

**JOURNALS AND PROCEEDINGS**  
**of the**  
**FIFTH SESSION**  
**of the**  
**FORTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**of**  
**NEWFOUNDLAND and LABRADOR**  
**2003**

Begun and holden at St. John's in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador on Wednesday, the Nineteenth Day of March, Two Thousand and Three, being the Fifty-second year of the Reign of Her Majesty Our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth the Second by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada, and Her Other Realms and Territories, QUEEN, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Edward Roberts, Q.C., having fixed the hour at which he proposed to open the present Session of the Legislature at 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the 19th day of March, 2003, the Members of the House of Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 2 o'clock in the afternoon when Mr. Speaker Snow took the Chair.

Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2003

At 2 o'clock in the afternoon the Sergeant-at-Arms (Acting) notified the Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Snow) that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Edward Roberts, Q.C. had arrived.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Assembly Chamber preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Speaker left the Chair.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor took the Chair.

His Honour was then pleased to open the Session with a Speech From the Throne.

His Honour then left the Assembly Chamber.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) and by leave of the House, a Bill entitled, "An Act To Incorporate The Newfoundland And Labrador Centre For Health Information" (Bill No. 1) was introduced and read a first time.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 1 be read a second time on tomorrow.

The Speaker announced that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor had been pleased to make a Speech to the Members of the House of Assembly and directed the pages to distribute copies to all Members.

It was moved by the Member for St. George's - Stephenville East (Mr. Aylward) and seconded by the Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) that an Address of Thanks be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor in reply to the Gracious Speech with which He had been pleased to open the present Session of the Legislature, and that a Select Committee be appointed to draft the Address In Reply.

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Danny Williams), the Member for Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) and the Honourable the Premier (Mr. Grimes) also spoke to the motion.

Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The motion was adopted by the House and it was ordered accordingly that the following Members be appointed to the Select Committee to draft the Address in Reply:

Mr. Kevin Aylward, Member for St. George's - Stephenville East,  
Ms. Sandra Kelly, Member for Gander,  
Mr. Terry French, Member for Conception Bay South.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) gave notice that she would on tomorrow move that the House Resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider certain Resolutions for the Granting of Interim Supply to Her Majesty (Bill No. 2).

The Member for St. George's - Stephenville East (Mr. Aylward) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

**"WHEREAS** Transport Canada failed to seek local input before proceeding with the divestiture of Port Harmon;

**AND WHEREAS** the operation of Port Harmon is a critical part of economic development in the Stephenville area;

**AND WHEREAS** there is significant opposition to the privatization initiative currently being undertaken;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this House of Assembly calls on the Federal Government to put in place an open public process to decide the future of Port Harmon at Stephenville."

The Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) gave notice that she would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

**"WHEREAS** quality weather forecasting is a very valuable and necessary service for the Province and its residents;

**AND WHEREAS** the cutbacks to the Newfoundland Weather Centre will mean a regional forecast from Halifax and the elimination of local weather forecasting from Newfoundland and Labrador at Environment Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** people working in the fishery, aviation, highway transportation, shipping and our developing offshore oil and gas sector rely on accurate weather forecasting;

Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2003

**AND WHEREAS** the 103 Air Search and Rescue Unit, which has saved many lives depends on accurate weather forecasting;

**AND WHEREAS** this latest cut in service to Newfoundland and Labrador is continuing a larger trend of this Province being mistreated by the Government of Canada;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this House of Assembly calls for a reversal of the decision by the Federal Government to cut weather forecasting services at Gander."

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Leader of the Opposition and Member for Humber West (Mr. Williams) made a Statement to pay tribute to Mr. Joe Mullins of Corner Brook who died before Christmas, 2002.

The Member for Burin - Placentia West (Ms. Hodder) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mrs. Grace Sparkes.

The Member for St. John's West (Ms. Osborne) made a Statement also to pay tribute to the late Mrs. Grace Sparkes.

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Michael Meade of Curling who won the gold medal in the aerials event, at the Junior National Freestyle Ski Championships held in Le Relais, Quebec.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate the participants and the organizing committee for the successful "Run for the Janeway 2003" fundraiser held recently in Conception Bay North.

The Member for Bonavista North (Mr. Harding) made a Statement to congratulate two residents of Bonavista North, namely: Mr. Bradley Rideout of Newtown and Ms. Courtney Hunt of Centreville who participated in the special sports category in the recent Canada Winter Games in New Brunswick.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) made a Statement to announce that Government would be implementing a home heating fuel rebate program to assist low income households.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries & Aquaculture (Ms. Jones) made a Statement with respect to the Report of the Newfoundland and Labrador All - Party Committee on 2J3KL and 3Pn4RS Cod Fisheries which was presented to the Federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans in Ottawa on March 17<sup>th</sup>. The Minister also tabled the Report.

The Honourable the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs (Mr. Lush) made a Statement to update Members with respect to the Cabinet Committee on Air Policy, Aerospace and the Military. The Minister also tabled the Report of the Cabinet Committee.

Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs (Mr. Langdon) made a Statement respecting the emergency response to the Badger Flood.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward), in accordance with section 55(3) and 55.1(2) of the *Financial Administration Act*, reported that there had been no guaranteed loans paid out by the Province and no guaranteed debt of any Crown corporation or agency assumed by the Province since her last annual report to the House.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward), in accordance with section 49(2) of the *Financial Administration Act*, also tabled a list of temporary loans raised under section 48 of the Act since her last report to the House.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Snow), in accordance with section 39 of the *Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Act, 1992*, tabled the Annual Report of the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Public Complaints Commission for the period April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to implement a co-payment or sliding scale program for Betaseron, Avonex, Copaxone and Rebif so that people who do not qualify for assistance under the existing programs may obtain financial assistance with respect to these high cost MS drugs, as is the case in other Canadian provinces.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to upgrade and pave the approximately three kilometres of Route 235 from Birchy Cove to Bonavista.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) informed the House that she had received a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor. The Message was read to the House by the Speaker as follows:

"19 March, 2003

I, the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, transmit Estimates of sums required for the Public Service of the Province for the year ending 31 March 2004, by way of Interim Supply, and in

Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003

accordance with the provisions of sections 54 and 90 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, I recommend these Estimates to the House of Assembly.

Sgd. **Edward Roberts**  
Lieutenant Governor".

On motion of the Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward), the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider a Certain Resolution and Bill No. 2 for the Granting of Interim Supply to Her Majesty.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Hodder took the Chair of Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Committee of Supply considered a certain Resolution and Bill No. 2 for the Granting of Interim Supply to Her Majesty.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee (Ms. Hodder) reported that the Committee of Supply had considered the matters to it referred, had made some progress and asked leave to sit again.

On motion the report of the Committee of Supply was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.



**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mr. Gerry Pritchett, a resident of Gander, who founded the Pritchett Group of Companies.

The Member for The Straits & White Bay North (Mr. Taylor) made a Statement congratulating the organizers and participants in the 2003 Grenfell Ride, the biggest snowmobile ride in the world.

The Member for Lake Melville (Mr. McLean) made a Statement to congratulate the musical band, The Flummies, on winning the East Coast Music Association 2003 Award for Aboriginal Recording of the Year.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Carl English and Ms. Jenine Browne, both former students of Fatima Academy in St. Bride's, who were named the 2002 top senior male and female athletes of the year at the Sport Newfoundland and Labrador Annual Awards Banquet.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate two senior residents of his District namely: Ms. Elizabeth Bradbury of Coley's Point who celebrated her 105<sup>th</sup> birthday and Mr. Chesley Earle of Shearstown who celebrated his 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald) made a Statement to congratulate Mrs. Alice Squires who celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Valentine's Day.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment (Mr. Mercer) made a Statement to advise Members of the Third Annual Clean and Safe Drinking Water Workshop which will take place in Gander for representatives of municipalities in the Province.

The Honourable the Minister of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education (Ms. Thistle) made a Statement to acknowledge the recipients of the Second Annual Newfoundland and Labrador Youth of the Year Awards.

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Ross Wiseman) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of Pollard's Point and Sop's Arm requesting the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to maintain medical clinics in the Communities of Pollard's Point and Jackson's Arm instead of the recently announced decision to maintain only one clinic in Jackson's Arm.



Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to make a commitment to include the upgrading of the road system in Georgetown in its annual capital disbursement for the upcoming fiscal year.

Pursuant to order and on motion the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Hodder took the Chair of Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Committee considered a certain Resolution and a Bill entitled, "An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2004 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service" (Bill No. 2).

During the debate the Opposition House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) rose on a point of order to allege that the Honourable the Minister of Human Resources & Employment (Mr. Ralph Wiseman) had imputed bad motives to the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Williams).

The Chair (Mr. Butler) took the matter under advisement in order to review the Hansard record of the debate.

Debate continued on the Resolution and Bill No. 2.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

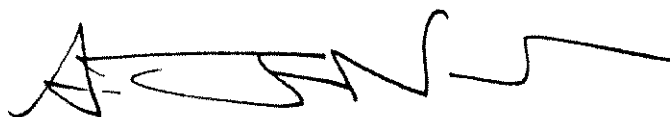
The Chairperson of the Committee (Ms. Hodder) reported that the Committee of Supply had considered the matter to it referred, had made some progress and asked leave to sit again.

On motion the report of the Committee of Supply was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2003

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Honourable the Premier (Mr. Grimes) rose on a point of order with respect to a question asked by the Member for Kilbride (Mr. Ed Byrne) during Oral Questions yesterday concerning the policy of employing political staff and restrictions on their employment in the public service.

The Speaker took the matter under advisement.

By leave, the Honourable the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture and the Member for Cartwright - L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mrs. Millicent Loder, a prominent nurse from Labrador.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. & Mrs. Ron & Effie Taylor of Makinsons who celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) made a Statement to congratulate the five athletes of the Gander Wings Special Olympics Club on their recent success at the Provincial Special Olympic Winter Games in Goose Bay, Labrador. The Member also thanked all the participants, sponsors and individuals who assisted in the success of the games.

The Member for The Straits & White Bay North (Mr. Taylor) made a Statement to congratulate the teams which participated in the Provincial High School Triple A Hockey Championships recently held in St. Anthony. The Member also congratulated the team from Harriot Curtis Collegiate on winning the championship.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate the Bay Roberts Heritage Society on being chosen by the Virtual Museum of Canada to participate in a pilot project and on completing the Cable Building Story which will be featured on the Virtual Museum.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward), pursuant to section 28(4) of the *Financial Administration Act*, tabled the following:

- (a) A Special Warrant, as authorized by Order in Council 2003 -072 under Section 28(2) of the **Financial Administration Act**, for \$3,220,000 to be expended under the Department of Justice Head of Expenditure;

Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003

- (b) A Special Warrant, as authorized by Order in Council 2003 -095 under Section 28(2) of the **Financial Administration Act** for \$1,550,000 to be expended under the Department of Human Resources and Employment Head of Expenditure;
- (c) A Special Warrant, as authorized by Order in Council 2003 -096 under Section 28(2) of the **Financial Administration Act** for \$125,000 to be expended under the Department of Justice Head of Expenditure;
- (d) A Special Warrant, as authorized by Order in Council 2003 -131 under Section 28(2) of the **Financial Administration Act** for \$4,000,000 to be expended under the Department of Health and Community Services Head of Expenditure;
- (e) A Special Warrant, as authorized by Order in Council 2003 -132 under Section 28(2) of the **Financial Administration Act** for \$2,000,000 to be expended under the Department of Mines and Energy Head of Expenditure.

The Member for St. George's - Stephenville East (Mr. Aylward), on behalf of the Select Committee appointed to draft a reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, presented the Report of the Select Committee as follows:

"To His Honour the Lieutenant Governor,  
the Honourable Edward Roberts, Q.C.

May it please Your Honour:

We, the Commons of Newfoundland and Labrador in Legislative Session assembled, beg to thank Your Honour for the Gracious Speech which Your Honour has addressed to this House.

Signed: Kevin Aylward, MHA  
St. George's - Stephenville East

Sandra Kelly, MHA  
Gander

Terry French, MHA  
Conception Bay South

Assembly Chamber  
March 20th, 2003."

Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003

On motion the Report was received and on motion the debate on the Address in Reply was deferred until tomorrow.

The Member for Ferryland (Mr. Sullivan) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

**“WHEREAS** the Newfoundland and Labrador Home Heating Fuel Rebate announced by the Minister of Finance on March 20, 2003 provides a \$100 rebate for low income households that use furnace oil, stove oil or propane as their primary source of heat;

**AND WHEREAS** households that use electric heat have had extraordinary increases in their heating costs because of the unusually cold weather; and face additional deferred costs when Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro raises electricity rates to offset the cost of bunker C fuel used to produce electricity at Holyrood;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the government amend the Newfoundland and Labrador Home Heating Fuel Rebate to include low income households that use electricity as their primary source of heat.”

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) gave notice that she would on tomorrow move: “That This House Approves in General The Budgetary Policy of The Government.”

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) gave notice that she would on tomorrow move that the House Resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider certain Resolutions for the Granting of Supply to Her Majesty (Bill No. 3).

Pursuant to order and on motion the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Hodder took the Chair of Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Committee considered a certain Resolution and a Bill entitled, “An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2004 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service” (Bill No. 2).

Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003

During the debate, the Opposition House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) rose on a point of order to state that the Honourable the Premier must table a certain document referred to by the Premier during Oral Questions.

The Chair (Ms. Hodder) recessed the Committee at 2:51 o'clock in the afternoon in order to consider the point of order.

