

Wednesday, October 31st, 2018

The House met at 10:00 o'clock in the morning pursuant to adjournment.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Arts Council Act" (Bill. No. 28) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 28 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Arts Council Act" (Bill No. 28) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 28 be referred to a Committee of the Whole House 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 Arts Council Act" (Bill No. 28).

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Warr 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 (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 Arts Council Act" (Bill No. 28) without amendment.

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

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 28 be read the third time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Forestry 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 Forestry 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 House now.

On motion of the Honourable 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 Forestry Act" (Bill No. 29).

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The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Warr 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 (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 Forestry Act” (Bill No. 29) without amendment.

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

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 29 be read the third time on tomorrow.

Pursuant to Standing Order 9(1)(b) the sitting was suspended at 12:15 p.m. The Speaker resumed the Chair at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Member for St. George's – Humber (Mr. Reid) made a Statement to congratulate volunteers organized by the Nature Conservancy of Canada on the work they have done in cleaning up the Sandy Point beach.

The Member for Baie Verte – Green Bay (Mr. Warr) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Neil Ward.

The Member for Lewisporte – Twillingate (Mr. Bennett) made a Statement to congratulate the Town of Birchy Bay and volunteers in the community for the success of the annual fall fair and the successful volunteer appreciation night.

The Member for Fogo Island – Cape Freels (Mr. Bragg) made a Statement to recognize all those responsible for the success of this year's Perry Cup.

The Member for St. John's Centre (Ms. Rogers) made a Statement to pay tribute to victims of the shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

The Honourable the Minister of Justice and Public Safety (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to welcome the first female Chief Justice of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Honourable Deborah Fry.

The Honourable the Minister of Service NL (Ms. Gambin-Walsh) made a Statement to inform the House that Government had launched SkillsPass NL, free

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online training courses, to help increase employability, productivity and regulatory compliance.

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

“Further to the motion adopted by the House on Wednesday, October 23, 2018, that this House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on a date to be announced in the House by the Government House Leader following consultation with the House leaders for the Official Opposition and the Third Party, in order to receive the Commissioner for Legislative Standards, for the purpose of answering questions and providing clarity on the process of the recently tabled reports inquiring into Members’ Code of Conduct.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commissioner for Legislative Standards be provided up to 15 minutes to offer opening remarks and that the Commissioner for Legislative Standards be permitted to have up to two support staff accompany him if he so chooses but support staff will not speak;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a maximum of 400 minutes be allocated for this debate.”

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move, pursuant to Standing Order 11(1), that the House not adjourn at 5:30 o’clock in the afternoon on Thursday, November 1st, 2018 and Monday, November 5th, 2018.

The Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation (Mr. Mitchelmore) tabled a document entitled the Marble Mountain Development Corporation Annual Report 2017-18.

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 disclose all the potential options for power rate mitigation and develop and make public a plan to deal with power rate increases.

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Coady) replied to the Petition.

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

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

The Honourable the Minister of Children, Seniors and Social Development (Ms. Dempster) replied to the Petition.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Burin – Grand Bank (Ms. Haley):

“WHEREAS stress among children is estimated to have increased 45% over the past 30 years;

AND WHEREAS in 2016 intentional self-harm was the 1st leading cause of death in Canadians aged 10-14 and 2nd leading cause of death in Canadians aged 15-19;

AND WHEREAS initiatives like #BellLetsTalk have shown that overcoming stigma around mental health is essential in ensuring people are comfortable seeking help;

AND WHEREAS this Government established Towards Recovery: A Vision for a Renewed Mental Health and Addictions System for Newfoundland and Labrador as part of The Way Forward, to modernize the approach to promoting mental wellness across all populations;

AND WHEREAS following the release of the Premier’s Task Force’s report “Now is the Time”, this Government developed an Education Action Plan which reflects the importance of student mental health;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House will continue to increase social and emotional learning in our schools by focusing on mental health education and awareness.”

The Speaker put the question on the motion.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour of the motion: Mr. Andrew Parsons, Ms. Coady, Mr. Haggie, Ms. Dempster, Mr. Hawkins, Mr. Crocker, Mr. Mitchelmore, Mr. Warr, Mr. Bernard Davis, Mr. Edmunds, Ms. Haley, Mr. Letto, Mr. Browne, Mr. Bragg, Mr. Derek Bennett, Mr. Reid, Ms. Parsley, Mr. King, Mr. Dean, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Brazil, Ms. Perry, Mr. Petten, Mr. Lester, Ms. Rogers, Ms. Michael.

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Against: None.

The Speaker declared the motion carried.

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.