

Tuesday, November 25th, 2008

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

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Ms. Burke) rose on a point of privilege concerning certain comments made by the Leader of the Opposition which were reported by various media outlets. The Speaker agreed at the request of the Opposition House Leader to suspend consideration of the point of privilege for further consideration on tomorrow.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement with respect to "Project Michael" at All Hallows School in North River.

The Member for Fortune Bay – Cape LaHune (Ms. Perry) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. John Carter, a native of Cape LaHune, on the occasion of his 100th birthday.

The Member for Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to recognize the success of the Junior Canadian Ranger Patrols in Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair.

The Member for Port au Port (Mr. Cornect) made a Statement to inform the House about the erection of grave markers in Lourdes to recognize fourteen veterans of World War I.

The Member for Burgeo – LaPoile (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to congratulate Corporal Kirk Keeping of Port aux Basques on his service in and safe return from Afghanistan.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to recognize the Mount Pearl Sports Alliance on a successful Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Banquet.

The Honourable the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women (Ms. Dunderdale) made a Statement to recognize November 25th as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

The Honourable the Minister of Business (Mr. Oram) made a Statement to congratulate the Memorial University Business students who won the 2008 Students in Free Enterprise World Cup in Singapore in October.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Ms. Burke) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to move the following Resolution:

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“WHEREAS section 7 of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act* provides that the Law Clerk is to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on a nomination by the House of Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Ms. Lorna Proudfoot be nominated for appointment as the Law Clerk of the House of Assembly.”

The Honourable the Minister of Education (Ms. Burke) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Bills:

A Bill, “An Act To Repeal The Pickersgill Fellowship Act” (Bill No. 41);

A Bill, “An Act To Repeal The Memorial University Foundation Act” (Bill No. 42).

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Dunderdale) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Bills:

A Bill, “An Act To Repeal The Labrador Linerboard Limited Agreement Act, 1979” (Bill No. 47);

A Bill, “An Act To Repeal The Labrador Linerboard Limited Agreement (Amendment) Act, 1979” (Bill No. 48).

The Honourable the Minister of Transportation and Works (Mr. Taylor) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled “An Act To Repeal The Newfoundland And Labrador Computer Services Limited Amendment Act” (Bill No. 46).

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services (Mr. O’Brien) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Bills:

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Real Estate Trading Act” (Bill No. 39);

A Bill, “An Act To Repeal The Corporations Guarantees Act” (Bill No. 43);

A Bill, “An Act To Repeal The Certified Public Accountants Act” (Bill No. 44);

A Bill, “An Act To Repeal The Chartered Accountants And Certified Public Accountants Merger Act” (Bill No. 45).

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The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Kennedy) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000 And To Repeal the Financial Corporations Capital Tax Act” (Bill No. 38).

The Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (Mr. Jackman) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend the Arts Council Act” (Bill No. 40).

By leave the Honourable the Government House Leader (Ms. Burke) gave notice that the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Grand Bank (Mr. King) would be debated on Private Members’ Day:

“WHEREAS Memorial University enjoys its well-deserved reputation as a world-class institution serving some 18,000 students with a budget in excess of \$400 million;

AND WHEREAS the Government’s White Paper on public post-secondary Education in Newfoundland and Labrador states that the Government is committed to maintaining autonomy and academic freedom and notes that Memorial University is an autonomous organization;

AND WHEREAS the Government recognizes that autonomy is a necessary precondition to the proper functioning of Memorial University and has accepted the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada’s “Statement on Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy”;

AND WHEREAS academic freedom is defined by the Canadian Association of University Teachers as: “...the right to teach, learn, study and publish free of orthodoxy or threat of reprisal and discrimination”;

AND WHEREAS section 51 of the legislation governing the university – namely, An Act Respecting The Memorial University of Newfoundland, which has been in place since 1973 – defines a process whereby the Board of Regents, in consultation with the University Senate, must forward the names of candidates for President of the university to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council for approval;

AND WHEREAS the Government recognizes that education is fundamental to Newfoundland and Labrador’s growth and prosperity; is committed to a strong, vibrant post-secondary education system in our Province; and is willing to work collaboratively with the Board of Regents and the university’s administration to ensure Memorial is one of the best universities in the world with the best leadership in the world;

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly affirms its full support for the academic freedom and academic autonomy of Memorial University.”

The Leader of the Opposition (Ms. Jones) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling on the House of Assembly to urge Government to undertake measures to construct a fixed link between Long Island and Pilley’s Island in Green Bay.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) presented a Petition on behalf of certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to re-assess their decision to drop Conception Bay North on the priority list for a long-term care facility and commit to all residents of the area that the assessment of 2000-2001 will be implemented and a new facility will be built in the Conception Bay North area.

By leave, on motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Ms. Burke) the Member for St. John’s South (Mr. Osborne) was appointed Deputy Speaker.

By leave, on motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Ms. Burke) the Member for Placentia - St. Mary’s (Mr. Collins) was appointed Deputy Chair of Committees.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the Address in Reply and debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, November 26th at 2:00 o’clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.