Ms. Hodder resumed the Chair at 2:56 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Chair ruled that the point of order was not raised immediately following Oral Questions and was out of order.

The Opposition House Leader (Mr. Byrne) appealed the ruling of the Chair.

The Chair (Ms. Hodder) again recessed the Committee at 2:58 o'clock in the afternoon in order to consider the point of order.

The Chair (Ms. Hodder) resumed the Chair at 3:11 o'clock in the afternoon and rose the Committee in order to report to the Speaker. The Chair of Committee reported that her ruling had been appealed.

The Speaker put the question on the motion that the ruling of the Chair of Committee of the Whole on Supply be sustained.

The Speaker declared the motion carried and stated that he would report back to the House with respect to the House precedents on this matter on tomorrow.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) moved the House into Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Butler took the Chair of Committee of the Whole on Supply.

During the debate on a certain Resolution and Bill No. 2, the Chair (Mr. Butler) gave a ruling with respect to his review of the transcript of the comments of the Honourable the Minister of Human Resources and Employment (Mr. Ralph Wiseman) yesterday. The Chair ruled that these comments were differences of opinion between two honourable gentlemen and that there was no point of order.

Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Debate continued on the Resolution and Bill No. 2.

The Committee of the Whole on Supply passed a certain Resolution and a Bill entitled, "An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2004 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service" (Bill No. 2).

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee (Ms. Hodder) reported that the Committee of Supply had considered the matters to them referred and had directed her to report that they had passed a certain Resolution and a Bill consequent thereto and recommended that Bill No. 2 be introduced to give effect to same and asked leave to sit again.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Resolution was read a first and second time:

"That it is expedient to introduce a measure to provide for the granting to Her Majesty for defraying certain expenses of the public service for the financial year ending March 31, 2004, the sum of \$1,349,772,200."

Pursuant to order and on motion a Bill entitled, "An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2004 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service" (Bill No. 2) was read a first, second and third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 2 be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor for His Assent.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) informed the House that the Honourable the Speaker and the Clerk would proceed to Government House to attend upon His Honour the Lieutenant Governor in order to seek the Royal Assent of Bill No. 2.

The Honourable the Government House Leader announced that the Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Ferryland (Mr. Sullivan) would be debated on Private Members' Day on Wednesday.

Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.



Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003

On Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003 at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon, the Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Snow) and the Clerk of the House of Assembly, attended upon the Honourable Edward Roberts, Q.C., Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador at Government House.

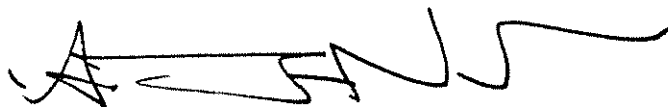
The Speaker addressed His Honour as follows:

"It is my agreeable duty on behalf of Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, Her Faithful Commons in Newfoundland and Labrador, to present to Your Honour a Bill for the appropriation of Interim Supply granted in the present Session."

Whereupon the Clerk read the following Bill:

A Bill, "An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2004 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service" (Bill No. 2).

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor then said, "In Her Majesty's Name, I thank Her Loyal Subjects, I accept their benevolence, and I Assent to this Bill."

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 2 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Snow), ruled on a point of order raised by the Honourable the Premier (Mr. Grimes) on March 25<sup>th</sup> concerning comments made during Oral Questions on March 24<sup>th</sup>. The Speaker ruled that points of order must be brought to the attention of the Chair as soon as they occur (Beauchesne, Paragraph 319) and in cases of breaches of order which occur during Oral Questions they must be raised immediately after Oral Questions.

The Speaker also ruled on a point of order raised by the Opposition House Leader (Mr. Byrne) on March 25<sup>th</sup> about the procedure followed when the Chair of Committee of the Whole House rose the Committee to report to the Speaker that her ruling had been challenged. The Speaker confirmed the ruling of March 25<sup>th</sup> stating that the House is guided by our Standing Orders and then our precedents followed by the usages of the House of Commons. In this case, Standing Order 60(3) applied. The Speaker referred to precedents of May 4, 1956, January 23, 1958 and March 21, 1978. The Speaker concluded that the procedure followed by the Chair of Committee of the Whole on March 25<sup>th</sup> was in order.

The Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) made a Statement to urge all Members and the general public to support the School Lunch Association's Skip-A-Lunch campaign and donate the money they usually spend on lunches to the School Lunch Association.

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Ross Wiseman) made a Statement to compliment and congratulate the Flying Blades Figure Skating Club for hosting the Annual Provincial Figure Skating Championship in Clarenville and also to commend those who participated in this event.

The Member for Lake Melville (Mr McLean) made a Statement to congratulate the organizers and participants in the 2003 Labrador Winter Games.

The Honourable the Minister of Works, Services & Transportation (Mr. Walsh) made a Statement to advise Members of the serious concerns with respect to the transfer of Stephenville's Port Harmon by the Federal Government and the issue that the Federal Port Divestiture Program had not followed an appropriate process to deal with provincial concerns or those of the local community.

The Honourable the Minister of Mines & Energy (Mr. Noel) made a Statement to advise Members of the level of benefits that will accrue to the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador from the White Rose Project.

Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Minister of Industry, Trade & Rural Development (Ms. Foote) tabled a Review of Federal/Provincial Cost-Shared Economic Development Co-operation Agreements - Newfoundland and Labrador: 1994 - 2002.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Jack Byrne) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

**"WHEREAS** the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Association has expressed grave concern on behalf of its members that the RNC, having lost more than 70 officers in recent years, lacks sufficient personnel and proper equipment to discharge its responsibility to protect the public in the jurisdictions it serves;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House call on the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to address the concerns raised by the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Association on a high-priority basis."

In reply to a question for which notice had been given, the Honourable the Minister of Mines & Energy (Mr. Noel) answered a question respecting a report of a fallen live hydro line on the Northern Peninsula. The Minister also tabled his response.

The Leader of the Opposition and Member for Humber West (Mr. Williams) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of Western Newfoundland urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to begin implementation of the plan to build a long-term care facility as identified in a study commissioned by the Western Health Care Corporation.

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of Western Newfoundland urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to begin implementation of the plan to build a long-term care facility as identified in a study commissioned by the Western Health Care Corporation.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to implement a co-payment or sliding scale program for Betaseron, Avonex, Copaxone and Rebif so that people who do not qualify for assistance under the existing programs may obtain financial assistance with respect to these high cost MS drugs, as is the case in other Canadian provinces.

Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Ferryland (Mr. Sullivan):

**“WHEREAS** the Newfoundland and Labrador Home Heating Fuel Rebate announced by the Minister of Finance on March 20, 2003 provides a \$100 rebate for low income households that use furnace oil, stove oil or propane as their primary source of heat;

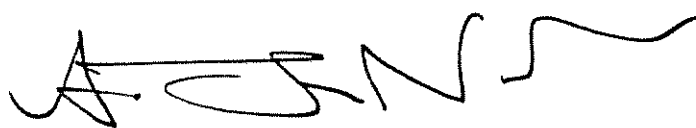
**AND WHEREAS** households that use electric heat have had extraordinary increases in their heating costs because of the unusually cold weather; and face additional deferred costs when Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro raises electricity rates to offset the cost of bunker C fuel used to produce electricity at Holyrood;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the government amend the Newfoundland and Labrador Home Heating Fuel Rebate to include low income households that use electricity as their primary source of heat.”

The Speaker (Mr. Butler) put the question on the Resolution and declared the Resolution defeated.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 2 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) moved "That This House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government." In making the motion the Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board delivered the Budget Speech.

It was moved by the Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board that debate on the Budget Speech be adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

The Speaker put the question on the motion.

The motion was carried.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) informed the House that she had received a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor. The Message was read to the House by the Speaker as follows:

"24 March, 2003

I, the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, transmit Estimates of sums required for the Public Service of the Province for the year ending March 31, 2004, in the aggregate of \$3,674,304,000 and, in accordance with the provisions of sections 54 and 90 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, I recommend these Estimates to the House of Assembly.

Sgd. **Edward Roberts**,  
Lieutenant Governor".

It was moved by the Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) that the Message together with the Estimates, be referred to a Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Speaker put the question on the motion.

Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The motion was carried.

Pursuant to order and on motion the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Hodder took the Chair of Committee of the Whole.

The budgetary documents were distributed.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee reported that the Committee had considered the matters to it referred, had made some progress and asked leave to sit again.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted and it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) gave notice that she would on tomorrow move that the House Resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider certain Resolutions respecting the Imposition of Taxes on Tobacco (Bill No. 4).

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act". (Bill No. 5)

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act No. 2". (Bill No. 6)

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Health And Post-Secondary Education Tax Act". (Bill No. 7)

Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) gave notice and by leave moved:

- (a) That the following **Heads of Expenditure** be referred to the **Government Services Committee**:

Municipal & Provincial Affairs  
Newfoundland & Labrador Housing Corporation  
Environment  
Works, Services & Transportation  
Finance  
Public Service Commission  
Government Services & Lands;

- (b) That the following **Heads of Expenditure** be referred to the **Resource Committee**:

Fisheries & Aquaculture  
Forest Resources & Agrifoods  
Mines & Energy  
Tourism, Culture & Recreation  
Industry, Trade & Rural Development  
Labrador & Aboriginal Affairs; and

- (c) That the following **Heads of Expenditure** be referred to the **Social Services Committee**:

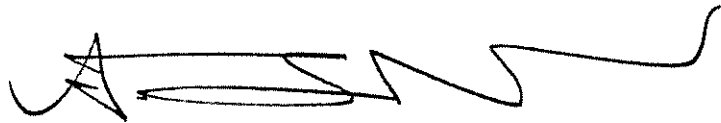
Education  
Youth Services & Post-Secondary Education  
Human Resources & Employment  
Labour  
Health & Community Services  
Justice.

Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Speaker put the question on the motion and declared the motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.



Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

By leave, the Honourable the Premier (Mr. Grimes) made a Statement to convey on behalf of the Government and people of the Province condolences to the Member for Lewisporte (Mr. Rideout) on the death of his wife Mrs. Jacinta Rideout.

The Leader of the Opposition and Member for Humber West (Mr. Williams) also made a Statement to convey condolences to the family of the Member for Lewisporte (Mr. Rideout) on the death of Mrs. Jacinta Rideout.

The Member for Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) rose to reply to the Statements of tribute to the late Mrs. Jacinta Rideout and expressed his condolences to the family.

The Member for St. George's - Stephenville East (Mr. Aylward) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Jim Davis of Stephenville who was awarded the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Ceremony of Remembrance in Ottawa. Mr. Davis was recognized for his thirty-two years working with the Royal Canadian Air Cadet League.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) made a Statement to support and highlight the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Breast Cancer Retreat which will be held at the Terra Nova Park Lodge from May 30<sup>th</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to acknowledge the young artists who participated in the Baccalieu Trail Youth Art Showcase recently held in Carbonear.

The Member for St. John's East (Mr. Ottenheimer) made a Statement to recognize and congratulate the faculty, staff, students and parents of Gonzaga High School on its production of the musical, *Oklahoma* held on March 27 - 29 in the Arts and Culture Centre.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment (Mr. Mercer) made a Statement to announce that with the coming into force of new Used Oil Regulations on April 1, 2003, the disposal of used oil will be banned from all landfill sites. The new Used Oil Regulations will enable the Government and industry to manage effectively all waste oil products, ban unacceptable disposal methods for used oil, control the storage of used oil and provide for the proper return of used oil and lubricants.

Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services & Lands (Mr. Sweeney) made a Statement to remind Members and the citizens of the Province about the proclamation of the amendment to the *Highway Traffic Act* banning the use of hand-held cellular telephones while driving. The new law will become effective on April 1, 2003.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) made a Statement to advise Members that beginning today Ministers will table the annual reports of departments, agencies and boards, all in accordance with the Government's Accountability Framework Program.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) tabled the following:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Finance for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (b) the Annual Report Supplementary - Annual Activity Reports of the Crown Corporations, Agencies, Boards and Commissions of the Department of Finance for the year ended March 31, 2002, namely: Newfoundland Government Fund Limited, Newfoundland and Labrador Government Sinking Fund, Newfoundland and Labrador Industrial Development Corporation, Hotel Buildings Limited, Newfoundland and Labrador Pooled Pension Fund, Newvest Realty Corporation and Government Money Purchase Pension Plan;
- (c) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Newfoundland Liquor Corporation for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002;
- (d) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the C.A. Pippy Park Commission for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (e) the Annual Report of the Treasury Board Secretariat for the year ended March 31, 2002 ; and
- (f) the Annual Report of the Labrador Transportation Initiative Fund for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.

In reply to a question for which notice had been given, the Honourable the Minister of Mines & Energy (Mr. Noel) gave an answer and tabled a document with respect to the employment of residents of the Province in the White Rose Project as of February 28, 2003.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to implement a co-payment or sliding scale program for Betaseron, Avonex, Copaxone and

Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003

Rebif so that people who do not qualify for assistance under the existing programs may obtain financial assistance with respect to these high cost MS drugs, as is the case in other Canadian provinces.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the St. Mary's Bay Centre area asking the Government of the Province to provide the necessary funding to carry out much needed repairs to Route 90.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to upgrade and pave the approximately three kilometres of Route 235 from Plate Cove East to Open Hall.

The Member for The Straits & White Bay North (Mr. Taylor) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and in particular the Minister of Health and Community Services to assist in ensuring that the Flower's Cove Health Care Facility be replaced with a modern health care centre.

The Member for Baie Verte (Mr. Shelley ) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of Nipper's Harbour urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to upgrade and pave the roads in the town.

