Tuesday, April 11th, 2017

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

The Member for Placentia West – Bellevue (Mr. Browne) made a Statement to recognize John Baker whose instant action fifty years ago saved the life of Fred Power.

The Member for Terra Nova (Mr. Holloway) made a Statement to recognize the accomplishments of Long Drive Champion, Bramwell Churchill.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mr. Paddy Hickey.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to recognize the Rotary Club of Waterford River and the work they are doing to protect the Waterford River.

The Member for Bonavista (Mr. King) made a Statement to commend the residents of Champney's West who just celebrated the 25th anniversary of their annual variety concert.

The Member for Mount Pearl – Southlands (Mr. Lane) made a Statement to recognize the success of the 2017 Frosty Festival.

The Member for Harbour Grace – Port de Grave (Ms. Parsons) made a Statement to recognize first-time authors Mrs. Janice Drover and Mr. James Mercer.

The Honourable the Minister of Justice and Public Safety (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to recognize the 35th anniversary of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The Honourable the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (Mr. Kirby) made a Statement to congratulate scholarship winners Zoey Davis, Jack Kenny, Manish Benuen and Andree Gaudet.

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Mr. Haggie) made a Statement to mark the 60th anniversary of the Canadian Cancer Society's Daffodil Month and recognize Mrs. Margot Reid, the longest serving volunteer with the Society, and all Society volunteers.

The Honourable the Minister of Service NL (Mr. Trimper) tabled information on BizPal.

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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 not to impose a provincial sales tax on books.

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 increase mental health services and programmes in the Province's K-12 school system.

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 provide affordable access to In Vitro Fertilization services.

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 allow additional specialists other than pediatricians trained and certified with ADOS to make the Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnosis.

The Member for Conception Bay East – Bell Island (Mr. Brazil) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to reinstate funding to the Province's Youth Organizations immediately.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the motion "That This House Approves in General the Budgetary Policy of the Government" (the Budget Speech).

During the debate the Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) moved, seconded by the Member for Conception Bay East – Bell Island (Mr. Brazil), the following amendment to the Budget motion (being a non-confidence motion):

"That all the words after "that" be deleted in the motion before the House and the following words be substituted:

'this House condemns the Government for maintaining all but one of the 300 tax and fee increases they imposed on people in last year's budget while failing to be forthright and accountable in disclosing information, and while failing to nurture the conditions for economic growth across Newfoundland and Labrador.' "

The Speaker (Ms. Dempster) suspended the proceedings at 3:08 o'clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

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The Speaker resumed the Chair at 3:23 o'clock in the afternoon and ruled the amendment in order.

Debate continued on the amendment to the Budget Speech (being a non-confidence motion) and on motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

On motion the House adjourned sine die.

Sandra Barnes, Clerk of the House of Assembly.