

Wednesday, March 6th, 2019

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

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 Respecting Student Financial Assistance" (Bill No. 52).

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 Respecting Student Financial Assistance" (Bill No. 52) without amendment.

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

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 52 be now read the third time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act Respecting Student Financial Assistance" (Bill No. 52) 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 Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor for her assent.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on Second Reading of a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Public Bodies Reporting Act" (Bill No. 50) and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 50 be now read the second time.

Pursuant to order and on motion the Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Public Bodies Reporting Act" (Bill No. 50) was read the second time and on motion it was ordered that Bill No. 50 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

On motion of the Honourable the Deputy Government House Leader (Ms. Coady) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Public Bodies Reporting Act" (Bill No. 50).

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 Public Bodies Reporting Act" (Bill No. 50) without amendment.

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

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 50 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 a Bill entitled "An Act To Amend The Fishing Industry Collective Bargaining Act" (Bill No. 48).

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 Fishing Industry Collective Bargaining Act" (Bill No. 48) without amendment.

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

On motion it was ordered that Bill No. 48 be now read the third 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 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 Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor for her assent.

On motion of the Honourable the Deputy Government House Leader (Ms. Coady) the House resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means to consider a certain Resolution and Bill "Relating to the Advancing or Guaranteeing of Certain Loans made under the Loan and Guarantee Act, 1957" (Bill No. 53).

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The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Warr took the Chair of Committee of the Whole on Ways and Means.

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 on Ways and Means had considered the matters to them referred and had directed him to report that they had made some progress and ask leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Order 9(1)(b) the sitting was suspended at 12:05 p.m. The Speaker resumed the Chair at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to congratulate Brooklyn Nichols who was the Overall and Elementary winner of the Heritage NL poster contest.

The Member for Humber - Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Ed Best.

The Member for Stephenville – Port au Port (Mr. Finn) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Gerald Morgan who has been inducted into the National Academy of Canada's Outstanding Principals.

The Member for Mount Pearl – Southlands (Mr. Lane) made a Statement to thank the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps 284 Marconi for their contribution to the community and congratulate them on being named the top Sea Cadet Corps for Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Honourable the Minister of Children, Seniors and Social Development (Ms. Dempster) made a Statement to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of Team Newfoundland and Labrador at the Canada Winter Games and congratulate gold medallist Melanie Taylor and bronze medal winner Emma Mullett.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries and Land Resources (Mr. Byrne) made a Statement to inform the House that the Government was joining with the Newfoundland and Labrador Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization to celebrate the International Year of the Salmon.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Trimper), pursuant to paragraph 19(5)(a) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, tabled the minutes

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of the meeting of the House of Assembly Management Commission held on November 7, 2018.

The Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation (Mr. Mitchelmore) answered a question asked by the Member for Fortune Bay – Cape La Hune (Ms. Perry) during Oral Questions.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (Mr. Lester) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to reduce litter and plastic pollution by introducing a ban on the supply of single-use supermarket-style shopping bags.

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment (Mr. Letto) replied to the Petition.

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 Member for Ferryland (Mr. Hutchings) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to continue with the proposed construction of the extension to the Robert E. Howlett Highway to enhance and improve traffic to the Southern Avalon.

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.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for St. John's East – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael):

“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;

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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 Speaker put the question and declared the Resolution carried.

The Speaker then adjourned the House until Thursday, 1:30 p.m., pursuant to Standing Order 9.

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.