The Member for Conception Bay South (Mr. French) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District asking the Government of the Province to place a freeze on future development within the Foxtrap Access and Incinerator Road area until a full environmental assessment is completed on the current environmental hazards in that area.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to make a commitment to include the upgrading of Ryan's Road in the Community of Marysvale in its annual capital disbursement for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Ross Wiseman) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to amend section 65.1 of the *Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission Act* to provide that interest be paid on reinstated benefits to a surviving spouse whose benefits terminated on or after April 17, 1985 due to his or her remarriage.

Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on the motion "That This House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government" (the Budget Speech).

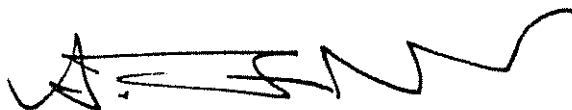
On motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

By agreement of all Members and in order to accommodate those Members who wish to attend the funeral of Mrs. Jacinta Rideout in Baie Verte on Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) announced that the House would meet from 11 o'clock in the morning until 2 o'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> and not sit on Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003.

By agreement the Government House Leader also announced that he would advise the House on tomorrow whether Wednesday would be Private Members' Day.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) made a Statement to congratulate Newfoundland born artist, Mr. David Blackwood, who was awarded the "Order of Ontario" for his work in assisting students and for the promotion of the arts.

The Member for Ferryland (Mr. Sullivan) made a Statement to pay tribute to Mr. Stephen Carter of Witless Bay who recently died at the age of 102 years.

The Member for Burin - Placentia West (Ms. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate recent inductees into the Order of Canada, namely: Dr. Philip Warren, Ms. Shannie Duff, Mr. Miller Ayre, and Mr. Terry Kelly.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Carl English, formerly of Patrick's Cove and a student at the University of Hawaii who will enter the 2003 National Basketball Association Draft at New York's Madison Square Garden in June.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Bill Callahan, a former Member of the House, who will be named as one of three new members to the St. John's Maple Leafs Media Wall of Fame located in the Bob Cole Media Centre at Mile One Stadium in St. John's.

The Honourable the Minister of Works, Services & Transportation (Mr. Walsh) made a Statement to announce that the Government of the Province intends to file an application for judicial review with the Federal Court of Canada with respect to a decision of the Federal Minister of Transport to divest the Stephenville port to a private interest.

The Honourable the Minister of Health & Community Services (Mr. Smith) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Revise The Law About The Practice Of Optometry". (Bill No. 9)

By leave, the Honourable the Minister of Education (Mr. Reid) tabled the following:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Education for 2001-2002;
- (b) the Annual Report of the Labrador School Board (District 1) for 2001-2002;
- (c) the Annual Report of the Northern Peninsula/Labrador South School Board (District 2) for 2001-2002;
- (d) the Annual Report of the Corner Brook/Deer Lake/St. Barbe School Board (District 3) for 2001-2002;
- (e) the Annual Report of the Cormack Trail Board (District 4) for 2001-2002;

Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003

- (f) the Annual Report of the Baie Verte/Central/Connaigre School Board (District 5) for 2001-2002;
- (g) the Annual Report of the Lewisporte/Gander School Board (District 6) for 2001-2002;
- (h) the Annual Report of the Burin Peninsula School Board (District 7) for 2001-2002;
- (i) the Annual Report of the Vista School Board (District 8) for 2001-2002;
- (j) the Annual Report of the Avalon West School Board (District 9) for 2001-2002;
- (k) the Annual Report of the Avalon East School Board (District 10) for 2001-2002;
- (l) the Annual Report of the Conseil Scolaire Francophone Provincial de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador (District 11) for the year ended June 30, 2002;
- (m) the Annual Report of the Public Information and Library Resources Board for 2001-2002;
- (n) the Annual Report of the Newfoundland and Labrador Education Investment Corporation for the year ended March 31, 2002; and
- (o) the Annual Report of the Literacy Development Council Financial Update - January 31, 2003.

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal & Provincial Affairs (Mr. Langdon) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Emergency Measures Act". (Bill No. 8)

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the St. Mary's Bay Centre Area asking the Government of the Province to provide the necessary funding to carry out the much needed repairs to Route 90.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald) presented a Petition urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to pave the approximately three kilometres of road leading to and including part of the community of Winter Brook.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to make a commitment to include the upgrading of the road system in Georgetown in its annual capital disbursement for the upcoming fiscal year.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the motion "That This House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government" (The Budget Speech).

Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003

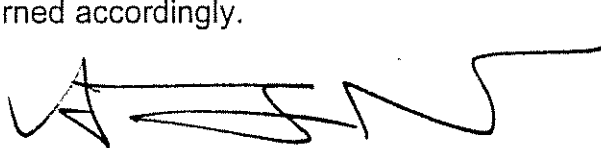
On motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

The Honourable the Government House Leader announced that the motion standing in the name of the Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) would be debated on Private Members' Day on Wednesday.

By agreement the Honourable the Government House Leader also announced that after the debate on the Private Members' Motion concluded on tomorrow the House would resolve itself into Committee of Supply in order to consider the Estimates of the Executive Council.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11 o'clock in the morning.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003

Pursuant to the special adjournment motion adopted on April 1, 2003, the House met at 11 o'clock in the morning.

The Member for Burin - Placentia (Ms. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate a number of local volunteers who were recently recognized by the Burin Peninsula Branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) made a Statement to congratulate the organizers of and those who participated in the Great Labrador Loppet, a cross country ski race from Fermont, Quebec to Labrador City, a distance of twenty-seven kilometres.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate environmentally concerned students and teachers from Ascension Collegiate in Bay Roberts who formed the group GAIA and have taken on a major project of obtaining an environmentally friendly septic system for the school.

The Member for St. John's South (Mr. Osborne) made a Statement to congratulate Labatts Brewery, the first brewery in Canada, to receive accreditation under the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points Program (HACCP).

The Honourable the Minister of Health & Community Services (Mr. Smith) made a Statement to announce that he had released the report entitled *From the Ground Up*, the province's first ever social audit report that measures well-being in Newfoundland and Labrador. The Minister also tabled the report.

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services and Lands (Mr. Sweeney) tabled the following:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Government Services and Lands for 2001-2002;
- (b) the Annual Accountability Report Consumer Protection Fund for Prepaid Funeral Services for 2001-2002;
- (c) the Annual Report of the Department of Government Services and Lands- Accountability of Public Bodies for 2001-2002.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries & Aquaculture (Ms. Jones) tabled the Annual Report of the Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture for 2001-2002.



Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Minister of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs (Mr. Andersen) tabled the Annual Report of the Department of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs for 2001-2002.

The Honourable the Minister of Human Resources and Employment (Mr. Ralph Wiseman) tabled the Annual Report for the Department of Human Resources and Employment for 2001-2002.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward), in accordance with section 26(4) of the Financial Administration Act, tabled copies of the following Orders in Council relating to the following funding pre-commitments for the year 2003-2004:

- (a) Order in Council 2003-645 authorized the Dept. of Works, Services and Transportation to spend \$1.85 million for infrastructure projects at Cartwright, Postville and Black Tickle;
- (b) Order in Council 2003-004 authorized the Department of Works, Services and Transportation to spend \$1,500,000 for the refit of the MV Sir Robert Bond and the MV Northern Ranger;
- (c) Order in Council 2003-065 authorized the Department of Forest Resources and Agrifoods not to exceed \$1,232,500 for procurement of vaccine baits for the rabies program;
- (d) Order in Council 2003-093 authorized the Department of Education to spend \$4, 519,100 for the purchase of textbooks;
- (e) Order in Council 2003-097 authorized the Department of Works, Services and Transportation to spend \$125,300 to facilitate the overhaul of a waterbomber engine.

The Member for St. John's South (Mr. Tom Osborne) presented a Petition on behalf of certain citizens of the Province urging the Government to return a downtown library to the citizens and visitors of St. John's and to ensure that the downtown library had adequate hours of operation, adequate staffing and adequate books.

The Member for Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government to return a downtown library to the citizens and visitors of St. John's and to ensure that the downtown library had adequate hours of operation, adequate staffing and adequate books.

Pursuant to order and on motion the debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly):

Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003

**"WHEREAS** quality weather forecasting is a very valuable and necessary service for the Province and its residents;

**AND WHEREAS** the cutbacks to the Newfoundland Weather Centre will mean a regional forecast from Halifax and the elimination of local weather forecasting from Newfoundland and Labrador at Environment Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** people working in the fishery, aviation, highway transportation, shipping and our developing offshore oil and gas sector rely on accurate weather forecasting;

**AND WHEREAS** the 103 Air Search and Rescue Unit, which has saved many lives depends on accurate weather forecasting;

**AND WHEREAS** this latest cut in service to Newfoundland and Labrador is continuing a larger trend of this Province being mistreated by the Government of Canada;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this House of Assembly calls for a reversal of the decision by the Federal Government to cut weather forecasting services at Gander."

The Speaker put the question on the motion and declared the motion carried.

The Honourable the Government House Leader moved that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House on Supply.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Hodder took the Chair of the Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Committee of the Whole House on Supply considered the **Executive Council** Head of Expenditure.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

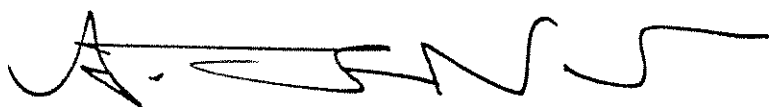
The Chairperson of the Committee of Supply reported that the Committee had considered the matter to it referred, had made some progress and asked leave to sit again.

Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2003

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) made a Statement to congratulate the members of Cox's Cove Volunteer Fire Department for their humanitarian contribution to the residents of Cox's Cove during the recent major tragic flooding.

The Member for St. John's West (Ms. Osborne) made a Statement to congratulate the Grade VI students at Cowan Heights School who graduated from the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) Program offered by the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary. The Member also thanked the principal, teachers and sponsors of the program.

The Member for Burin - Placentia West (Ms. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Jennifer Graham, a student from Marystown who placed second in the Fifth Annual Aventis Biotech Challenge hosted at Memorial University by Bio-East, the Newfoundland and Labrador Biotechnology Network.

The Member for Conception Bay South (Mr. French) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Christa Borden of Conception Bay South on winning the national television competition "Popstars The One."

The Member for The Straits & White Bay North (Mr. Taylor) made a Statement to pay tribute to Ms. Dale Goudie of Happy Valley - Goose Bay who died last week.

By leave, the Honourable the Minister of Human Resources & Employment and the Member for Topsail (Mr. Ralph Wiseman) made a Statement to recognize and congratulate Ms. Christa Borden on winning the national television competition *Popstars: The One*.

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal & Provincial Affairs (Mr. Langdon) made a Statement respecting the damage to infrastructure and property loss caused by severe flooding in the Corner Brook and the Bay of Islands areas and along the Trans Canada Highway. The Minister also advised Members that the Province would be approaching the Federal Government for participation and compensation under the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements in order to assist residents affected by the flooding.

The Honourable the Minister of Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs (Mr. Andersen) made a Statement to announce that a new Labrador Benefits Agreement had been signed with five unions, representing public sector employees in Labrador.

Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Minister of Industry, Trade and Rural Development (Ms. Foote) made a Statement to advise that the Province's Small Business Advisory Council had held its first meeting in St. John's on Friday past.

The Honourable the Minister of Justice and Attorney General (Mr. Parsons) tabled the following:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Justice for 2001-02;
- (b) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (c) the Annual Report of the Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador for 2001-02;
- (d) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Office of the High Sheriff of Newfoundland and Labrador for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (e) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Newfoundland and Labrador Legal Aid Commission for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (f) the Annual Report of the Human Rights Commission for 2002.

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs (Mr. Langdon) tabled the following:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs for 2001-02;
- (b) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (c) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Municipal Assessment Agency for the year ended March 31, 2002

The Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (Ms. Bettney) tabled the following:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation for 2001-02;
- (b) the Annual Report of the Newfoundland and Labrador Heritage Corporation for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (c) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Marble Mountain Development Corporation for the year ended April 30, 2002;
- (d) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (e) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador for the year ended March 31, 2002;

Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003

- (f) the Annual Report of the Special Celebrations of Newfoundland and Labrador Inc. for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (g) the Annual Report of the Newfoundland and Labrador Film Development Corporation for 2002-02.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to pave the approximately seven kilometres of road located between the Discovery Trail and Route 234.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment and Member for Humber East (Mr. Mercer) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of Western Newfoundland urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to begin implementation of the plan to build a long-term care facility as identified in a study commissioned by the Western Health Care Corporation.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to implement a co-payment or sliding scale program for Betaseron, Avonex, Copaxone and Rebif so that people who do not qualify for assistance under the existing programs may obtain financial assistance with respect to these high cost MS drugs, as is the case in other Canadian provinces.

The Member for The Straits & White Bay North (Mr. Taylor) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and in particular the Minister of Works, Services & Transportation to make the roads in the Communities of Wild Bight and North Boat Harbour a top priority and begin to upgrade and pave them immediately.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the St. Mary's Bay Centre area asking the Government of the Province to provide the necessary funding to carry out the much needed repairs to Route 90.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to make a commitment to include the upgrading of Ryan's Road in the Community of Marysvalle in its annual capital disbursement for the upcoming fiscal year.

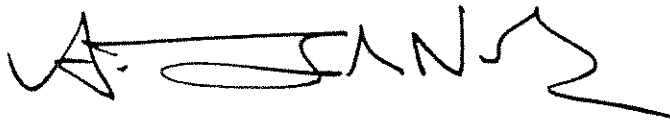
Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the motion "That This House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government" (The Budget Speech).

Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003

On motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) made a Statement to congratulate the Host Committee of the 2003 Canadian National Broomball Championships held in Corner Brook this past week. The Member reported that the event was a tremendous success with over 600 athletes and coaches from across Canada participating.

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Ross Wiseman) made a Statement to pay tribute to Mrs. Alice Smith of Elliott's Cove, Random Island who died at the age of 106 years.

The Member for Burin - Placentia West (Ms. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Frank Durnford, a Memorial University student from Creston South, who was one of four recipients of the Peter Gzowski Interships at CBC Radio.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Debbie Morrissey of Cuslett who graduated from the RCMP Police Academy in Regina yesterday.

The Member for Bonavista North (Mr. Harding) made a Statement to congratulate the Grade VI class and teachers at Memorial Academy in Wesleyville, New-Wes-Valley on initiating a recycling program in their school.

The Honourable the Minister of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education (Ms. Thistle) made a Statement to acknowledge the Province's Youth Advisory Committee and commend them on the completion of their first annual report entitled: *A Youth's Future is Today*. The Minister also tabled the report.

The Honourable the Minister of Forest Resources & Agrifoods (Mr. Woodford) tabled:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Forest Resources & Agrifoods for 2001-02;
- (b) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Newfoundland and Labrador Crop Insurance Agency for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (c) the Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Livestock Owners Compensation Board for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (d) the audited financial statements of the Newfoundland and Labrador Farm Products Corporation for the year ended March 31, 2002.



Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Minister of Industry, Trade and Rural Development (Ms. Foote tabled:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Industry, Trade and Rural Development for 2001-02;
- (b) the Annual Reports of the following organizations which report to the Minister:
  - (i) Enterprise Newfoundland and Labrador Corporation,
  - (ii) Farm Development Loan Board,
  - (iii) Fisheries Loan Board,
  - (iv) Newfoundland Ocean Enterprises Limited, and
  - (v) Newfoundland Hardwoods Ltd.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries & Aquaculture and the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women (Ms. Jones) tabled the Annual Report of the Women's Policy Office for 2001-2002.

The Honourable the Minister of Works, Services & Transportation (Mr. Walsh), tabled the Reports of the *Public Tender Act* Exceptions for the months of November and December 2002, and January and February 2003.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

**“WHEREAS** the residents and visitors to the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador rely and depend heavily on our road system for transportation, business, health care, tourism and for basic quality of life;

**AND WHEREAS** provincial roads and highways are in a serious state of disrepair in virtually every region of the Province;

**AND WHEREAS** the condition of the Province's roads and highways are a significant competitive disadvantage for Newfoundland and Labrador companies that market products in Canada and the United States;

**AND WHEREAS** there are over 900 kilometres of dirt roads and some 1,500 kilometres of twenty-five year old paved roads in the Province;

**AND WHEREAS** over \$300 million is immediately required for provincial roads;

Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

**AND WHEREAS** there is only \$23 million budgeted in this year's Budget for provincial roads which is completely insufficient;

**AND WHEREAS** the Roads for Rail Agreement is coming to an end;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the government negotiate a new cost-sharing agreement with the Government of Canada for road repair and construction that will bring the quality of the Province's roads and highways up to North American standards and contribute to the Province's overall productivity and competitiveness."

The Member for St. John's South (Mr. Tom Osborne) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of Shea Heights asking the Government to address the need for wheelchair accessible housing units in the Shea Heights area.

The Member for The Straits and White Bay North (Mr. Taylor) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and in particular the Minister of Health and Community Services to assist in ensuring that the Flower's Cove Health Care Facility be replaced with a modern health care centre.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to upgrade and pave the approximately three kilometres of Route 235 from Plate Cove East to Open Hall.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment and the Member for Humber East (Mr. Mercer) attempted to present a Petition but the Speaker ruled the Member out of order because the Member had not confined his remarks to the prayer of the Petition.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to make a commitment to include the upgrading of the road system in Georgetown in its annual capital disbursement for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Member for St. Barbe (Mr. Young) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to invest in the necessary restoration and improvements so that persons using the roads in his District may do so without compromising their safety.

Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the St. Mary's Bay Centre area asking the Government of the Province to provide the necessary funding to carry out the much needed repairs to Route 90.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the motion "That This House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government" (The Budget Speech).

During the debate, various points of order were raised by the Opposition House Leader (Mr. Byrne) with respect to certain language used by the Honourable the Minister of Education (Mr. Reid). In particular, the Minister said that the Member for Ferryland (Mr. Sullivan) did not have "the guts" to do something. The Speaker (Mr. Butler) took the matter under advisement.

After reserving his ruling, the Speaker (Mr. Butler) was asked by the Opposition House Leader to rule immediately on a further point of order raised by the Opposition House Leader that the Minister of Education had used other unparliamentary language in referring to the Member for Ferryland. Whereupon, the Speaker recessed the House at 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon in order to listen to the Hansard tapes and to consider this point of order.

At 3:58 o'clock in the afternoon the Speaker (Mr. Butler) resumed the Chair.

The Speaker (Mr. Butler) ruled that he had inadvertently stated before the recess that he had adjourned the House instead of stating that the House was recessed.

The Speaker further ruled that after listening to the tapes of the proceedings he heard the Honourable the Minister of Education say that the Member for Ferryland had "bought votes". The Speaker asked the Minister to withdraw the words whereupon the Minister stood and withdrew the offending words.

Debate continued on the Budget Speech.

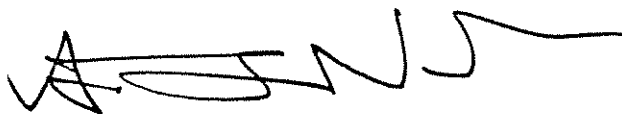
On motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

It was announced that the motion standing in the name of the Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald) would be debated on Private Members' Day on Wednesday.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 2 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) made a Statement to congratulate and thank Mr. Noel Rideout of Gander who will observe his official thirty-fifth year as a volunteer member of the Gander Fire Department this year.

The Member for Waterford Valley (Mr. Hodder) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mr. Patrick Ryall of Mount Pearl who was a dedicated employee of Canada Post and as a volunteer served as a coach with the Mount Pearl Minor Baseball Association and also was a local baseball player.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to acknowledge and congratulate the Mariner Resource Opportunities Network for receiving one of the *Downhomer's* first annual Port of Call Awards for their website: [www.AroundTheBay.ca](http://www.AroundTheBay.ca).

The Member for St. John's West (Ms. Osborne) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Vicki Flood, a young resident in her District, who was recently awarded the Margaret Davis Memorial Award for the Provincial Female Athlete of the year presented to her for her success in tennis at the Annual Provincial Sport Awards Banquet.

The Honourable the Minister of Education (Mr. Reid) made a Statement to announce that the Government will provide two scholarships for students who live outside the St. John's Metropolitan Area and who are enrolled in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program at Holy Heart of Mary High School.

After Oral Questions, the Honourable the Minister of Justice and Attorney General (Mr. Parsons) rose on a point of order to allege that he heard the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Williams) make an accusation that he knew of certain matters in the Department of Industry, Trade & Rural Development when he was Minister. The Leader of the Opposition rose to deny and refute the allegation. The Speaker took the matter under advisement in order to review the Hansard tapes.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment (Mr. Mercer) rose on a point of order to allege that the Leader of the Opposition had imputed certain statements to him.

The Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald):

**“WHEREAS** the residents and visitors to the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador rely and depend heavily on our road system for transportation, business, health care, tourism and for basic quality of life;

Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2003

**AND WHEREAS** provincial roads and highways are in a serious state of disrepair in virtually every region of the Province;

**AND WHEREAS** the condition of the Province's roads and highways are a significant competitive disadvantage for Newfoundland and Labrador companies that market products in Canada and the United States;

**AND WHEREAS** there are over 900 kilometres of dirt roads and some 1,500 kilometres of twenty-five year old paved roads in the Province;

**AND WHEREAS** over \$300 million is immediately required for provincial roads;

**AND WHEREAS** there is only \$23 million budgeted in this year's Budget for provincial roads which is completely insufficient;

**AND WHEREAS** the Roads for Rail Agreement is coming to an end;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the government negotiate a new cost-sharing agreement with the Government of Canada for road repair and construction that will bring the quality of the Province's roads and highways up to North American standards and contribute to the Province's overall productivity and competitiveness."

It was agreed that Members would speak for only five minutes each during the debate on the Resolution.

During the debate the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) moved, seconded by the Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) that the Resolution be amended by

- (a) striking out the third and sixth recital clauses; and
- (b) striking out the words "the government negotiate" in the Resolution Clause and by substituting the words "the government continues to negotiate".

The Speaker (Ms. Hodder) ruled the amendments in order.

Debate continued and concluded on the Resolution and the amendments.

The Speaker (Ms. Hodder) put the question on the amendments to the Resolution.

Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Speaker declared the amendments to the Resolution carried.

The Speaker put the question on the Resolution, as amended, and declared the Resolution, as amended, carried.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Snow) ruled on two points of order raised April 9<sup>th</sup> after Oral Questions.

The Honourable the Minister of Justice (Mr. Parsons) rose on a point of order to allege that certain comments made by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Williams) had cast aspersions on him. The Speaker advised Members he had listened to the Hansard tapes and although he had heard certain words he could only interpret these words spoken as their plain meaning would dictate. The Speaker also noted that the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Williams) had spoken yesterday and had stated he had not said those words. The Speaker ruled that there was no point of order.

The Speaker ruled that the point of order raised by the Minister of Environment (Mr. Mercer) respecting certain comments made by the Leader of the Opposition about the Minister's approval of a certain policy was not a point of order but a difference of opinion between two Members.

The Member for Burin - Placentia West (Ms. Hodder) made a Statement to pay tribute to a long term employee of the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation in Marystown, Mr. Maurice Cheeke, who had died after a short battle with cancer.

The Member for Lewisporte (Mr. Rideout) made a Statement, on behalf of his family, to thank his colleagues, friends, constituents and others who sent their expressions of sympathy and condolences upon the death of his wife, Mrs. Jacinta Rideout.

By leave, the Honourable the Minister of Mines & Energy and Member for Virginia Waters (Mr. Noel) made a Statement to congratulate the community and the supporters of the MacMorran Community Centre on Brophy Place on the official opening of the new Centre in his District.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) made a Statement to congratulate the students, parents, teachers and volunteers with respect to a literacy event held at Holy Cross Elementary School in Holyrood. The Member also congratulated the Aliant/Newtel Pioneers and the Operating Engineers for their volunteer commitment to the children in Holyrood.

The Honourable the Minister of Works, Services & Transportation (Mr. Walsh) made a Statement to advise Members that tenders had closed for the provision of sixty satellite telephones for use in a pilot project along the Trans Labrador Highway. The Member thanked the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary and the Labrador City-Wabush Rotary Club for assisting with this pilot project.



Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services and Lands (Mr. Sweeney) made a Statement to update Members regarding the Petroleum Products Pricing Commission, the fluctuating prices of fuel and the monthly fuel price adjustments.

The Honourable the Minister of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education (Ms. Thistle) tabled the following:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education for 2001-2002;
- (b) the Annual Report of the College of the North Atlantic for 2001-2002;
- (c) the Annual Report and audited financial statements of the Newfoundland and Labrador Student Investment and Opportunity Corporation for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2002;
- (d) the synopsis of financial statements of the Private Training Corporation for 2002;
- (e) the Annual Report of the Provincial Apprenticeship and Certification Board for 2001-02;
- (f) the Annual Report of the Council on Higher Education for the 2001-02 Academic Year;
- (g) the auditor's report of the Memorial University of Newfoundland Pension Plan of the fiscal year ended March 31, 2002.

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Mr. Smith) tabled the following:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Health and Community Services for 2001-02;
- (b) the Annual Report of the Premier's Council on Social Development for March 2001- September 2002;
- (c) the Annual Report of the Newfoundland Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation for 2002;
- (d) the Annual Report of the Health Care Corporation of St. John's for 2001-2002;
- (e) the Annual Report of the St. John's Nursing Home Board for the year ended March 31, 2002;
- (f) the Annual Report of the Avalon Health Care Institutions Board for 2001-2002;
- (g) the Annual Report of the Peninsulas Health Care Corporation for 2001 -2002;
- (h) the Annual Report of the Central East Health Care Institution Board for 2001-2002;

Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003

- (i) the Annual Report of the Central West Health Corporation for 2001-2002;
- (j) the Annual Report of the Western Health Care Corporation for 2001-2002;
- (k) the Annual Report of the Grenfell Regional Health Services for 2002;
- (l) the Annual Report of the Health Labrador Corporation for 2001-2002;
- (m) the Annual Report of the Health and Community Services - St. John's Region for 2001-2002;
- (n) the Annual Report of the Eastern Health and Community Services Board for 2002;
- (o) the Annual Report of the Health & Community Services - Central Region for 2001 - 2002;
- (p) the Annual Report of the Health & Community Services -Western Region for 2001-2002.

The Honourable the Minister of Works, Services & Transportation (Mr. Walsh) tabled the Annual Report of the Department of Works, Services and Transportation for 2001 - 2002.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment (Mr. Mercer) tabled the Annual Report of the Department of Environment for 2001-2002.

The Honourable the Minister of Mines & Energy (Mr. Noel) tabled the following:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Mines & Energy for 2001-02;
- (b) the Annual Report of the Bull Arm Site Corporation for 2001-02.

