

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

The House met at 10 a.m.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

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 missing the mark for seniors; missing the mark for students, teachers and children; missing the mark on health care; missing the mark for persons with disabilities; missing the mark for Labradorians; missing the mark in the fisheries; missing the mark for businesses wrapped in red tape; and missing the mark for everyone struggling to make ends meet while paying their high taxes.

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 12:26 p.m.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Members’ Statements

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Labrador West (J. Brown) recognizing Michael Martin, the first Labrador-born MHA who represented the district of Labrador South from 1972 to 1975, for his work designing the Labrador flag in 1974.

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The Member for Humber - Bay of Islands (E. Joyce) recognizing the late Gordon Hamlyn of Corner Brook for his contributions to the communities of Corner Brook and Curling.

The Member for Lake Melville (P. Trimper) congratulating Sakib Ibn Rashid Rhivu, known as Rhivu Rashid, on his recent performance at the Maritime Cubing Championships.

The Member for Mount Pearl - Southlands (P. Lane) congratulating the winners of the Mount Pearl-Paradise Chamber of Commerce Best in Business Awards.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (L. Stoyles) recognizing the contributions of volunteers in the district.

Ministerial Statements

The following Ministers provided statements:

The Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs (J. Haggie) recognizing the annual Professional Municipal Administrators Annual Convention and Trade Show that took place from April 9 to 11 in Gander.

The Members for Grand Falls-Windsor - Buchans (C. Tibbs) and Labrador West (J. Brown) responded to the statement.

The Minister of Labrador Affairs and Minister Responsible for Indigenous Affairs and Reconciliation (L. Dempster) recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Labrador flag: March 31, 2024.

The Members for Terra Nova (L. Parrott) and Labrador West (J. Brown) responded to the statement.

Oral Questions

The House proceeded to Oral Questions.

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Point of Order

Following Oral Questions, the Member for Humber - Bay of Islands (E. Joyce) raised a point of order requesting the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (J. Abbott) table certain documents. The Speaker ruled there was no point of order.

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-commitments:

Order-in-Council 2024-019 authorizing the Office of the Chief Information Officer to pre-commit up to \$40,702 plus HST, against its budgetary appropriations for fiscal year 2024-25, to facilitate an agreement with the New Gower Hotel GP Ltd. operating as the Delta Hotels — St. John's Conference Centre, to host delegates to the Federal, Provincial, and Territorial Ministers Symposium on Digital Trust and Cybersecurity;

Order-in-Council 2024-020 authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the following amounts against its budgetary appropriations: \$175,448 in fiscal years 2024-25 to 2032-33, and \$160,828 in 2033- 34, excluding HST, to facilitate a lease agreement for 6,748 square feet of space at 59 Clyde Avenue, Mount Pearl, with the City of Mount Pearl; and

Order-in-Council 2024-021 authorizing the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to pre-commit the amount of \$3,560,520, excluding HST, against its budgetary appropriations for fiscal year 2024-25, to facilitate the award of a contract to Wajax Limited for the supply and commissioning of six ferry engines for the M.V. Veteran and M.V. Legionnaire.

Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

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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 Terra Nova (L. Parrott) regarding amendments to the *Limitations Act* to remove limitation periods for civil child abuse claims.

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

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

Point of Order

During Petitions, the Member for Humber - Bay of Islands (E. Joyce) raised a point of order regarding comments by the Member for St. John's East - Quidi Vidi (J. Abbott) during oral questions.

The Speaker took the matter under advisement.

By leave, the Member for Humber - Bay of Islands (E. Joyce) tabled:

Listing of provincial road work funding; and
Excerpt from CBC news coverage.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

The Speaker called orders of the day.

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.

On motion, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, April 18 at 1:30 p.m.

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