

Wednesday, March 30th, 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 the St. Mary's All Grade Boys' Basketball Team which recently won the Small Schools Provincial Basketball Championships.

The Member for St. John's South (Mr. Osborne) made a Statement to congratulate the St. John Bosco Grade 8 Boys' Basketball Team which won the Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Basketball Tournament in Ferryland recently.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) made a Statement to recognize nine residents of the District of Port de Grave who will travel to Guatemala in May to construct housing for families in need.

The Member for Topsail (Mr. Davis) made a Statement to recognize members of the Paradise Adventure 50+Group and wish them continued success in providing opportunities to its members.

The Member for The Straits – White Bay North (Mr. Dean) made a Statement to congratulate Meg Coles who recently started a theatre company in St. John's called "Poverty Cove".

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to recognize Scouts Canada's National Good Turn Week.

The Honourable the Minister of Human Resources, Labour & Employment (Mr. King) made a Statement to inform the House that the Department of Human Resources, Labour & Employment had created a new Supportive Housing Unit.

The Honourable the Minister of Human Resources, Labour & Employment (Mr. King) tabled the 2011-2013 Strategic Plan of the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission.

The Opposition House Leader (Mr. Parsons) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

"WHEREAS the Speaker of the House of Assembly has appeared, and has admitted appearing, at a public event of a partisan nature intended to support and promote the candidacy of a particular party and/or candidate;

BE IT RESOLVED that having established a *prima facie* case of privilege, this matter be referred to the House Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections."

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The Honourable the Minister of Government Services (Mr. Harding) provided the answers to questions asked on March 29th.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Humber Valley (Mr. Kelly):

“BE IT RESOLVED that this House affirms that the development of the hydropower potential of Muskrat Falls is vital for the achievement of energy security in Newfoundland and Labrador and vital for fueling industrial development and economic growth in Labrador and on the Island.”

During the debate, the Leader of the Opposition (Ms. Jones) moved the following amendment to the Resolution:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Government should reconsider the viability of the development of the hydropower potential of Muskrat Falls should the project result in increases in the consumer price of electrical power that are higher than the inflation rate as determined by the Consumer Price Index, or result in sales to consumers outside the province at prices lower than sales to consumers inside the province, or should Nalcor fail to finalize firm power purchasing agreements for the power excess to provincial needs or the contractual commitments to Emera Inc., or if the result of the project will be further privatization of a greater proportion of the province’s electrical generation or distribution system, or if government does not sufficiently address the residential and industrial energy requirements for all of Labrador.”

The Speaker (Mr. Osborne) suspended proceedings at 3:38 o’clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 3:49 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. Jones, Mr. Kelvin Parsons, Mr. Butler, Mr. Dean, Ms. Michael.

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Against: Ms. Burke, Mr. Skinner, Mr. Hedderson, Mr. Jackman, Mr. Wiseman, Mr. Denine, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Felix Collins, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Ridgley, Ms. Johnson, Mr. French, Mr. King, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Hickey, Mr. Harding, Mr. Granter, Mr. Dinn, Mr. Baker, Mr. Loder, Mr. Davis, Mr. Kevin Parsons, Mr. Pollard, Ms. Sheila Osborne, Mr. Peach, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Verge, Mr. Kent, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Cornect, Mr. Forsey, Ms. Perry, Mr. Buckingham, Mr. Sandy Collins, Mr. Brazil.

The Speaker declared the amendment lost.

The Speaker put the question on the Resolution.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour: Ms. Burke, Mr. Skinner, Mr. Hedderson, Mr. Jackman, Mr. Wiseman, Mr. Denine, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Felix Collins, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Ridgley, Ms. Johnson, Mr. French, Mr. King, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Hickey, Mr. Harding, Mr. Granter, Mr. Dinn, Mr. Baker, Mr. Loder, Mr. Davis, Mr. Kevin Parsons, Mr. Pollard, Ms. Sheila Osborne, Mr. Peach, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Verge, 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 carried.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, March 31st at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.