

Tuesday, November 29th, 2016

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

The Member for Labrador West (Mr. Letto) made a Statement to congratulate the Wabush Volunteer Fire Department for their service to the community.

The Member for St. John's East – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) made a Statement to congratulate the four Ellsworth family members who are recipients of the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

The Member for Harbour Main (Ms. Parsley) made a Statement to recognize the Circle of Friends group for their efforts in raising funds to support cancer research.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to recognize the Outer Cove Men's Rowing Crew who were the championship winners at the 2016 Royal St. John's Regatta.

The Member for Harbour Grace – Port de Grave (Ms. Parsons) made a Statement to recognize the 19th annual Festival of Lights in the Town of Bay Roberts.

The Member for Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune (Ms. Perry) made a Statement to congratulate Latonia Hartery recipient of the CBC Emerging Artist Award for 2015.

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Coady) made a Statement to announce appointments to the Board of Directors of Nalcor Energy.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agrifoods (Mr. Crocker) made a Statement to inform the House that he had made representation to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans regarding the committee's review of the *Federal Fisheries Act*.

The Honourable the Minister of Service NL (Mr. Joyce) made a Statement to commend Workplace NL on its announcement of changes which show the strength of the workplace health, safety and compensation system.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) raised a point of order regarding the use of unparliamentary language by the Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent). The Member withdrew the comment.

The Chair of the Public Accounts Committee (Mr. Brazil) presented a report regarding referral of evidence adduced by the predecessor Public Accounts Committee to the current Committee.

Tuesday, November 29th, 2016

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Coady) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act No. 2” (Bill No. 53).

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 Monday, December 5th, 2016.

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 Tuesday, December 6th, 2016.

The Member for Mount Pearl – Southlands (Mr. Lane) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to strike an all-party committee on school busing to make recommendations to Government for the improvement of the school busing system in the province.

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 keep libraries open and work on a long term plan to strengthen the library system.

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 reinstate supports for those who need them and develop a plan to address the needs of people requiring home care support.

The Member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Petten) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to develop a plan to address the shortage of long-term care beds.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to develop a strategy which capitalizes on opportunities for trade between the United Kingdom and Newfoundland and Labrador.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Third Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act Respecting Procurement By Public Bodies” (Bill No. 46).

Tuesday, November 29th, 2016

The Speaker put the question.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour of the motion: Mr. Andrew Parsons, Ms. Coady, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Haggie, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Crocker, Mr. Kirby, Mr. Trimper, Mr. Warr, Mr. Browne, Ms. Gambin-Walsh, Mr. Mitchelmore, Mr. Letto, Ms. Haley, Mr. Bernard Davis, Mr. Derek Bennett, Mr. Holloway, Ms. Parsley, Mr. Bragg, Mr. Finn, Mr. Reid, Mr. Dean, Mr. King, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Kent, Mr. Brazil, Ms. Perry, Mr. Kevin Parsons, Mr. Petten, Mr. Lane.

Against: Ms. Michael, Ms. Rogers.

The Speaker (Ms. Dempster) declared the motion carried.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act Respecting Procurement By Public Bodies” (Bill No. 46) was read the third time and passed.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 46 be printed being entitled as above and that it be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for his assent.

Pursuant to notice and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Consumer Protection And Business Practices Act” (Bill No. 52) was introduced and read the first time and on motion it was ordered that the said Bill be read the second time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion the following Bills were read the third time and passed:

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Independent Appointments Commission Act” (Bill No. 45);

A Bill, “An Act Respecting The Relocation Of Certain Communities In The Province” (Bill No. 47);

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Hydro Corporation Act, 2007” (Bill No. 48);

A Bill, “An Act To Amend The Income Tax Act, 2000 No. 6” (Bill No. 49).

On motion it was ordered that the above-noted Bills be printed being entitled as above and that they be submitted to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor for his assent.

Tuesday, November 29th, 2016

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Vital Statistics Act, 2009 No. 2” (Bill No. 50) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 50 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Vital Statistics Act, 2009 No. 2” (Bill No. 50) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 50 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Vital Statistics Act, 2009 No. 2” (Bill No. 50).

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Dempster took the Chair of the Committee of the Whole House.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole House (Ms. Dempster) reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had directed her to report that they had passed the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Vital Statistics Act, 2009 No. 2” (Bill No. 50) without amendment.

On motion the report of the Committee was received and adopted.

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 50 be read the third time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons):

THAT the following Standing Orders of the House of Assembly are amended to come into force on the date of their approval:

1. Standing Orders 12 to 14 are deleted and the following substituted:

Quorum

12.(1) The presence of at least 10 Members, including the Speaker, constitutes a quorum for a meeting of the House for the exercise of its powers.

Tuesday, November 29th, 2016

(2) Any Member may direct the Speaker's attention to the fact that there is not a quorum present.

(3) If at any time a question of a quorum arises, the Speaker, upon determining that there is no quorum, shall sound the division bells for 5 minutes and if following this a count of the Members shows that there is no quorum, the Speaker shall adjourn the House until the next sitting day.

