The House met at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to congratulate Lindsay Collins who was awarded the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation Scholarship for the Avalon/East Region.

The Member for The Straits – White Bay North (Mr. Dean) made a Statement to congratulate pupils who participated in the Labrador Straits Regional Heritage Fair held on April 16th at Sacred Heart School in Conche, their teachers and organizers of the event.

The Member for Ferryland (Mr. Hutchings) made a Statement to recognize the volunteers and staff of Baltimore School in Ferryland for their successful school Breakfast Programme.

The Member for Baie Verte – Springdale (Mr. Pollard) made a Statement to congratulate the Under-15 Female Hockey Team, winners of the Provincial A Championship.

The Member for Conception Bay East – Bell Island (Mr. Brazil) made a Statement to inform the House that the Bi-annual National Symposium of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Canada will be held in St. John's in May 2012.

The Honourable the Minister of Business (Mr. Dalley) made a Statement to inform the House that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is hosting an Aerospace and Defence Executive Forum in the Province today.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment & Conservation (Mr. Wiseman) made a Statement to inform the House that the MMSB has reached agreements with two companies in Quebec to enable the Province to eliminate the stockpile of tires in Placentia.

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.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for The Straits – White Bay North (Mr. Dean):

"WHEREAS the fisheries historically has been the basis for the economy of Newfoundland and Labrador and can continue to contribute to growth and employment under sensible and prudent management;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Government has failed in their MOU process. Once the cornerstone of this Government's fisheries policy, this process has been abandoned by this Government and the minister of fisheries;

AND WHEREAS rationalization in the fishing industry is proceeding whether or not this Government is prepared to receive and manage these changes;

AND WHEREAS restructuring is already proceeding, including fish plant closures and license transfers, affecting people's livelihoods and the economic viability of rural communities;

AND WHEREAS it is the responsibility of Government to manage the social effects of these serious economic changes and only immediate action will ensure the long-term survival of our harvesting and processing sectors;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House calls on Government to consider establishing policies centered on the prudent long-term management of the fisheries including:

the aggressive pursuit of a joint management regime with the Federal Government including securing custodial management of the Nose and Tail of the Grand Banks;

cooperation with industry to develop and implement a comprehensive, long-term marketing strategy aimed at promoting the Province's seafood industry with a goal of increasing sales in world markets;

promoting the utilization of a variety of marine species in food processing, as well as new industrial uses of marine products in pharmaceuticals, biomedicines, and other chemical products;

forming partnerships with industry to implement an international procurement program to secure primary seafood products for local seafood processing plants;

committing to a program of adjustment for older workers and a comprehensive voluntary cost-shared harvesting license consolidation program."

During the debate, the Member for Bonavista North (Mr. Harding) moved, seconded by the Member for Burin – Placentia West (Mr. Jackman) the following amendment to the Resolution:

"That the Resolution be amended by deleting the second to fifth clauses inclusive and by substituting the following:

"AND WHEREAS rationalization in the fishing industry is proceeding through natural attrition and government is maintaining its efforts to encourage industry to engage in meaningful industry restructuring;"

And by deleting the Resolution clause and substituting the following:

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House calls upon Government to maintain its existing policies centered on the prudent long-term management of the fisheries."

The Speaker (Mr. Osborne) suspended the proceedings at 3:28 o'clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

The Speaker (Mr. Osborne) resumed the Chair at 3:45 o'clock in the afternoon and ruled the amendment in order.

Debate continued and concluded on the amendment to the Resolution and the Resolution itself.

The Speaker put the question on the amendment.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour: Ms. Burke, Mr. Hedderson, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Jackman, Mr. Denine, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Felix Collins, Mr. Tom Osborne, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Ridgley, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Pottle, Mr. King, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Hickey, Mr. Harding, Mr. Dalley, Mr. Granter, Mr. Dinn, Mr. Loder, Mr. Kevin Parsons, Mr. Pollard, Ms. Sheila Osborne, Mr. Peach, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Verge, Mr. Young, Mr. Kent, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Cornect, Mr. Forsey, Ms. Perry, Mr. Buckingham, Mr. Sandy Collins, Mr. Brazil.

Against: Ms Jones, Mr. Kelvin Parsons, Mr. Butler, Mr. Dean, Ms. Michael.

The Speaker declared the amendment carried.

The Speaker put the question on the Resolution as amended.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour: Ms. Burke, Mr. Hedderson, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Jackman, Mr. Denine, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Felix Collins, Mr. Tom Osborne, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Ridgley, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Pottle, Mr. King, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Hickey, Mr. Harding, Mr. Dalley, Mr. Granter, Mr. Dinn, Mr. Loder, Mr. Kevin Parsons, Mr. Pollard, Ms. Sheila Osborne, Mr. Peach, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Verge, Mr. Young, Mr. Kent, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Cornect, Mr. Forsey, Ms. Perry, Mr. Buckingham, Mr. Sandy Collins, Mr. Brazil.

Against: Ms Jones, Mr. Kelvin Parsons, Mr. Butler, Mr. Dean, Ms. Michael.

The Speaker declared the Resolution as amended carried.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, April 21st at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie, Clerk of the House of Assembly.