

Tuesday, March 31st, 2009

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

The Member for Lewisporte (Mr. Verge) made a Statement to recognize the success of a group of pupils of Lewisporte Collegiate who have been participating in a trivia game developed by the Workplace Health and Safety Compensation in partnership with the Department of Education and Futures in Newfoundland and Labrador Youth.

The Member for Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to recognize the 60th anniversary of Confederation.

The Member for Exploits (Mr. Forsey) made a Statement to recognize Ms. Jean Thompson and Ms. Marion Brett for their contribution to the Canadian Blood Services.

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to congratulate Leah Prosser of Port aux Basques on being the first local junior curler to participate in the Under-21 National Women's Curling Championship in British Columbia.

The Member for Placentia – St. Mary's (Mr. Collins) made a Statement to recognize Master Warrant Officer Donnie Marshall who was inducted as a Member of the Order of Military Merit in Ottawa on February 24th.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to recognize Ascension Collegiate as the top school in Atlantic Canada in raising money for World Vision.

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Ms. Whalen) made a Statement respecting Government's efforts to encourage regional co-operation.

The Honourable the Minister of Transportation and Works (Mr. Taylor) made a Statement to inform the House that Government will be stipulating that 30 new snowplows to be ordered by the Department will be equipped with side guards to prevent pedestrians from rolling under the trucks.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province requesting that the House of Assembly urge Government to undertake measures to construct a fixed link between Long Island and Pilley's Island in Green Bay.

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Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the amendment to the motion “That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the Government” (the Budget Speech).

During the debate, the Leader of the Opposition (Ms. Jones) moved, seconded by the Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler), the following sub-amendment to the Budget motion:

“That the amendment be amended by changing the period at the end thereof to a comma, and by adding immediately thereafter the following words:

“and that this House also condemns the Government for its failure to present a budget that reflects the possibilities which exist in terms of addressing the needs of the people and dealing with problems such as the financial crisis in Municipalities, medical travel assistance, retirement package for fisherpersons and plant workers, the special needs of some school students and the extension of 911 service.”

The Speaker (Mr. Fitzgerald) suspended the proceedings at 5:29 o'clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 5:31 o'clock in the afternoon and ruled the sub-amendment in order.

On motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Ms. Burke) moved, by leave, the following amendment to the referral motion of March 30th:

“That the motion referring the Estimates to the Standing Committees be withdrawn and the following substituted:

(a) That the following **Estimates** be referred to the **Resource Committee**:

Business
 Environment and Conservation
 Fisheries and Aquaculture
 Innovation, Trade and Rural Development
 Newfoundland and Labrador Research Development Council
 Rural Secretariat
 Natural Resources
 Women's Policy
 Tourism, Culture and Recreation;

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- (b) That the following **Estimates** be referred to the **Government Services Committee**:

Finance

Public Service Commission

Office of the Chief Information Officer

Government Services

Government Purchasing Agency

Transportation and Works

Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation

Labrador and Aboriginal Affairs

Intergovernmental Affairs

Volunteer and Non-Profit Secretariat

- (c) That the following **Estimates** be referred to the **Social Services Committee**:

Human Resources, Labour and Employment

Municipal Affairs

Justice

Education

Health and Community Services”

The Speaker put the question on the motion and declared the motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 1st at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.