(4) While the Members in the House are being counted the doors remain open and Members can come into the House during the whole time occupied by the counting.

(5) While in Committee of the Whole, if a question of a quorum arises, the Chair shall count the members present and if 10 Members, including the Chair, are not counted, the Chair shall rise the Committee and report the lack of a quorum to the Speaker who shall then follow SOs 12(3) and (4).

(6) Whenever the Speaker adjourns the House for the lack of a quorum, the time of the adjournment, and the names of the Members who were present shall be inserted in that day's Journal.

2. Standing Order 15 is deleted and the following is substituted:

Lieutenant-Governor arrives

15. When the Sergeant-at-Arms announces that the Honourable Lieutenant-Governor is at the door or announces a messenger from the Lieutenant-Governor, the Speaker shall take the Chair whether or not there is a quorum present.

3. Standing Orders 22 and 23 are deleted and the following are substituted:

Withdrawal of Strangers

22. If a Member takes notice that one or more strangers are present on the floor of the Assembly Chamber, the Speaker, or the Chairperson (as the case may be), shall, if he or she considers it proper and without permitting any debate or amendment, order that strangers withdraw.

Conduct of Strangers and visitors

23. Any stranger or visitor admitted into any part of the House or galleries, who misconducts himself or herself, or who does not withdraw when directed to do so while the House or any Committee of the Whole House is sitting, shall be taken into custody by the Sergeant-at-Arms and no person so taken into custody shall be discharged without a special order of the House.

Tuesday, November 29th, 2016

4. Note 1, headed "**Parliamentary Calendar**" of the Appendix to the Standing Orders of the House of Assembly is deleted.

AND FURTHER THAT the following changes to the Standing Orders be implemented for the sittings of this House of Assembly for the 2017 calendar year and that the replaced provisions of the Standing Orders be held in suspension for that same period as follows:

5. (1) Standing Orders 8 to 11 are deleted and the following are substituted:

Annual Calendar

8.(1) Unless otherwise ordered, the House of Assembly shall meet each year

(a) for the Winter-Spring sitting, commencing not later than the first Monday in March and concluding not later than the first Thursday in June; and

(b) for the Fall sitting, commencing not later than the first Monday in November and concluding not later than the first Thursday in December.

(2) The House shall not meet on the days which are paid Government Holidays.

(3) During the sittings held under Standing Order 8(1), there shall be

(a) one constituency week for every three sitting weeks unless varied by the calendar provided by the Clerk under Standing Order 8(5); and

(b) a break commencing after the end of the sitting day on Maundy Thursday until the third Monday following that date.

(4) In a calendar year in which there is a general election, the Government may indicate to the Speaker that the commencement of a sitting will be postponed or varied or that there will not be a sitting and the Speaker shall inform Members.

(5) On or before January 31 of each calendar year, the Clerk, following consultations with the Government House Leader shall distribute to all Members a calendar indicating the intended sitting days for the next calendar year.

(6) On or before January 31 immediately after the commencement of this Standing Order, the Clerk shall also prepare and distribute in accordance with Standing Order 8(5) a calendar for the sitting days of the current calendar year.

Tuesday, November 29th, 2016

(7) If the Government advises the Speaker that the public interest requires the House to meet at any time because of emergency or extraordinary circumstances, a reason for the recall must be provided and the Speaker shall

(a) advise Members that the House is to meet at the specified time; and

(b) advise Members of the reason for the recall.

(8) The Winter - Spring or Fall sittings of the House referred to in Standing Order 8(1) may be shortened or extended by the passing of a motion with notice made by the Government House Leader which motion shall be decided without debate or amendment.

Daily Sittings

9(1). The time for the meeting of the House is

(a) 1:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays inclusive;

(b) 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Wednesdays.

(2) At 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday the Speaker shall adjourn the House.

(3) At 5 p.m. on Wednesday the Speaker shall adjourn the House.

(4) When the House adjourns on Thursday, it stands adjourned, unless otherwise ordered, until the following Monday.

Business to stand over

10. All business not disposed of at the termination of a sitting day shall stand over until the next sitting day when it will be taken up at the stage where its progress was interrupted.

Extended sittings

11. (1) The Government House Leader may move that the House not adjourn at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons but notice of this motion must be given at a previous day's sitting and once put by the Chair is not debatable.

Tuesday, November 29th, 2016

(2) Notwithstanding Standing Order 11(1), at midnight on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, unless the Closure Rule (SO 47) is in operation, the Speaker shall adjourn the House.

(2) Standing Order 24(3) is deleted and the following is substituted:

24(3) On Wednesday except when otherwise ordered by the House, after motion, of which due notice shall have been given, the following shall be the order of business:

(a) from 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., Motions of which notices have been given by the Government and Government Orders;

(b) from 2 to 5 p.m., following the ordinary daily routine of business

(i) Motions of which notices have been given by Private Members;

(ii) Motions of which notices have been given by the Government;

(iii) Member's Orders;

(iv) Government Orders.

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

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Wednesday, November 30th at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.