

Wednesday, May 30th, 2007

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

The Member for Grand Bank (Ms. Foote) made a Statement to congratulate Judy Cooper of Grand Bank this year's winner of the Recreation Newfoundland and Labrador Pitcher Plant Individual Award.

The Member for Windsor-Springdale (Mr. Hunter) made a Statement to congratulate Job Halfyard and Sunrise Fish Farms of Green Bay South on the christening of the EDULIS Mussel Farm.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Wanda Dawe, a native of Bay Roberts who was presented with the Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Eastern Region, by the Newfoundland and Labrador Organization of Women Entrepreneurs.

The Member for Kilbride (Mr. Dinn) made a Statement to congratulate Bidgoods for recently being awarded the Ambassador Award by the Retail Council of Canada.

The Member for Bellevue (Mr. Barrett) made a Statement to congratulate Katie Phillips, a pupil of Crescent Collegiate, who is this year's winner of the 44th annual Knights of Columbus Provincial Speak Off held in Bishop's Falls.

The Member for Exploits (Mr. Forsey) made a Statement to congratulate the 512 Exploits Air Cadet Squadron of Bishop's Falls on the occasion of their 58th Annual Review.

The Honourable the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs (Mr. Ottenheimer) made a Statement to inform the House about *La Journée provinciale de la francophonie*.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Hodder) in compliance with the *Public Tender Act*, tabled the following:

- (a) The Report of the *Public Tender Act* Exceptions for April 2007;
- (b) An amendment to the Report of the Public Tender Act Exceptions for March 2007 which was tabled on May 22nd, 2007.

The Honourable the Minister of Transportation and Works (Mr. Hickey) tabled the answer to a question regarding the awarding of a contract to a Quebec company asked by the Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) on May 22nd, 2007.

Wednesday, May 30th, 2007

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

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Municipalities Act, 1999” (Bill No. 29);

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Historic Resources Act” (Bill No. 30).

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

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Conception Bay South (Mr. French):

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

AND WHEREAS this Poverty Reduction Strategy is an unprecedented action plan combining the efforts of the Premier and his Cabinet colleagues and officials in Human Resources, Labour and Employment, Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs, Education, the Women’s Policy Office, Finance, Health and Community Services, Innovation, Trade and Rural Development and the Rural Secretariat;

AND WHEREAS the Government began to implement this new strategy with a financial commitment in the 2006 Budget 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 in the 2007 Budget, the Government significantly enhanced its commitment to poverty reduction with a total investment this year of \$91 million;

AND WHEREAS the Government also significantly enhanced the Newfoundland and Labrador Prescription Drug Program to cap annual out-of-pocket drug costs based on net family income;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House express its support for the Poverty Reduction Strategy initiatives of the 2006 and 2007 budgets and the Strategy’s objective of transforming Newfoundland and Labrador over a 10-year period from a Province with the most poverty to the Province with the least poverty”.

Wednesday, May 30th, 2007

The Speaker 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 31st at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.