

**JOURNALS AND PROCEEDINGS**  
**of the**  
**FIRST SESSION**  
**of the**  
**FORTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**of**  
**NEWFOUNDLAND and LABRADOR**  
**2008**

Begun and holden at St. John's in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador on Monday, the Tenth Day of March, Two Thousand and Eight, being the Fifty - Seventh year of the Reign of Her Majesty Our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth the Second by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada, and Her Other Realms and Territories, QUEEN, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable John C. Crosbie, PC, OC, ONL, QC issued the following proclamation:

**“ELIZABETH THE SECOND**, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her Other Realms and Territories **QUEEN**, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

John C. Crosbie  
**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

Jerome Kennedy  
**MINISTER OF JUSTICE**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME,

**GREETING:**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS** a General Election of Members of the General Assembly of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador was held on October 9, 2007;

**AND WHEREAS** under section 128 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, I, as Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, administered the Oaths or Affirmations of Allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to those persons elected to be Members of the House of Assembly in the said General Election on November 1, 2007;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Members of the Forty-Sixth House of Assembly chose their Speaker on November 1, 2007;

Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**AND WHEREAS** I think fit to summon the Forty-Sixth General Assembly;

**I DO, THEREFORE**, by this My Proclamation summon the said General Assembly to meet for the dispatch of business of the First Session of the Forty-Sixth General Assembly at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2008 of which all persons concerned are hereby required to take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

**WITNESS:** Our truly and well-beloved the Honourable John C. Crosbie, one of Her Majesty's Counsel learned in the law, Lieutenant Governor in and for Our Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

**AT OUR GOVERNMENT HOUSE** in Our City of St. John's this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of Our Lord two thousand and eight in the fifty-seventh year of Our Reign.

**BY COMMAND,**

David Denine  
**REGISTRAR GENERAL."**

At 2 o'clock in the afternoon the Sergeant-at-Arms notified the Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Fitzgerald) that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable John C. Crosbie, PC, OC, ONL, QC, had arrived.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Assembly Chamber preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Speaker left the Chair, whereupon the Lieutenant Governor having taken his seat, the Honourable the Premier (Mr. Williams) addressed His Honour as follows:

"May it please Your Honour:

Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008

The House of Assembly, agreeable to Your Honour's Command, have proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, and have elected Roger Fitzgerald, Esquire, Member for the District of Bonavista South, to that office, and by their direction, I present him for Your Honour's approval."

His Honour was then pleased to reply:

"On behalf of Her Majesty, I assure you of my sense of your efficiency and I do most fully approve and confirm you as the Speaker."

Whereupon the Speaker addressed His Honour as follows:

"Your Honour having approved the choice of this House in constituting me as its Speaker, it now becomes my duty in the name of the representatives of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, the people of this Province, respectfully to claim of Your Honour their accustomed rights and privileges, especially that they shall have freedom of speech in their debates, that they may be free from arrest during their attendance in Parliament and that I, as Speaker, may have full access to Your Honour's presence at all reasonable times, and that they have confirmed to them all their ancient rights and privileges which have been confirmed to them by Your Honour's Predecessors."

His Honour was pleased to reply:

"On behalf of Her Majesty, I do confirm this House in the enjoyment of all their ancient and undoubted rights and privileges."

His Honour was then pleased to open the Session with a Speech from the Throne.

His Honour then left the Assembly Chamber.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Rideout) and by leave of the House, a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act To Provide For Leave For Reservists" (Bill No. 1) was introduced and read a first time.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 1 be read a second time on tomorrow.

Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008

The Speaker announced that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor had been pleased to make a Speech to the Members met in the General Assembly and that for greater accuracy he had obtained a copy.

It was unanimously agreed that the Speech should be taken as read and copies distributed to Members.

It was moved by the Member for Grand Falls-Windsor-Buchans (Ms. Sullivan) and seconded by the Member for The Isles of Notre Dame (Mr. Dalley) that an Address of Thanks be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor in reply to the Gracious Speech with which he had been pleased to open the present Session of the Legislature, and that a Select Committee be appointed to draft the Address in Reply.

The Leader of the Opposition (Ms. Jones), the Member for Signal Hill-Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) and the Honourable the Premier (Mr. Williams) spoke to the motion.

The motion was adopted by the House and it was ordered accordingly that the following Members be appointed to the Select Committee:

Ms. Susan Sullivan, Member for Grand Falls-Windsor-Buchans  
Mr. Derrick Dalley, Member for The Isles of Notre Dame  
Mr. Roland Butler, Member for Port de Grave.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Marshall) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider certain Resolutions for the granting of Interim Supply to Her Majesty (Bill No. 2).

The Opposition House Leader (Mr. Parsons) gave notice on behalf of the Leader of the Opposition (Ms. Jones) that she would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

**“WHEREAS** on February 14<sup>th</sup>, Government ordered the closure of 22 privately run personal care homes in the Province which were non-compliant with a 2003 order, Section 13.1(b) of the *Fire Prevention Act*, to install sprinkler systems in their facilities to protect against the threat of fire;

**AND WHEREAS** Government stated that the closure of 22 privately run personal care homes was made strictly on the basis of health and safety of the residents of those facilities;

Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**AND WHEREAS** it was recently discovered that several hospitals, long-term care homes and other government run health care facilities in the Province do not have sprinkler systems in compliance with Section 13.1(b) of the *Fire Prevention Act*;

**AND WHEREAS** Government has a duty to protect patients and residents from fire and safety hazards at its own health facilities;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this House of Assembly calls upon Government to remove the double-standard that exists between fire regulations at privately run personal care homes and government health care institutions recognizing that fire can occur at any facility;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Government immediately comply with its own fire regulations and install sprinkler systems at government run health care facilities.

It was ordered that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 11<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.