

Monday, May 29th, 2017

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

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) rose on a point of privilege relating to a social media posting by the Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent).

The Speaker took the matter under advisement.

The Member for Baie Verte – Green Bay (Mr. Warr) made a Statement to congratulate the Springdale Salvation Army Corps on its hundredth anniversary.

The Member for Placentia West – Bellevue (Mr. Browne) made a Statement to congratulate Shane Dunphy on his selection as Volunteer of the Year for Sport NL and the Newfoundland and Labrador Soccer Association.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to recognize the winners of the Torbay Business Awards.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Kent) made a Statement to recognize Beclin Business Park which has become the first LEED registered business park in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Member for Bonavista (Mr. King) made a Statement to congratulate #84 RCSCC Golden Hind on the success of their 64th Annual Ceremonial Review and awards ceremony.

The Member for Mount Pearl – Southlands (Mr. Lane) made a Statement to congratulate award winners who were recognized at the Mount Pearl Focus on Youth Awards Ceremony.

The Honourable the Premier (Mr. Ball) made a Statement to provide the House with an update on the flooding in Mud Lake.

The Honourable the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (Mr. Kirby) made a Statement to recognize May 28 to June 3 as Early Childhood Educators' Week.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) raised a point of privilege regarding unparliamentary language repeated by a Member on social media.

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

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The Speaker (Mr. Osborne) suspended the proceedings at 2:32 o'clock in the afternoon to consider the point of privilege and the point of order.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 4:33 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Speaker ruled that the language used by the Honourable the Government House Leader was unparliamentary and requested that the Member withdraw the unparliamentary expression. The Honourable the Government House Leader withdrew the language and apologized.

The Speaker ruled that a *prima facie* case of breach of privilege had been established in the matter raised by the Honourable the Government House Leader.

The Honourable the Government House Leader moved that the matter be referred to the Privileges and Elections Committee. Some debate ensued.

The Speaker put the question.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour of the motion: Mr. Andrew Parsons, Ms. Coady, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Crocker, Ms. Cathy Bennett, Mr. Kirby, Mr. Trimper, Mr. Warr, Ms. Dempster, Mr. Browne, Mr. Mitchelmore, Mr. Edmunds, Mr. Letto, Ms. Haley, Mr. Derek Bennett, Mr. Holloway, Ms. Parsley, Ms. Pam Parsons, Mr. Bragg, Mr. Reid, Mr. King.

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

The Speaker (Mr. Osborne) declared the motion carried.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Osborne), pursuant to paragraph 19(5)(a) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, tabled the minutes of the meeting of the House of Assembly Management Commission held on March 15, 2017.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Osborne), pursuant to paragraph 273(1)(h) of the *Elections Act, 1991* tabled the 2015 Provincial General Election Report on Election Finances of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer.

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The Honourable the Minister of Service NL (Mr. Trimper) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Highway Traffic Act” (Bill No. 13).

The Member for Cartwright – L’Anse au Clair (Ms. Dempster) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Resolution:

“WHEREAS last year Marine Atlantic experienced its first year-over-year increase in passenger traffic in 20 years;

AND WHEREAS traffic on the Labrador Straits ferry increased during May to October 2016, with the number of passengers and passenger related vehicles (both directions) increasing 6% and 5% respectively over 2015 levels;

AND WHEREAS last year St. John’s airport had the busiest summer in its history and the Airport Authority stated that the strong tourism product offered in our Province contributed to its success;

AND WHEREAS summer 2016 was the busiest ever at Deer Lake Regional Airport, with August 2016 being the busiest month in the airport’s history;

AND WHEREAS the number of visitors to Red Bay and the Point Amour Light House increased by 26.2% and 12.1% respectively from the previous year, and the Pinware River Provincial Park saw an increase of 29.1% in the number of registered camping units from the previous year;

AND WHEREAS the 2016 cruise season saw an increase of 9.2% in cruise visitors compared to the previous season;

AND WHEREAS Government has been working in partnership and consultation with private tourism businesses, non-profit operators, municipalities, regional and other tourism section organizations, destination management organizations, Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador, the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Parks Canada, and many other tourism, culture and transportation partners;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House supports Government’s commitment in *The Way Forward* that by 2020, Newfoundland and Labrador’s annual tourism spending by residents and non-residents will double 2009 levels”.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) announced, pursuant to Standing Order 63(3), that the Resolution of which the Member for

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Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Dempster) had given notice would be debated on Private Members' Day, Wednesday, May 31st.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) moved, pursuant to provisional Standing Order 11(1) that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Speaker put the question on the motion that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o'clock in the afternoon and declared the motion carried.

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 Public Service Pensions Act, 1991" (Bill No. 7).

The Speaker left the Chair.

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

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole (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 a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Public Service Pensions Act, 1991" (Bill No. 7) without amendment.

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

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 7 be now read the third time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Public Service Pensions Act, 1991" (Bill No. 7) was read the third time and passed.

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

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 Revenue Administration Act" (Bill No. 9).

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Warr took the Chair of Committee of the Whole House.

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On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole (Mr. Warr) reported that the Committee of the Whole House had considered the matters to them referred and had directed him to report that they had passed a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Revenue Administration Act" (Bill No. 9) without amendment.

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

Pursuant to order and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 9 be now read the third time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Revenue Administration Act" (Bill No. 9) was read the third time and passed.

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

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

A Bill, "An Act To Amend The House Of Assembly Accountability, Integrity And Administration Act No. 2" (Bill No. 8);

A Bill, "An Act To Amend the Natural Products Marketing Act" (Bill No. 10).

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

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Proceedings Against The Crown Act" (Bill No. 11) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 11 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Proceedings Against The Crown Act" (Bill No. 11) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 11 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

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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 Proceedings Against The Crown Act" (Bill No. 11).

The Speaker left the Chair.

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

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole (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 a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Proceedings Against The Crown Act" (Bill No. 11) without amendment.

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

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 11 be read the third time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons), the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider the related Resolution and a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Loan And Guarantee Act, 1957" (Bill No. 12).

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 (Ms. Dempster) reported that the Committee of the Whole on Supply had considered the matters to them referred and had directed her to report that they had made some progress and ask leave to sit again.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 30th at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

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On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.