

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

The House met at 10 a.m.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Pursuant to notice and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on the motion standing in the name of the Government House Leader (J. Hogan) as follows:

THAT, notwithstanding Standing Order 8(3)(b), at the conclusion of proceedings on Wednesday, April 5, 2023 that this House do adjourn to Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

Pursuant to notice and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on the resolution standing in the name of the Government House Leader (J. Hogan) as follows:

WHEREAS the Commissioner for Legislative Standards issued a report further to an inquiry under subsection 42(2) of the *House of Assembly Act* entitled “The Tibbs Report” on September 14, 2022;

AND WHEREAS the Speaker of the House of Assembly tabled the “The Tibbs Report” in this House of October 12, 2022;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House concur in the report of the Commissioner for Legislative Standards entitled “The Tibbs Report”.

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

On motion, debate continued on the motion “That this House approve in general the budgetary policy of the Government” (budget motion).

During the debate, the Member for Conception Bay South (B. Petten) moved the following amendment to the budget motion (being a non-confidence motion):

THAT all the words after the word “That” be deleted in the motion before the House, Motion 1, and the following words be substituted: “this House faults the Liberal government for its failure to do enough to retain nurses and other healthcare professionals, its failure to reopen emergency rooms and eliminate backlogs with the urgency warranted, its failure to fully implement the Health Accord, its failure to lower the cost of living in this province for seniors and families,

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its failure to invest properly in students from early childhood to K-12 to postsecondary, and its failure to deliver a solid economic plan.”

The Speaker recessed the proceedings to consider the amendment.

The Speaker resumed the Chair and ruled the amendment in order.

Debate commenced on the amendment to the budget motion (being a non-confidence motion) and, on motion, debate was adjourned for further debate presently.

On motion, the House recessed at 12:12 p.m.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Members' Statements

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Baie Verte - Green Bay (B. Warr) recognizing the Springdale Braves, who joined with the Grand Falls-Windsor Cataracts to win the female U-11 division “A” provincial hockey title.

The Member for Placentia - St. Mary's (S. Gambin-Walsh) congratulating Healey's Store in Freshwater, Placentia, on celebrating their 65th year in business.

The Member for Placentia West - Bellevue (J. Dwyer) recognizing Sunnyside on the grand opening of their new Wellness Centre.

The Member for St. George's - Humber (S. Reid) recognizing Conrad White and the St. Georges volunteer group Helping Hand.

The Member for Mount Scio (S. Stoodley), with leave, recognizing Herman Perry on the completion of his transcontinental canoe journey from Rigolet, Labrador to Emmonak, Alaska on the Bering Sea.

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Ministerial Statements

The following Ministers provided statements:

The Minister of Children, Seniors and Social Development (J. Abbott) recognizing the contributions of Penelope Rowe, on her retirement as the leader of the Community Sector Council of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) and the Leader of the Third Party (J. Dinn) responded to the statement.

The Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology (A. Parsons) congratulating Notch Embedded, winner of the 2023 Mel Woodward Cup.

The Members for Conception Bay South (B. Petten) and Labrador West (J. Brown) responded to the statement.

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

Order in Council 2023-072 authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit funds against its budgetary appropriations in the amount of \$305,523.00 per year for fiscal years 2023-24 through 2032-33, excluding HST, to facilitate the extension of a lease agreement with Moore Holdings Ltd. for 12,270 square feet of space at 28 Pippy Place, in St. John's.

The Minister of Finance (S. Coady) tabled:

Budget 2023, Your Health. Our Priority. – Fact Sheet

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Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

Answers to Questions for Which Notice Has Been Given

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

Petitions

The following Members presented petitions:

The Member for Topsail - Paradise (P. Dinn) regarding access to mental healthcare in the province.

The Minister of Health and Community Services (T. Osborne) replied to the petition.

The Member for St. John's Centre (J. Dinn) regarding providing a retention bonus to all eligible hospital support staff.

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) regarding reinstatement of driver's road testing in Bonavista to serve residents of the area.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Pursuant to notice and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on the resolution standing in the name of the Member for St. John's Centre (J. Dinn):

WHEREAS our health care services are in crisis, and government is making more space for private profit in our publicly funded, publicly administered system as a quick fix;

AND WHEREAS US-style private health care draws workers and resources from our already strained public system, leading to a further erosion of service and patient well-being;

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AND WHEREAS private deals for health services and infrastructure lack transparency, often come with significant strings and risks attached, and cost citizens more than a publicly provided and managed equivalent;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this House urge the government to say no to any further privatization of our health care system, roll back current privatization, and invest in a publicly funded, publicly administered public health care system.

The Speaker put the question and declared the resolution was defeated.

Pursuant to Standing Order 24(3)(b)(ii) and on motion, debate continued on the amendment to the budget motion (being a non-confidence motion) and, on motion, debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

Pursuant to Standing Order 9(3), the Speaker adjourned the House until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 25 at 1:30 p.m.

Sandra Barnes
Clerk of the House of Assembly