

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

The House met at 1:30 p.m.

## **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

### **Members' Statements**

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Baie Verte - Green Bay (B. Warr) congratulating Grayson Budgell of Triton on his iceberg business venture.

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) celebrating the humanitarian efforts of Mark Clench of Princeton in supporting youth mental health.

The Member for Cape St. Francis (J. Wall) recognizing the yearly cross-Canada motorcycle ride, the Rolling Barrage, raising awareness to combat the stigma associated with post-traumatic stress disorder.

The Member for Grand Falls-Windsor - Buchans (C. Tibbs) honouring Chad Haggett for his volunteer and community work in Grand Falls-Windsor and throughout the province.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) recognizing Tony Andersen, former Member of the Nunatsiavut Government, for his work towards improving lives of Nunatsiavut people.

### **Ministerial Statements**

The following Ministers provided statements:

The Minister of Justice and Public Safety (J. Hogan) acknowledging volunteer firefighters across the province.

The Members for Harbour Main (H. Conway Ottenheimer) and Labrador West (J. Brown) responded to the statement.

### **Oral Questions**

The House proceeded to Oral Questions.

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## Presenting Reports by Standing and Select Committees

The Chair of the Standing Orders Committee (J. Hogan) presented a report entitled:

Standing Orders Committee - 50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly - Report 2. October 24, 2023.

## Tabling of Documents

The Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (J. Abbott) tabled:

Information respecting next steps and a preliminary schedule for the replacement of the Canning Bridge in Marystown.

## Notices of Motion

The Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (S. Coady) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the following resolution:

**WHEREAS** the harmonized sales tax base is established by the Government of Canada pursuant to the federal *Excise Tax Act* and the collection of harmonized sales tax is administered by the Canada Revenue Agency; and

**WHEREAS** a rebate of the federal portion of the harmonized sales tax on new purpose-built rental housing is provided by the federal government under the Government of Canada's existing and enhanced GST/HST New Residential Rental Property Rebate; and

**WHEREAS** the government intends to provide a rebate of the provincial portion of the harmonized sales tax on new-purpose built rental housing;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that a rebate of the provincial portion of the harmonized sales tax on new-purpose built rental housing be provided and that the rebate mirror the government of Canada's existing and enhanced GST/HST New Residential Property Rebate.

The Chair of the Standing Orders Committee (J. Hogan) gave notice they would on tomorrow move the following motion:

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**THAT** this House concur in the second report of the Standing Orders Committee of the 50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly tabled October 24, 2023.

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

**THAT** in accordance with Standing Order 65, the Public Accounts Committee shall comprise the following Members:

Member for Harbour Main (H. Conway Ottenheimer)  
Member for Placentia - St. Mary's (S. Gambin-Walsh)  
Member for Baie Verte - Green Bay (B. Warr)  
Member for Exploits (P. Forsey)  
Member for Labrador West (J. Brown)  
Member for Lake Melville (P. Trimper)  
Member for St. George's - Humber (S. Reid)

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

The Minister of Digital Government and Service NL (S. Stoodley) provided additional information in response to a question that had previously arisen in debate.

### **Petitions**

The following Members presented petitions:

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

The Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology (A. Parsons) replied to the petition.

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

The Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) regarding timely access to medical care for patients in northern Labrador by ensuring medical flights are available for patients as needed.

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The Member for Exploits (P. Forsey) regarding increased enforcement of ATV activity in the district.

The Member for Mount Pearl - Southlands (P. Lane) regarding amendments to the *Limitations Act* to remove limitation periods for civil child abuse claims.

The Member for Labrador West (J. Brown) regarding the need to enact legislation banning the use of temporary replacement workers during a strike or lockout.

## 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, the Government House Leader (J. Hogan) moved:

**THAT** notwithstanding Standing Order 9, this House shall not adjourn at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, October 25, 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.

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

Pursuant to notice, the Government House Leader (J. Hogan) moved the House not adjourn at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 26.

The Speaker put the question and declared the motion carried.

Pursuant to order and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on second reading of a bill entitled “An Act to Amend the Highway Traffic Act, the City of Corner Brook Act, the City of Mount Pearl Act, the City of St. John’s Act and the Municipalities Act, 1999” (Bill 55).

Pursuant to order and on motion, a bill entitled “An Act to Amend the Highway Traffic Act, the City of Corner Brook Act, the City of Mount Pearl Act, the City of St. John’s Act and

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the Municipalities Act, 1999” (Bill 55) was read the second time and, on motion, it was ordered that Bill 55 be referred to a Committee of the Whole presently.

The Deputy Government House Leader (L. Dempster) informed the House of an adjustment required to the title of Bill 43 in the records of the Assembly, that it will now be reflected as follows:

“An Act to Amend the Schools Act, 1997 No. 2” (Bill 43)

Pursuant to order and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on second reading of a bill entitled “An Act to Amend the Schools Act, 1997 No. 2” (Bill 43).

Pursuant to order and on motion, a bill entitled “An Act to Amend the Schools Act, 1997 No. 2” (Bill 43) was read the second time and, on motion, it was ordered that Bill 43 be referred to a Committee of the Whole on tomorrow.

Pursuant to order and on motion, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider a bill entitled “An Act to Amend the Highway Traffic Act, the City of Corner Brook Act, the City of Mount Pearl Act, the City of St. John’s Act and the Municipalities Act, 1999 (Bill 55).

The Speaker left the Chair.

The Deputy Chair of Committees (P. Trimper) took the Chair of Committee of the Whole.

On motion, the Committee rose.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chair (P. Trimper) 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 to Amend the Highway Traffic Act, the City of Corner Brook Act, the City of Mount Pearl Act, the City of St. John’s Act and the Municipalities Act, 1999” (Bill 55).

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

On motion, it was ordered that Bill 55 be read the third time on tomorrow.

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The Member for Humber - Bay of Islands (E. Joyce) asked for leave to withdraw the Private Member's Resolution for which notice was given on Monday, October 23.

Leave was granted.

The Speaker sought confirmation leave had been granted that, notwithstanding Standing Order 63, this House would not proceed with Private Members' Day on Wednesday, October 25 but would instead meet at 2 p.m. on that day for routine proceedings and the conduct of Government business, and further that the Member for Humber - Bay of Islands would give notice of a new Private Member's Motion, the debate of which would be deferred to the following Private Member's Day.

Leave was granted.

The Member for Humber - Bay of Islands (E. Joyce) asked for leave to give notice of the following Private Member's Resolution to be debated on Wednesday, November 1:

**WHEREAS** there is a housing crisis in Newfoundland and Labrador;

**WHEREAS** there are many vulnerable residents who need social housing;

**WHEREAS** families are split as residents are in emergency shelters or hotels;

**WHEREAS** in Corner Brook, the Mayor of Corner Brook stated publicly that the 12 housing units in Corner Brook are not adequate;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this House of Assembly urge the Government to immediately take steps to reduce the lack of social housing in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Leave was granted.

Pursuant to Standing Order 63(3), the Speaker confirmed with the Member for Humber - Bay of Islands (E. Joyce) that the resolution introduced by that Member will be the one presented on Wednesday, November 1.

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On motion, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, October 25 at 10 a.m.

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