

Wednesday, December 6th, 2006

The House met at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Windsor-Springdale (Mr. Hunter) made a Statement to congratulate the Springdale Firefighters on their 43rd Annual Firefighters Ball.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to inform the House that the Conception Bay North AIDS Interest Group had recently held its Annual AIDS Memorial Service at St. John the Evangelist Church, Coley's Point.

The Member for Trinity-Bay de Verde (Ms. Johnson) made a Statement to congratulate Dr. Otto Tucker who was appointed to the Order of Canada on July 24th.

The Member for Burgeo & LaPoile (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to congratulate Sgt. David Payne who received the Governor General's Meritorious Service Medal.

The Member for St. John's West (Ms. Osborne) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Gene Noftall.

The Member for Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to congratulate Susan Chalker Browne on the launch of her new book "The Land of a Thousand Whales".

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Sullivan) made a Statement to inform the House that the Department of Finance had initiated a borrowing program which will put the Public Service Pension Plan on a solid footing.

The Honourable the Minister of Education (Ms. Burke) made a Statement to recognize December 6th as the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Mr. Osborne) made a Statement to inform the House that applications are being accepted for the new Low Income Drug Program which will be launched on January 31, 2007.

The Honourable the Minister of Transportation and Works (Mr. Hickey) made a Statement to advise the House that the annual Air Foodlift Subsidy Program for Labrador for 2007 had started.

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Dunderdale) tabled a copy of the Bull Arm Site Corporation Security Building Public Tender and associated documents.

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Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Humber Valley (Ms. Goudie):

“WHEREAS the Government, on June 23, 2006, released its new poverty reduction strategy entitled, “Reducing Poverty: An Action Plan for Newfoundland and Labrador”, following through on a commitment to transform Newfoundland and Labrador over a 10 year period from the province with the most poverty to the province with the least poverty;

AND WHEREAS the Government backed up this new strategy in the 2006 Budget with a financial commitment of over \$60 million annually to support expanded eligibility for the prescription drug program, the elimination of school fees, increases to income support programs, and enhanced Adult Basic Education offerings in a focused effort to ensure that poverty reduction occurs and that the strategy’s important objectives are met over the long term;

AND WHEREAS this strategy is the foundation of a partnership among citizens, the Government and the community that provides a new and vital starting point for the journey toward the elimination of poverty in Newfoundland and Labrador;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Honourable House reaffirm its support for the Poverty Reduction Strategy and its objective of transforming Newfoundland and Labrador over a ten-year period from the province with the most poverty to the province with the least poverty.”

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

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, December 7th at 1:30 o’clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.