The Honourable the Minister of Labour (Mr. Barrett) tabled the following:

- (a) the Annual Report of the Department of Labour for 2001-2002;
- (b) the Annual Report of the Workplace Health, Safety & Compensation Review Division for 2002;
- (c) the Annual Report of the Labour Relations Board for 2002.

The Honourable the Speaker tabled the Report of the Commission of Internal Economy for the fiscal year April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002.

In reply to Question No. 1 from the Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins), the Honourable the Minister of Works, Services & Transportation (Mr. Walsh) gave an answer and tabled information respecting the Labrador Transportation Initiative Fund.

Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003

In reply to a question for which notice had been given during Oral Questions, the Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture & Recreation (Ms. Bettney) gave an answer respecting art exhibits at The Rooms.

In reply to a question for which notice had been given, the Honourable the Minister of Education (Mr. Reid) tabled an answer respecting the International Baccalaureate Scholarship Program.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to make a commitment to include the upgrading of Ryan's Road in the Community of Marysvalle in its annual capital disbursement for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Member for Baie Verte (Mr. Shelley) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of Harbour Round in his District asking the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to upgrade and pave the roads in the community.

The Member for Conception Bay South (Mr. French) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District asking the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to reinstate the Inter-Provincial Cultural Exchange Program for students in the Province.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

- A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act" (Bill No. 5);
- A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act No. 2" (Bill No. 6);
- A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Health And Post-Secondary Education Tax Act" (Bill No. 7);
- A Bill, "An Act To Revise The Law About The Practice Of Optometry" (Bill No. 9);
- A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Emergency Measures Act" (Bill No. 8).

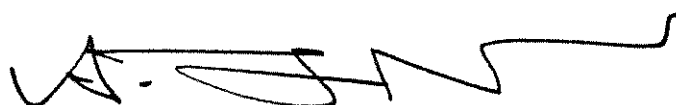
On motion it was ordered that the above noted Bills be printed and be read a second time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the motion "That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government" (The Budget Speech) and on motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

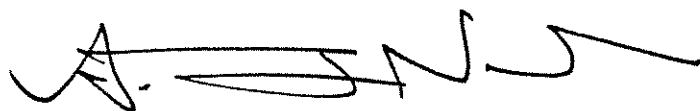
On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Be it known on this day in accordance with section 43 of the *Citizens' Representative Act*, Mr. Fraser March, the Citizens Representative, submitted his first Annual Report for the period February 1, 2002 to February 28, 2003 to the Honourable the Speaker. In accordance with section 19.1 of the *House of Assembly Act*, the Annual Report was sent to each Member of the House of Assembly and considered tabled.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Notwithstanding the adjournment motion adopted by the House of Assembly on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003, be it known that with the agreement of all parliamentary groups in the House of Assembly the scheduled sittings of the House for Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2003 were deferred and that the House will sit on Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 2 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to the agreement reached by all parliamentary groups on Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Jack Byrne) made a Statement to congratulate the Flatrock Flyers on winning the Herder Memorial Trophy, emblematic of the best in senior hockey in the Province.

The Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) made a Statement to congratulate the organizers of and participants in the 2003 Newfoundland and Labrador Drama Festival held in Gander last week. The Member also specifically congratulated the Avion Players of Gander on winning five awards during the Festival.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Mary King and Ms. Elizabeth Barron on being awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal for their years of volunteering in the Community of Fox Harbour.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Chesley and Mrs. Muriel Earle of Shearstown who celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Honourable the Premier (Mr. Grimes) made a Statement respecting the devastating consequences for individuals and rural areas of the Province as a result of the decision by the Federal Government to close the Northern cod fishery in 2J3KL and the Gulf cod fishery in 3Pn4Rs. The Premier also reported to the House on Government's efforts in meeting with the relevant Federal Ministers in dealing with the problems created in the affected communities as a result of these fishery closures.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) asked for and received leave of the House so that the Resolution standing in the name of the Member for St. George's - Stephenville East (Mr. Aylward) could be withdrawn and replaced by a new Resolution, notice of which would be momentarily given by the Member. The Government House Leader thanked the Members of the Opposition for agreeing to delay the opening of the House after the Easter recess so that Ministers could travel to Ottawa in order to present the case relating to the closure of the above noted fisheries.

The Member for St. George's - Stephenville East (Mr. Aylward) gave notice of the following Resolution:

**"WHEREAS** the fishery continues to be an essential part of the economy and cultural life of Newfoundland and Labrador;

Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2003

**AND WHEREAS** the Federal Government is responsible for the proper management of the fishery and should accept responsibility for any mismanagement;

**AND WHEREAS** there was a scientifically based alternative for a limited viable fishery recommended to the federal government by its own conservation council;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this House of Assembly calls on the Federal Government to Open the Gulf Fishery as recommended by the Fisheries Resource Conservation Council and the Newfoundland and Labrador All-Party Committee on the 2J3KL and 3Pn3RS Cod Fisheries;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that an adequate compensation package including extension of employment insurance benefits, licence buyout and early retirement options accompany any reduction in resource availability;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this House of Assembly call on the Federal Government to cooperate with the Provincial Government to put in place a long term strategy for economic development;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the federal science capability for the gulf stocks be relocated to Newfoundland and Labrador as soon as possible."

The Honourable the Minister of Finance & President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) made a Statement to advise Members about the economic performance of the Province, namely the Statistics Canada report that the GDP of the Province had grown by 13.4 percent and that RBC Financial Group economists had predicted that Newfoundland and Labrador will lead the country in economic growth this year and in 2004.

With the leave of the House, debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for St. George's - Stephenville East (Mr. Aylward):

**"WHEREAS** the fishery continues to be an essential part of the economy and cultural life of Newfoundland and Labrador;

**AND WHEREAS** the Federal Government is responsible for the proper management of the fishery and should accept responsibility for any mismanagement;



Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2003

**AND WHEREAS** there was a scientifically based alternative for a limited viable fishery recommended to the federal government by its own conservation council;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this House of Assembly calls on the Federal Government to Open the Gulf Fishery as recommended by the Fisheries Resource Conservation Council and the Newfoundland and Labrador All-Party Committee on the 2J3KL and 3Pn3RS Cod Fisheries;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that an adequate compensation package including extension of employment insurance benefits, licence buyout and early retirement options accompany any reduction in resource availability;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this House of Assembly call on the Federal Government to cooperate with the Provincial Government to put in place a long term strategy for economic development;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the federal science capability for the gulf stocks be relocated to Newfoundland and Labrador as soon as possible."

The House sat beyond the regular adjournment time until 6:50 o'clock in the evening.

The Speaker (Mr. Snow) put the question on the Resolution and declared the Resolution carried.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.



**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Desmond Dillon of Gander on being awarded the Thérèse Casgrain Volunteer Award by Human Resources Development Canada for his lifetime commitment to volunteering.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Emily Dakins of Mount Carmel who celebrated her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Member for Burin - Placentia West (Ms. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate the Kentucky Fried Chicken Outlet at the Peninsula Mall in Marystown on recently receiving the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual "Clean Across Canada" promotion national award sponsored by Proctor & Gamble.

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Wiseman) made a Statement to congratulate Clarendville High's Drama Group which won this year's Vista School District Drama Festival.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) made a Statement to congratulate the Mariner Resource Opportunities Network Inc. (M-RON) for organizing a series of Community Youth Information Fairs to be delivered at four high schools along the Baccalieu Trail. The theme for the fair is "Expanding Horizons".

The Honourable the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs (Mr. Lush) made a Statement to recognize *Yom Hashoah*, the Day of Remembrance of the Holocaust.

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Mr. Smith) made a Statement to announce that the new *Adoption Act* had been proclaimed into force on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Honourable the Minister of Mines & Energy (Mr. Noel) made a Statement to congratulate North Atlantic Refining Limited on their purchase of forty Petro-Canada service stations throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Member for Baie Verte (Mr. Shelley) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to repave the road from the Little Bay turnoff through to Beachside.

Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003

By leave, in reply to a question for which notice had been given, the Honourable the Minister of Industry, Trade and Rural Development (Ms. Foote) tabled various invoices for the purchase of furniture and equipment which had been placed in the home of former Premier Beaton Tulk. The Minister stated that these assets have since been returned to government.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment and Member for Humber East (Mr. Mercer) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of Western Newfoundland urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to place new Magnetic Resonance Imaging equipment at the Western Memorial Hospital in Corner Brook in order to serve the largest number of patients outside the St. John's area.

The Member for St. John's South (Mr. Osborne) presented a Petition on behalf of certain citizens of the Province urging the Government to return a downtown library to the citizens and visitors of St. John's and to ensure that the downtown library had adequate hours of operation, adequate staffing and adequate books.

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Ross Wiseman) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to establish a separate program for financial coverage of Multiple Sclerosis drug therapies in order to give all residents of the province equal access.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) presented a Petition on behalf of certain citizens of the Province urging the Government to return a downtown library to the citizens and visitors of St. John's and to ensure that the downtown library had adequate hours of operation, adequate staffing and adequate books.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to pave the approximately three kilometres of road leading to and including part of the Community of Winter Brook.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the St. Mary's Bay Centre area asking the Government of the Province to provide the necessary funding to carry out the much needed repairs to Route 90.

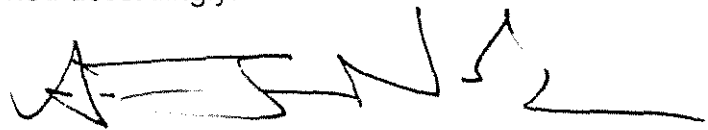
The Member for Bonavista North (Mr. Harding) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to upgrade and pave the road in Noggin Cove during the construction season of 2003.

Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the motion "That this House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government" (the Budget Speech) and on motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Waterford Valley (Mr. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Paul Lane who had been named Mount Pearl's Citizen of the Year for 2002.

The Member for Burin - Placentia West (Ms. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate certain students from her District who performed extremely well at a recent Regional Science Fair for the Burin Peninsula District at St. Joseph's Academy in Lamaline.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) made a Statement to congratulate the late Mr. Joseph Roberts of Wabush and Mr. Norman Peckham of Labrador City on being awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate the schools which participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Avalon West Theatre Arts and Music Festival held earlier this month. The Member also congratulated the students at Amalgamated Academy and Ascension Collegiate in his District who received awards and nominations at the Festival.

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Mr. Smith) made a Statement to acknowledge Voisey's Bay Nickel Company's generous contribution to the construction of a new health facility in Happy Valley - Goose Bay.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Jack Byrne), on behalf of the Chair of the Government Services Committee (Mr. Matthews), reported that the Committee had considered the matters to it referred and had passed, without amendment, the following Heads of Expenditure:

**Municipal and Provincial Affairs**  
**Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation**  
**Environment**  
**Works, Services and Transportation**  
**Finance**  
**Public Service Commission, and**  
**Government Services and Lands.**

On motion, the Report was received and on motion debate on the Report was deferred until tomorrow.

Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Member for St. John's South (Mr. Tom Osborne) presented a Petition on behalf of certain citizens of the Province urging the Government to return a downtown library to the citizens and visitors of St. John's and to ensure that the downtown library had adequate hours of operation, adequate staffing and adequate books.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment & Member for Humber East (Mr. Mercer) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of Western Newfoundland urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to place new Magnetic Resonance Imaging equipment at the Western Memorial Hospital in Corner Brook in order to serve the largest number of patients outside the St. John's area.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the motion "That this House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government" (the Budget Speech).


During the debate, the Speaker (Mr. Butler) ruled on a point of order raised by the Opposition House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003. The Speaker ruled that the Honourable the Minister of Education (Mr. Reid) had used an unparliamentary word "guts" during a debate and asked the Honourable the Minister to withdraw the word. The Minister stood and withdrew the word "guts".

On motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon on Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.



**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Kel Varnson, a Gander native who recently made his directorial debut on MuchMusic with the production of his first video completed and developed solely in this province.

The Member for Waterford Valley (Mr. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Darryl Osborne, a twenty-five year old cerebral palsy resident of his District who broke the Canadian record during Spring Splash at the Aquarena in the 100 metre breast stroke in the Swimmers With A Disability (SWAD) category.

The Member for Burin - Placentia West (Ms. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Sarah Drake of Burin who performed extremely well in Canadian University sports particularly in soccer.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) made a Statement to recognize the Kids Eat Smart Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador Challenge 2003: The Good Eating - Good Thinking Banner Project.

The Member for The Straits & White Bay North (Mr. Taylor) made a Statement to recognize Mr. Grenfell Belbin, an employee of Aliant Telecom in St. Anthony who had worked during the past thirty years without taking a sick day.

By leave, the Honourable the Minister of Finance & President of Treasury Board and the Member for St. John's Centre (Ms. Aylward) made a Statement to congratulate and commend Mr. James Kennedy, the President of Branch 1 of the Royal Canadian Legion on being awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal for his commitment to his community.

The Honourable the Minister of Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education (Ms. Thistle) made a Statement to announce that she had released the report entitled *Beyond High School: A Follow-up Study of June 2001 High School Graduates*. This report documents the activities of high school graduates following their graduation.

The Honourable the Minister of Labour (Mr. Barrett) made a Statement to recognize the week of May 4 - 10 as North American Occupational Safety and Health Week in order to promote a greater awareness of the importance of preventing workplace accidents and occupational illnesses in Canada, United States and Mexico.

Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Minister of Education (Mr. Reid) made a Statement to announce that Prince of Wales Collegiate had been selected to host the National Canadian Student Leadership Conference from September 27 to October 4, 2003.

