

Monday, May 9th, 2011

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

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Fitzgerald) made a Statement to extend the condolences of the House of Assembly to the family of the late Mr. Paul Reynolds, the former Chief Electoral Officer and Commissioner of Members' Interests.

The Honourable the Premier (Ms. Dunderdale) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mr. Paul Reynolds and to extend the condolences of the House of Assembly to the family and co-workers of the late Mr. Reynolds.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to congratulate the Holy Trinity Concert and Jazz Band and their instructor Mr. Ron Collins for their success at The Heritage Music Festival in Anaheim California at which they won the Silver Award.

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to recognize a group of pupils of St. James Regional High School in Port aux Basques who participated in the remotely-operated underwater vehicle competition at the Advanced Technology Education Centre on May 6th.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to congratulate Gail Brittain on being named a Lifetime Member of the Kin Club of Canada.

The Member for Humber West (Mr. Granter) made a Statement to congratulate the members of Corner Brook's Off Broadway Players who won the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's Drama Festival Award for Best Presentation of a Full Length Play at the Drama Festival held in Grand Falls-Windsor recently.

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. O'Brien) made a Statement about the Municipalities Newfoundland and Labrador 2011 Municipal Symposium in Gander.

The Honourable the Minister of Justice (Mr. Collins) made a Statement to inform the House that Ms. Kelly Rowsell had been appointed Assistant Superintendent of the Newfoundland and Labrador Correctional Centre for Women.

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 2011-082 which authorized the Office of the Chief Information Officer to pre-commit funding in the amount of \$112,500

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against its 2011-12 budgetary appropriations and \$37,500 against its 2012-13 budgetary appropriations to facilitate the award of a contract to implement BenPlus Pension Administration software for the Teachers' Pension Plan;

- (b) Order in Council 2011-122 which authorized the Department of Transportation & Works to pre-commit funds against current account appropriations under 2.2.03.06 (Building Utilities and Maintenance) in the amounts of \$4,201,500 for 2012-13, \$3,788,600 for 2013-14 and \$663,800 for 2014-15 to provide for award of various service contracts as listed in Annex B of the Minister's Submission;
- (c) Order in Council 2011-124 which authorized the Department of Environment & Conservation to pre-commit funding of \$2.5 million annually in each of 2012-13 and 2013-14 to facilitate remediation of lead impacted soil in the public and residential areas of Buchans;
- (d) Order in Council 2011-125 which authorized the Department of Environment & Conservation to pre-commit funding of \$2,030,000 annually in each of 2012-13 and 2013-14 for the continuation of environmental remediation work in Hopedale.

The Member for Ferryland (Mr. Hutchings) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

“WHEREAS in the 2011 Budget the government introduced a \$3.2 million two-year pilot project focused on the development of child care spaces in family homes throughout Newfoundland and Labrador;

AND WHEREAS this initiative increases from \$2,500 to \$5,000 the start-up grant to become a regulated family child care provider; provides start-up grants of \$7,500 for homes that care exclusively for children up to the age of two; and provides for an ongoing stimulus grant to infant care homes of \$200 a month per infant space, in recognition of the higher cost of operation in terms of staff ratios;

AND WHEREAS this approach will help keep rates attainable for parents requiring infant care, the very type of care that, right now, is in the shortest supply;

AND WHEREAS this approach is also of particular benefit for families in rural and under-serviced areas because it is feasible on a small scale;

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AND WHEREAS this pilot project has the capacity to support the creation of up to 400 child care spaces over two years;

AND WHEREAS since coming to office in 2003, this government has increased the number of child care spaces by 50 per cent, adding 168 spaces in just the last couple of years, and in addition to the 400 targeted in the new pilot project, the government is planning to continue with the capacity initiative next year to provide for yet another 460 child care spaces;

AND WHEREAS because of the \$3 million the province has invested this year under the child care tax credit to complement the federal child care tax credit, two parents in this province earning minimum wage and raising two children will pay only \$5 a day for child care, less than the \$7 a day that this family would pay in Quebec;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House supports the government's decision to proceed with the two-year pilot project focused on the development of child care spaces in family homes throughout Newfoundland and Labrador."

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 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 reinstate the five acute care beds at Notre Dame Bay Memorial Hospital Health Centre.

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling on the House of Assembly to urge Government to provide funding to complete the necessary repairs to the roads at Cape Ray.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the amendment to the Budget motion (being a non-confidence motion) and on motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

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It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 10th at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

William MacKenzie,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.