

Wednesday, March 23rd, 2011

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

The Member for Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Benjamin W. Powell on his 90th birthday.

The Member for Humber West (Mr. Granter) made a Statement to congratulate Theatre Newfoundland Labrador as they travel to Tasmania to participate in the prestigious *Ten Day On The Island Festival*.

The Member for Ferryland (Mr. Hutchings) made a Statement to recognize the efforts of the Bay Bulls to Bauline Regional Games Committee in hosting the 4th Annual Regional Games.

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Loder) made a Statement to recognize Gregory and Helen Crane who received Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Awards on December 16, 2010.

The Honourable the Minister of Education (Ms. Burke) made a Statement to inform the House about the Skills Task Force forum hosted by the Department of Education recently.

The Honourable the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment (Mr. King) made a Statement to inform the House that the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has proclaimed March 20 to 27 as Multiculturalism Week.

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services (Mr. Harding) tabled the 2011-13 Activity Plan for the Public Accountants Licensing Board.

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 copies of the following Orders in Council relating to funding pre-commitments:

- (a) Order in Council 2010-310 which authorized the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment to pre-commit \$1,270,000 against its 2011-12 budgetary appropriations in order to facilitate the award of a contract to the Idea Factory Inc. for the provincial awareness campaign under the Youth Retention and Attraction Strategy;
- (b) Order in Council 2010-312 which authorized the Department of Transportation and Works to pre-commit \$17.0 million against its 2011-12 appropriations to facilitate negotiations of an agreement with Peter Kiewit

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& Sons for the construction of Vessel #3 under the Vessel Replacement Strategy;

- (c) Order in Council 2010-313 which authorized the Department of Transportation and Works to pre-commit funding of \$7,708,300 against its budgetary appropriations in each of 2011-12 and 2012-13 to facilitate the provision of the South Coast Ferry Services through the award of the following tenders:
- i) Lapoile-Rose Blanche-Burgeo to Puddister Trading Company Limited;
 - ii) Recontre East-Bay L'Argent-Pool's Cove to Norcon Marine Services Limited;
 - iii) South East Bight-Petit Forte to Ray Berkshire Limited;
 - iv) Francois-Grey River-Burgeo to Puddister Trading Company Limited;
- and
- iv) Gaultois-McCallum-Hermitage to Puddister Trading Company Limited.

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 Thursday, March 24th, 2011.

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

“WHEREAS breast cancer is the most common cancer among Newfoundland and Labrador women, (excluding non-melanoma skin cancer) with approximately 370 women to be diagnosed with breast cancer in Newfoundland and Labrador this year;

AND WHEREAS we have one of the highest mortality rates from breast cancer and breast cancer in younger women tends to be more aggressive;

AND WHEREAS the benchmark for Newfoundland and Labrador's organized breast screening program is age 50 years;

AND WHEREAS women aged 40 to 49 years are not eligible to participate in Newfoundland and Labrador's organized breast screening program, while women aged 40-49 are eligible in British Columbia, Alberta, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Northwest Territories, and Yukon;

AND WHEREAS the earlier breast cancer is diagnosed, the better the outcome in terms of health and the therapeutic regimen women will be subject to;

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AND WHEREAS there is empirical evidence that routine mammography screening of women in their 40s can reduce mortality from breast cancer by at least 24%;

AND WHEREAS Newfoundland and Labrador does not allow women in their 40s to self refer into the provincial breast screening program;

AND WHEREAS Newfoundland and Labrador has the existing capacity to accommodate women between the ages of 40 and 49 years in the provincial breast screening programs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House calls upon Government to establish a new benchmark by reducing to 40 years of age the eligibility for self-referral to the provincial breast cancer screening program.”

During the debate on the Resolution the Member for Carbonear – Harbour Grace (Mr. Kennedy) moved, seconded by the Member for Lewisporte (Mr. Verge), that the Resolution be amended

(1) by deleting the words “empirical evidence” and substituting therefor the words “conflicting evidence”; and also by deleting “by at least 24 per cent” in the sixth recital clause;

(2) by deleting the words “has the existing capacity” and substituting therefor the words “if required, will ensure capacity” in the eighth recital clause; and

(3) by deleting the words “establish a new benchmark by reducing to forty years of age the eligibility for self-referral to the Provincial Breast Cancer Screening Program: and substituting therefore the words “refer this matter to the Cancer Control Advisory Committee for a recommendation in the resolution”.

The Speaker suspended the proceedings at 3:26 o'clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 3:47 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 and declared the amendment carried.

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The Speaker put the question on the Resolution as amended and declared the Resolution as amended carried.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, March 24th at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.