

Wednesday, May 25th, 2016

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

The Member for Harbour Main (Ms. Parsley) made a Statement to congratulate all those responsible for the success of the inaugural NASCAR event in Newfoundland and Labrador which took place at the Eastbound International Speedway and Concert Park on the Labour Day weekend.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to congratulate the 2016 Business Award winners in the Town of Torbay.

The Member for Virginia Waters – Pleasantville (Mr. Davis) made a Statement to congratulate Major William G. Tilley on being awarded an honorary Doctrate of Canon Law by Queens College.

The Member for Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune (Ms. Perry) made a Statement to congratulate Shannon Hickey recipient of one of six HSBC Woman Leader of Tomorrow Regional Awards in 2015.

The Member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Petten) made a Statement to congratulate the Prince of Orange LOL#23 on its 140th anniversary.

The Member for St. George's – Humber (Mr. Reid) made a Statement to congratulate the Newfoundland and Labrador youth dart team winners of the Canada cup.

*The Commemoration of the First World War and the Battle of Beaumont Hamel
Honor 100*

The Member for Placentia West – Bellevue (Mr. Browne) read the following names:

Ridgley, John Benjamin	Rodgers, Thomas Edward	Ross, Michael Joseph
Ridout, Garland	Rogers, Simeon	Ross, R. Wallace
Ridout, Sydney	Rolls, Walter	Rossiter, Matthew
Ring, Thomas J.	Romaine, Harold	Rowe, Charles
Roberts, Albert	Ronan, Thomas	Rowe, Frederick
Roberts, Cecil	Roost, William Joseph	Rowe, Henry
Roberts, Francis	Roper, Frederick Charles	Rowe, Henry Mott
Roberts, Frank	Rose, Cecil	Rowsell, Edward Clayton
Roberts, Frank	Rose, George	Rowsell, Gordon
Roberts, John	Rose, George	Rowsell, H. John R.
Roberts, Ray Maxwell	Rose, James	Rowsell, Reginald S.
Roberts, Thomas Stephen	Rose, John	Russell, John
Rodgers, Edward Joseph	Rose, John	

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The House observed a minute of silence.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Mr. Crocker) made a Statement to inform the House of the decision of the Federal Government to extend the recreational codfishery by 14 days.

The Honourable the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (Mr. Kirby) made a Statement to inform the House about the resources available to students through the Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Resolution:

"WHEREAS subsection 6(3) of the *Independent Appointments Commission Act* provides that 5 members are to be appointed to an Independent Appointments Commission by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on a resolution of the House of Assembly;

AND WHEREAS subsection 6(4) of the Act provides that the Lieutenant-Governor in Council designate one of the members of the commission to be chairperson;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following persons be appointed members of the Independent Appointments Commission:

Clyde K. Wells, Chairperson
M. Zita Cobb
Shannie Duff
Philip R. Earle
Derek Young"

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) 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, May 26th, 2016.

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal Affairs (Mr. Joyce) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Co-operatives Act" (Bill No. 30).

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The Honourable the Minister of Environment and Conservation (Mr. Trimper) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act” (Bill No. 31).

The Member for St. John’s East – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to keep libraries open and work on a long-term plan to strengthen the library system.

The Member for Fogo Island – Cape Freels (Mr. Bragg) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to reverse the decision to close the Hare Bay/Dover Medical clinic.

The Member for Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune (Ms. Perry) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to reverse the closure of the libraries in Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune immediately.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Cartwright – L’Anse au Clair (Ms. Dempster):

“BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House supports the Government’s proposal to provide the Newfoundland and Labrador Seniors’ Benefit, a refundable tax credit for low-income seniors, which this year is providing some 42,000 seniors in our Province with payments of up to \$971 – the highest amount ever”.

During the debate, the Member for Topsail – Paradise (Mr. Davis) moved the following amendment:

“That the Resolution be amended:

(1) by deleting the number “42,000” and substituting the number “48,000”;

(2) by deleting the figure “971” and substituting the figure “\$1,313” and

(3) by adding after the word “ever” a comma and the following words:

“but condemns the government’s proposal to remove the home heating rebate and the HST rebate while imposing tax and fee increases that will leave seniors worse off”.

The Speaker (Mr. Osborne) suspended the proceedings at 3:29 o’clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

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The Speaker (Mr. Osborne) resumed the Chair at 3:49 o'clock in the afternoon and ruled that the amendment was not in order.

Debate continued on the Resolution.

During the debate the Member for Placentia West – Bellevue (Mr. Browne) moved, seconded by the Member for St. George's – Humber (Mr. Reid) the following amendment:

"That the resolution be amended by deleting the number "42,000 Seniors" and replacing it with the words 45,000 seniors households and further deleting the number "\$971.00" and replacing it with the number \$1,313.00".

The Speaker suspended the proceedings at 3:53 o'clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 4:07 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 to the Resolution 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: Mr. Andrew Parsons, Ms. Coady, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Byrne, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Crocker, Ms. Cathy Bennett, Mr. Trimper, Ms. Dempster, Mr. Browne, Ms. Gambin-Walsh, Mr. Edmunds, Ms. Haley, Mr. Bernard Davis, Mr. Derek Bennett, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Bragg, Ms. Pam Parsons, Mr. Warr, Mr. Finn, Mr. Reid, Mr. Dean, Mr. King.

Against: Mr. Paul Davis, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Brazil, Ms. Perry, Mr. Kevin Parsons, Mr. Petten, Ms. Michael, Ms. Rogers.

The Speaker declared the Resolution as amended, carried.

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The Speaker then adjourned the House until Thursday at 1:30 p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 9.

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.