

Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004

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

The Member for Grand Bank (Ms. Foote) rose on a point of order respecting certain comments made by the Member of Trinity North (Mr. Wiseman) outside the House about her participation in a debate on March 31<sup>st</sup>. The Member asked the Member for Trinity North to apologize. The Speaker took the matter under advisement.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) rose to withdraw certain statements which he had made on April 6<sup>th</sup> about the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Grimes) and which led to disorder in the House resulting in various points of order and a point of privilege being raised.

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Grimes) rose to withdraw his allegation on April 6<sup>th</sup> that his privileges as a Member had been breached by the Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan).

The Member for Signal Hill-Quidi Vidi (Mr. Harris) also rose to withdraw his point of order with respect to matters raised on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

The Member for St. John's Centre (Mr. Skinner) made a Statement to advise Members of the financial donation made by the World Under 17 Hockey Organizing Committee to twelve minor hockey associations in the Province.

The Member for Grand Falls-Buchans (Ms. Thistle) made a Statement to recognize the efforts of Mr. George Finlay from Grand Falls-Windsor who climbed Africa's tallest peak, Mount Kilimanjaro, in the "Climb for the Cure", a fund-raising effort on behalf of the ALS Society of Canada.

The Member for Humber Valley (Ms. Goudie) made a Statement to congratulate the Community of Woody Point on their receiving the Manning Award for Excellence in the Public Presentation of Historic Places for their Waterfront Development Project.

The Member for Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune (Mr. Langdon) made a Statement to recognize the efforts of the Town of St. Alban's to preserve its local history by hiring a new heritage coordinator and the encouragement given to the Youth Heritage Committee in collecting the history of the town.

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

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The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Byrne) made a Statement to announce that the House of Assembly would not adjourn for the traditional Easter break due to the current public service job action.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) tabled the 2003 Report and audited financial statements of the Newfoundland and Labrador Liquor Corporation for the year ended March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003.

There was disorder in the Public Galleries whereupon following a warning by the Speaker, the Speaker recessed the House at 2:48 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 2:55 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Speaker announced and warned those in the Public Galleries that they were welcome but they could not participate in the proceedings of the House.

The Member for Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of her District requesting the Minister of Transportation & Works to release immediately the report on the Labrador Coastal Marine Service and to make a decision on the Coastal Marine Service.

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

**“WHEREAS** there are unfortunately 20,000 public service employees on a legal strike resulting in serious service disruptions;

**AND WHEREAS** there was no consultation with their elected representatives as promised by the Premier in his address to the NAPE convention in September, 2001;

**AND WHEREAS** there have been very few real negotiations between government as the employer and the union negotiators;

**AND WHEREAS** the Premier has made threatening remarks regarding the strikers being punished and left off the job “until the cows come home”;

**AND WHEREAS** the Premier has engaged personally in unfair labour practices by passing the elected leaders and the negotiators in attempting to divide and conquer the unions;

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**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Assembly call upon the government to return to meaningful negotiations with professional negotiators in an attempt to reach a mutually-agreed new contract;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House of Assembly call upon the Premier to restate his commitment to respect the bargaining process and not to use the legislature to impose an agreement.”

The Speaker (Mr. Hodder) put the question on the Resolution.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour of the Resolution: Mr. Grimes; Mr. Parsons; Mr. Butler; Mr. Barrett; Mr. Langdon; Ms. Jones; Ms. Thistle; Mr. Reid; Mr. Andersen; Mr. Sweeney; Mr. Joyce; Mr. Harris; Mr. Collins.

Against: Mr. Williams; Mr. Edward Byrne; Mr. Ottenheimer; Ms. Dunderdale; Mr. Rideout; Mr. Taylor; Mr. Tom Marshall; Mr. Jack Byrne; Ms. Elizabeth Marshall; Mr. Shelley; Mr. Fitzgerald; Ms. Sheila Osborne; Mr. French; Ms. Burke; Ms. Whalen; Mr. Hedderson; Mr. Hickey; Mr. Denine; Mr. Manning; Mr. Harding; Mr. Young; Mr. Hunter; Mr. Jackman; Ms. Johnson; Mr. Jim Hodder; Ms. Goudie; Mr. Skinner; Mr. O'Brien; Mr. Ridgley.

The Speaker declared the Resolution defeated.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, April 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