

Tuesday, June 22nd, 2010

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

The Member for Port au Port (Mr. Cornect) made a Statement to congratulate the 708 Stephenville Female Biathlon team, comprising of Tamara Head, Sabrina Muise and Hannah Stokes for winning gold and silver medals at both Provincial and National levels in Cadet Biathlon Championships this year.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to congratulate Brian Peach who has been named Male Youth of the Year and has been awarded the Memorial University of Newfoundland Alumni Entrance Scholarship.

The Member for Bonavista North (Mr. Harding) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Gerald Wheeler of Musgrave Harbour who was presented with the Honour Award, this being the highest award given by School Sports Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Honourable the Minister of Innovation, Trade & Rural Development (Mr. Skinner) made a Statement about Government's innovation strategy – *Innovation Newfoundland and Labrador: A Blueprint for Prosperity*.

The Honourable the Minister of Business (Mr. Wiseman) made a Statement about business agreements being explored through the Industrial Benefits Agreement negotiated in connection with the acquisition of four new Bombardier water bombers.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Marshall), in accordance with section 26(4) of the **Financial Administration Act**, tabled Order in Council 2010-184 which authorized the Department of Environment & Conservation to pre-commit \$51,000 against its 2011-12 budgetary appropriations in order to facilitate the completion of a contract with Hatch Limited for a flood risk protocol and mapping project.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Ms. Burke) requested and was granted leave to withdraw the motion of which notice had been given on March 30th, 2010 respecting the appointment of the Information and Privacy Commissioner and substitute the following:

“WHEREAS section 42.1 of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* provides that the Information and Privacy Commissioner is to be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on a resolution of the House of Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Mr. Ed Ring, be appointed as Information and Privacy Commissioner.”

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The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

“WHEREAS the House of Assembly is the cornerstone of responsible government in Newfoundland and Labrador;

AND WHEREAS the smooth and proper function of the House of Assembly is essential to good government, effective legislative process and an open democratic society;

AND WHEREAS there is a clear, present and pressing need for reform in the Standing Orders and other rules and conventions which govern the operations of the House of Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House of Assembly instruct the Standing Orders Committee to recommend changes to the Standing Orders and other conventions governing Oral Questions and the legislative process, and to consider, among other things:

1. Methods of elevating the decorum of all members to strengthen the dignity and authority of the House,
2. Examining the convention that the Minister questioned need not respond,
3. Dedicating one question period per week exclusively for questions to the Premier,
4. Establishing guidelines for the advance release of Ministerial Statements and the full text of Bills to ensure that members have sufficient time to examine and analyze their content,
5. Strengthening the operations of Standing and Special Legislative Committees to allow analysis of Bills with public hearings if required,
6. Prohibiting substantive amendments to Private Member’s Motions, and
7. Streamlining the introduction and consideration of Private Members’ Bills.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Standing Orders Committee reports its findings to the House, with proposed changes to the Standing Orders and other conventions, within six months of the adoption of this order;

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AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report be made public immediately by posting it to the House of Assembly website on the day that it is received.”

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) presented a Petition calling on the House of Assembly to urge Government to construct and operate a waiting room/restroom facility at the Town of Rose Blanche-Harbour Le Cou such that all users of the provincial ferry service may be able to utilize such waiting area/washroom facilities.

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) presented a Petition calling on the House of Assembly to urge Government to immediately provide alternate arrangements for the people of Grey River to have their vehicles transported to and from their community.

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 the Bill entitled “An Act Respecting Human Rights” (Bill No. 31) was read the third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that the said Bill be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for his Assent.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000” (Bill No. 3) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 3 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000” (Bill No. 3) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 3 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 Income Tax Act, 2000 No. 2” (Bill No. 9) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 9 be now read the second time.

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Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000 No. 2” (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 commenced on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Portability Of Pensions Act” (Bill No. 22).

By agreement the proceedings were suspended at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon for the dinner break.

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

Debate continued and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Portability Of Pensions Act” (Bill No. 22) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 22 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Portability Of Pensions Act” (Bill No. 22) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 22 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House now.

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

The Committee considered and passed the following Bills without amendment:

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000” (Bill No. 3);

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000 No. 2” (Bill No. 9);

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Portability Of Pensions Act” (Bill No. 22).

The Committee of the Whole House considered and passed a certain Resolution and a Bill entitled, “An Act To Amend The Revenue Administration Act”. (Bill No. 10)

The Committee considered and passed a certain Resolution and a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Loan And Guarantee Act, 1957” (Bill No. 25).

On motion the Committee rose.

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The Speaker resumed the Chair.

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

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000" (Bill No. 3);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000 No. 2" (Bill No. 9);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Portability Of Pensions Act" (Bill No. 22).

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

On motion it was ordered that Bills No. 3, 9, and 22 be read the third time on tomorrow.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House (Mr. Kelly) further reported that the Committee had considered the matters to them referred and had passed certain Resolutions and Bills consequent thereto and recommended that Bill No. 10 and Bill No. 25 be introduced to give effect to the Resolutions.

On motion the report of the Committee of the Whole House was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the Committee of the Whole have leave to sit again on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Resolution was read the first and second time:

"That it is expedient to bring in a measure respecting the imposition of taxes on tobacco" (Bill No. 10).

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Revenue Administration Act" (Bill No. 10) was read the first, second and third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 10 be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for His Assent.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Resolution was read the first and second time:

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"That it is expedient to bring in a measure further to amend The Loan and Guarantee Act, 1957, to provide for the advance of loans to and the guarantee of the repayment of bonds or debentures issued by or loans advanced to certain corporations" (Bill No. 25).

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled, "An Act To Amend The Loan And Guarantee Act, 1957" (Bill No. 25) was read the first, second and third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 25 be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for His Assent.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 23rd at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.