

Thursday, May 14th, 2009

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

The Member for St. John's South (Mr. Osborne) made a Statement to pay tribute to the War Brides of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Member for Signal Hill – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) made a Statement to congratulate the graduates of the 21st Textile Studies Programme and the staff of the Templeton Centre for their contribution to the Province's cultural heritage.

The Member for Humber Valley (Mr. Kelly) made a Statement to congratulate Jeremy Curnew of Deer Lake who won the gold medal in the grade 12 division at the Provincial Chess Tournament in Gander.

The Member for Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to congratulate the Eagle River Credit Union on their 25th anniversary.

The Member for Placentia – St. Mary's (Mr. Collins) made a Statement to congratulate Mrs. Melina Gosse of Whitbourne who celebrated her 100th birthday on May 14th.

The Honourable the Minister of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development (Mr. Skinner) made a Statement to inform the House of initiatives taken by Government to support the craft industry.

The Honourable the Minister of Business (Mr. Oram) made a Statement to inform the House that the Pan-Atlantic Investment Coordination Committee had met in St. John's recently.

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" (Bill No. 29).

The Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (Mr. Jackman), on behalf of the Honourable the Minister of Environment and Conservation (Ms. Johnson), gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Wild Life Act" (Bill No. 30).

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Dunderdale) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act To Repeal The Government – Kruger Agreements Act" (Bill No. 31).

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By leave the Member for Lewisporte (Mr. Verge) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

“WHEREAS Members of the European Parliament decided on May 5, 2009 – by a vote of 550 in favour, 49 against and 41 abstentions – to ban the commercial trade of seal products in European Union countries, with two derogations:

- (a) The import of seal products shall also be allowed where it is of an occasional nature and consists exclusively of goods for the personal use of the travelers or their families. The nature and quantity of such goods may not be such as to indicate that they are being imported for commercial reasons;
- (b) The placing on the market shall be allowed for seal products that result from by-products of hunting that is regulated under national law and conducted for the sole purpose of sustainable management of marine resources. Such placing on the market shall only be allowed on a non-profit basis. The nature and quantity of such products shall not be such as to indicate that they are being placed on the market for commercial reasons;

AND WHEREAS the next step to bring this ban into effect is a decision by the Council, representing each of the 27 EU national governments; and the Council is expected to consider the matter in June 2009;

AND WHEREAS it is the height of hypocrisy for European Union countries to ban the commercial trade of products from the Canadian seal harvest – which is ecologically sustainable, economically sustainable, tightly regulated and humane – while permitting the harvests, culling and hunting of animals within their own jurisdictions and the commercial trade of products from such activities;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Federation on May 11, 2009 discussed the proposed trade ban on seal products by the EU at the request of Newfoundland and Labrador’s Premier and Nunavut Premier Eva Aariak, and expressed a strong objection to the EU’s proposed ban, which is not based on fact or on scientific information and could be inconsistent with World Trade Organization obligations and with the commitment made by Leaders at the G-20 meeting on April 2, 2009 to refrain from imposing new trade barriers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly, by way of letters from the Speaker on our behalf, calls on the Government of each European Union country to direct their representatives on the Council to vote against the ban on the trade of seal products within the European Union;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House calls on the Government of Canada to challenge the ban immediately, vigorously and persistently before the World Trade Organization if such a ban is finally imposed”.

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, May 19th, 2009.

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling on the House of Assembly to urge Government to establish a satellite dialysis unit at the Dr. Charles L. LeGrow Health Centre in the Town of Channel – Port aux Basques.

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.

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling on the House of Assembly to urge Government to support the residents of Ramea, Grey River and Francois in their request to have adequate health care/nursing services made available at the Ramea and coastal clinics.

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 notice and on motion the following Bills were introduced and read the first time:

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Occupational Health And Safety Act” (Bill No. 23);

A Bill, “An Act Respecting The Registration Of Births, Marriages, Deaths And Other Vital Events” (Bill No. 24);

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- A Bill, “An Act To Provide For Change Of Name” (Bill No. 26);
- A Bill, “An Act Respecting Marriage In The Province” (Bill No. 25);
- A Bill, “An Act Respecting The Public Trustee” (Bill No. 27);
- A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Provincial Court Act, 1991” (Bill No. 28).

On motion it was ordered that the above-noted Bills be read the second time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act Respecting Chiropractors” (Bill No. 8) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 8 be adjourned for further debate presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Student Financial Assistance Act” (Bill No. 9).

The Speaker suspended proceedings at 5:05 o'clock in the afternoon because of a fire alarm.

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

Debate continued on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Student Financial Assistance Act” (Bill No. 9) and on motion debate was adjourned for further debate presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Legal Aid Act” (Bill No. 15) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 15 be read the second time presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Legal Aid Act” (Bill No. 15) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 15 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Tobacco Control Act” (Bill No. 17) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 17 be read the second time presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Tobacco Control Act” (Bill No. 17) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 17 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House presently.

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Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Pharmacy Act” (Bill No. 12) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 12 be read the second time presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Pharmacy Act” (Bill No. 12) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 12 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Student Financial Assistance Act” (Bill No. 9) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 9 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Student Financial Assistance Act” (Bill No. 9) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 9 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act Respecting Chiropractors” (Bill No. 8) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 8 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act Respecting Chiropractors” (Bill No. 8) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 8 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House presently.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Research And Development Council Act” (Bill No. 20) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 20 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Research And Development Council Act” (Bill No. 20) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 20 be now referred to a Committee of the Whole House presently.

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. Osborne took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

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The Committee of the Whole House considered and passed without amendment the following Bills:

- A Bill, “An Act Respecting Chiropractors” (Bill No. 8);
- A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Student Financial Assistance Act” (Bill No. 9);
- A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Pharmacy Act” (Bill No. 12);
- A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Legal Aid Act” (Bill No. 15);
- A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Tobacco Control Act” (Bill No. 17);
- A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Research And Development Council Act” (Bill No. 20).

The Committee began their consideration of the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The City Of St. John’s Act” (Bill No. 14).

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Kennedy) moved the following amendment to Bill No. 14:

- “1. The Bill is amended by adding immediately after clause 1 the following:
2. This Act shall be considered to have come into force on July 26, 2004”.

The Chair ruled the amendment in order.

After some debate the Chair put the question on the amendment and declared the amendment carried.

The Committee considered and passed the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The City Of St. John’s Act” (Bill No. 14) with an amendment.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House (Mr. Osborne) reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had passed the following Bills without amendment:

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- A Bill, “An Act Respecting Chiropractors” (Bill No. 8);
- A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Student Financial Assistance Act” (Bill No. 9);
- A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Pharmacy Act” (Bill No. 12);
- A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Legal Aid Act” (Bill No. 15);
- A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Tobacco Control Act” (Bill No. 17);
- A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Research And Development Council Act” (Bill No. 20).

On motion it was ordered that Bills No. 8, 9, 12, 15, 17 and 20 be read the third time on tomorrow.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House (Mr. Osborne) further reported that the Committee of the Whole House had passed the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The City Of St. John’s Act” (Bill No. 14) with an amendment and asked leave to sit again.

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

On motion the amendment to Bill No. 14 having been read the first and second time, on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 14 be read the third time on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 19th at 1:30 o’clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.