

Tuesday, May 24th, 2011

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

The Member for The Straits – White Bay North (Mr. Dean) made a Statement to congratulate the graduating class of Sacred Heart School in Conche.

The Member for Kilbride (Mr. Dinn) made a Statement to congratulate Nathan Whelan for being named 2011 City of St. John's Youth of the Year.

The Member for Conception Bay East – Bell Island (Mr. Brazil) made a Statement to congratulate the group of volunteers who operated Radio Bell Island from March 14-20.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to recognize Ms. Victoria Ralph who was honoured with three awards at Memorial University's Athlete Awards Ceremony.

The Honourable the Minister of Human Resources, Labour & Employment (Mr. King) made a Statement about Government's commitment to attracting and retaining immigrants.

The Honourable the Minister of Government Services (Mr. Harding) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Amber Dyke who is the provincial winner of the Canadian Securities Administrators' Financial Fitness Challenge Contest.

The Member for Baie Verte – Springdale (Mr. Pollard) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

“WHEREAS the provincial government in October 2005 published “A Provincial Policy Framework for Mental Health & Addictions Services in Newfoundland and Labrador” entitled “Working Together for Mental Health” – an approach reflecting the input of mental health professionals and public consultations involving mental health consumers and advocacy and support organizations;

AND WHEREAS in the 2004 Budget, the province committed \$1 million to take immediate action on identified long-standing gaps within our mental health system, create more access to mental health services and treatment, and work to reduce the stigma that individuals suffering with mental illness face;

AND WHEREAS in the 2005 Budget, the province committed

- \$1 million to implement the findings of the OxyContin Task Force;
- \$740,000 to upgrade facilities;

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- \$1 million for enhanced mental health home and community supports;
- \$740,000 for enhanced services for gambling addictions;

AND WHEREAS in the 2006 Budget, the province committed

- \$1 million to enhance primary mental health services in the province;
- \$1 million to add nine new addictions counsellors in the province for primary prevention and treatment, and to respond to needs identified in the Gambling Prevalence Study;
- \$1.1 million to construct a new provincial addictions treatment centre in Corner Brook as part of a \$3 million project to provide enhanced treatment for persons with addictions, including non-medical detox services enabling a seamless transfer from detox to treatment;
- and it also that year brought forward a new *Mental Health Care and Treatment Act*;

AND WHEREAS in the 2007 Budget, the province committed

- \$800,000 to implement the framework for the new Act;
- \$800,000 to continue with implementation of the Policy Framework;
- \$575,000 to address problem gambling, particularly through the enhancement of prevention and treatment services, creation of a public awareness campaign and funding for research and,
- \$228,800 to establish a new Provincial Eating Disorders Program;

AND WHEREAS in the 2008 Budget, the province committed \$1.7 million for further enhancements to services and programs for persons with mental health and addictions;

AND WHEREAS in the 2009 Budget, the province committed

- \$775,800 for the prevention and treatment of substance use by addressing service gaps, increasing service accessibility and involving communities in preventing addictions problems in youth;
- and also invested \$500,000 for the planning of a residential treatment centre for youth with addictions and \$500,000 for the planning of a residential treatment centre for youth with complex mental health needs;

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AND WHEREAS in the 2010 Budget, the province committed

- \$2 million for the planning and development of an adult residential addictions treatment centre in Harbour Grace;
- \$482,900 to enhance child psychiatry services at the Janeway Hospital;
- additional funding for a new psychologist to enhance the eating disorders treatment program at Eastern Health;
- \$2.4 million for continued planning and construction of a new residential treatment centre for children and youth with complex mental health needs and behavioural issues in St. John's;
- \$2 million to further the new residential treatment centre in Grand Falls-Windsor for children and youth with addictions;
- \$300,000 to support new community-based projects primarily focused on mental health and addictions issues;
- \$3.2 million to increase the rural capacity to address mental health and addictions issues;

AND WHEREAS in the 2011 Budget, the province committed

- \$4.5 million to begin the replacement of the Waterford Hospital with a new, specialized mental health facility;
- \$1 million to develop an interactive e-mental health service, to enhance tele-mental health services for people in rural and remote regions, and to launch a provincial public awareness campaign to decrease the stigma and discrimination while increasing understanding of how and when to seek help;
- \$402,900 for enhanced programming and the addition of two rural case managers for adults in Placentia and Bonne Bay and two rural case managers for youth in Corner Brook and Grand Falls-Windsor;
- \$195,300 for two intake workers to oversee and manage mental health and addictions referrals in Labrador West and Happy Valley-Goose Bay;
- \$180,000 to enable the Canadian Mental Health Association – Newfoundland and Labrador Division to establish and staff regional offices in Stephenville and Grand Falls-Windsor;
- \$140,000 to enable Consumer Health Awareness Network of Newfoundland and Labrador (CHANNAL) to hire four peer support positions for the community mental health system in the central and western regions;
- \$76,000 to enable Choices for Youth to operate its "Moving Forward" program;

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- \$2.2 million to place five, full-time mental health and addictions counsellors in Nain, Hopedale, Makkovik, and Natuashish and provide the necessary accommodations and supports;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Honourable House supports the significant actions this Government has taken and is continuing to take to advance mental health and addictions services throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.”

The Member for Cartwright – L’Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to reduce the age at which breast screening may begin to 40 and allow women to self refer through Newfoundland and Labrador’s screening programs.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Butler) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to take action to proceed with construction of a new school at Coley’s Point.

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 order and on motion debate commenced on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Resource Committee.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Ms. Burke) moved, 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.

Debate continued and concluded on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Resource Committee.

The Speaker (Mr. Fitzgerald) put the question on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Resource Committee and declared the motion carried.

By agreement the proceedings were suspended at 5:25 o’clock in the afternoon for the dinner break.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 7:00 o’clock in the evening.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Social Services Committee.

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The Speaker (Mr. Fitzgerald) put the question on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Social Services Committee and declared the motion carried.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Government Services Committee.

The Speaker (Mr. Fitzgerald) put the question on the motion that the House concur in the Report of the Government Services Committee and declared the motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 25th at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.