

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

The House met at 10 a.m.

## **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

Pursuant to order and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on second reading of a bill entitled “An Act to Amend the Memorial University Act” (Bill 39).

Pursuant to order and on motion, a bill entitled “An Act to Amend the Memorial University Act” (Bill 39) was read the second time and, on motion, it was ordered that Bill 39 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

Pursuant to order and on motion, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider a bill entitled “An Act to Amend the Memorial University Act” (Bill 39).

The Speaker left the Chair.

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

During the debate, the Member for St. John’s Centre (J. Dinn) moved an amendment to clause 3.

The Chair recessed the proceedings to consider the amendment.

The Chair reconvened the Committee and ruled the amendment was not in order.

Debate resumed on Bill 39.

During the debate, the Member for St. John’s Centre (J. Dinn) moved an amendment to clause 3.

The Chair recessed the proceedings to consider the amendment.

The Chair reconvened the Committee and ruled the amendment was in order.

Debate commenced and concluded on the amendment.

The Chair put the question on the amendment.

The Chair declared the amendment defeated.

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Debate resumed and concluded on Bill 39.

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 and had directed them to report the Committee had recommended without amendment, a bill entitled:

“An Act to Amend the Memorial University Act” (Bill 39).

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

On motion, it was ordered that Bill 39 be read the third time on tomorrow.

On motion, the House recessed at 12:19 p.m.

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

The Speaker introduced Page:

Ericka Padue-Sanchez of Philippines who is completing their Master's degree in political science at Memorial University.

## **Members' Statements**

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Terra Nova (L. Parrott) recognizing the Adventure Biking Project in Eastport and Glovertown.

The Member for Topsail - Paradise (P. Dinn) recognizing the Killick Trefoil Guild.

The Member for Labrador West (J. Brown) recognizing the Come Home to Wabush week committee.

The Member for Baie Verte - Green Bay (B. Warr) recognizing Zoey Tizzard of Springdale and her accomplishments in several public speaking contests.

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The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) recognizing the late Rosalind Coleridge of Trinity.

The Member for Fortune Bay - Cape La Hune (E. Loveless) recognizing the community and regional spirit on display in Harbour Breton during a recent fire.

### **Ministerial Statements**

The following Ministers provided statements:

The Minister of Labrador Affairs (L. Dempster) regarding several investments through the department.

The Members for Harbour Main (H. Conway Ottenheimer) and Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) responded to the statement.

### **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 Government House Leader (J. Hogan) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the following motion:

**THAT** for the purpose of reviewing the Estimates of the Executive Council in Committee of the Whole House, debate shall proceed in the same manner as

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adopted by Committees of the House reviewing estimates; that is, in ten minute question and answer periods.

### **Answers to Questions for Which Notice Has Been Given**

There were no answers to questions for which notice had been given.

### **Petitions**

The following Members presented petitions:

The Member for Stephenville - Port au Port (T. Wakeham) regarding the need to pave Wheeler's Road in Noel's Pond for safety reasons.

The Minister of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation (S. Crocker) replied to the petition.

The Member for Topsail - Paradise (P. Dinn) regarding establishing a fertility treatment clinic within the province providing full fertility services, including in vitro fertilization.

The Member for Labrador West (J. Brown) regarding meeting with teachers and support staff to address staffing, maintenance and teacher housing in Labrador West.

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) regarding the need to review road work criteria to assure properly paved roads to tourism sites.

### **PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION**

Pursuant to notice and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on the resolution standing in the name of the Member for Exploits (P. Forsey):

**WHEREAS** Crown Lands' enforcement of the provisions of the Lands Act abolishing squatters' rights against the Crown has created undue hardship for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians who honestly, and in good faith, have occupied and developed their lands;

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**AND WHEREAS** historical titles in Newfoundland and Labrador trace back centuries, and are relied upon by the public but not by the Crown;

**AND WHEREAS** people have occupied their lands for generations based on informal title without interference from the Crown;

**AND WHEREAS** people have strong local community support for their claims of title and face opposition only from the Crown Lands Division;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities maintain comprehensive records of land ownership which are not considered by the Crown in determining title claims;

**AND WHEREAS** applicants for Crown Lands access are frustrated by inordinately long waits of months or years for their applications to be resolved, even for land which has long been occupied;

**AND WHEREAS** the policies and practices of the province's Crown Lands Division are impeding economic development in Newfoundland and Labrador and imposing high costs upon the public;

**AND WHEREAS** this issue impacts potentially thousands of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians, many of whom may not yet know it;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House urge the government to move expeditiously to bring forward legislative amendments to ensure fair reconciliation of existing claims for people seeking title to the land they have occupied in good faith for generations and which is recognized within their communities; and to take steps in the interim to address Crown Lands' actions against occupied properties in the province.

During the debate, the Member for Fortune Bay - Cape La Hune (E. Loveless) moved an amendment.

The Speaker recessed the proceedings to consider the amendment.

The Speaker resumed the Chair and ruled the amendment not in order.

The Speaker put the question.

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The House divided.

<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Nays</b>
D. Brazil	J. Hogan
B. Petten	L. Dempster
H. Conway Ottenheimer	J. Haggie
P. Dinn	G. Byrne
L. Parrott	B. Davis
T. Wakeham	T. Osborne
J. Dwyer	S. Coady
P. Forsey	P. Parsons
L. O'Driscoll	E. Loveless
C. Pardy	K. Howell
J. Wall	A. Parsons
C. Tibbs	S. Crocker
J. Dinn	S. Stoodley
J. Brown	J. Abbott
L. Evans	B. Warr
P. Lane	P. Pike
	S. Gambin-Walsh
	S. Reid
	L. Stoyles

The Speaker declared the resolution defeated.

On motion, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 4 at 1:30 p.m.

**Sandra Barnes**

Clerk of the House of Assembly