

Thursday, May 23, 2024

The House met at 1:30 p.m.

### **Point of Privilege - Ruling**

Respecting the point of privilege raised by the Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) on May 22, regarding Members' inability to scrutinize legislation in a timely manner constitutes an obstruction to Members discharging their duties, the Speaker ruled there was no *prima facie* breach of privilege.

The Speaker acknowledged the concerns expressed by Members and indicated they would write to the Standing Orders Committee on behalf of all Members to request the Committee consider the issues raised to determine whether any amendments may be made to the *Standing Orders* and the processes in this House to address the Members' concerns.

### **Point of Order - Ruling**

Respecting the point of order raised by the Member for Conception Bay South (B. Petten) on May 16 regarding rulings on amendments proposed to the Private Member's Resolution of May 15, the Speaker ruled there was no point of order.

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Members' Statements**

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Cape St. Francis (J. Wall) recognizing the 2024 Torbay Business Award winners.

The Member for Conception Bay South (B. Petten) recognizing the CBS Hotshots Inclusive Squash Program.

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) recognizing Cyril Abbott of Bonavista for their 60 years' service in the Canadian Armed Forces.

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The Member for Ferryland (L. O'Driscoll) recognizing the community contributions of Goulds Lions Club.

The Member for Fogo Islands - Cape Freels (J. McKenna) recognizing the Fogo Island Co-operative.

The Member for Fortune Bay - Cape La Hune (E. Loveless), with leave, recognizing Evelyn Hunt of Gaultois on their 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

### **Ministerial Statements**

The following Ministers provided statements:

The Minister Responsible for Women and Gender Equality (P. Parsons) recognizing the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women becoming regular members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

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 the Learning Disabilities Association of Newfoundland and Labrador adult literacy initiative.

The Member for Topsail - Paradise (P. Dinn) and the Leader of the Third Party (J. Dinn) 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.

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## Tabling of Documents

This Minister of Finance (S. Coady) tabled:

Report of the Auditor General to the House of Assembly for the Year Ended 31 March 2005: Summary.

Pursuant to section 9 of the *Transparency and Accountability Act*, the Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology (A. Parsons) tabled:

Economic Diversification and Growth Enterprises Board : Annual Report 2023-24.

The Minister of Education (K.L. Howell) tabled:

PWCSS Public Consultation Report – April 2024.

## Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

## Answers to Questions for Which Notice Has Been Given

The Minister of Digital Government and Service NL (S. Stoodley) provided additional information in response to a question that had previously arisen in debate.

## Petitions

The following Members presented petitions:

The Member for St. John's Centre (J. Dinn) regarding removing the provincial portion of the HST from children's products.

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) regarding reinstatement of walk-in or in-person booking of laboratory services at the Bonavista Hospital.

The Member for Exploits (P. Forsey) regarding upgrades to Routes 350, 351A and 352.

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The Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) regarding ensuring access to timely and adequate mental healthcare for northern Labrador residents.

## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

The Speaker called orders of the day.

Pursuant to order and on motion, the following bills were read the third time and passed:

A bill, "An Act to Amend the Crop Insurance Act" (Bill 76);

A bill, "An Act to Amend the Vital Statistics Act, 2009" (Bill 77); and

A bill, "An Act to Amend the Credit Union Act, 2009 No. 2" (Bill 78).

Pursuant to notice and on motion, the following bill was introduced and read the first time:

A bill, "An Act to Amend the Proceedings Against the Crown Act" (Bill 81).

On motion, it was ordered the above-noted bill be read the second time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to notice, the Government House Leader (J. Hogan) moved the House not adjourn at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 27.

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

Pursuant to order and on motion, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider a bill entitled "An Act Respecting King's Counsel and Order of Precedence in the Courts" (Bill 53).

The Speaker left the Chair.

The Deputy Speaker (S. Gambin-Walsh) took the Chair of Committee of the Whole.

On motion, the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

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The Chair (S. Gambin-Walsh) 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 Respecting King’s Counsel and Order of Precedence in the Courts” (Bill 53).

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

On motion, it was ordered that Bill 53 be read the third time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on second reading of a bill entitled “An Act to Amend the Limitations Act” (Bill 74).

### **Point of Order**

During the debate, the Government House Leader (J. Hogan) raised a point of order pursuant to Standing Order 48(2) regarding the Member for Conception Bay South (B. Petten) remaining relevant to “An Act to Amend the Limitations Act” (Bill 74) in debate at second reading.

The Speaker (S. Gambin-Walsh) reminded Members to remain relevant to Bill 74.

Pursuant to order and on motion, a bill entitled “An Act to Amend the Limitations Act” (Bill 74) was read the second time and, on motion, it was ordered that Bill 74 be referred to a Committee of the Whole on tomorrow.

On motion, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Monday, May 27 at 1:30 p.m.

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