Following Oral Questions, the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) rose on point of order to suggest that certain remarks made by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Williams) were words of intimidation directed against the Honourable the Minister of Justice and Attorney General (Mr. Parsons).

The Speaker took the matter under advisement.

The Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly), as Chairperson of the Social Services Committee, reported that the Committee had considered the matters to it referred and had passed, without amendment, the following Heads of Expenditure:

**Education**  
**Youth Services and Post-Secondary Education**  
**Human Resources and Employment**  
**Labour**  
**Health and Community Services and**  
**Justice.**

On motion the Report was received and on motion debate on the Report was deferred until tomorrow.

The Member for St. George's - Stephenville East (Mr. Aylward), as Chairperson of the Resource Committee, reported that the Committee had considered the matters to it referred and had passed, without amendment, the following Heads of Expenditure:

**Fisheries and Aquaculture**  
**Forest Resources and Agrifoods**  
**Mines and Energy**  
**Tourism, Culture and Recreation**  
**Industry, Trade and Rural Development and**  
**Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs.**

On motion the Report was received and on motion debate on the Report was deferred until tomorrow.



Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Member for St. John's West (Ms. Osborne) gave notice that she would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

**"WHEREAS** the School Lunch Association makes available nutritious lunches on a daily basis to 3,000 school children from 12 schools in the St. John's area, and an average of 1,600 children avail of the service each day;

**AND WHEREAS** it is known that more than 26 percent of children in this province live in poverty and go to school hungry each day;

**AND WHEREAS** it has been demonstrated in several reports, including the report of the all party committee of this House, that hungry children do not have the same capacity to learn which often results in them dropping out of school and, thereby, perpetuating the cycle of poverty;

**AND WHEREAS** the School Lunch Association, unless it receives \$30,000 funding immediately, will have to shut down at the end of May thus depriving these children from receiving nutritious lunches during the month of June;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador should consider providing the necessary funding to allow the School Lunch Association to carry on for the month of June - the end of the school year."

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the St. Mary's Bay Centre area asking the Government of the Province to provide the necessary funding to carry out the much needed repairs to Route 90.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District asking the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to reinstate the Labrador Cultural Exchange Program for students in the Province.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to implement a co-payment or sliding scale program for Betaseron, Avonex, Copaxone and Rebif so that people who do not qualify for assistance under the existing programs may obtain financial assistance with respect to these high cost MS drugs, as is the case in other Canadian provinces.

Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Member for St. Barbe (Mr. Young) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents in his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to ensure that St. Francis Elementary School in Parsons Pond remain open in order to provide the best possible education for all students in the area.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) moved pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Speaker put the question on the motion and declared the motion carried.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the motion "That this House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government" (the Budget Speech).

During the debate the Opposition House Leader (Mr. Byrne) rose on a point of order with respect to certain remarks made by the Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) during the debate. The Opposition House Leader alleged that the Member for Port de Grave had cast aspersions against the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Williams). The Speaker (Ms. Hodder) took the matter under advisement following which the Member for Port de Grave withdrew the remarks.

The House recessed at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon for the dinner break.

The Speaker (Mr. Snow) resumed the Chair at 7 o'clock in the evening.

Debate continued on the Budget Speech and on motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Government Services Committee.

The Speaker put the question on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Government Services Committee.

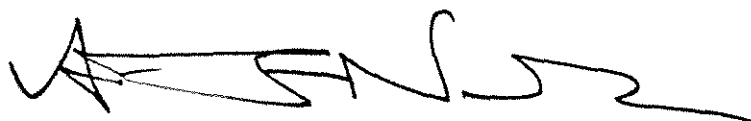
The Speaker declared the motion carried.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) announced that the Resolution standing in the name of the Member for St. John's West (Ms. Osborne) would be debated on Private Member's Day on Wednesday.

Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly at 10 o'clock in the evening.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2002

The House met at 2 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Opposition House Leader (Mr. Ed Byrne) rose on a point of privilege to allege that the Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) had cast aspersions against the integrity of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Williams) and the Commissioner of Members' Interests during a debate on May 6<sup>th</sup> with respect to the timeliness of the Leader of the Opposition filing certain information under the House of Assembly conflict of interest rules.

The Speaker took the matter under advisement.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Aiden Maloney on being named the 2003 Humanitarian of the Year by the Canadian Red Cross.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) made a Statement to recognize the second annual excursion of a group of senior women to the Miron River Outfitting Lodge located in the wilderness about 70 miles from Labrador West.

The Member for Waterford Valley (Mr. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate the entire production team associated with *Etcetera 17*, a musical production of students attending Mount Pearl Intermediate and Mount Pearl Senior High Schools.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) made a Statement to congratulate Master Corporal Elaine Careen of Point Lance for her service in the war against terrorism while a member of the Canadian Armed Forces on HMCS Montreal in the Gulf of Oman.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) made a Statement to congratulate the administration of the Pentecostal Senior's Citizens Home in Clarke's Beach for sponsoring a Volunteer Recognition Night on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Member also thanked the volunteers who were recognized for their dedicated service at the home.

The Honourable the Minister of Youth Services & Post-Secondary Education (Ms. Thistle) made a Statement to announce that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador would make an advance contribution of \$50,000 in its annual grant to the St. John's School Lunch Association in order to alleviate a current financial difficulty.

Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2002

The Honourable the Minister of Environment (Mr. Mercer) made a Statement advising Members he had appeared before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans in order to express the concerns of the Government of the Province on the risk that oil pollution poses to the coastal waters of Newfoundland and Labrador.

By leave, the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) rose to express condolences to the Honourable the Minister of Human Resources & Employment (Mr. Ralph Wiseman) on the death of his mother. The Opposition House Leader (Mr. Byrne) and the Member for Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) spoke to express the condolences of their respective caucuses.

It was agreed to extend the time of Oral Questions beyond 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for St. John's West (Ms. Osborne):

**"WHEREAS** the School Lunch Association makes available nutritious lunches on a daily basis to 3,000 school children from 12 schools in the St. John's area, and an average of 1,600 children avail of the service each day;

**AND WHEREAS** it is known that more than 26 percent of children in this province live in poverty and go to school hungry each day;

**AND WHEREAS** it has been demonstrated in several reports, including the report of the all party committee of this House, that hungry children do not have the same capacity to learn which often results in them dropping out of school and, thereby, perpetuating the cycle of poverty;

**AND WHEREAS** the School Lunch Association, unless it receives \$30,000 funding immediately, will have to shut down at the end of May thus depriving these children from receiving nutritious lunches during the month of June;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador should consider providing the necessary funding to allow the School Lunch Association to carry on for the month of June - the end of the school year."

Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2002

During the debate the Member for Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) moved the following amendments to the Resolution:

- (a) that the motion be amended by adding after the third recital clause the following:

**“AND WHEREAS** the majority of children throughout the province do not have access to a school meal program and will not receive this benefit in the foreseeable future under existing programs;” ; and

- (b) that the Resolution be amended by adding the following Resolution at the end:

**“THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this House of Assembly go on record as supporting a universal school meal program for every school in Newfoundland and Labrador supported by public funds so that every child in this province will have the benefit of this program.”

The Speaker (Ms. Hodder) ruled the amendments in order.

The debate continued on the Resolution and the amendments to the Resolution

The Speaker (Mr. Butler) put the question on the amendments to the Resolution.

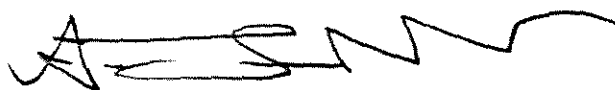
The Speaker declared the amendments defeated.

The Speaker put the question on the Resolution and declared the Resolution carried.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon on Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.



**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) made a Statement to advise Members that he had participated in a dinner to pay tribute to the Cox's Cove Volunteer Fire Department at which event a number of members of the Fire Department were honoured and recognized.

The Member for Waterford Valley (Mr. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate members of the Mount Pearl Lion's Club on their forty-seven years of offering exemplary service to the community.

The Member for Burin - Placentia West (Ms. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate the students from Marystown Central High School on their participation in the annual "Concours d'art oratoire" competition on April 5<sup>th</sup>. The Member also paid tribute to two students who received top awards in the early and late French Immersion categories.

The Member for St. John's South (Mr. Osborne) made a Statement to congratulate and recognize members of the Newfoundland and Labrador Youth Bowling Team which represented this Province recently at the Canadian Championships in Saskatchewan. The Member also congratulated individual medal winners.

The Member for St. John's West (Ms. Osborne) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Ashley Bursey, a student of Bishop's College who was recently crowned Miss Teen Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Honourable the Premier (Mr. Grimes) made a Statement respecting the Province's position with respect to the placing of a moratoria on the Northern cod and Gulf cod stock fisheries by the Federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. The Premier stated he would introduce a Resolution seeking an amendment to the Terms of Union in order to provide a shared and equal constitutional authority between the Governments of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador on the joint management of the fisheries.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries & Aquaculture (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to advise Members she had written the Federal Minister of Fisheries & Oceans and the Minister Responsible for the Atlantic Opportunities Agency asking these ministers to address the important issues respecting the 2003 Northern Shrimp Management Plan and to remind the Federal ministers with respect to the effect of the plan on the people and communities which depend on this resource.

Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Premier (Mr. Grimes) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

**“WHEREAS** the seacoast fisheries of Newfoundland and Labrador were brought into this nation with Newfoundland and Labrador’s accession to Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of the Dominion of Newfoundland held and exercised responsibility for the management of seacoast fisheries prior to Confederation;

**AND WHEREAS** the *Constitution Act, 1867* vests in the Government of Canada exclusive authority over the fishery;

**AND WHEREAS** under current International Law an independent Newfoundland and Labrador would control its adjacent resources including the fishery;

**AND WHEREAS** federal management of seacoast fisheries since 1949 has failed to adequately protect or develop the principal fisheries adjacent to Newfoundland and Labrador;

**AND WHEREAS** failed federal fisheries management has led to the complete collapse of the Northern Cod fishery and other ground fish stocks, the basis for Newfoundland’s colonization and the mainstay of its economy for 500 years;

**AND WHEREAS** the federal government has failed to adopt a comprehensive plan for stock recovery since the groundfish moratoria were declared in the early 1990s;

**AND WHEREAS** it is recognized and accepted that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has maintained and continues to exercise primary regulatory authority over the fish processing industry in this Province;

**AND WHEREAS** new fisheries for species such as crab and shrimp have developed in the wake of the collapse of ground fish stocks and solid, sustainable management practices are vital to the future of these fisheries;

**AND WHEREAS** it is accepted that the regulation of fish harvesting and processing should occur in a seamless and integrated way;



Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has consistently requested a greater say in fisheries management since 1949 and has identified this as a priority in *Securing our Future: The Renewal Strategy for Jobs and Growth*;

**AND WHEREAS** the fishery remains an economic mainstay and principal industry of Newfoundland and Labrador and the economic and social foundation of most of its rural communities;

**AND WHEREAS** federal management of fisheries adjacent to Newfoundland and Labrador does not give due regard to local experience and considerations;

**AND WHEREAS** the advice of the Fisheries Resource Conservation Council (FRCC), which was established to integrate practical knowledge derived from local experience and scientific information on resources, has been largely ignored in the federal government's recent declaration of a moratorium for 4RS3Pn Gulf cod;

**AND WHEREAS** the recent decisions of the Government of Canada on 2J3KL Northern Cod and 4RS3Pn Gulf cod were undertaken without proper consultation with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and the people who depend upon these resources and with disregard for the recommendations of the Fisheries Resource Conservation Council;

**AND WHEREAS** these decisions have further undermined the confidence of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians in the effectiveness of federal fisheries management;

**AND WHEREAS** other provinces control their main resource industries;

**AND WHEREAS** significant and decisive action is required to address this concern;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** this House call on the Government of Canada and direct the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to begin negotiations leading to the establishment of a joint management regime over the fisheries adjacent to Newfoundland and Labrador;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the principal elements of such a joint management regime include

- (1) the establishment, through an amendment of the Terms of Union, of shared, equal, constitutional authority by the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada over the fisheries adjacent to the province;

Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

- (2) the establishment through an amendment of the Terms of Union of a joint fisheries management board and the delegation to that board by the governments of Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada of sufficient of their authority to permit that board to successfully implement this joint management regime.
- (3) the development and implementation of a conservation and re-building plan aimed at the achievement of long-term sustainability of the fisheries in the waters adjacent to Newfoundland and Labrador and in particular a plan that would achieve the recovery of the ground fish stocks;
- (4) the development and implementation of fisheries harvesting plans, including the establishment of Total Allowable Catches, based on the principles of conservation, sustainability, adjacency and the long-term well-being of the fishing communities of rural Newfoundland and Labrador;
- (5) the establishment of programs in Newfoundland and Labrador to enhance knowledge and understanding of the ocean ecosystems adjacent to Newfoundland and Labrador through the encouragement and support of scientific research and the utilization of customary and experiential knowledge of the fisheries possessed by fish harvesters."

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Create A Pension Plan For Provincial Court Judges". (Bill No. 13)

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal & Provincial Affairs (Mr. Langdon) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The City Of Corner Brook Brook Act, The City Of Mount Pearl Act, The City Of St. John's Act, The Municipalities Act, 1999 And The Urban And Rural Planning Act, 2000". (Bill No. 12)

The Honourable the Minister of Environment (Mr. Mercer), on behalf of the Honourable the Minister of Government Services and Lands (Mr. Sweeney), gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Petroleum Products Act". (Bill No. 11)

Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Minister of Environment (Mr. Mercer), on behalf of the Honourable the Minister of Government Services and Lands (Mr. Sweeney), gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Corporations Act". (Bill No. 14)

The Honourable the Minister of Works, Services and Transportation (Mr. Walsh) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Expropriation Act". (Bill No. 10)

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Ross Wiseman) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to maintain adequate staffing levels with sufficient resources to provide for the ongoing maintenance of our Provincial roads and highway network.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Resource Committee.

