Wednesday, April 23rd, 2008

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

The Member for Burgeo – LaPoile (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. John Ford on being chosen to receive an honourary Doctorate of Laws from Memorial University.

The Member for Topsail (Ms. Marshall) made a Statement to congratulate the athletes who were honoured at the 2007 Conception Bay South Athletic Awards ceremony on April 21st.

The Member for Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to congratulate brothers Justin and William Moores of L'Anse au Clair who recently graduated from Memorial University and are embarking on careers as doctors.

The Member for Humber Valley (Mr. Kelly) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Graham Blundon.

The Member for Placentia – St. Mary's (Mr. Collins) made a Statement to pay tribute to the Dermot Lee Memorial Royal Canadian Legion Branch 62 in Riverhead, St. Mary's Bay.

The Member for Grand Falls – Windsor – Buchans (Ms. Sullivan) made a Statement to recognize 16-year-old Scott Oldford whose business Essential Coding Inc. was given The Small Business-Of-The-Year Award.

The Honourable the Minister of Education (Ms. Burke) made a Statement to congratulate the Gander Collegiate team comprising Laura Gushue, Mike Mosher, Zach Healey, Rhea Simms and Nida Najifi which was one of five winners of the Department of Canadian Heritage video competition called *Racism*, *Stop It!*

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Dunderdale) made a Statement to inform the House about National Soil Conservation Week.

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Mr. Wiseman) tabled the list of Pathology External Quality Assurance Surveys for 2008.

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 reassess 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.

Wednesday, April 23rd, 2008

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Burgeo – LaPoile (Mr. Parsons):

"WHEREAS this Province has seen a huge increase in offshore oil revenue as a result of increased oil prices;

AND WHEREAS many people, especially those on fixed incomes, are suffering the consequences of the increases in fuel prices;

AND WHEREAS this Province has the highest tax on gasoline in the country and this puts undue hardship on consumers and makes it more difficult for businesses in this Province to compete;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House of Assembly urges Government to reduce the tax on gasoline in this Province."

The Speaker (Mr. Fitzgerald) put the question on the Resolution and declared the Resolution defeated.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, April 24th at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie, Clerk of the House of Assembly.