

Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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

The Member for St. John's Centre (Mr. Dinn) made a Statement to recognize the work of the Status of Women Council/Women's Centre.

The Member for Topsail – Paradise (Mr. Dinn) made a Statement to recognize the ingenuity of Mr. John Lawlor in finding a simple solution to a common problem which has saved motorists thousands of dollars in damages and prevented potential accidents.

The Member for Placentia West – Bellevue (Mr. Dwyer) made a Statement to recognize Mr. Max Eddy and Mr. Nelson Rose who are the recipients of bravery awards.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (Ms. Evans) made a Statement to congratulate Julia Dicker for her academic achievements.

The Member for Mount Scio (Ms. Stoodley) made a Statement to congratulate Julia Evans, winner of the 2020 Telegram Spelling Bee.

The Honourable the Premier (Mr. Ball) made a Statement to congratulate Team Gushue on their victory at the 2020 Canadian Men's Curling Championship.

The Honourable the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (Mr. Warr) made a Statement to recognize March 8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> as Education Week.

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Coady) made a Statement to recognize March 8<sup>th</sup> as International Women's Day.

By leave, the Member for St. John's East – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Coffin) tabled a media report on the release of the Muskrat Falls Report and advised the House that on March 5<sup>th</sup> she had misquoted the Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Ms. Coady) on the basis of a misquotation in the media report.

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. 28).

The Member for Stephenville – Port au Port (Mr. Wakeham) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Resolution:

**"WHEREAS** a Province facing the fiscal and economic challenges that Newfoundland and Labrador is now facing must show leadership by producing a solid fiscal and economic plan for the 2020/21 fiscal year without delay;

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**AND WHEREAS** Newfoundland and Labrador is experiencing significant population decline through interprovincial migration, with Statistics Canada reporting the net loss of an estimated 1,430 people in 2017; 2,733 people in 2018; and 4,501 people in 2019;

**AND WHEREAS** Statistics Canada projected last fall that Newfoundland and Labrador is on track to lose 65,000 people or 12.4 percent of its population within the next 25 years under a medium growth scenario if urgent corrective action is not taken;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government stated in its 2019 Budget that it remains on a multi-year “plan to returning to a sustainable surplus in 2022-23”, although the details of this plan have not been publicly disclosed;

**AND WHEREAS** the democratic principles of accountability and transparency demand that expenditures be subject to the scrutiny of the usual budget process;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that this Honourable House urge the Government to deliver the 2020 Budget at the usual time in the Spring, prior to a general election.”

The Opposition House Leader (Mr. Brazil) announced, pursuant to Standing Order 63(3), that the Resolution of which the Member for Stephenville – Port au Port (Mr. Wakeham) had given notice would be debated on Private Members’ Day, Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Honourable the Minister of Service NL (Ms. Gambin-Walsh) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Personal Property Security Act” (Bill No. 27).

The Honourable the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment (Mr. Bragg) answered a question asked by the Member for St. John’s Centre (Mr. Dinn) on March 5<sup>th</sup> regarding legal fees related to environmental court cases.

The Member for Topsail – Paradise (Mr. Dinn) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to recognize the Skills Development Programme policies should be adjusted and applied in such a way as to ensure that there are mechanisms to address specific unique circumstances in order to accommodate a wider range of people seeking assistance.

The Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation (Mr. Davis) replied to the Petition.

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The Member for Placentia West – Bellevue (Mr. Dwyer) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to ensure that Pearce Junior High School remains open.

The Honourable the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development (Mr. Warr) 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 Honourable the Minister of Transportation and Works (Mr. Crocker) replied to the Petition.

The Member for Exploits (Mr. Forsey) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to restore the 24 hour emergency service to the Dr. Hugh Twomey Health Centre immediately.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate commenced and concluded on third reading of a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The House Of Assembly Accountability, Integrity And Administration Act” (Bill No. 24) and on motion the Bill 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.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Osborne) informed the House that he had received a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor.

The Message was read to the House by the Speaker as follows:

“3 March 2020

As Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, I transmit a request to appropriate sums required for the Public Service of the Province for the year ending 31 March 2021, by way of Interim Supply, and in accordance with

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the provisions of sections 54 and 90 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, I recommend this request to the House of Assembly”.

Sgd. **Judy M. Foote**  
Lieutenant Governor”

On motion of the Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Mr. Osborne) the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to Consider Certain Resolutions and Bill No. 26 for the Granting of Interim Supply to Her Majesty.

The Speaker left the Chair.

Mr. Bennett took the Chair of Committee of the Whole on Supply.

On motion the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chairperson of the Committee (Mr. Bennett) reported that the Committee of Supply 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.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 10<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.