

Tuesday, November 8, 2022

The House met at 1:30 p.m.

The Speaker (D. Bennett) recognized the Member for Waterford Valley (T. Osborne) for being the longest-serving Member of the House of Assembly post-Confederation with over 26 years of continuous service.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Members' Statements

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Terra Nova (L. Parrott) recognizing students from Holy Cross School in Eastport as they honour veterans.

The Member for Topsail - Paradise (P. Dinn) recognizing Gavin Baggs, Easter Seals Ambassador for 2021, for their recent accomplishments.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) recognizing Deantha Edmunds, Canada's first Inuk classical singer.

The Member for Baie Verte - Green Bay (B. Warr) recognizing Life Unlimited for Older Adults in Springdale.

The Member for Grand Falls-Windsor - Buchans (C. Tibbs) recognizing Pastor William Lorne Goudie (Capt - Ret CAF) for their efforts in Ukraine.

Ministerial Statements

The following minister provided a statement:

The Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs (K. Howell) recognizing World Town Planning Day 2022.

The Members for Cape St. Francis (J. Wall) and Labrador West (J. Brown) responded to the statement.

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Oral Questions

The House proceeded to Oral Questions.

Presenting Reports by Standing and Select Committees

There were no reports by Standing or Select Committees presented.

Tabling of Documents

There were no documents tabled.

Notices of Motion

The Member for Harbour Main (H. Conway Ottenheimer) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the following motion/resolution:

WHEREAS volunteer firefighters are true community heroes who provide an indispensable service to their neighbours despite the risks, costs and sacrifices often required of them;

AND WHEREAS our province's declining, aging population bases in some areas may leave communities with fewer people to serve as volunteer firefighters;

AND WHEREAS our province and other jurisdictions have found innovative ways to support volunteer firefighters, reduce their costs and facilitate their work;

AND WHEREAS more can and should be done to support Newfoundland and Labrador's volunteer firefighters;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House urge the government to explore innovative solutions and best practices that will

- further support our volunteer firefighters,
- reduce the costs they bear, both as individuals and as departments,

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- help them balance their firefighting roles and their other obligations with policies that better adapt to volunteers' individual circumstances,
- lessen their need to undertake their own fundraising activities,
- improve the gear, facilities and vehicles they rely on for their work and their training,
- enhance, modernize and mobilize training opportunities and equipment to properly prepare them for the range of circumstances they encounter and the risks they face,
- care for them and their families more effectively if they are injured or their health is compromised while better protecting them from injury or illness,
- debrief firefighters and better support them after traumatic events,
- promote volunteer firefighting to upcoming generations, women and new Canadians,
- better educate the public on effective fire prevention,
- and collaborate inclusively with firefighters on any other measures that may work to attract and retain volunteer firefighters and protect Newfoundland and Labrador communities.

With leave, and pursuant to Standing Order 63(3), the Opposition House Leader (B. Petten) announced the resolution introduced by the Member for Harbour Main (H. Conway Ottenheimer) will be the one presented on Wednesday, November 9, 2022.

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider a resolution and related Bill 21 for the granting of interim supply to His Majesty.

The Minister of Justice and Public Safety (J. Hogan) gave notice they would on tomorrow introduce a bill entitled:

“An Act to Amend Various Acts of the Province Respecting the Alternate Witnessing of Documents by Lawyers” (Bill 23).

The Government House Leader (S. Crocker) gave notice they would on tomorrow introduce a bill entitled:

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“An Act to Amend the Management of Information Act and the House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act” (Bill 22).

The Government House Leader (S. Crocker) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the following motion:

THAT notwithstanding Standing Order 9, this House shall not adjourn at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 9, but shall continue to sit for the conduct of government business and, if not earlier adjourned, the Speaker shall adjourn the House at midnight.

Pursuant to Standing Order 11(1), the Government House Leader (S. Crocker) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the House not adjourn at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 13, 2023.

Answers to Questions for Which Notice Has Been Given

The Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology (A. Parsons) provided additional information in response to a question that had previously arisen in debate.

Petitions

The following Members presented petitions:

The Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) regarding access to health care in Postville.

The Member for Humber - Bay of Islands (E. Joyce) regarding wildlife regulations respecting hunting near dwellings, schools and active workplace operations.

The Member for Harbour Main (H. Conway Ottenheimer) regarding road conditions in the district.

The Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (E. Loveless) replied to the petition.

The Member for St. John's Centre (J. Dinn) regarding deaf and hard of hearing children in the public education system and their access to education and appropriate resources.

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The Member for Stephenville - Port au Port (T. Wakeham) regarding cancelling the sugar-sweetened beverage tax.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The Speaker called orders of the day.

