Monday, June 2nd, 2008

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

The Member for Grand Falls – Windsor – Buchans (Ms. Sullivan) made a Statement to congratulate Michael Snelgrove who has won the international music competition "Making Overtures".

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement respecting the official opening of the Conception Bay North Regional Fire Rescue Training Centre.

The Member for Lewisporte (Mr. Verge) made a Statement to recognize the 617 Dambusters Royal Air Cadet Squadron of Lewisporte.

The Member for St. John's East (Mr. Buckingham) made a Statement to congratulate pupils in the Gonzaga High School Music Programme who won two gold awards and one silver award at a Heritage Music Festival in New York City.

The Honourable the Premier (Mr. Williams) made a Statement to inform the House that Newfoundland and Labrador has recently signed the climate registry.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Ms. Burke) gave notice that she 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 3rd, 2008.

The Opposition House Leader (Mr. Parsons) gave notice on behalf of the Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

"WHEREAS the Provincial Government retired pensioners have sought an increase in their pensions because increases in the cost of living have diminished their value and many pensioners live in dire financial circumstances;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Government had an established practice of granting a pension increase to coincide with or follow public sector pay raises, thereby creating a reasonable expectation that this would continue to be a feature of their pension entitlement;

AND WHEREAS this practice was discontinued after 1989 due to the severe financial constraints at that time, thereby hurting all pensioners but especially those on low fixed incomes:

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly urges the Government to consider the advisability of resuming the practice of matching increases for public service pensioners to wage increases for public sector employees."

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 improve their efforts to recruit and retain general practitioners.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Ms. Burke) 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 debate continued on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Energy Corporation Act" (Bill No. 35).

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Ms. Burke) advised the House that by agreement the debate would continue under the special rules agreed to on May 29th.

Debate continued on Second Reading of Bill No. 35 and debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

By agreement the proceedings were suspended at 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon for the dinner break.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 7:00 o'clock in the evening.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Enable The Issuance Of Water Rights To The Energy Corporation Of Newfoundland And Labrador For The Lower Churchill River" (Bill No. 36) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 36 be now read a second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Enable The Issuance Of Water Rights To The Energy Corporation Of Newfoundland And Labrador For The Lower Churchill River" (Bill No. 36) was read a second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 36 be now referred to a Committee of the Whole House.

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

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Collins took the Chair of the Committee of the Whole.

The Committee considered and passed the Bill entitled "An Act To Enable The Issuance Of Water Rights To The Energy Corporation Of Newfoundland And Labrador For The Lower Churchill River" (Bill No. 36).

On motion the Committee rose.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole (Mr. Collins) reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the matters to them referred, and had directed him to report that they had passed the Bill entitled "An Act To Enable The Issuance Of Water Rights To The Energy Corporation Of Newfoundland And Labrador For The Lower Churchill River" (Bill No. 36).

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 36 be read a third time on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, June 3rd at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie, Clerk of the House of Assembly.