During the debate, by leave, the Honourable the Minister of Fisheries & Aquaculture (Ms. Jones) tabled the report and her presentation to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans which she presented to the Committee on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

Debate continued and concluded on the motion to concur in the Report of the Resource Committee.

The Speaker put the question on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Resource Committee.

The Speaker declared the motion carried.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon and not adjourn at 10 o'clock in the evening on Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Jack Byrne) made a Statement to congratulate all those involved in the launch of the Virtual Museum in Torbay under the recently announced Community Memories Program available on the world-wide web through Virtual Museum's of Canada.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) made a Statement to advise that the Mayor of St. Bride's had presented a Certificate of Commendation from the Governor General to three fishermen, namely: Anthony Barry, Thomas White, and Albert Young for risking their lives to save another person on September 23, 1999 when Hurricane Gert struck the town.

The Member for St. George's - Stephenville East (Mr. Aylward) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Gerry Murphy of Stephenville who was named Citizen of the Year at the Stephen Awards Banquet held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Member also recognized other citizens for their outstanding volunteer work.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) made a Statement to congratulate the school community of All Hallows Elementary School in North River for organizing and hosting the 2003 Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Finals of the Great Canadian Geography Challenge, a national student geography competition. The Member also congratulated the students who placed first, second and third in the competition.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to make a commitment to include the upgrading of the road system in the Community of Colliers, especially Harbour Drive, in Government's annual capital disbursement for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Parliament of Canada to increase health care funding to the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador so that appropriate and adequate funding is available through the Medical Transportation Assistance Program to assist residents of Labrador to offset the high cost of commercial air travel from Labrador to the Island.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Government House Leader gave notice that he would on tomorrow move pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 10 o'clock in the evening on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

A Bill, "An Act To Create A Pension Plan For Provincial Court Judges" (Bill No. 13);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The City Of Corner Brook Act, The City Of Mount Pearl Act, The City Of St. John's Act, The Municipalities Act, 1999 And The Urban And Rural Planning Act, 2000". (Bill No. 12);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Petroleum Products Act" (Bill No. 11);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Corporations Act" (Bill No. 14);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Expropriation Act" (Bill No. 10).

On motion it was ordered that the above noted Bills be read a second time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on the motion that this House concur in the Report of the Social Services Committee.

During the debate the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) moved pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon on May 12, 2003.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) also moved pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 10:00 o'clock on the evening of May 12, 2003.

The Speaker (Ms. Hodder) put the question on the motions and declared the motions carried.

Debate continued and concluded on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Social Services Committee.

Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Speaker (Mr. Snow) put the question on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Social Services Committee.

The Speaker declared the motion carried.

The House recessed at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon for the dinner break.

The Speaker (Mr. Snow) resumed the Chair at 7 o'clock in the evening.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the motion "That this House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government" (the Budget Speech).

During the debate, the Member for St. John's East (Mr. Ottenheimer) moved, seconded by the Member for St. John's South (Mr. Osborne), "That all the words after the word "that" be struck out and replaced with the following:

this House acknowledge and condemn the government's failure

- to represent accurately the Province's fiscal situation,
- to manage competently the Province's treasury,
- to protect adequately the Province's resource wealth,
- to secure soundly the Province's social programs,
- to invest wisely in the Province's youth,
- to maintain properly the Province's infrastructure,
- to contract capably with the Province's investors,
- to fight aggressively for the Province's best interests,
- to answer candidly to the Province's people,
- to listen attentively to the people's concerns,
- to administer accountably the Province's departments and agencies,
- to plan prudently for the Province's growth,
- to respond creatively to the desperate need for jobs, or
- to discharge effectively any of its other fiduciary responsibilities."

The Speaker (Mr. Snow) ruled the amendment in order.

Debate commenced on the amendment to the Budget Speech (being a non-confidence motion).

On motion the debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2003

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Expropriation Act" (Bill No. 10) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 10 be read a second time presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Expropriation Act" (Bill No. 10) was read a second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 10 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow.

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The City Of Corner Brook Act, The City Of Mount Pearl Act, The City Of St. John's Act, The Municipalities Act, 1999 And The Urban And Rural Planning Act, 2000" (Bill No. 12) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 12 be read a second time presently.

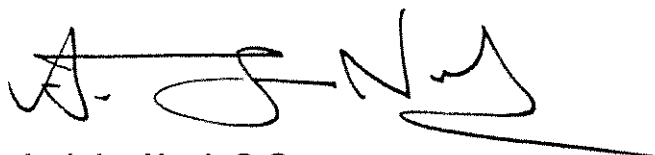
Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The City Of Corner Brook Act, The City Of Mount Pearl Act, The City Of St. John's Act, The Municipalities Act, 1999 And The Urban And Rural Planning Act, 2000" (Bill No. 12) was read a second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 12 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000" (Bill No. 5) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 5 be read a second time presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000" (Bill No. 5) was read a second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 5 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly at 11:34 o'clock in the evening.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

A. John Noel, Q.C.,  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.



Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Snow) ruled on a point of privilege raised by the Opposition House Leader (Mr. Byrne) on May 7<sup>th</sup>. The Speaker ruled that upon reviewing the authorities and the transcripts of the debate, the Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) had not impugned the integrity of the Commissioner of Members' Interests or of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Williams). The Speaker also ruled that the Member for Port de Grave had, in his remarks, denied casting aspersions against the Leader of the Opposition and had withdrawn certain remarks. The Speaker therefore ruled that the Opposition House Leader had not established a *prima facie* case of privilege.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Snow) ruled on a point of order raised by the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Upon reviewing the Hansard transcripts, the Speaker stated he could not find any unparliamentary language used by the Leader of the Opposition and therefore there was no point of order.

The Member for St. John's East (Mr. Ottenheimer) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Captain Wayne Davis who was a passionate citizen of the Province and who was instrumental in establishing the Coasters Heritage Society.

The Member for Burin - Placentia West (Ms. Hodder) made a Statement to congratulate two citizens of her District, namely: Mr. Anthony Kelly, Sr. and Mrs. Adele Pittman who were recently awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal for their volunteer work in Marystown.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) made a Statement to congratulate the members of the 2893 Dunne Memorial Cadet Corps of St. Mary's and the 2895 Enright Cadet Corps at St. Catherine's Academy on the Salmonier Line on the respective performances of their Annual Ceremonial Reviews held recently.

The Honourable the Minister of Mines & Energy (Mr. Noel) made a Statement to recognize May 12-18 as National Mining Week throughout Canada. The Member also took the opportunity to recognize the contribution made by the mining industry to the economy of the Province.

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services and Lands (Mr. Sweeney), tabled the Annual Report of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities on the Operations carried out under the *Automobile Insurance Act* for the period April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003.

Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable the Minister of Labour (Mr. Barrett) tabled the 2002 Annual Report and audited financial statements of the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission.

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services and Lands (Mr. Sweeney) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Corporations Act No. 2". (Bill No. 16)

By leave, the Honourable the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to provide the House with an overview of her discussions with the federal government concerning the closure of the 2J3KL and 3Pn4RS cod fisheries and its impact on the economy of the Province. The Minister indicated she met with the Federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Honourable Robert Thibault, MP and the Minister of Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Honourable Gerry Byrne, MP.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the St. Mary's Bay Centre area asking the Government of the Province to provide the necessary funding to carry out the much needed repairs to Route 90.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment and Member for Humber East (Mr. Mercer) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of Western Newfoundland urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to place new Magnetic Resonance Imaging equipment at the Western Memorial Hospital in Corner Brook in order to serve the largest number of patients outside the St. John's area.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to implement a co-payment or sliding scale program for Betaseron, Avonex, Copaxone and Rebif so that people who do not qualify for assistance under the existing programs may obtain financial assistance with respect to these high cost MS drugs, as is the case in other Canadian provinces.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) moved pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon and at 10 o'clock in the evening on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

The Speaker put the question on the motions and declared the motions carried.

Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Pursuant to order and on motion the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House on Supply.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Hodder took the Chair of the Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Committee of Supply considered the Estimates of the Executive Council, Consolidated Fund Services and the Legislature.

The Committee recessed at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon for the dinner break.

The Chair (Mr. Butler) resumed the Chair of Committee of Supply at 7:15 o'clock in the evening.

The Committee continued the consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure of the Consolidated Fund Services, the Executive Council and the Legislature.

The Committee passed the **Consolidated Fund Services**, the **Executive Council** and the **Legislature** Heads of Expenditure.

On motion, the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee of Supply reported that the Committee of Supply had considered the matters to it referred, had passed the Heads of Expenditure of the **Consolidated Fund Services**, **Executive Council** and **Legislature**, without amendment, and asked leave to sit again.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the amendment to the Budget Speech (being a non-confidence motion).

On motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000" (Bill No. 6) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 6 be read a second time presently.

Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000" (Bill No. 6) was read a second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 6 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Health And Post-Secondary Education Tax Act" (Bill No. 7) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 7 be read a second time presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Health And Post-Secondary Education Tax Act" (Bill No. 7) was read a second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 7 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House.

The Speaker left the Chair.

The Chair of the Committee of the Whole House (Ms. Hodder) took the Chair of the Committee.

The Committee considered and passed the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Expropriation Act" (Bill No. 10).

The Committee considered and passed the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000" (Bill No. 5).

On motion the Committee of the Whole House rose.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House (Ms. Hodder) reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the matters to it referred and had passed the following Bills without amendment:

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Expropriation Act" (Bill No. 10);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000" (Bill No. 5).

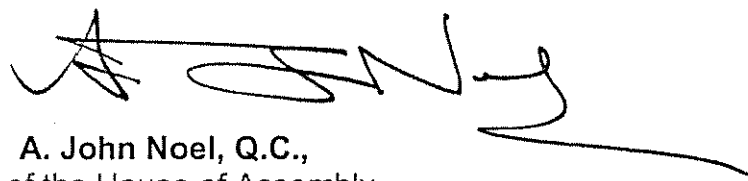
On motion it was ordered that Bills No. 10 and 5 be read a third time on tomorrow.

On motion the report of the Committee of the Whole House was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee of the Whole House have leave to sit on tomorrow.

Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003 at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly at 12:38 o'clock in the morning of May 14<sup>th</sup>.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 2 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Conception Bay South (Mr. French) made a Statement to congratulate the Women's Juvenile Volleyball Team from Queen Elizabeth High School in Foxtrap on winning the gold medal at the National Juvenile Championships in Saskatoon. The Member also congratulated the individual team members and coach Mr. Terry Mosher.

The Member for Gander (Ms. Kelly) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Brad Peyton, originally from Gander who will be working with Hollywood actor, Tom Hanks' production company, Playtone, to write and direct a feature film called *The Spider and the Fly*. The Member also congratulated Mr. Peyton on receiving a Grand Jury Award at the Nodance Film Festival.

In reply to a question for which notice had been given, the Honourable the Minister of Finance & President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) gave an answer respecting the breakdown of interest owing to the Province that is being collected through the Department of Industry, Trade and Rural Development.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) noted that by agreement Members would debate the Resolution standing in the name of the Premier as if it were a Private Member's motion.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Honourable the Premier (Mr. Grimes):

**"WHEREAS** the seacoast fisheries of Newfoundland and Labrador were brought into this nation with Newfoundland and Labrador's accession to Canada;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of the Dominion of Newfoundland held and exercised responsibility for the management of seacoast fisheries prior to Confederation;

**AND WHEREAS** the *Constitution Act, 1867* vests in the Government of Canada exclusive authority over the fishery;

**AND WHEREAS** under current International Law an independent Newfoundland and Labrador would control its adjacent resources including the fishery;

**AND WHEREAS** federal management of seacoast fisheries since 1949 has failed to adequately protect or develop the principal fisheries adjacent to Newfoundland and Labrador;

Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003

**AND WHEREAS** failed federal fisheries management has led to the complete collapse of the Northern Cod fishery and other ground fish stocks, the basis for Newfoundland's colonization and the mainstay of its economy for 500 years;

**AND WHEREAS** the federal government has failed to adopt a comprehensive plan for stock recovery since the groundfish moratoria were declared in the early 1990s;

**AND WHEREAS** it is recognized and accepted that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has maintained and continues to exercise primary regulatory authority over the fish processing industry in this Province;

**AND WHEREAS** new fisheries for species such as crab and shrimp have developed in the wake of the collapse of ground fish stocks and solid, sustainable management practices are vital to the future of these fisheries;

**AND WHEREAS** it is accepted that the regulation of fish harvesting and processing should occur in a seamless and integrated way;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has consistently requested a greater say in fisheries management since 1949 and has identified this as a priority in *Securing our Future: The Renewal Strategy for Jobs and Growth*;

**AND WHEREAS** the fishery remains an economic mainstay and principal industry of Newfoundland and Labrador and the economic and social foundation of most of its rural communities;

**AND WHEREAS** federal management of fisheries adjacent to Newfoundland and Labrador does not give due regard to local experience and considerations;

**AND WHEREAS** the advice of the Fisheries Resource Conservation Council (FRCC), which was established to integrate practical knowledge derived from local experience and scientific information on resources, has been largely ignored in the federal government's recent declaration of a moratorium for 4RS3Pn Gulf cod;

**AND WHEREAS** the recent decisions of the Government of Canada on 2J3KL Northern Cod and 4RS3Pn Gulf cod were undertaken without proper consultation with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and the people who depend upon these resources and with disregard for the recommendations of the Fisheries Resource Conservation Council;

Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003

**AND WHEREAS** these decisions have further undermined the confidence of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians in the effectiveness of federal fisheries management;

**AND WHEREAS** other provinces control their main resource industries;

**AND WHEREAS** significant and decisive action is required to address this concern;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** this House call on the Government of Canada and direct the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to begin negotiations leading to the establishment of a joint management regime over the fisheries adjacent to Newfoundland and Labrador;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the principal elements of such a joint management regime include

- (1) the establishment, through an amendment of the Terms of Union, of shared, equal, constitutional authority by the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada over the fisheries adjacent to the province;
- (2) the establishment through an amendment of the Terms of Union of a joint fisheries management board and the delegation to that board by the governments of Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada of sufficient of their authority to permit that board to successfully implement this joint management regime.
- (3) the development and implementation of a conservation and re-building plan aimed at the achievement of long-term sustainability of the fisheries in the waters adjacent to Newfoundland and Labrador and in particular a plan that would achieve the recovery of the ground fish stocks;
- (4) the development and implementation of fisheries harvesting plans, including the establishment of Total Allowable Catches, based on the principles of conservation, sustainability, adjacency and the long-term well-being of the fishing communities of rural Newfoundland and Labrador;
- (5) the establishment of programs in Newfoundland and Labrador to enhance knowledge and understanding of the ocean ecosystems adjacent to



Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Newfoundland and Labrador through the encouragement and support of scientific research and the utilization of customary and experiential knowledge of the fisheries possessed by fish harvesters.”

