

Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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

The Member for Exploits (Mr. Dean) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Arthur Snow for his 60 years of service to the Botwood Lions Club for which he was presented with the Milestone Chevron Award.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Edmunds) made a Statement to recognize Dr. Wieslaw Rawluk who retired at the end of 2017 after many years of service to the residents of Labrador.

The Member for Stephenville – Port au Port (Mr. Finn) made a Statement to congratulate Katarina Roxon on her induction into the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Member for Placentia West – Bellevue (Mr. Browne) made a Statement to congratulate Kaetlyn Osmond who won a gold and bronze medal at the Olympic Games in Pyeongchang.

The Member for Terra Nova (Mr. Holloway) made a Statement to acknowledge the outstanding accomplishments of Major Annette Vardy and congratulate her on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday which she celebrated on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Honourable the Premier (Mr. Ball) made a Statement to commend those who responded to the severe storm and flooding on the West Coast last month.

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Coady) made a Statement to highlight Advance 2030 – a growth plan for the oil and gas industry in Newfoundland and Labrador which was launched last Monday.

The Honourable the Minister of Service NL (Ms. Gambin-Walsh) made a Statement to inform the House that Government would introduce an amendment to the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Act to increase the income replacement rate for injured workers from 80 to 85 percent.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) presented the Report of the Standing Orders Committee dated February 26, 2018.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Osborne) tabled pursuant to paragraph 26(5)(a) of the **Financial Administration Act**, the following pre-commitments:

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- (a) Order in Council 2017-374 which authorized the Department of Justice and Public Safety to pre-commit funds against its 2018-19 and 2019-20 budgetary appropriations, in the amount of \$292,700 and \$219,500 respectively, to facilitate a two-year lease agreement with Beothuck Investments Inc.;
- (b) Order in Council 2017-381 which authorized the Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation to pre-commit funds up to \$1,813,900 in 2018-19, \$875,000 in 2019-20, \$875,000 in 2020-21, and \$583,300 in 2021-22 to facilitate a contract with Bluedrop Performance Learning Inc. for the implementation of SkillsPass NL;
- (c) Order in Council 2018-016 which authorized the Department of Transportation and Works to pre-commit funds against its 2018-19 and 2019-20 budgetary appropriations, in amounts up to \$3,218,500 and \$100,000 respectively, to facilitate the award of a tender to Redwood Construction Ltd. for the Mobile Central High Extension Project;
- (d) Order in Council 2018-027 which authorized the Department of Service Newfoundland and Labrador to pre-commit \$52,200 annually against its budgetary appropriations in 2018-19 to 2022-23; and \$43,500 in 2023-24 for a lease-to-own Xerox saddle-stitch book binding and finishing system;
- (e) Order in Council 2018-028 which authorized the Office of the Chief Information Officer to pre-commit \$25,541 annually against its budgetary appropriations in 2018-19 to 2022-23 to facilitate entering into an extension of an Intergovernmental Letter of Agreement for BizPaL service.

The Member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Petten) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Resolution:

**“BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House calls on the Government of Canada to fully and fairly credit to our Province all green initiatives, such as the Muskrat Falls, Upper Churchill and Bay d’Espoir hydro developments, in relieving Newfoundland and Labrador of any obligation to pay carbon tax.”

The Opposition House Leader (Mr. Hutchings) announced, pursuant to Standing Order 63(3), that the Resolution of which the Member for Conception Bay South (Mr. Petten) had given notice would be debated on Private Members’ Day, Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Mr. Haggie) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, “An Act

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Respecting The Newfoundland And Labrador Centre For Health Information” (Bill No. 32).

The Honourable the Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour (Mr. Hawkins) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, “An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act” (Bill No. 29).

The Honourable the Minister Responsible for Workplace NL (Ms. Gambin-Walsh) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, “An Act To Amend The Workplace Health, Safety And Compensation Act” (Bill No. 30).

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, “An Act To Amend The Order Of Newfoundland And Labrador Act” (Bill No. 31).

The Honourable the Minister of Justice and Public Safety (Mr. Parsons) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled, “An Act To Amend The Access To Information And Protection Of Privacy Act, 2015” (Bill No. 33).

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

**“That** the following Standing Orders are amended to come into force on the date of their approval:

**1. Standing Order 24(3)(b) is amended by adding immediately after Standing Order 24(3)(b)(iii) the following:**

(iv) Government Orders.

**2. Standing Order 25 is amended by adding immediately after Standing Order 25(2) the following:**

(3) A Member may make a statement about any subject of interest or concern to him or her.

(4) The subject matter of a Member’s Statement may be an anniversary, historic event, some particular accomplishment, the death of a notable person, matters of local, provincial, national or international significance of a non-contentious nature.

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(5) Statements by Members shall not be used to comment on aspects of provincial governmental policy or to reflect on a decision or direction of the House.

(6) Statements shall not pose a question but rather express the opinion of the Member.

(7) Statements are not debatable, do not lead to the introduction of a motion and are not responded to by any other Member.

**AND FURTHER:**

**That the following Standing Order be amended on a provisional basis for the Spring sitting of the House:**

**3. Standing Order 92 is amended by renumbering it as Standing Order 92(1), and by adding immediately after that the following:**

(2) A Minister, in his or her discretion, may reply to a petition and the Minister shall occupy no more than 90 seconds in so doing.

(3) A Minister's response under Standing Order 92 (2) may be given on the day the petition is presented or the next sitting day only.

(4) Where, in a session, multiple petitions of the same subject matter are presented, a Minister may respond to each petition in the manner contemplated under Standing Order 92 (3), but only one response to a petition with the same subject matter may be made on each sitting day."

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 allocate funds to upgrade Route 60.

The Member for Ferryland (Mr. Hutchings) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to upgrade and perform immediate maintenance to the Witless Bay Line, Route 13, as this is a significant piece of infrastructure to ensure safety of drivers and improve the flow of traffic to and from the TransCanada Highway.

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 conduct a full and thorough risk assessment of the Bell Island Ferry.

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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 to legislate a gradual increase in the minimum wage to \$15.00 by 2021, with an annual adjustment thereafter to reflect provincial inflation.

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Workplace Health, Safety And Compensation Act" (Bill No. 30) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 30 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Workplace Health, Safety And Compensation Act" (Bill No. 30) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 30 be referred to a Committee of the Whole 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 a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Workplace Health, Safety And Compensation Act" (Bill No. 30).

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Warr 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 (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 Workplace Health, Safety And Compensation Act" (Bill No. 30) without amendment.

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

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 30 be read the third time on tomorrow.

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act" (Bill No. 29) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 29 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Labour Standards Act" (Bill No. 29) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 29 be referred to a Committee of the Whole on tomorrow.

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It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

**Sandra Barnes,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.