

Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007

On Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning the Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Hodder) 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 Bills for the appropriation of Supplementary Supply and Supply granted in the present Session."

Whereupon the Clerk read the following Bills:

A Bill, "An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Additional Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2007 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service" (Bill No. 6);

A Bill, "An Act For Granting To Her Majesty Certain Sums Of Money For Defraying Certain Additional Expenses Of The Public Service For The Financial Year Ending March 31, 2008 And For Other Purposes Relating To The Public Service No. 2" (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 these Bills".

**William MacKenzie,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.

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

The Speaker (Mr. Hodder) welcomed to the House Mr. Fred Kavanagh who participated in the Speaker's Parade as a temporary Page. Mr. Kavanagh, who served as a Page from the fall of 1949 to 1953, presented the Speaker with some photographs of the House of Assembly from that era.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Sheila McGrath who won a Bronze Medal at the 2007 Canadian Tae Kwon Do Nationals.

The Member for Exploits (Mr. Forsey) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Oliver Rose of Bishop's Falls who was named Citizen of the Year for 2006.

The Member for Grand Falls-Buchans (Ms. Thistle) made a Statement to congratulate the Canadian Cancer Society on the success of their fifth *Relay for Life* held in Grand Falls-Windsor on May 26, 2007.

The Member for Bonavista North (Mr. Harding) made a Statement to congratulate the Carmanville Habitat Committee on the expansion of their facility and their continued efforts to preserve and protect the environment.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Fitzgerald) made a Statement to congratulate Cynthia Maloney of Sweet Bay who was recently named recipient of the Silver Puffin Award by Destination St. John's.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment & Conservation (Mr. Jackman) made a Statement respecting Environment Week.

The Honourable the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment (Mr. Skinner) made a Statement respecting Government's Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Plan.

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services (Ms. Whalen) tabled the Annual Report On Operations Carried Out Under The Automobile Insurance Act for the period April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007.

The Honourable the Minister of Health & Community Services (Mr. Wiseman) tabled the Annual Report of the Central Regional Health authority for 2005-06.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Hodder) tabled the Report of the Commission of Internal Economy for the fiscal year April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007.

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The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Rideout) 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 that the House not adjourn at 10 o'clock in the evening on Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Rideout) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move pursuant to Standing Order 47 that debate on the following Resolution and any amendments thereto be not further adjourned:

**“WHEREAS** subsection 4(1) of the *Elections Act, 1991* provides that the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer be filled by resolution of the House of Assembly;

**AND WHEREAS** subsection 34(2) of the *House of Assembly Act* provides that the Commissioner of Members' Interests be appointed by the House of Assembly on the motion of the Premier following consultation with the Leader of the Official Opposition and representatives of other registered political parties having representation in the House of Assembly;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Mr. Paul Reynolds be appointed Chief Electoral Officer and Commissioner of Members' Interests.”

The Member for Burgeo and LaPoile (Mr. Parsons), on behalf of the Member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Andersen) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following resolution:

**“WHEREAS** thick, heavy ice conditions on the northeast and Labrador coasts are now recognized as the worst ice conditions in twenty years and this has delayed the seasonal inshore fishery from starting by over a month or more;

**AND WHEREAS** EI benefits have already run out for many of the fish harvesters and fish plant workers affected;

**AND WHEREAS** those affected are facing dire circumstances, including the sale of their personal belongings just to survive;

**AND WHEREAS** there is a record surplus in the EI fund of over \$51-billion and these workers have paid into this fund for protection against unforeseen job-loss;

**AND WHEREAS** emergency funding for similar programs have been approved in the past;

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**AND WHEREAS** many people and organizations have been speaking out publicly and writing the Federal Government about this hardship;

**AND WHEREAS** this Government has not shown that it has exhausted all of its options for these fish harvesters and plant workers, including speaking to the Prime Minister directly on this critical matter;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Assembly encourage Government to recognize this crisis as a key priority for the people of the areas affected and call upon the Premier to enter immediately into a top-level discussion with the Prime Minister to extend EI benefits to assist those residents of Newfoundland and Labrador currently facing this hardship”.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) presented a Petition calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to address the lack of road maintenance in many areas of the Province.

The Member for Burgeo & LaPoile (Mr. Parsons) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to revisit their position and approve a groundfish license for Ramea.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Rideout) moved pursuant to Standing Order 11 that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon and that the House not adjourn at 10 o'clock in the evening.

The Speaker put the question on the motions that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon and at 10 o'clock in the evening.

The Speaker declared the motions carried.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Hold The Government Harmless In The Disposition Of FPI Limited” (Bill No. 31) was introduced and read a first time.

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

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act Respecting The Newfoundland And Labrador Hydro Electric Corporation” (Bill No. 27) and on motion it was ordered that debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

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Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Establish An Energy Corporation For The Province" (Bill No. 28) and on motion it was ordered that debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Elections Act, 1991" (Bill No. 21) and on motion it was ordered that debate adjourned for further debate presently.

By agreement proceedings were suspended at 5:30 o'clock for the dinner break.

The Speaker (Mr. Fitzgerald) resumed the Chair at 7:00 o'clock in the evening.

Debate continued and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Elections Act, 1991" (Bill No. 21) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 21 be read a second time presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Elections Act, 1991" (Bill No. 21) was read a second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 21 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House presently.

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. 3) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 3 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. 3) was read a second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 3 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House presently.

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

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Fitzgerald took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

The Committee considered the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000" (Bill No. 3).

During the debate in Committee, the Honourable the Minister of Finance (Mr. Marshall) moved the following amendment to Bill No. 3:

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“1. Clause 5 of the Bill is amended by deleting the proposed subsection 46.1(6).”

The Chair ruled the amendment in order.

The Chair put the question on the amendment and declared the amendment carried.

The Committee passed the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000” (Bill No. 3) with an amendment.

The Committee considered a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Elections Act, 1991” (Bill No. 21).

During the debate in Committee, the Honourable the Minister of Finance (Mr. Marshall) moved the following amendment to Bill No. 21:

“1. The Bill is amended by deleting clause 2 of the Bill.”

The Chair ruled the amendment in order.

The Chair put the question on the amendment and declared the amendment carried.

The Committee passed the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Elections Act, 1991” (Bill No. 21) with an amendment.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House (Mr. Fitzgerald) reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had passed the following Bills with some amendments and asked leave to sit again:

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000” (Bill No. 3);

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Elections Act, 1991” (Bill No. 21).

The amendments having been read a first and second time it was ordered that Bill No. 3 and Bill No. 21 be read a third time and passed presently by leave.

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Pursuant to order and on motion the following Bills were read a third time and passed:

A Bill,            “An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000” (Bill No. 3);

A Bill,            “An Act To Amend The Elections Act, 1991” (Bill No. 21).

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.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

**William MacKenzie,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.