

Thursday, May 22, 2025

The House met at 1:30 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Members' Statements

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) recognizing Frank Lapointe of Trinity East for their impact on arts and heritage.

The Member for Conception Bay South (B. Petten) congratulating Theatre CBS for their success at the 2025 Provincial Drama Festival.

The Member for Placentia West - Bellevue (J. Dwyer) congratulating Ivan Hapgood of Arnold's Cove on their recent induction into the Newfoundland and Labrador Hockey Hall of Fame.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) recognizing the dedicated members of the Ground Search and Rescue of Hopedale, Nain, Natuashish, Postville, Makkovik and Rigolet.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (J. Wall) congratulating Michael Kirby on the achievement of reaching the peak of Mount Everest.

Ministerial Statements

The following Ministers provided statements:

The Minister of Government Modernization and Service Delivery (S. Stoodley) outlining improvements in the delivery of government services via MyGovNL.

The Members for Ferryland (L. O'Driscoll) and Labrador West (J. Brown) responded to the statement.

The Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (B. Davis) recognizing early childhood educators week.

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

Pursuant to paragraph 26(5)(a) of the *Financial Administration Act*, the Minister of Finance (S. Coady) tabled the following pre-commitments:

Order-in-Council 2025-062 authorizing the Department of Immigration, Population Growth and Skills to pre-commit funds in the amount of \$194,775.00 (excluding HST) against its 2025-26 budget appropriation, to facilitate the award of a contract to KPMG LLP to facilitate a review of the service delivery model of employment and training services in Newfoundland and Labrador;

Order-in-Council 2025-066 authorizing the Department of Digital Government and Service Newfoundland and Labrador to pre-commit the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: up to \$1,987,500 (excluding HST) for the fiscal year 2025-26, and up to \$9,942,500 (excluding HST) for each of the fiscal years 2026-27, 2027-28, 2028-29, and 2029-30, to facilitate a contract with Jenoptik Smart Mobility Solutions, LLC for the administration of Image Capturing Enforcement Systems in the Province;

Order-in-Council 2025-073 authorizing the Department of Health and Community Services to pre-commit the following tax exempt amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$96,929.13 in fiscal year 2025-26, \$98,867.71 in 2026-27, \$100,845.06 in 2027-28, and \$102,861.96 in 2028-29, to facilitate an agreement with Public Services and Procurement Canada for the procurement of drugs and vaccines; and

Order-in-Council 2025-074 authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$10,035,794 in 2025-26, \$13,581,284 in 2026-27, \$13,139,967 in

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2027-28, \$13,104,645 in 2028-29, \$13,104,645 in 2029-30 and \$3,931,394 in 2030-31, excluding HST, to facilitate the award of contracts for school bus services to Dave Gulliver's Cabs Limited; Executive Taxi Services Ltd.; McNeil's Taxi, Ambulance & Bus Service Limited; Parsons and Sons Transportation Limited; Dunphy's Transport Inc.; K&L Auto Services Limited; Vardy Villa Limited; C. Connors; Island Holdings Limited; PJA's Bus Line Ltd.; L. Wiseman; A. Burse & Son; Futuro; M. Shaw; TMN Busing Limited; Take Me There Tours; Northern Tire & Automotive Limited; A&E Auto; Gateway Buslines Ltd.; and S. Campbell.

Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

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 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 Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) regarding electricity rates in Northern Labrador.

The Member for St. John's Centre (J. Dinn) regarding funding to Memorial University.

The Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (B. Davis) replied to the petition.

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

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

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

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

The Member for Baie Verte - Green Bay (L. Paddock) regarding upgrades to Route 392.

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

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 United Church of Canada Act" (Bill 99); and

A bill, "An Act to Amend the Revenue Administration Act No. 8" (Bill 108).

Pursuant to notice and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on the resolution standing in the name of the Government House Leader (L. Dempster) as follows:

Be it resolved by the House of Assembly as follows:

WHEREAS subsection 3(2) of the Citizens' Representative Act provides that the Citizens' Representative is to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on a resolution of the House of Assembly;

AND WHEREAS section 5 of the Act states that a commissioner may be reappointed;

AND WHEREAS the appointment of the current commissioner, Bradley Moss expires on April 30;

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AND WHEREAS it is proposed that Bradley Moss be reappointed as the commissioner for a term of 6 years;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Bradley Moss be appointed as the Citizens' Representative for a term of 6 years.

Pursuant to notice and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on the resolution standing in the name of the Government House Leader (L. Dempster) as follows:

WHEREAS subsection 6(3) of the Independent Appointments Commission Act provides that members of the Independent Appointments Commission are to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on a resolution of the House of Assembly;

AND WHEREAS subsection 7(1) of the Act states that a commissioner may be reappointed;

AND WHEREAS the appointment of the following commissioner expired on May 20, 2025:

Karen McCarthy, Chairperson

AND WHEREAS the appointment of the following commissioners expires on May 25, 2025:

William Mahoney

Brendan Mitchell

Jamie Schwartz

AND WHEREAS it is proposed that the said commissioners be reappointed as commissioners for a term of 3 years from the date of the expiry of their terms;

AND WHEREAS the appointment of the following commissioner expired on May 6, 2025 and is not eligible for reappointment:

Cathy Duke

AND WHEREAS the appointment of the following commissioners expires on June 25, 2025 and are not eligible for reappointment:

Peggy Bartlett

Gerald Anderson

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following persons be appointed or reappointed as members of the Independent Appointments Commission for a term of 3 years:

Karen McCarthy, Chairperson
William Mahoney
Brendan Mitchell
Jamie Schwartz
Karen Skinner
Nancy Ruth Healey
Rex A. Goudie

The House recessed to await the arrival of the Administrator.

The Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of the Administrator.

The Administrator took the Chair.

The Speaker addressed the Administrator, as follows:

"May it please Your Honour, the General Assembly of the Province has at its present session passed certain bills, to which, in the name and on behalf of the General Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent."

The Clerk read the following bills:

A bill, "An Act to Amend the United Church of Canada Act" (Bill 99); and

A bill, "An Act to Amend the Revenue Administration Act No. 8" (Bill 108).

The Administrator then said, "In His Majesty's Name, I assent to these bills."

The Administrator addressed the Members then left the Chamber.

Point of Order – Ruling

Respecting the point of order raised by the Member for Terra Nova (L. Parrott) on May 20, 2025, the Speaker ruled there was no point of order.

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The Leader of the Official Opposition (T. Wakeham), the Leader of the Third Party (J. Dinn), the Leader of the Government in the House (J. Hogan) and the Speaker (D. Bennett) extended best wishes to the Members and staff of the House for the summer break.

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

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

Kim Hawley George, KC
Clerk of the House of Assembly