

Monday, September 14th, 2020

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

The Member for St. John's Centre (Mr. Dinn) raised a point of privilege respecting the seating arrangements in the House of Assembly.

The Speaker suspended the proceedings at 1:39 o'clock to consider the point of privilege.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 1:47 o'clock and ruled that there was no *prima facie* point of privilege.

The Speaker reminded Members of the health guidelines in place during the pandemic.

The Speaker paid tribute to the former Clerk Assistant/Clerk of Committees, Ms. Elizabeth Murphy and congratulated her on her retirement.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (Ms. Evans) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mr. Thomas Edmunds of Postville, Nunatsiavut.

The Member for Exploits (Mr. Forsey) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Beth Lane of Bishop's Falls on being the first place winner of the MusicNL NewFound Talent Contest.

The Member for St. Barbe – L'Anse aux Meadows (Mr. Mitchelmore) made a Statement to recognize Mr. Harrison White of Sandy Cove and his lifelong contribution to his community through his volunteer work.

The Member for Burin – Grand Bank (Ms. Haley) made a Statement to recognize Chris and Dallas Emberley and Chantal Clarke of Grand Bank on their initiatives to lift the spirits of the residents in their area during the COVID-19 protocols being in place.

The Member for Mount Pearl – Southlands (Mr. Lane) made a Statement to recognize the 38th Annual Frosty Festival.

The Honourable the Minister of Education (Mr. Osborne) made a Statement to congratulate Elaine Johnson-Chafe, recipient of the 2020 Council of the Federation Literacy Award for Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Honourable the Minister of Digital Government and Service NL (Ms. Stoodley) made a Statement to advise of the COVID alert app.

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The Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation (Mr. Davis) made a Statement to recognize Mi'kmaw artist, Mr. Nelson White on the occasion of his oil painting "Veteran Elder" soon to be on display at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian.

By consent, the Leader of the Official Opposition (Mr. Crosbie) tabled a document entitled "PC Action Plan: Jobs and Growth for our Offshore" during Oral Questions.

The Honourable the Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology (Mr. Parsons) tabled a document entitled "The Way Forward on Oil and Gas: Advance 2030" during Oral Questions.

The Chair of the Standing Orders Committee (Ms. Coady) presented a report entitled "Report of the Standings Orders Committee, September 14, 2020".

The Chair of the Privileges and Elections Committee (Mr. Bragg) presented a report entitled "Question of Privilege: The Premature Distribution of a Report of an Officer of the House of Assembly, September 2020".

The Honourable the Minister of Finance (Ms. Coady) tabled a document entitled "COVID-19 Contingency Analysis: As At September 13, 2020".

The Member for Lake Melville (Mr. Trimper) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following Resolution:

"WHEREAS this Government is aggressively investing and partnering with farmers, harvesters and food producers;

AND WHEREAS traditional industries, such as agriculture, are important economic drivers and help to diversify the economy;

AND WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has further identified the importance of local gardens, country food and the agricultural sector in Newfoundland and Labrador;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly supports the continued growth of the agricultural sector and supports the initiatives of Government to meet the goal of increasing Provincial food self-sufficiency to 20 percent by 2020".

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) announced, pursuant to Standing Order 63(3), that the Resolution of which the Member for Lake Melville (Mr. Trimper) had given notice would be debated on Private Members' Day, Wednesday, September 16th.

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The Honourable the Minister of Finance (Ms. Coady) gave notice that she would on tomorrow move that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to Consider a Resolution for the Granting of Interim Supply to Her Majesty (Bill No. 40).

The Honourable the Minister of Digital Government and Service NL (Ms. Stoodley) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce a Bill entitled “An Act To Amend The Insurance Contracts Act” (Bill No. 41).

The Chair of the Standing Orders Committee (Ms. Coady) gave notice that she would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following motion:

“THAT the House of Assembly concur in the report of the Standing Orders Committee dated September 14, 2020”.

The Chair of the Privileges and Elections Committee (Mr. Bragg) gave notice that he would on tomorrow ask leave to introduce the following motion:

“THAT the House of Assembly concur in the report of the Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections on the premature distribution of a report of an officer of the House of Assembly”.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) 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 Tuesday, September 15, 2020 and Thursday, September 17, 2020.

By leave and pursuant to notice, the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) moved the following motion:

“THAT notwithstanding any Standing Order to the contrary, a Member shall stand to be recognized by the Speaker but shall speak in debate from a seated position in accordance with the recommendations of the Chief Medical Officer of Health”.

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

By leave and pursuant to notice, the Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) moved that the Member for Harbour Grace – Port de Grave (Ms. Parsons) be elected Deputy Speaker of the House.

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

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The Member for Stephenville – Port au Port (Mr. Wakeham) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to maintain and repair the roadway through the community of Cold Brook.

The Honourable the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (Mr. Bragg) replied to the Petition.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (Ms. Evans) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to increase the lifeline block to 3500 kWh when applying the Northern Strategic Plan subsidy to the electricity bills of Northern Labrador residents of the Torngat region.

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 provide bus passes to all income support recipients, all seniors who receive the income supplement and all low income recipients who are in receipt of the NLPDP.

The Member for Ferryland (Mr. O’Driscoll) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to support the ambulance service in the area of Bay Bulls to Bauline to meet the national standard for response times.

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 expedite the process to resume operations at the Bull Arm Fabrication Site.

The Honourable the Government House Leader (Mr. Crocker) requested leave to proceed with debate on a Bill entitled “That the House Resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to Consider A Resolution Relating to the Granting of Supply to Her Majesty” (Bill No. 40). Leave was not granted.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, September 15th at 1:30 o’clock in the afternoon.

On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.