

Thursday, October 19, 2023

The House met at 1:30 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Members' Statements

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Lake Melville (P. Trimper) recognizing Richard Dyson of Happy Valley-Goose Bay on completion of his 43rd Terry Fox Run.

The Member for Mount Pearl - Southlands (P. Lane) recognizing Alex Fahey, recent graduate of O'Donel High School, who represented the school at the Students Commission of Canada's #CanadaWeWant Conference in Toronto.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (L. Stoyles) recognizing Our Lady Queen of Families Parish for collaborating with the City of Mount Pearl to open a warming centre in the community.

The Member for Placentia - St. Mary's (S. Gambin-Walsh) recognizing entrepreneur Jake Griffiths and his Wiener Wagon mobile vending cart.

The Member for Placentia West - Bellevue (J. Dwyer) recognizing October 2023 as Foster Families Month in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Ministerial Statements

The following Minister provided statements:

The Minister of Justice and Public Safety (J. Hogan) acknowledging three young entrepreneurs: Jack Boland, Jacob Sheppard, and Brandon Ivey, known as the Scrub Squad, who run a graffiti removal company.

The Members for Harbour Main (H. Conway Ottenheimer) and Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) responded to the statement.

Oral Questions

The House proceeded to Oral Questions.

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Point of Order

The Minister of Justice and Public Safety (J. Hogan) raised a point of order under Standing Order 49 regarding comments made by the Leader of the Third Party during oral questions.

The Leader of the Third Party spoke to the point of order.

The Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Presenting Reports by Standing and Select Committees

There were no reports by Standing or Select Committees presented.

Tabling of Documents

Pursuant to section 25(5)(a) of the *Financial Administration Act*, the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (S. Coady) tabled the following pre-commitments:

Order in Council 2023-132: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$166,527.50 per year in fiscal years 2024-25 through 2027-28 and \$152,650.00 in 2028-29, excluding HST, to facilitate a lease agreement for 5,645 square feet of office space in Channel-Port aux Basques with RAS Holdings Limited.

Order in Council 2023-133: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$96,000.00 per year in fiscal years 2024-25 through 2027-28 and \$16,000.00 in 2028-29, excluding HST, to facilitate the renewal of a lease agreement for 13,378 square feet of office space in Stephenville with Hulan Holdings Ltd.

Order in Council 2023-134: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the following amounts against its budget appropriations: \$119,400 per year in fiscal years 2024-25 through 2027-28 and

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\$109,450 in 2028-29, excluding HST, to facilitate a lease agreement for 2,480 square feet of office space and 3,000 square feet garage space in Deer Lake with C-Mac Construction Limited.

Order in Council 2023-135: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the following amounts against its budget appropriations: \$119,255.00 per year in fiscal years 2024-25 through 2027-28 and \$19,875.84 in 2028-29, excluding HST, to facilitate the renewal of a lease agreement for 14,769 square feet of space in Happy Valley-Goose Bay with Goose Real Estate Limited.

Order in Council 2023-182: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$133,440 in each of fiscal years 2024-25 through 2027-28 and \$22,240 in fiscal year 2028-29, excluding HST, to facilitate the renewal of a lease agreement for 13,380 square feet of space in Wabush with Construction & Expertise PG Inc.

Order in Council 2023-184: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the following amounts against its budget appropriations: \$694,422.00 in each of fiscal years 2024-25 through 2032-33 and \$671,591.69 in 2033-34, excluding HST, to facilitate a lease agreement for 20,760 square feet of space in St. John's with Morgan Enterprises Limited.

Order in Council 2023-185: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the following amounts against its budget appropriations: \$82,500 in each of fiscal years 2024-25 through 2027-28 and \$13,750 in fiscal year 2028-29, excluding HST, to facilitate the renewal of a lease agreement for 13,448 square feet of space in Grand Falls-Windsor with Newlab Holdings Limited.

Order in Council 2023-186: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the following amounts against its budget appropriations: \$126,531.65 in each of fiscal years 2024-25 through 2027-28 and \$21,088.60 in fiscal year 2028-29, excluding HST, to facilitate the renewal of a lease agreement for 3,727 square feet of space in St. John's with Fairview Investments Limited.

