

Wednesday, April 6th, 2011

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

The Member for Terra Nova (Mr. Collins) made a Statement to recognize Mr. Samuel Saunders of Glovertown for a lifetime of service to his community.

The Member for Exploits (Mr. Forsey) made a Statement to congratulate the Bishop's Falls Junior Boys' Broomball Team on winning the provincial championship.

The Member for Humber Valley (Mr. Kelly) made a Statement to congratulate the Howley Volunteer Fire Department upon celebrating thirty years of service to the community.

The Honourable the Minister of Transportation & Works (Mr. Hedderson) made a Statement to inform the House that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador have exceeded the target for the purchase of energy-efficient vehicles as outlined in the 2007 Energy Plan, *Focusing our Energy*.

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 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.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones):

“WHEREAS free and open communication is critical to sound public policy, essential to good governance and a cornerstone of an open and democratic society;

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AND WHEREAS public servants have a higher loyalty to the people of the Province than to the security and convenience of their supervisors or political masters;

AND WHEREAS whistleblower protections already exist for the House of Assembly Service and statutory offices but the same protections are denied to public servants within government departments and related agencies such as health and education authorities;

AND WHEREAS this Government promised to introduce whistleblower legislation almost four years ago;

BE IT RESOLVED that Government consider the immediate extension of whistleblower protection to all provincial and municipal public servants in order to ensure their ability to freely disclose information about something they believe to be harmful to the public's interest without fear of workplace retribution or retaliation."

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

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, April 7th at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.