Pursuant to order and on motion, the following bill was read the third time and passed:

A bill, “An Act Respecting the Health and Safety of Workers and the Compensation of Workers for Injuries Suffered in the Course of Their Employment” (Bill 18).

Pursuant to order and on motion, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider a bill entitled “An Act Respecting the Delivery of Health and Community Services and the Establishment of a Provincial Health Authority” (Bill 20).

The Speaker left the Chair.

The Deputy Speaker (B. Warr) took the Chair of Committee of the Whole.

Point of Order

During the debate, the Minister of Digital Government and Service NL (S. Stoodley) raised a point of order regarding comments made by Members of the Opposition about her conduct in the Chamber.

The Chair took the matter under advisement.

On motion, the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chair (B. Warr) reported the Committee of the Whole had considered the matters to them referred, reported they had made progress and asked leave to sit again.

The Speaker put the question and it was ordered the report be received and adopted.

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The Speaker put the question and it was ordered the Committee have leave to sit again.

Pursuant to notice, the Government House Leader (S. Crocker) moved that the House not adjourn on 5:30 p.m.

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

On motion, the House recessed at 4:32 p.m.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 6:04 p.m.

Pursuant to order and on motion, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider a bill entitled "An Act Respecting the Delivery of Health and Community Services and the Establishment of a Provincial Health Authority" (Bill 20).

The Speaker left the Chair.

The Deputy Speaker (B. Warr) took the Chair of Committee of the Whole.

During the debate, the Minister of Health and Community Services (T. Osborne) moved an amendment to clause 2.

By agreement, the Chair recessed the proceedings to consider all proposed amendments to the bill.

The Chair reconvened the Committee and ruled the amendments in order, noting that it was understood that one proposed amendment was the will of the House.

Debate commenced and concluded on the amendment moved by the Minister of Health and Community Services.

The Chair put the question on the amendment.

The Chair declared the amendment carried.

Debate resumed on Bill 20, as amended.

During the debate, the Member for Topsail - Paradise (P. Dinn) moved an amendment to clause 2.

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Debate commenced and concluded on the amendment.

The Chair put the question on the amendment.

The Chair declared the amendment carried.

Debate resumed on Bill 20, as amended.

During the debate, the Minister of Health and Community Services (T. Osborne) moved an amendment to clause 2.

Debate commenced and concluded on the amendment.

The Chair put the question on the amendment.

The Chair declared the amendment carried.

Debate resumed on Bill 20, as amended.

During the debate, the Minister of Health and Community Services (T. Osborne) moved an amendment to clause 19.

Debate commenced and concluded on the amendment.

The Chair put the question on the amendment.

The Chair declared the amendment carried.

Debate resumed on Bill 20, as amended.

During the debate, the Minister of Health and Community Services (T. Osborne) moved an amendment to clause 19.

Debate commenced and concluded on the amendment moved by the Minister of Health and Community Services.

The Chair put the question on the amendment.

The Chair declared the amendment carried.

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Debate resumed on Bill 20, as amended.

During the debate, the Member for Topsail - Paradise (P. Dinn) moved an amendment to clauses 34 through 40, inclusive.

Debate commenced and concluded on the amendment.

The Chair put the question on the amendment.

The Chair declared the amendment carried.

Debate resumed on Bill 20, as amended.

During the debate, the Member for Topsail - Paradise (P. Dinn) moved an amendment to clause 41.

Debate commenced and concluded on the amendment.

The Chair put the question on the amendment.

The Chair declared the amendment carried.

Debate resumed on Bill 20, as amended.

During the debate, the Member for Topsail - Paradise (P. Dinn) moved an amendment to clause 43.

Debate commenced and concluded on the amendment.

The Chair put the question on the amendment.

The Chair declared the amendment carried.

Debate resumed and concluded on Bill 20, as amended.

On motion, the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

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The Chair (B. Warr) reported the Committee of the Whole had considered the matters to them referred and had directed them to report the Committee had recommended, with amendment, a bill entitled:

“An Act Respecting the Delivery of Health and Community Services and the Establishment of a Provincial Health Authority” (Bill 20).

The Speaker put the question and it was ordered the report be received and adopted.

On motion, it was ordered that Bill 20 as amended be read the third time now.

Pursuant to order and on motion, the following bill was read the third time and passed:

A bill, “An Act Respecting the Delivery of Health and Community Services and the Establishment of a Provincial Health Authority” (Bill 20).

The Leader of the Opposition (D. Brazil), the Leader of the Third Party (J. Dinn), the Leader of the Government in the House (A. Furey) and the Speaker (D. Bennett) extended best wishes to the Members and staff of the House for the holidays.

All present sang “The Ode to Labrador” and “The Ode to Newfoundland.”

On motion, the House adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Sandra Barnes
Clerk of the House of Assembly