

Wednesday, May 9th, 2012

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

The Member for St. John's South (Mr. Osborne) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mildred Kelly.

The Member for St. Barbe (Mr. Bennett) made a Statement to acknowledge the contribution to their community of the Red Ochre Regional Development Board.

The Member for Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune (Ms. Perry) made a Statement to congratulate participants in the Central Newfoundland Kiwanis Music Festival from the District of Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to congratulate Elizabeth Park Elementary School on the celebration of their first anniversary.

The Member for Bellevue (Mr. Peach) made a Statement to congratulate Matthew Williams, who has Down Syndrome, on his first successful caribou hunt.

The Honourable the Minister of Service NL (Mr. Davis) tabled the Annual Report of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities on Operations Carried Out Under the *Automobile Insurance Act* for the Period April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Mount Pearl South (Mr. Lane):

“WHEREAS over the course of the next 10 years, Newfoundland and Labrador is projected to see some 70,000 job openings;

AND WHEREAS our Government since 2003 has laid the foundation for this growth by commissioning and delivering on both the White Paper on Public Post-secondary Education and the Skills Task Force to prepare our people;

AND WHEREAS our Government, since the release of the Skills Task Force Report in 2007, has invested approximately \$95 million in the areas of apprenticeship, science and technology, training and infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS Budget 2012 invests \$4.1 million in new funding to support the following initiatives to advance apprenticeship opportunities and support women and other under-represented groups in skilled trades in Newfoundland and Labrador, including, 1) a Journeyperson Mentorship Program to help increase the number of certified journeypersons available to provide required workplace training for apprentices; 2) expansion of the Apprenticeship Wage Subsidy Program that helps provide work

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experience to apprentices, with a focus on first and second-year apprentices including those from under-represented groups such as women and persons with disabilities; and 3) registration of pre-apprentices in an Apprentice Tracking System to assist students completing entry-level skilled trades programs to secure employment and progress to journeyperson status;

AND WHEREAS Budget 2012 also invests \$200,000 to establish the Workforce Development Secretariat, which will focus on ensuring that labour market policies and programs are strategically aligned to develop and deploy a highly trained and skilled workforce that can meet evolving labour market demands;

AND WHEREAS a further \$10.8 million in federal funding administered by our Government through the Labour Market Development Agreement and Labour Market Agreement will support training and programs such as the Apprenticeship Wage Subsidy and the Office to Advance Women Apprentices;

AND WHEREAS our Government has extended the public post-secondary tuition fee freeze in 2012-13, expanded the Student Financial Assistance Program to increase the study period exemption from \$50 per week to \$100 per week, and continued the up-front needs-based grants and the interest-free student loans as part of its progressive commitment to provide students in this Province with the best student aid program in the country;

AND WHEREAS our Government is also investing to expand programs such as Memorial University's Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science and the oceans sector of the Marine Institute, while also investing in new and improved infrastructure at our public post-secondary institutions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House supports the initiatives the Provincial Government is taking to prepare Newfoundlanders and Labradorians for career opportunities in the skilled trades in our Province."

During the debate the Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) moved, seconded by the Member for St. Barbe (Mr. Bennett), the following amendment:

"That the following words be added immediately before the period at the end of the resolution clause

'while recognizing the need for further action in this regard'."

The Speaker (Mr. Verge) suspended the proceedings at 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

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The Speaker (Mr. Verge) resumed the Chair at 4:31 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.

The Speaker put the question on the Resolution as amended.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour of the motion: Ms. Dunderdale, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Burke, Mr. King, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Jackman, Mr. Hedderson, Mr. Felix Collins, Mr. Kent, Mr. Forsey, Mr. Granter, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Davis, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Sandy Collins, Mr. Brazil, Mr. Little, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Osborne, Ms. Perry, Mr. Dinn, Mr. Cornect, Mr. Littlejohn, Mr. Crummell, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Cross, Mr. Peach, Mr. Lane, Mr. Russell, Mr. Ball, Mr. Andrew Parsons, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Edmunds, Mr. Bennett, Ms. Michael, Mr. Kirby, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Mitchelmore, Ms. Rogers.

The Speaker declared the Resolution as amended carried.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Thursday, 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.