

Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011

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

The Member for Ferryland (Mr. Hutchings) made a Statement to congratulate Raylene Mackey, who was named Miss Teen Friendship at the Miss Teen Newfoundland and Labrador Pageant, for her many academic, athletic, musical and volunteer achievements and activities.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to congratulate the winners of the 2010 Best in Business Awards organized by the Mount Pearl Chamber of Commerce.

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Baker) made a Statement to congratulate Alf Parsons of Labrador City on his athletic accomplishments.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment & Conservation (Mr. Wiseman) made a Statement to recognize April 10-16 as National Wildlife Week.

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services (Mr. Harding) tabled, in accordance with subsection 21(2) of the *Public Accountancy Act*, the Report to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council Concerning the Position of the Fund of the Public Accountants Licensing Board for the year ended December 31, 2010.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Marshall) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Loan And Guarantee Act, 1957" (Bill No. 26).

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Skinner) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act Respecting Forestry Professions" (Bill No. 27).

The Honourable the Minister of Health & Community Services (Mr. Kennedy) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Health Research Ethics Authority Act" (Bill No. 28).

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

**"WHEREAS** on November 18, 2010, Nalcor Energy entered into a Term Sheet with Emera Inc. setting out a plan for the Muskrat Falls phase of the development of the Lower Churchill's hydro-electrical potential and associated transmission infrastructure;

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**AND WHEREAS** Newfoundland and Labrador has asked the Federal Government for a loan guarantee to support this project, stating that it is financially, economically and environmentally sound and nationally significant, and the benefits of a federal loan guarantee will accrue to electricity rate-payers;

**AND WHEREAS** the Members of the National Assembly in Quebec on April 6, 2011 voted unanimously for a resolution that, when translated, states: “that the National Assembly reiterates its opposition to federal financial participation in the Lower Churchill hydroelectric project, considering Quebec has assumed on its own, and through the assertion of its own powers, the total cost of its hydroelectric facilities”;

**AND WHEREAS** the Conservative Party of Canada led by Prime Minister Stephen Harper has stated on page 42 of its 2011 election platform, Here For Canada, released April 8, 2011:

“Stephen Harper’s Government will continue supporting clean energy initiatives, to protect our environment and improve the quality of the air we breathe.

We will support economically viable clean energy projects that will assist regions and provinces in the replacement of fossil fuel with renewable fuel sources. The criteria for our support of a project will be whether it:

- has national or regional significance;
- has economic and financial merit; and
- will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

For example, we will support the Lower Churchill hydro-electric project, through a loan guarantee or equivalent financial support. The project would strengthen the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador’s connection to the continental grid – and it would be a major regional environmental initiative.

It is estimated the project would reduce carbon emissions by 4.5 million tonnes annually – the equivalent of removing 3.2 million cars from the road every year.

In addition to the criteria noted above, our support for any clean energy project will be based on the principles of respect and equitable treatment for all regions of the country.”

**AND WHEREAS** Liberal Party of Canada Leader Michael Ignatieff stated in a radio interview in St. John’s on April 4, 2011:

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“I think it’s an important national project for all of Canada. One of the great developments in the national eyes of the whole country is that Newfoundland and Labrador is set to become a green energy superpower, and I think it’s appropriate for a federal government to work with Newfoundland and Labrador and put that loan guarantee in place so the cost of borrowing the money is lower and so that the ratepayers’ energy costs are lower.”

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that, in disagreement with the National Assembly of Quebec, this Honourable House affirms its support for federal financial participation in the Lower Churchill hydro-electric project defined in the Term Sheet between Nalcor and Emera, and commends the Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada and the Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada for pledging federal support for this project through the provision of a loan guarantee or equivalent financial support.”

The Member for Cartwright – L’Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling on the House of Assembly to urge Government to provide additional funding for improvements to Route 510 and connecting branch roads of the Trans-Labrador Highway.

The Member for The Straits – White Bay North (Mr. Dean) presented a Petition from certain students of Hawke’s Bay French Shore Academy calling on the House of Assembly to urge Government to make funding available to ensure High Speed Internet Services are provided in certain towns in the District in the interest of equality and fairness for all members of the student body.

The Member for Cartwright – L’Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling on the House of Assembly to urge Government to reinstate the five acute care beds at Notre Dame Bay Memorial Hospital Health Centre.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Skinner) 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.

The Committee of the Whole House considered and passed the following Bills:

A Bill,            “An Act To Amend The Urban And Rural Planning Act, 2000” (Bill No. 19);

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A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Petroleum And Natural Gas Act" (Bill No. 15).

On motion the Committee rose.

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 directed him to report that they had passed the following Bills without amendment:

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Urban And Rural Planning Act, 2000" (Bill No. 19);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The Petroleum And Natural Gas Act" (Bill No. 15).

On motion the Committee of the Whole House was received and adopted and on motion it was ordered that the said Bills be read the third time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Municipalities Act, 1999 No. 2" (Bill No. 18) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 18 be read the second time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Municipalities Act, 1999 No. 2" (Bill No. 18) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 18 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Highway Traffic Act" (Bill No. 20) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 20 be read the second time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Highway Traffic Act" (Bill No. 20) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 20 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced on the Bill entitled "An Act Respecting The Practice Of Medicine In The Province" (Bill No. 22) and on motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

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On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

**William MacKenzie,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.