Order in Council 2023-203: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the following amounts against its budgetary

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appropriations: \$136,140 per year for fiscal years 2024-25 to 2027-28, inclusive, and \$45,380 for fiscal year 2028-29, excluding HST, to facilitate the renewal of a lease agreement for 13,091 square feet of space in Whitbourne with Morgan Enterprises Limited.

Order in Council 2023-204: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit against its budgetary appropriations \$129,471.79 per year for fiscal years 2024-25 to 2033-34, inclusive, excluding HST, to facilitate a lease agreement for 3,437 square feet of office space in Springdale office space with Noble's Construction Limited.

Order in Council 2023-221: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the amount of \$469,241 in 2024-25, excluding HST, against its budgetary appropriations, to facilitate the award of a contract to Pittman's Enterprises Limited for renovations at St. Mary's All Grade School, Mary's Harbour.

Order in Council 2023-222: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the amount of \$720,748 in 2024-25, excluding HST, against its budgetary appropriations, to facilitate the award of a contract to Eastern Contracting Limited for the replacement of windows and doors at MacDonald Drive Elementary School, St. John's.

Order in Council 2023-228: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the amount of \$16,567,651 excluding HST, against its budgetary appropriations in fiscal year 2024-25, to facilitate the purchase of plow trucks and associated attachments from Harvey & Company Limited.

Order in Council 2023-229: authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the amount of \$510,779 excluding HST, against its budgetary appropriations in fiscal year 2024-25, to facilitate the purchase of two tractor trucks from Hickman Motors Limited o/a Hickman Truck Centre.

Pursuant to paragraph 19(5)(a) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Speaker tabled the minutes of the meetings of the House of Assembly Management Commission held on:

February 21, 2023;

February 22, 2023;

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May 24, 2023;

June 7, 2023;

June 14, 2023;

July 12, 2023; and

August 9, 2023.

Notices of Motion

The Minister of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation (S. Crocker) gave notice they would on tomorrow introduce a bill entitled:

“An Act to Repeal the Colonial Building Act” (Bill 57).

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 Monday, October 23.

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 Harbour Main (H. Conway Ottenheimer) regarding amendments to the *Limitations Act* to remove limitation periods for civil child abuse claims.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) regarding amendments to the *Limitations Act* to remove limitation periods for civil child abuse claims.

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The Member for Humber - Bay of Islands (E. Joyce) regarding amendments to the *Limitations Act* to remove limitation periods for civil child abuse claims.

The Member for Mount Pearl - Southlands (P. Lane) regarding the need to institute a six-month pause on approving industry projects on the Southwest Coast to conduct assessment studies and consultations.

The Minister of Environment and Climate Change (B. Davis) replied to the petition.

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) regarding the need to bring forward legislation to remove collapsed and dilapidated structures in unincorporated areas or LSDs.

The Municipal and Provincial Affairs (J. Haggie) replied to the petition.

The Member for St. John's Centre (J. Dinn) regarding the need to ensure the Provincial Information and Library Resources Board has the resources it needs to meet the demand for library services in the province.

The Member for Ferryland (L. O'Driscoll) regarding upgrades to the Witless Bay Line.

The Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (J. Abbott) replied to the petition.

Standing Order 36 – Matters of Urgent Public Importance

Pursuant to Standing Order 36, the Leader of the Third Party (J. Dinn), asked leave to move the adjournment to discuss a matter of urgent public importance regarding the affordability of housing in the province.

The Speaker ruled debate on the matter was not of urgent public importance and ruled the debate could not proceed.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The Speaker called orders of the day.

Pursuant to order and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on second reading of a bill entitled "An Act Respecting the King's Printer" (Bill 49).

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Pursuant to order and on motion, a bill entitled “An Act Respecting the King’s Printer” (Bill 49) was read the second time and, on motion, it was ordered that Bill 49 be referred to a Committee of the Whole now.

The Chair (B. Warr) reported the Committee of the Whole had considered the matters to them referred and had directed them to report the Committee had recommended, without amendment, a bill entitled:

“An Act Respecting the King’s Printer” (Bill 49).

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

On motion, it was ordered that Bill 49 be read the third time on tomorrow.

On motion, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Monday, October 23 at 1:30 p.m.

Kim Hawley George, KC
Clerk of the House of Assembly (A)