

Wednesday, April 24th, 2013

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

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to congratulate Mrs. Joyce Samms who has received a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to congratulate Jeremy Mueller who has been named Athlete of the Year for Special Olympics Canada.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Littlejohn) made a Statement to congratulate All Hallows Elementary School which was selected to receive a Helping Hand Award from the Let Them Be Kids Programme.

The Member for Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune (Ms. Perry) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Anthony Casey and Ms. Millie Skinner who were named Citizens of the Year at the Annual Lions Club Banquet.

The Member for Baie Verte – Springdale (Mr. Pollard) made a Statement to congratulate Valmont Academy Vikings Boys' Basketball Team, winners of the Provincial A School Sports Newfoundland and Labrador Championship.

The Member for St. John's Centre (Ms. Rogers) made a Statement to honour Bev Moore-Davis for organizing Miles 4 Smiles.

The Honourable the Minister of Education (Mr. Jackman) made a Statement to announce the chair and trustee members of school board transition committee.

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Ms. Sullivan) made a Statement to inform the House that April 27 is National Daffodil Day.

The Member for St. John's North (Mr. Kirby) raised a point of order regarding comments of the Minister of Finance.

The Speaker took the matter under advisement.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Wiseman) tabled the Report of the Auditor General entitled *Update On Prior Year's Report Recommendations 2012*.

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Marshall) tabled the Annual Performance Report of Chicken Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador for fiscal year 2012.

Wednesday, April 24th, 2013

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 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 commit bridge funding in its 2013 Budget to help preserve the RED Boards in Newfoundland and Labrador.

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.

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

“WHEREAS the well-being of the people of Newfoundland and Labrador depends on their ability to use reliable transportation links – whether by road, air or water – to access employment, government services, and business, as well as to foster cultural and social benefits;

AND WHEREAS after ten years in power Government has failed to properly develop and maintain vital highway and ferry services in many parts of the Province;

AND WHEREAS this Government has failed to follow its own ferry strategy;

AND WHEREAS the people of Newfoundland and Labrador continue to suffer from an unacceptably large inventory of unpaved gravel roads, aging bridges, culverts and highways;

AND WHEREAS this neglect has resulted in the Canadian Automobile Association listing five of the 11 worst roads in Atlantic Canada as being found in our Province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House of Assembly call upon Government to develop an advanced transportation strategy for road and ferry users.”

During the debate on the Resolution the Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) moved, seconded by the Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) the following amendment:

Wednesday, April 24th, 2013

“That the Resolution be amended by replacing the period following the word “users” at the end of the resolution paragraph and substituting a comma and the words give consideration to including in the strategy the following:

- (i) a rotating three year road development and maintenance strategy based on need and economic development considerations open to comment and input from municipalities and individuals;
- (ii) a publically accessible comprehensive geographic information system (GIS) database of all provincial roads in the Province reflecting their state of repair and snow clearing;
- (iii) a revamping of the tendering process to allow construction to start as early in the year as possible;
- (iv) the establishment of a Road Engineering Research Program.”

The Speaker (Mr. Verge) suspended the proceedings at 3:44 o'clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

The Speaker (Mr. Verge) resumed the Chair at 3:55 o'clock in the afternoon and ruled the amendment in order.

Debate continued and concluded on the amendment to the Resolution and on the Resolution itself.

The Speaker put the question on the amendment and declared the amendment defeated.

The Speaker put the question on the Resolution and declared the Resolution defeated.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour of the motion: Mr. Ball, Mr. Andrew Parsons, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Edmunds, Ms. Michael, Mr. Kirby, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Mitchelmore, Ms. Rogers, Mr. Osborne.

Against: Mr. Hutchings, Ms. Shea, Mr. Davis, Ms. Sullivan, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Jackman, Mr. Hedderson, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Littlejohn, Mr. McGrath, Mr. French, Mr. Felix Collins, Mr. Sandy Collins, Mr. Kent, Mr. Lane, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Dinn, Mr. Brazil, Ms. Perry, Mr. Kevin Parsons, Mr. Little, Mr. Cross, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Peach, Mr. Crummell, Mr. Forsey, Mr. Russell.

Wednesday, April 24th, 2013

The Speaker then adjourned the House without question put pursuant to Standing Order 9.

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.