

Monday, March 13, 2023

The House met at 1:30 p.m.

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Members' Statements**

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Burin - Grand Bank (P. Pike) recognizing Principal Jean Ann Lambert, teacher Julia Grant-Pretty and other teachers and students of Holy Name of Mary Academy in Lawn.

The Member for Exploits (P. Forsey) recognizing Bob Sheppard of Bishop's Falls for their volunteer work.

The Member for Conception Bay South (B. Petten) recognizing Leah McDonald and all the CBS Brightstar athletes and coaches who participated in the Special Olympics Winter Games held in Grand Falls-Windsor.

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) recognizing pairs skaters Mark Butt of Bloomfield and Lily Evans of Pouch Cove for their achievements at the Canada Winter Games..

The Member for Cape St. Francis (J. Wall) recognizing 17 athletes, coaches and staff from the district who competed at the 2023 Canada Winter Games.

### **Ministerial Statements**

The following Ministers provided statements:

The Leader of the Government in the House (A. Furey) recognizing the legacy of the late Gordon Pinsent.

The Leader of the Official Opposition (D. Brazil) and the Leader of the Third Party (J. Dinn) responded to the statement.

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) regarding the extension of the tax reduction on gasoline and diesel.

The Leader of the Official Opposition (D. Brazil) and the Member for Labrador West (J. Brown) responded to the statement.

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## Oral Questions

The House proceeded to Oral Questions.

## Presenting Reports by Standing and Select Committees

There were no reports by Standing or Select Committees presented.

## Tabling of Documents

Pursuant to section 10 of the *Architectures Act, 2008*, the Minister of Digital Government and Services NL (S. Stoodley) tabled:

Architects Licensing Board of Newfoundland and Labrador: 13th Annual Report, 2022.

Pursuant to paragraph 26(5)(a) of the *Financial Administration Act*, the Minister of Finance (S. Coady) tabled the following pre-commitments:

Order in Council 2022-256 authorizing a pre-commitment of funds for the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure for the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$67,500 in fiscal year 2023-24; \$81,000 per year in fiscal years 2024-25 through 2032-33; and, \$13,500 in fiscal year 2033-34, excluding HST, to facilitate a lease agreement with CCA Management Inc. for 2,413 square feet of office space in Mount Pearl; and

Order in Council 2022-257 authorizing a pre-commitment of funds for the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure for the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$115,751.75 per year in fiscal years 2023-24 through 2025-26, and \$23,467.48 in fiscal year 2026-27, excluding HST, to facilitate a lease agreement with Goose Real Estate Limited for 3,965 square feet of office space in Roddickton-Bide Arm, and

Order in Council 2022-260 authorizing a pre-commitment of funds for the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure for the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$11,900,000 in 2023-24; \$13,500,000 in 2024-25; \$7,400,000 in 2025-26 and \$5,000,000 in 2026-27, excluding HST, to facilitate the

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award of a contract to Marco Group Limited to redevelop the Health Science Centre Emergency Department, and

Order in Council 2022-292 authorizing a pre-commitment of funds for the Office of the Chief Information Officer for the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$4,151,500 in 2023-24, \$5,435,300 in 2024-25, \$6,311,000 in 2025-26 and \$6,327,800 in 2026-27, to facilitate a five-year agreement with Microsoft Canada Inc., and

Order in Council 2022-283 authorizing a pre-commitment of funds for the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure for the following amounts against budgetary appropriations: \$19,997.85 in 2023-24; \$26,943.24 in each of 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27; and \$20,207.43 in 2027-28, excluding HST, to facilitate the award of a contract to Pitney Bowers of Canada Ltd. for the lease of a mail inserter machine at St. John's, and

Order in Council 2023-007 authorizing a pre-commitment of funds for the Department of Health and Community Services for the following amounts against budgetary appropriations: \$660,000 for 2023-24 to facilitate entering into a contract with Deloitte Inc. for the development of a health human resource plan, and

Order in Council 2023-008 authorizing a pre-commitment of funds for the Department of Industry, Energy and Technology to pre-commit the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations for 2023-24: up to \$188,915 to facilitate a contract with the Sheraton Hotel Newfoundland; and up to \$20,900 to facilitate a contract with the DoubleTree by Hilton St. John's Harbourview, to enable the Province to host the 2023 Southeastern United States-Canadian Provinces Alliance Conference, and

Order in Council 2023-009 authorizing a pre-commitment of funds for the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure for the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$1,641,270.44 in 2023-24 and \$400,000 in 2024-25, excluding HST, to facilitate the award of a contract to Can-Am Platforms & Construction Ltd. to refurbish the three main elevators at the Confederation Building – East Block in St. John's, and

Order in Council 2023-034 authorizing a pre-commitment of funds for the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture for the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$23,028.82 in each of the fiscal years 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28, to facilitate a five-year lease

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agreement with Heska Canada Limited for three blood gas analyzers, one blood chemistry analyzer, one hematology analyzer and consumable supplies, and

Order in Council 2023-044 authorizing a pre-commitment of funds for the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure for the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$894,000 in 2023-24, excluding HST, to facilitate the award of a contract to The Window Shop Inc. and Coastal Building Products & Services Ltd.; and \$511,551 in 2023-24, excluding HST, to facilitate the award of a contract to Elektra Services Inc. to support the redevelopment of the former Brinton Memorial Elementary in St. John's into a new film school for the College of the North Atlantic.

