

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

The House met at 10 a.m.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Pursuant to order and on motion, the following bills were read the third time and passed:

- A bill, “An Act to Amend the Revenue Administration Act No. 6” (Bill 100);
- A bill, “An Act Respecting the Establishment of the Law Enforcement Oversight Commission and the Complaints Process Relating to Law Enforcement Officers” (Bill 102); and
- A bill, “An Act to Amend the Revenue Administration Act No. 7” (Bill 106).

Pursuant to order and on motion, debate commenced and concluded on third reading of the following bill:

- A bill, “An Act to Amend the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Atlantic Accord Implementation Newfoundland and Labrador Act” (Bill 90).

The Speaker put the question.

The Speaker declared the motion carried and said bill passed.

Point of Order

The Member for Terra Nova (L. Parrott) raised a point of order regarding the procedure followed during the calling of a Division during the Committee of the Whole’s consideration of Bill on Tuesday, March 11.

On motion, the House recessed at 10:09 a.m.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 11:19 a.m.

The Speaker took the point of order raised by the Member for Terra Nova (L. Parrott) under advisement.

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On motion, the House recessed at 11:20 a.m.

The Speaker resumed the Chair at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Members' Statements

The following Members provided statements:

The Member for Lake Melville (P. Trimper) recognizing Inuit elder and former MHA Joe Goudie for their preservation of Labrador culture and history.

The Member for Mount Pearl - Southlands (P. Lane) recognizing 17 recipients of the Confederation 75 Anniversary medal in the district.

The Member for Placentia - St. Mary's (S. Gambin-Walsh) recognizing Anthony Healey of St. Joseph's for their contributions to the community.

The Member for Conception Bay South (B. Petten) recognizing Elizabeth Nugent of Kelligrews on their 100th birthday.

The Member for Mount Pearl North (L. Stoyles) recognizing Ruth McDonald of Mount Pearl for their 50 years of service as a constituency assistant.

The Member for St. John's Centre (J. Dinn), with leave, recognizing Tom Brennan of St. John's and the success of the long-established barbershop on Alexander Street.

Ministerial Statements

The following Ministers provided statements:

The Minister of Immigration, Population Growth and Skills (S. Stoodley) highlighting 2024 as a record year for provincial immigration.

The Member for Terra Nova (L. Parrott) and the Leader of the Third Party (J. Dinn) responded to the statement.

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The Minister of Education (K.L. Howell) providing an update on efforts to increase access to early learning and child care.

The Member for Topsail - Paradise (P. Dinn) and the Leader of the Third Party (J. Dinn) 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

In accordance with recommendations of the Office of the Auditor General, the Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology (A. Parsons) tabled:

Junior Exploration Assistance Performance Measures Evaluation 2022-23; and

Junior Exploration Assistance Performance Measures Evaluation 2023-24.

Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

Answers to Questions for Which Notice Has Been Given

The Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs (J. Haggie) gave an answer to question 20 placed on the Order Paper of Wednesday, March 12 pursuant to Standing Order 51(1) by the Member for St. John's Centre (J. Dinn) respecting the coming into force of the *Emergency Health and Paramedicine Services Act and Regulations*.

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Petitions

The following Members presented petitions:

The Member for Bonavista (C. Pardy) regarding replacing the broken filtering screen at the Amherst Cove depot.

The Member for Harbour Main (H. Conway Ottenheimer) regarding road conditions in the district.

The Member for St. John's Centre (J. Dinn) regarding implementation of a HST rebate on home heating.

The Member for Torngat Mountains (L. Evans) regarding the reinstatement of marine services between the island portion of the province and Labrador.

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 Stephenville - Port au Port (T. Wakeham):

WHEREAS the Seniors' Advocate in her report titled "Long May Your Big Jib Draw: Setting Sail" as released in September 2019 recommended that the shingles vaccine be offered free of charge to low-income seniors and others with compromised immune systems;

WHEREAS in the same report the Seniors' Advocate wrote "Seniors recognize that shingles is a debilitating disease that can cause much suffering as well as increased costs to the health care system. Most health care plans do not cover this cost including the pharmaceutical care plan. Many seniors report that the cost is up to \$300 for the two inoculations; many cannot afford this cost";

WHEREAS the Seniors' Advocate has continued advocating for the coverage of the shingles vaccine; and

WHEREAS the Seniors' Advocate's 2025/2026 pre-budget submission recommends that the upcoming budget include funding to provide the shingles vaccine free of charge to seniors living in low income and others with compromised immune systems;

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BE IT RESOLVED that this honourable House urge the government to provide the shingles vaccine, free of charge, to seniors and individuals with compromised immune systems.

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

On motion, the House adjourned to the call of the Chair.

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