

Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012

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

The Member for Lewisporte (Mr. Verge) made a Statement to congratulate Lucas Batt who has been drafted by the Victoriaville Tigers hockey team.

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to congratulate the Relay for Life 2012 Committee of Port aux Basques for the success of this year's event which raised \$67,629.05.

The Member for Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Jones) made a Statement to congratulate and thank all communities in Labrador which participated in the Relay for Life events in 2012.

The Member for Port au Port (Mr. Cornect) made a Statement to congratulate the participants in and award winners of the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Stephenville Rotary Music Festival.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Little) made a Statement to recognize and congratulate the Grade 2 and 3 pupils of St. Mark's School in King's Cove for winning "The Energy Diet Challenge" sponsored by Shell Canada and Canadian Geographic.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Littlejohn) made a Statement to congratulate Team Newfoundland and Labrador on their success at the Atlantic Table Tennis Championship held recently at Ascension Collegiate.

The Honourable the Minister of Justice (Mr. Collins) made a Statement to provide the House of Assembly an update on the Mental Health Court.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Mr. King) made a Statement to inform the House about the publication of the children's book entitled "Jake the Puffin's Amazing Adventure".

The Speaker ruled on the point of order raised by the Member for The Straits – White Bay North (Mr. Mitchelmore) on June 18<sup>th</sup>. The Speaker ruled that there was no point of order.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Kennedy) gave notice that he 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, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

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The Honourable the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills (Ms. Burke) answered Question No. 25 placed on the Order Paper of June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012 by the Member for St. Barbe (Mr. Bennett) respecting inaccuracies and corrections to information released by the Official Opposition referred to in the Minister's press release of June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to implement a new homecare model to cover family caregivers in the 2012-13 budget.

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to support the users of Route 470 in their request to obtain cellular phone coverage along Route 470.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for St. John's Centre (Ms. Rogers):

**“WHEREAS** the Provincial Government currently only has a strategy for social housing that does not deal with the full crisis of affordable housing in the Province;

**AND WHEREAS** the home ownership assistance program promised by this Government in the provincial election has not come to fruition;

**AND WHEREAS** shelter is a human right and all people in the Province have the right to housing that meets the national occupancy standards;

**AND WHEREAS** the House of Commons passed a motion on May 4 to provide that the Federal Government should: (a) keep with Canada's obligation to respect, protect and fulfill the right to housing under the UN International Covenant in Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; (b) support efforts by Canadian municipalities to combat homelessness and (c) adopt measures to expand the stock of affordable rental housing, with a view to providing economic benefits to local housing construction businesses;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Assembly urge Government to commit to a provincial housing and homelessness action plan;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House of Assembly urge Government to call upon the Federal Government to renew the Homelessness Partnering Strategy, the Affordable Housing Initiative and the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program when the programs are up for renewal in 2014;

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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the House of Assembly urge Government to create a Division of Housing and Homelessness that will be given the responsibility to coordinate Government-wide action, work with all levels of Government and the community on affordable housing, and be responsible for research and the development of provincial housing policy issues.”

During the debate the Member for St. John’s West (Mr. Crummell) moved, seconded by the Honourable the Minister of Transportation and Works (Mr. Hedderson), the following amendment to the Resolution:

“That the Resolution be amended

(1) in the first recital clause by deleting the word “only” and replacing the words “does not deal with the full crisis of” with the word “includes”;

(2) in the second recital clause by replacing the words “the home ownership assistance program promised by this government in the provincial election has not come to fruition” with the words “this government promised in its 2011 Blue Book to develop, following a period of consultation, a program to help families with incomes up to \$60,000 with the first purchase of a modest-priced home”;

(3) in the first resolution clause by replacing the words “commit to a” with the words “continue to implement its”;

(4) in the second resolution clause by replacing the words “the Affordable Housing initiative and the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program” with the words “and the agreement for investment in Affordable Housing” and

(5) in the third resolution clause by replacing the words “create a Division of Housing and Homelessness that will be given the” with the words “ensure Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation continues to fulfill its”.

The Speaker (Mr. Verge) suspended the proceedings at 3:26 o’clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

The Speaker (Mr. Verge) resumed the Chair at 3:40 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.

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The Speaker put the question on the amendment to the Resolution and declared the amendment to the Resolution carried.

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, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

**William MacKenzie,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.