

**JOURNALS AND PROCEEDINGS**  
**of the**  
**FIRST SESSION**  
**of the**  
**FORTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**of**  
**NEWFOUNDLAND and LABRADOR**  
**2016**

Begun and holden at St. John's in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador on Tuesday, the Eighth Day of March, Two Thousand and Sixteen, being the Sixty-Fifth year of the Reign of Her Majesty Our Sovereign Lady Elizabeth the Second by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada, and Her Other Realms and Territories, QUEEN, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Frank F. Fagan, CM, MBA, ONL, having fixed the hour at which he proposed to open the present Session of the Legislature at 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the 8th day of March, 2016, the Members of the House of Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at 2 o'clock in the afternoon when Mr. Speaker Osborne took the Chair.

Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016

At 2 o'clock in the afternoon the Sergeant-at-Arms notified the Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Osborne) that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Frank F. Fagan, CM, ONL, MBA, had arrived.

His Honour the Lieutenant Governor entered the Assembly Chamber preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Speaker left the Chair, whereupon the Lieutenant Governor having taken his seat, the Honourable the Premier (Mr. Ball) addressed His Honour as follows:

"May it please Your Honour:

The House of Assembly, agreeable to Your Honour's Command, have proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, and have elected Tom Osborne, Esquire, Member for the District of Waterford Valley, to that office, and by their direction, I present him for Your Honour's approval."

His Honour was then pleased to reply:

"On behalf of Her Majesty, I assure you of my sense of your efficiency and I do most fully approve and confirm you as the Speaker."

Whereupon the Speaker addressed His Honour as follows:

"Your Honour having approved the choice of this House in constituting me as its Speaker, it now becomes my duty in the name of the representatives of Her Majesty's loyal subjects, the people of this Province, respectfully to claim of Your Honour their accustomed rights and privileges, especially that they shall have freedom of speech in their debates, that they may be free from arrest during their attendance in Parliament and that I, as Speaker, may have full access to Your Honour's presence at all reasonable times, and that they have confirmed to them all their ancient rights and privileges which have been confirmed to them by Your Honour's Predecessors."

His Honour was then pleased to reply:

"On behalf of Her Majesty, I do confirm this House in the enjoyment of all their ancient and undoubted rights and privileges."

His Honour was then pleased to open the Session with a Speech From the Throne.

His Honour then left the Assembly Chamber.

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The Speaker resumed the Chair.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) and by leave of the House, a Bill entitled, "An Act To Establish An Independent Appointments Commission And To Require A Merit-Based Process For Various Appointments" (Bill No. 1) was introduced and read the first time.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 1 be read the second time on tomorrow.

The Speaker announced that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor had been pleased to make a Speech to the Members of the House of Assembly and directed the pages to distribute copies to all Members.

It was moved by the Member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Edmunds), seconded by the Member for Burin – Grand Bank (Ms. Haley), that an Address of Thanks be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor in reply to the Gracious Speech with which he had been pleased to open the present Session of the Legislature, and that a Select Committee be appointed to draft the Address In Reply.

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Davis), the Member for St. John's East – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) and the Honourable the Premier (Mr. Ball) also spoke to the motion.

The motion was adopted by the House and it was ordered accordingly that the following Members be appointed to the Select Committee to draft the Address in Reply:

Mr. Randy Edmunds, Member for Torngat Mountains,  
Ms. Carol Anne Haley, Member for Burin – Grand Bank,  
Mr. Barry Petten, Member for Conception Bay South.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Bennett) gave notice that she would on tomorrow move that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider a Resolution for the Granting of Interim Supply to Her Majesty (Bill No. 2).

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) gave notice and by leave moved that the following Members comprise the Striking Committee:

the Member for Burgeo – La Poile – Mr. Andrew Parsons  
the Member for Burin – Grand Bank – Ms. Carol Anne Haley  
the Member for Ferryland – Mr. Keith Hutchings  
the Member for St. John's Centre – Ms. Gerry Rogers  
the Member for St. John's West – Ms. Siobhan Coady.

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The Speaker put the question on the motion and declared the motion carried.

The Member for Topsail - Paradise (Mr. Davis) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

**“BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House urges the Government of Canada to recognize the impact of the steep fall in oil revenues on our Province and that it consider financial support to our Province in order to prevent deep cuts in services to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Honourable House urges the Government of Canada to modernize Federal-Provincial Arrangements, including the Equalization Program and the Fiscal Stabilization Program to more fairly and promptly reflect our Province’s needs and to more fairly account for natural resource revenues.”

The Opposition House Leader (Mr. Hutchings) announced, pursuant to Standing Order 63(3), that the Resolution of which the Member for Topsail - Paradise (Mr. Davis) had given notice would be debated on Private Members’ Day, Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 9<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.