resources, and
Tourism, Culture and Recreation.**

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On motion, the Report was received and on motion debate on the Report was deferred until later.

The Member for St. John's North (Mr. Ridgley), as Chair of the Social Services Committee, reported that the Committee had considered the matters to it referred and had passed, without amendment, the following Heads of Expenditure:

**Education,
Health and Community Services,
Justice,
Municipal and Provincial Affairs,
Human Resources, Labour and Employment and Labrador Affairs, and
Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation.**

On motion, the Report was received and on motion debate on the Report was deferred until later.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) pursuant to section 49 (2) of the **Financial Administration Act** tabled the list of Temporary Loans raised under section 48 of the Act since the last report to the House.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) advised the House in accordance with subsection 55(3) of the **Financial Administration Act** that there have been no guaranteed loans paid out by the Province since the last annual report to the House.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) reported pursuant to subsection 55.1(2) of the **Financial Administration Act** that there have been no guaranteed debt of any Crown corporation or agency assumed by the Province since the last annual report to the House.

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Jack Byrne) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Bills:

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The City Of Corner Brook Act, The City Of Mount Pearl Act, The City Of St. John's Act, The Municipalities Act, 1999 And The St. John's Assessment Act" (Bill No. 14);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Municipalities Act, 1999" (Bill No. 20).

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The Member for Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

“WHEREAS the cost of prescription drugs is rising and is an increasing proportion of health care spending from all sources, and now exceeds the cost of doctor’s services as a percentage of overall health care costs;

AND WHEREAS drug therapies play a crucial role in the management of disease and treatment for illness or other medical conditions and can avoid hospitalization or other institutional care while providing a better quality of life;

AND WHEREAS current access to prescription drugs depends on a mixture of public, workplace and private plans and according to the Canadian Diabetes Association up to 35% of our population has no access to a drug plan at all and must pay for drug therapies with their own resources, which in many cases are inadequate;

AND WHEREAS there are opportunities to provide greater fairness of access to drug treatments and to save money for the health care system by having a more comprehensive system;

AND WHEREAS Government has taken an important step in the recent budget in recognizing the importance of access to prescription drugs for those with low family incomes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a Select Committee of the House of Assembly be struck to inquire into and report on the feasibility and options with respect to the development of a province-wide comprehensive system that would ensure that all Newfoundlanders and Labradorians have access to a prescription drug plan”.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, “An Act To Amend The Provincial Court Judges’ Pension Plan Act”. (Bill No. 7)

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Mr. Osborne) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Bills:

A Bill, “An Act Respecting The Practice Of Physiotherapy” (Bill No 19);

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Child, Youth And Family Services Act” (Bill No. 18);

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A Bill, "An Act Respecting The Delivery Of Health And Community Services And The Establishment Of Regional Health Authorities" (Bill No. 11).

The Honourable the Minister of Environment and Conservation (Mr. Jackman) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Environmental Protection Act". (Bill No. 16)

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) on behalf of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General (Mr. Marshall) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Bills:

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Sheriff's Act, 1991" (Bill No. 13);

A Bill, "An Act Respecting The Convention On The Settlement Of Investment Disputes Between States And Nationals Of Other States" (Bill No. 12).

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services (Ms. Whalen) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Bills:

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Occupational Health And Safety Act" (Bill No. 9);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Securities Act" (Bill No. 10);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Buildings Accessibility Act" (Bill No. 8);

A Bill, "An Act To Repeal Obsolete Acts And To Amend The Highway Traffic Act" (Bill No. 17).

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) presented a Petition requesting the House of Assembly to urge Government to oppose the continued operation of the Wild Cove dump.

The Member for Burgeo and LaPoile (Mr. Parsons) presented a Petition requesting the House of Assembly to urge Government to keep St. Michael's Elementary School in the Town of Rose Blanche-Harbour Le Cou open.

The Member for Grand Falls - Buchans (Ms. Thistle) presented a Petition requesting the House of Assembly to call upon Government to provide funding for the necessary road work on the Buchans Highway this summer.

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The Member for Carbonear - Harbour Grace (Mr. Sweeney) presented a Petition requesting the House of Assembly to urge Government to see that Route 70 through Victoria and Salmon Cove is brought up to proper standards.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) gave notice that the Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) would be debated on Private Members' Day on Wednesday.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) moved 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.

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

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne), debate commenced on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Government Services Committee.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed 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, May 2nd, 2006.

By leave the proceedings were suspended for the dinner break at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

The House resumed sitting at 7:00 in the evening.

Debate continued and concluded on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Government Services Committee.

The Speaker (Mr. Hodder) put the question on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Government Services Committee.

The Speaker declared the motion carried.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) debate commenced and concluded on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Resource Committee.

The Speaker (Mr. Hodder) put the question on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Resource Committee.

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The Speaker declared the motion carried.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) debate commenced on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Social Services Committee.

At 9:18 o'clock the Speaker (Mr. Fitzgerald) suspended proceedings because of disorder in the House.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 9:24 o'clock in the evening.

Debate continued and concluded on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Social Services Committee.

The Speaker put the question on the motion.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour of the motion: Mr. Edward Byrne; Mr. Rideout; Mr. Taylor; Mr. Sullivan; Mr. Jack Byrne; Mr. Fitzgerald; Mr. Harding; Mr. O'Brien; Ms. Burke; Ms. Whalen; Mr. Hickey; Mr. French; Mr. Hunter; Mr. Skinner; Ms. Johnson; Ms. Elizabeth Marshall; Mr. Ridgley; Mr. Oram; Mr. Forsey; Mr. Felix Collins.

Against: Mr. Reid; Mr. Butler; Mr. Barrett; Mr. Langdon; Ms. Jones; Ms. Thistle; Mr. Andersen; Mr. Randy Collins.

The Speaker declared the motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 2nd at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned at 11:18 o'clock in the evening.

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