

Thursday, October 26, 2023

The House met at 1:30 p.m.

Point of Order

Prior to Routine Proceedings, the Member for Mount Pearl - Southlands (P. Lane) raised a point of order regarding comments the Member has made on *VOCM Open Line* regarding the activity level of the House of Assembly's Standing Committee on Public Accounts. The Member acknowledged that the statements were inaccurate.

The Speaker ruled there was no point of order but thanked the Member for providing the correction.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Members' Statements

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Humber - Bay of Islands (E. Joyce) recognizing the Templeton Tigers junior high and senior high girls teams for their success at the VolleyWest tournament.

The Member for Labrador West (J. Brown) recognizing alternative rock band Ptarmageddon of Labrador City for their nomination for Video of the Year at the MusicNL awards.

The Member for Placentia - St. Mary's (Sherry Gambin-Walsh) recognizing Hilda Whalen, mayor of Whitbourne.

The Member for Mount Pearl - Southlands (P. Lane) recognizing the members of the Kinnette Club of Mount Pearl for their volunteer work.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (L. Stoyles) recognizing Mount Pearl Lions Club and their nearly 70 years of service.

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Ministerial Statements

The following Ministers provided statements:

The Minister of Labrador Affairs (L. Dempster) recognizing increasing funding for athletes, special Olympians and sports teams in Labrador.

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

The Minister of Education (K. L. Howell) recognizing actions to increase access to affordable child care.

The Members for Conception Bay South (B. Petten) and Labrador West (J. Brown) responded to the statement.

Oral Questions

The House proceeded to Oral Questions.

Point of Order

During Oral Questions, the Member for Conception Bay South (B. Petten) raised a point of order regarding unparliamentary language used by the Leader of the Government in the House (A. Furey).

The Speaker asked the Member if they would like to refrain from further consideration of the matter until the House concludes Oral Questions. The Member agreed.

The House resumed Oral Questions.

Following Oral Questions, the Leader of the Government in the House (A. Furey) spoke to the point of order and withdrew the comments.

Presenting Reports by Standing and Select Committees

There were no reports by Standing or Select Committees presented.

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Tabling of Documents

There were no documents tabled.

Notices of Motion

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

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

“An Act to Amend the House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act” (Bill 60).

The Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology (A. Parsons) gave notice they would on tomorrow introduce bills entitled:

“An Act Respecting Quarry Resources in the Province” (Bill 58); and

“An Act to Amend the Mineral Act” (Bill 59).

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 Humber - Bay of Islands (E. Joyce) regarding amendments to the *Limitations Act* to remove limitation periods for civil child abuse claims.

The Member for Terra Nova (L. Parrott) regarding amendments to the *Limitations Act* to remove limitation periods for civil child abuse claims.

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The Member for Placentia West - Bellevue (J. Dwyer) regarding a replacement for Canning Bridge in Marystown.

The Minister of Children, Seniors and Social Development (P. Pike) replied to the petition.

The Member for Labrador West (J. Brown) regarding amendments to the *Limitations Act* to remove limitation periods for civil child abuse claims.

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

The Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (J. Abbott) replied to the petition.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) regarding amendments to the *Limitations Act* to remove limitation periods for civil child abuse claims.

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) regarding the creation of a method by which viable communities and LSDs can become incorporated as municipalities.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The Speaker called orders of the day.

Pursuant to notice and on motion, debate commenced on the motion standing in the name of the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (S. Coady) as follows:

WHEREAS the harmonized sales tax base is established by the Government of Canada pursuant to the federal *Excise Tax Act* and the collection of harmonized sales tax is administered by the Canada Revenue Agency; and

WHEREAS a rebate of the federal portion of the harmonized sales tax on new purpose-built rental housing is provided by the federal government under the Government of Canada's existing and enhanced GST/HST New Residential Rental Property Rebate; and

WHEREAS the government intends to provide a rebate of the provincial portion of the harmonized sales tax on new-purpose built rental housing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a rebate of the provincial portion of the harmonized sales tax on new-purpose built rental housing be provided and that

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the rebate mirror the government of Canada's existing and enhanced GST/HST New Residential Property Rebate.

During the debate, the Member for Labrador West (J. Brown) moved an amendment.

The Speaker (B. Warr) recessed the proceedings to consider the amendment.

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

Debate resumed and concluded on the motion.

The Speaker (D. Bennett) put the question and declared the motion carried.

On motion, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Monday, October 30 at 1:30 p.m.

Kim Hawley George, KC
Clerk of the House of Assembly (A)