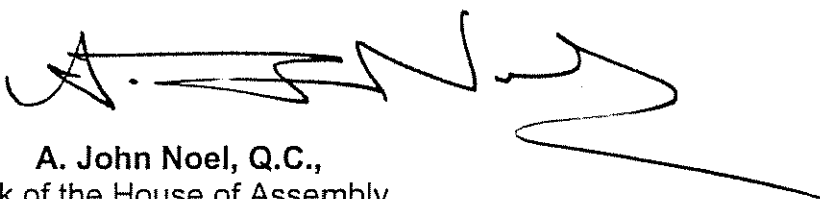
The Speaker (Mr. Snow) put the question on the Resolution and declared the Resolution carried unanimously.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

The Honourable the Government House Leader gave notice that he would on tomorrow move pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 10 o'clock in the evening on Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to invite all citizens of the Province to come to Bay Roberts in August to take part in the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Bay Roberts Klondyke Festival Concert, the biggest classic rock festival east of Montreal.

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mr. Albert Furey, a former Member of the House of Assembly.

The Member for Trinity North (Mr. Ross Wiseman) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Roslyn Cooper of Port Rexton and Ms. Charlene Lambert of Southport on being awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal for their volunteer leadership in their respective communities.

By leave, the Honorable the Minister of Environment and Member for Humber East (Mr. Mercer) made a Statement to publicize and to promote awareness and support for those affected with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis commonly known as Lou Gehrig's Disease since June is ALS Awareness Month.

By leave, the Honourable the Government House Leader and Member for Terra Nova (Mr. Lush) made a Statement to pay tribute to Mr. Baxter Goulding of Gambo who was affected with the rare Guillain-Barre Syndrome. The Minister stated that Mr. Goulding had written a book detailing his many challenges in coping with this illness and his long fight back to an improved life.

The Honourable the Minister of Mines & Energy (Mr. Noel) tabled the 2002 Annual Report and audited financial statements of the Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro Corporation and the 2002 Auditor's Report and financial statements of the Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corporation Limited and Twin Falls Power Corporation Limited.

The House agreed that the Chair of the Public Accounts Committee (Mr. Sullivan) would table reports of that Committee when the House is not sitting and these reports would be considered to be tabled.

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Mr. Smith) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Pharmaceutical Association Act, 1994" (Bill No. 15).

The Member for Baie Verte (Mr. Shelley) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to provide a safe and adequate supply of water to the residents of Mack's Island in Little Bay Islands.

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Member for Harbour Main - Whitbourne (Mr. Hedderson) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to make a commitment to upgrade the roads in the Community of Colliers, especially Harbour Drive, in its annual capital disbursement for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to take immediate steps to work with the Executive Director of the Association of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador to ensure that certain Licensed Practical Nurses be granted a one-time opportunity to become Registered Nurses by taking a Fast-Track Nursing Program offered by St. Lawrence College.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Collins) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to implement a co-payment or sliding scale program for Betaseron, Avonex, Copaxone and Rebif so that people who do not qualify for assistance under the existing programs may obtain financial assistance with respect to these high cost MS drugs, as is the case in other Canadian provinces.

The Member for St. John's West (Ms. Osborne) presented a Petition on behalf of certain inmates and spouses of inmates at Her Majesty's Penitentiary urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to declare Her Majesty's Penitentiary to be a smoke-free work place and forbid smoking within the premises.

The Member for Placentia & St. Mary's (Mr. Manning) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the St. Mary's Bay Centre area asking the Government of the Province to provide the necessary funding to carry out the much needed repairs to Route 90.

The Member for Bonavista North (Mr. Harding) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of Gander Bay South requesting the Urban and Rural Planning Division of the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs to permit an extension of the Gander Bay South Local Service District's boundary immediately south of Barry's Brook and re-zone the extended area from commercial to residential.

The Member for St. Barbe (Mr. Young) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of his District urging the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to take action to correct the serious degradation of the Great Northern Peninsula Highway Route 430 by resurfacing that highway.

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Pursuant for order and on motion debate continued and concluded on the amendment to the Budget Speech (being a non-confidence motion).

The Speaker (Mr. Snow) put the question on the amendment to the Budget Speech and declared the motion defeated.

The Speaker put the question on the motion "That this House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government" (the Budget Speech) and declared the motion carried.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Aylward) informed the House she had received a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor.

The Message was read to the House by the Speaker as follows:

"April 30 2003

I, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, transmit Estimates of sums required for the Public Service of the Province for the year ending March 31, 2004, by way of further Supply and, in accordance with the provisions of sections 54 and 90 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, I recommend these Estimates to the House of Assembly.

Sgd. **Edward Roberts**  
Lieutenant Governor."

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) it was moved that the Message be referred to a Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Hodder took the Chair of Committee of the Whole on Supply.

The Committee of the Whole considered and passed a Certain Resolution and a Bill entitled, "An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Expenses of the Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2004 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service" (Bill No. 3).

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Honourable Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) moved that the total contained in the Estimates in the amount of \$3,674,304,000 for the 2003-2004 fiscal year be carried and that the Committee report that the Committee had adopted a Resolution and a Bill consequent thereto relating to Further Supply and that the Committee rise and ask leave to sit again.

The Chairperson of the Committee put the question on the above noted motions and declared the motions carried.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee (Mr. Butler) reported that the Committee of the Whole had considered the matters to it referred and had directed him to report that they had passed the amount of \$3,674,304,000 contained in the Estimates of Supply for the 2003-2004 fiscal year and had adopted a certain Resolution and recommended that Bill No. 3 be introduced to give effect to the same and asked leave to sit again.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Resolution was read a first and second time:

"That it is expedient to introduce a measure to provide for the granting to Her Majesty for defraying certain expenses of the Public Service for the financial year ending March 31, 2004, the sum of \$2,324,531,800."

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled, "An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2004 and For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service" (Bill No. 3) was read a first, second and third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 3 be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for His Assent.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House.

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Hodder took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

The Committee of the Whole House considered and passed a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act No. 2" (Bill No. 6).

The Committee of the Whole House considered and passed a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Health And Post-Secondary Education Tax Act" (Bill No. 7).

The Committee of the Whole House considered and passed a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The City Of Corner Brook Act, The City Of Mount Pearl Act, The City Of St. John's Act, The Municipalities Act, 1999 And The Urban And Rural Planning Act, 2000" (Bill No. 12)

On motion the Committee rose.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House (Ms. Hodder) reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the matters to it referred and had passed the following Bills without amendment:

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act No. 2" (Bill No. 6);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Health And Post-Secondary Education Tax Act" (Bill No. 7);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The City Of Corner Brook Act, The City Of Mount Pearl Act, The City Of St. John's Act, The Municipalities Act, 1999 And The Urban And Rural Planning Act, 2000" (Bill No. 12).

On motion it was ordered that Bills 6, 7 and 12 be read a third time presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Bills were read a third time and passed:

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Expropriation Act" (Bill No. 10);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act" (Bill No. 5);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The City Of Corner Brook Act, The City Of Mount Pearl Act, The City Of St. John's Act, The Municipalities Act, 1999 And The Urban And Rural Planning Act, 2000" (Bill No. 12);

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act No. 2" (Bill No. 6);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Health And Post-Secondary Education Tax Act" (Bill No. 7).

On motion it was ordered that the said Bills be printed being entitled as above and that they be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for His Assent.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Hodder took the Chair of the Committee of the Whole.

The Committee of the Whole House considered and passed a certain Resolution and a Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Tobacco Tax Act" (Bill No. 4).

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker (Mr. Snow) resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House (Ms. Hodder) reported that the Committee had considered the matters to it referred and had passed a certain Resolution and a Bill consequent thereto and recommended that Bill No. 4 be introduced to give effect to the Resolution and asked leave to sit again.

On motion the report of the Committee of the Whole House was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee of the Whole have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Resolution was read a first and second time:

"That it is expedient to bring in a measure respecting the imposition of taxes on tobacco" (Bill No. 4).

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Tobacco Tax Act" (Bill No. 4) was read a first, second and third time and passed.

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 4 be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for His Assent.

While waiting for His Honour the Administrator, the Members exchanged pleasantries and good wishes.

At 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon the Sergeant-at-Arms announced the arrival of His Honour The Administrator, the Honourable Clyde Wells, Chief Justice of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Speaker left the Chair.  
His Honour The Administrator took the Chair.

The Speaker addressed His Honour the Administrator as follows:

"It is my agreeable duty on behalf of Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, Her Faithful Commons in Newfoundland and Labrador to present to Your Honour a Bill for the appropriation of Supply granted in the present Session".

Whereupon the Clerk read the following Bill:

A Bill, "An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2004 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service" (Bill No. 3).

His Honour the Administrator then said, "In Her Majesty's Name, I thank her Loyal Subjects, I accept their benevolence, and I Assent to this Bill".

The Speaker further addressed His Honour 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."

Whereupon the Clerk read the following Bills:

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Expropriation Act" (Bill No. 10);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act" (Bill No. 5);



Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The City Of Corner Brook Act, The City Of Mount Pearl Act, The City Of St. John's Act, The Municipalities Act, 1999 And The Urban And Rural Planning Act, 2000" (Bill No. 12);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act No. 2" (Bill No. 6);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Health And Post-Secondary Education Tax Act" (Bill No. 7);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Tobacco Tax Act" (Bill No. 4).

His Honour the Administrator then said, "In Her Majesty's Name, I Assent to these Bills."

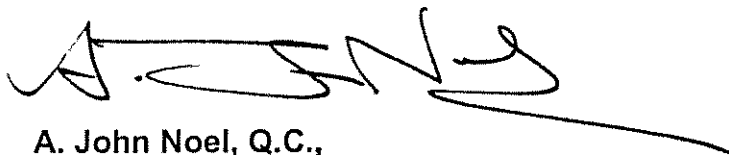
His Honour the Administrator then left the Chamber.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Lush) moved, "That when this House adjourns today, it stands adjourned until the call of the Chair. The Speaker, or in his absence from the Province the Deputy Speaker, may give notice and thereupon the House shall meet at the time and date stated by the notice of the proposed sitting. And I also move that this House do now adjourn."

The Speaker put the question on the above noted motions and declared the motions carried.

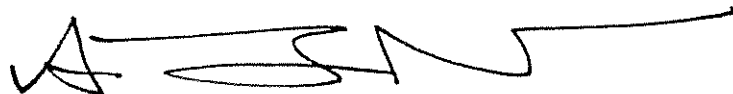
On motion the House then adjourned accordingly at 5:45 o'clock in the afternoon.



**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Be it known on this day in accordance with sections 19.1 and 35 of the *House of Assembly Act*, Mr. Wayne Green, the Commissioner of Members' Interests, submitted his Annual Report for the period April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2003

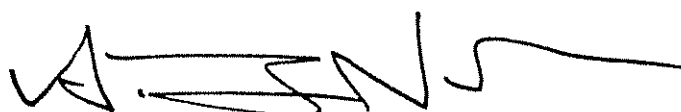
Be it known on this day in accordance with section 273 (3) of the *Elections Act, 1991*, Mr. Wayne Green, the Chief Electoral Officer submitted his Reports on Election Finances for the By-Elections held in the Electoral District of Bonavista North on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2002 and in the Electoral District of Conception Bay South on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2002. In accordance with section 19.1 of the *House of Assembly Act*, these Reports on Election Finances were sent to each Member of the House of Assembly and were considered tabled.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2003

His Honour the Honourable Edward Roberts, Q.C., Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador by his Proclamation, bearing the date of September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2003 dissolved the 44<sup>th</sup> General Assembly and issued under the **Elections Act, 1991** Writs of Election for a General Election to be held on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2003.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. John Noel', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**A. John Noel, Q.C.,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.