

Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to congratulate Gary Michael Byrne and Denise Hayes who have received Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals.

The Member for Humber Valley (Mr. Ball) made a Statement to congratulate the organizers of the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Log-a-Load for Kid's Charity Hockey Tournament.

The Member for St. Barbe (Mr. Bennett) made a Statement to commend Marylou Brown on thirty one years of service in the Canadian Armed Forces.

The Member for Terra Nova (Mr. Collins) made a Statement to recognize Les Chaulk of Charlottetown for his volunteerism.

The Member for Bonavista North (Mr. Cross) made a Statement to recognize the success of the Beothic Curling Club and commend the Planning and Host Committee on the success of their recent Funspiel.

By leave, the Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Marshall) made a Statement to congratulate the Eastlink CeeBee Stars winners of the 2013 Herder Trophy.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Mr. Dalley) made a Statement to inform the House that mussel producers in the Province had become the first and only producers in North America to receive the organic aquaculture certification.

The Honourable the Minister of Advanced Education and Skills (Ms. Shea) made a Statement to inform the House that March 18-24 is Multiculturalism Week.

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 2013-005 which authorized the Department of Education to pre-commit funding against its budgetary appropriations in the amount of \$2,121,204 in 2013-14 to facilitate the award of a contract to Weir's Construction Ltd. for the site work for the West End High School Project;
- (b) Order in Council 2013-018 which authorized the Department of Natural Resources to pre-commit funding against its budgetary appropriations in

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the amount of \$1,272,768 in 2013-14 to facilitate the award of a contract to Eastern Contracting Ltd. for the construction of the Post Mortem Building Extension and Incinerator (CP3) for the Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory;

- (c) Order in Council 2013-036 which authorized the Office of Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Emissions Trading to pre-commit \$105,000 against its budgetary appropriations in 2013-14 to facilitate the award of a contract to AMEC Earth and Infrastructure to complete a study entitled "A Study to Identify Greenhouse Gas Reduction Opportunities and Competitiveness Implications: Oil Refining";
- (d) Order in Council 2013-037 which authorized the Department of Service NL to pre-commit \$371,000 in 2013-14 and \$470,000 in 2014-15 against its budgetary appropriations to facilitate the award of a contract to Morneau Shepell for the purpose of conducting a medical x-ray audit of the Iron Ore Company of Canada and Wabush Mines located in Labrador;
- (e) Order in Council 2013-038 which authorized the Department of Finance to pre-commit funding of up to \$3,623,000 against its budgetary appropriations in 2013-14 to facilitate the award of the contract to Deloitte Inc.;
- (f) Order in Council 2013-043 which authorized the Department of Advanced Education and Skills to pre-commit up to \$2,972,000 of its budgetary appropriations in 2013-14 for work under the Consortium Master Standing Offer Agreement between the Office of the Chief Information Officer and Bell Canada to facilitate the implementation of a case management system;
- (g) Order in Council 2013-044 which authorized the Office of the Chief Information Officer to pre-commit against its budgetary appropriations \$125,000 in 2013-14, \$500,000 in 2014-15 and \$375,000 in 2015-16 for a support and maintenance contract with Bell Canada;
- (h) Order in Council 2013-045 which authorized the Department of Transportation and Works to pre-commit funds in the amount of \$18,682,000 in 2013-14, \$15,868,000 in 2014-15 and \$6,100,000 in 2015-16 to facilitate the award of a contract to H.J. O'Connell Construction Ltd. for the replacement of the Sir Ambrose Shea (Placentia) Lift Bridge.

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The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Wiseman) tabled pursuant to Section 51 of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act* the Report of the House of Assembly Management Commission for 2011-2012.

The Member for The Straits – White Bay North (Mr. Mitchelmore) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Resolution:

**“WHEREAS** Newfoundland and Labrador has more than 160 communities affected by Boil Water Advisories (BWAs);

**AND WHEREAS** more than 150 communities are currently dealing with potentially harmful levels of trihalomethanes (THMs), a possible human carcinogen;

**AND WHEREAS** covering the cost of supplying basic services like safe drinking water is challenging for most municipalities due to limited resources from taxpayers and the Provincial Government;

**AND WHEREAS** municipalities are forced to make unreasonable choices such as turning off their chlorination systems because they do not have the revenue to maintain trained staff to properly run their drinking water systems;

**AND WHEREAS** reduced confidence in public drinking water can lead to people choosing alternative water supplies like untreated ponds and roadside springs;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Assembly urge Government to address the issue of safe drinking water in the Province by developing a new Newfoundland and Labrador Safe Drinking Water Strategy that will include, but not be limited to:

A comprehensive, ongoing public education program in plain language to inform the public about:

The risks of using roadside springs and ponds, and the need for regular testing of private wells;

The distinctions between safety and aesthetics of drinking water, and how to reduce exposure to THMs;

Detailed information to accompany each BWA, including reasons for the Advisory, safe uses of water and proper boiling procedures.

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A review of capital and operating grants to enable communities to obtain the trained staff and equipment to build, operate and maintain drinking water facilities;

Research and development of water treatment systems appropriate to the Newfoundland and Labrador environment.”

The Member for Signal Hill – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) announced, pursuant to Standing Order 63(3), that the Resolution of which the Member for The Straits – White Bay North (Mr. Mitchelmore) had given notice would be debated on Private Members’ Day, Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Member for St. Barbe (Mr. Bennett) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to work with the Newfoundland Federation of Indians and the Government of Canada to provide a fair and equal review of all applications for registration as members of the Qalipu Mi’kmaq First Nation Band.

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 reverse the decision to cut funding to EAS agencies in the Province.

The Member for The Straits – White Bay North (Mr. Mitchelmore) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to ensure that the Western School District is provided with sufficient funding to keep Bayview Regional Collegiate at St. Lunaire-Griquet open.

The Member for St. John’s Centre (Ms. Rogers) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to enact whistleblower legislation to protect public sector employees in provincial departments and agencies.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. King) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Verge took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

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The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole (Mr. Verge) reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had directed him to report that they had made some progress and asked leave to sit again.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

**Sandra Barnes,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.