

Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The House met at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to adjournment.

The Member for Carbonear – Harbour Grace (Mr. Slade) made a Statement to congratulate Leslie Norman and Matthew Cooper winners respectively of the Senior and Junior Rose Bowls at the Kiwanis Music Festival.

The Member for Bellevue (Mr. Peach) made a Statement to congratulate Hailie Parsons and Steven Day Reid winners of first and second place respectively in the Community Five Lions speak off 2014.

The Member for Humber Valley (Mr. Ball) made a Statement to recognize Ruby's Rat Pack of Pasadena for their contribution to the Breast Cancer fundraising campaign.

The Member for St. John's North (Mr. Kirby) made a Statement to congratulate Teniqua Hayter for winning the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Bridge Building Competition organized by the Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Member for Conception Bay East – Bell Island (Mr. Brazil) made a Statement to congratulate Colin Abbott on his induction into the Newfoundland and Labrador Sports Hall of Fame.

The Member for Terra Nova (Mr. Collins) made a Statement to thank Mr. Ross Saunders for his lifetime of service to his community and to the charitable work of the SUF.

The Honourable the Minister of Service NL (Mr. Crummell) made a Statement to provide an update on the "Move Over" legislation.

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Dalley) made a Statement to inform the House about the success of Newfoundland and Labrador's agriculture and agrifoods industry.

The Honourable the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (Mr. French) made a Statement to congratulate figure skater Kaetlyn Osmond on her outstanding accomplishments culminating in her performance at the 2014 Winter Olympics.

The Honourable the Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board (Ms. Johnson) tabled pursuant to paragraph 26(5)(a) of the **Financial Administration Act**, the following pre-commitments:

- (a) Order in Council 2014-092 which authorized the Department of Transportation and Works to pre-commit funds in the amount of \$3,

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500,000 against its budgetary appropriations in 2015-16 to facilitate the award of a contract to J-1 Contracting Limited for the resurfacing of portions of Route 410 and Route 414 and for leveling of portions of Route 392;

- (b) Order in Council 2014-093 which authorized the Department of Transportation and Works to pre-commit funds in the amount of \$6,000,000 against its budgetary appropriations in 2015-16 to facilitate the award of a contract to J-1 Contracting Limited for the rehabilitation of portions of Route 360;
- (c) Order in Council 2014-094 which authorized the Department of Health and Community Services to pre-commit funds in the amount of \$10,990,000 against its budgetary appropriations in 2015-16 to facilitate the award of a contract to Pomerleau Inc. for the construction of a new molecular imaging facility to house a PET scanner.

The Member for St. John's East (Mr. Murphy) presented a Petition from certain residents of the Province calling upon the House of Assembly to urge Government to cease the use of chemicals covered under the pesticide ban and begin using safer methods of brush clearance.

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 intervene in the matter and instruct the English School Board to develop more suitable options than those imposed by the Board to address overcrowding in St. Peter's Elementary and Mount Pearl Senior High.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced and concluded on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Signal Hill – Quidi Vidi (Ms. Michael):

**“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;

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**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 Speaker put the question on the Resolution.

The House divided.

There appeared in favour of the motion: Ms. Michael, Mr. Murphy, Ms. Rogers.

Against: Mr. King, Ms. Shea, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Davis, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Crummell, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Jackman, Mr. Hutchings, Mr. Verge, Mr. Littlejohn, Mr. Hedderson, Mr. Dalley, Mr. French, Ms. Perry, Mr. Kevin Parsons, Mr. Cross, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Brazil, Mr. Sandy Collins, Mr. Cornect, Mr. Peach, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Dinn, Mr. Andrew Parsons, Mr. Joyce, Ms. Dempster, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Lane, Mr. Kirby, Mr. Slade, Mr. Mitchelmore.

The Speaker declared the Resolution defeated.

The Speaker then adjourned the House without question put pursuant to Standing Order 9.

**Sandra Barnes,**  
Clerk of the House of Assembly.