

Monday, March 4th, 2019

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

The Member for Topsail – Paradise (Mr. Dinn) took his seat in the House of Assembly.

The Member for Humber – Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) raised a point of privilege regarding the process followed by the Commissioner for Legislative Standards in investigating a complaint under the Code of Conduct.

The Speaker took the matter under advertisement.

The Member for Humber – Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) tabled a letter to the Speaker with six attachments.

The Member for Fogo Island – Cape Freels (Mr. Bragg) made a Statement to thank the host committee and volunteers from Centerville, Wareham Trinity and Indian Bay for the successful 26th annual winter festival.

The Member for Conception Bay East – Bell Island (Mr. Brazil) made a Statement to recognize the Portugal Cove – St. Philips Chamber of Commerce for their service to the community.

The Member for Placentia West – Bellevue (Mr. Browne) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Bruce Wareham.

The Member for Windsor Lake (Mr. Crosbie) made a Statement to congratulate Dr. Lloydetta Quicoe on her being invested into the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment (Mr. Letto) made a Statement to inform the House about Government's recent announcement of the expansion to the Fire Protection Vehicle Program.

The Honourable the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (Mr. Hawkins) made a Statement to recognize March 3rd – 9th as Education Week in Newfoundland and Labrador.

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**, Order in Council 2018-222 which authorized the Department of Transportation and Works to pre-commit \$334,000 against its budgetary appropriations in 2019-20 to facilitate the awarding of a contract to LSG Construction for repairs at the Gander Arts and Culture Centre.

Monday, March 4th, 2019

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) presented the Report of the Standing Orders Committee dated March 4th, 2019.

The Member for St. John's East – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Resolution:

“WHEREAS the PUB has confirmed when Muskrat Falls power comes online in 2021, electricity rates will double to 23 cents a kilowatt hour, but alternatively, keeping current rates will create an estimated annual budget shortfall of \$744 million, restricting Government's ability to provide the public services people rely on;

AND WHEREAS the Muskrat Falls inquiry is revealing that past and present Governments made disastrous decisions leading to this financial crisis;

AND WHEREAS Government efforts have not resulted in practical solutions other than to direct the PUB to examine rate mitigation options;

AND WHEREAS the PUB can only address part of what needs to be done, and experts have advised Government of the work it must do immediately;

AND WHEREAS the people of the Province have lost confidence in Government's ability to solve this crucial and complex problem, and need and want all members of the House of Assembly to work together;

BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly urge Government to immediately strike an All-Party Select Committee to work in an open, transparent and collaborative manner on behalf of the people to identify all possible solutions for rate mitigation and the future of Muskrat Falls.”

The Member for St. John's East – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) announced, pursuant to Standing Order 63(3), that the above-noted Resolution would be debated on Private Members' Day, Wednesday, March 6th.

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

“THAT the amendment to Standing Order 92, which was adopted provisionally on February 27th, 2018 be adopted permanently with suborder 92(2) amended by the substitution of 60 seconds for 90 seconds speaking time.

AND THAT this change comes into force on the date of its approval.

The permanent Standing Order will read as follows:

Monday, March 4th, 2019

- (1) Every Member offering a petition to the House shall confine himself or herself to the statement of the parties from whom it comes, the number of signatures attached to it and the material allegations it contains. In no case shall the Member occupy more than 3 minutes in so doing, unless by permission of the House upon question put.
- (2) A Minister, in his or her discretion, may reply to a petition and the Minister's response shall occupy no more than 60 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 Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Osborne) gave notice that he would on tomorrow move that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider a Resolution relating to the Advancing or Guaranteeing of Certain Loans made under the Loan and Guarantee Act, 1957 (Bill No. 53).

The Honourable the Minister Responsible for Human Resource Secretariat (Mr. Osborne) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Public Bodies Reporting Act" (Bill No. 50).

The Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation (Mr. Mitchelmore) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Historic Resources Act" (Bill No. 49).

The Honourable the Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour (Mr. Davis) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Fishing Industry Collective Bargaining Act" (Bill No. 48).

The Honourable the Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour (Mr. Davis) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act Respecting Student Financial Assistance" (Bill No. 52).

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries and Land Resources (Mr. Byrne) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Forestry Act" (Bill No. 51).

Monday, March 4th, 2019

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 Remove Anomalies And Errors In The Statute Law” (Bill No. 54).

The Member for Humber – Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to encourage companies that are awarded the contracts for the new Corner Brook hospital to hire local tradespeople and labourers.

The Honourable the Minister of Transportation and Works (Mr. Crocker) 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 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 Advanced Education, Skills and Labour (Mr. Davis) replied to the Petition.

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 revise the policy on personal care home access.

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Mr. Haggie) replied to the Petition.

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 instate legislation which would include provisions to ensure the safety, hygiene and all other required care for patients with cognitive debilitating conditions in long-term care homes.

The Honourable the Minister of Health and Community Services (Mr. Haggie) replied to the Petition.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Parsons) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to ensure the safety of all children by removing the restrictive 1.6 kilometre busing policy where safety is a concern.

The Honourable the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (Mr. Hawkins) replied to the Petition.

Monday, March 4th, 2019

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 carryout immediate repairs of the Foxtrap Access Road.

The Honourable the Minister of Transportation and Works (Mr. Crocker) replied to the Petition.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Marriage Act" (Bill No. 46) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 46 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Marriage Act" (Bill No. 46) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 46 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 Marriage Act" (Bill No. 46).

The Speaker left the Chair.

Ms. Parsons 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. Parsons) 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 Marriage Act" (Bill No. 46) without amendment.

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

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 46 be read the third time on tomorrow.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) and by leave of the House, a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Fishing Industry Collective Bargaining Act" (Bill No. 48) was introduced and read the first time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 48 be now read the second time.

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Fishing Industry Collective

Monday, March 4th, 2019

Bargaining Act” (Bill No. 48) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 48 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Fishing Industry Collective Bargaining Act” (Bill No. 48) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 48 be referred to a Committee of the Whole on tomorrow.

On motion of the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Parsons) and by leave of the House, a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Historic Resources Act” (Bill No. 49) was introduced and read the first time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 49 be now read the second time.

By leave, pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Historic Resources Act” (Bill No. 49) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 49 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Historic Resources Act” (Bill No. 49) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 49 be referred to a Committee of the Whole on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 5th at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.