

Monday, April 14th, 2014

The House met at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Port de Grave (Mr. Littlejohn) made a Statement to congratulate the TriPen Ice Atlantic Triple A Pee Wee Hockey Champions.

The Member for Signal Hill – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) made a Statement to recognize Ed Dunne, City of St. John's Individual Volunteer of the Year.

The Member for The Straits – White Bay North (Mr. Mitchelmore) made a Statement to recognize Wayne Bartlett and Cheryl McCarron for their creativity and hard work in establishing Radio Quirpon.

The Member for St. John's East (Mr. Murphy) made a Statement to congratulate the Mary Queen of Peace pupils who raised \$20,000 for Shave for the Brave.

The Member for St. Barbe (Mr. Bennett) made a Statement to recognize volunteers in the District of St. Barbe and throughout the Province.

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) made a Statement to recognize Darrell Neil, Matthew Sweet and Travis Walters for rescuing snowmobiler Rick Sheaves.

The Honourable the Minister of Education (Mr. Jackman) made a Statement to inform the House about the launch of the cross-country We Create Change Tour in St. John's.

The Honourable the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Mr. Hutchings) made a Statement to inform the House that the MV Celtic Explorer would soon arrive in provincial waters to continue vital fisheries science work.

The Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (Mr. French) made a Statement to inform the House that the *Find Yourself* tourism marketing campaign had won a second consecutive Canadian eTourism Award.

The Honourable the Speaker (Mr. Wiseman), in compliance with Sections 8 and 10 of the *Public Tender Act*, tabled the Report of the *Public Tender Act* Exceptions for February 2014.

The Member for Signal Hill – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael) gave notice that she would on tomorrow move the following Resolution:

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“WHEREAS more than two-thirds of minimum wage earners in Newfoundland and Labrador are women, and one-fourth of minimum wage earners are the sole earners in their household;

AND WHEREAS the minimum wage is inadequate and does not provide enough money for the necessities of life because a person earning minimum wage working 40 hours a week makes \$20,800 a year which is barely above the Low-Income Cut-Off of \$19,496, and a working couple with two children are also close to low income;

AND WHEREAS in 2012 the Minimum Wage Review Committee recommended an increase in the minimum wage in 2013 to reflect the loss of purchasing power since 2010, and an annual adjustment beginning in 2014 to reflect the Consumer Price Index;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Government instead legislated two 25-cent increases, one in October 2014 and one in October 2015, with no indexing;

AND WHEREAS other provinces and territories are continuing to raise their minimum wage and six now have a higher minimum wage than Newfoundland and Labrador;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly urge Government to legislate an increase in the minimum wage in 2014 to reflect the loss of purchasing power since 2010, and make an annual adjustment to the minimum wage beginning in 2015 to reflect the Consumer Price Index.”

The Member for St. John’s North (Mr. Kirby) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to ensure more adequate level of access to specialist primary care-based oral surgery is provided in Newfoundland and Labrador and to review the level of financial assistance to residents who must leave the Province for oral surgery.

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to commit to the planning and construction of a new hospital in Corner Brook without further delay or changes.

The Member for The Straits – White Bay North (Mr. Mitchelmore) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to allocate funds to pave Route 434.

The Member for Burgeo – La Poile (Mr. Parsons) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge

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Government to include the section of road between Channel-Port aux Basques and Stephenville in the 24-hour snow clearing project.

The Member for St. John's Centre (Ms. Rogers) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to consider keeping Holy Cross school open.

The Member for Carbonear – Harbour Grace (Mr. Slade) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government of Newfoundland and Labrador to find a local operator for the New Ferolle fish plant.

The Member for Cartwright – L'Anse au Clair (Ms. Dempster) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to allocate resources to allow for permanent resurfacing of Route 510 from L'Anse au Clair to Red Bay.

The Member for St. John's South (Mr. Osborne) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to keep Holy Cross school open.

The Member for Mount Pearl South (Mr. Lane) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to change the outdated 1.6 km school busing eligibility policy in order to ensure safe travel to school for primary and elementary school children.

The Member for St. Barbe (Mr. Bennett) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government in partnership with the private sector to extend cell phone coverage throughout Gros Morne National Park and the enclave communities within the Park.

The Member for St. John's South (Mr. Osborne) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to complete the rehabilitation of the 11.75 kilometres of highway between Baie Verte and Fleur de Lys for which tenders have been announced.

Pursuant to order and on motion debate continued on the sub-amendment to the Budget motion and on motion debate was adjourned for further debate on tomorrow.

It was moved and seconded that when the House rose it would adjourn until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 15th at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

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On motion the House then adjourned accordingly.

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.