### **Notices of Motion**

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider a resolution and related Bill 25 for the granting of supplementary supply to His Majesty.

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) gave notice they would on tomorrow introduce a bill entitled:

“An Act to Amend the Revenue Administration Act No. 3” (Bill 27)

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Ways and Means to consider a resolution and related Bill 28 relating to the advancing or guaranteeing of certain loans made under *The Loan and Guarantee Act, 1957*.

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the House approve in general the budgetary policy of the government.

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider a resolution and related Bill 26 for the granting of supply to His Majesty.

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The Minister of Health and Community Services (T. Osborne) gave notice they would on tomorrow introduce bills entitled:

“An Act to Amend the Patient Safety Act” (Bill 31); and

“An Act to Amend the Pharmaceutical Services Act” (Bill 32).

The Minister of Digital Government and Services NL (S. Stoodley) gave notice they would on tomorrow introduce bills entitled:

“An Act to Amend the Architects Act, 2008” (Bill 29); and

“An Act Respecting the Regulation of Mortgage Brokerages and Mortgage Brokers in the Province” (Bill 30)

Pursuant to Standing Order 11(1), the Government House Leader (J. Hogan) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the House not adjourn at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14.

The Government House Leader (J. Hogan) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the following motion:

**THAT** notwithstanding Standing Order 9, this House shall not adjourn at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, but shall continue to sit for the conduct of government business and, if not earlier adjourned, the Speaker shall adjourn the House at midnight.

Pursuant to Standing Order 11(1), the Government House Leader (J. Hogan) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the House not adjourn at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 16.

Pursuant to Standing Order 63(3), the Opposition House Leader (B. Petten) announced the resolution for which notice had been given by the Member for Harbour Main (H. Conway Ottenheimer) on November 8, 2022, will be the one presented on Wednesday, March 15, 2023.

### **Answers to Questions for Which Notice Has Been Given**

There were no answers to questions for which notice had been given.

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## **Petitions**

The following Members presented petitions:

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) regarding adding an indexing provision to the provincial online calculator to avoid clawing back increases that seniors receive federally.

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) replied to the petition.

The Member for Stephenville - Port au Port (T. Wakeham) regarding a new long-term care facility for the residents of Bay St. George.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) regarding affordable and reliable transportation between Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Northern Labrador communities.

The Member for Labrador West (J. Brown) regarding committing to a timeline for opening publicly-run collaborative team clinics across the province.

The Member for Ferryland (L. O'Driscoll) regarding full time, full coverage ambulance and advanced care paramedic services in the district.

## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

The Speaker called orders of the day.

Pursuant to notice, the Government House Leader (J. Hogan) moved the House not adjourn at 5:30 p.m.

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

Pursuant to notice and on motion, the following bills were introduced and read the first time:

A bill,            "An Act to Amend the Management of Information Act and the House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act." (Bill 22),  
and

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A bill, "An Act to Amend Various Acts of the Province Respecting the Alternate Witnessing of Documents by Lawyers." (Bill 23)

On motion, it was ordered the above-noted bills be read the second time on tomorrow.

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) informed the House a Message had been received from the Lieutenant Governor.

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

"7 March 2023

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 2024, by way of Interim Supply, and in accordance with 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"

Pursuant to notice and on motion, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Supply to consider the Message together with a resolution and a related bill entitled "An Act for Granting to His Majesty Certain Sums of Money for Defraying Certain Expenses of the Public Service for the Financial Year Ending March 31, 2024 and for Other Purposes Relating to the Public Service" (Bill 21) for the granting of interim supply to His Majesty.

The Speaker left the Chair.

The Deputy Speaker (B. Warr) took the Chair of Committee of the Whole on Supply.

On motion, the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chair (P. Trimper) reported the Committee of the Whole on Supply had considered the matters to them referred, reported they had made progress and asked leave to sit again.

The Speaker put the question and it was ordered the report be received and adopted.

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The Speaker put the question and it was ordered the Committee have leave to sit again.

On motion, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, March 14 at 1:30 p.m.

**Sandra Barnes**

Clerk of the House of Assembly