

Wednesday, November 19th, 2014

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

The Member for Torngat Mountains (Mr. Edmunds) made a Statement to congratulate Ms. Liz Evans-Mitchell who has retired as principal of J.C. Erhardt Memorial School.

The Member for Kilbride (Mr. Dinn) made a Statement to congratulate Hector Williams and his family for their contribution to the agricultural industry in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Member for Harbour Main (Mr. Hedderson) made a Statement to congratulate Mr. Dylan Percey, Mr. Nathan Hart and Mr. Christian Phillips-Hume who were awarded Electoral District Scholarships.

The Member for Bonavista South (Mr. Little) made a Statement to congratulate the Town of Bonavista for receiving the 2014 Prince of Wales prize from the Heritage Canada National Trust.

The Member for Bay of Islands (Mr. Joyce) made a Statement to pay tribute to the late Mr. Ed Roche.

The Member for St. John's North (Mr. Kirby) made a Statement to congratulate Mrs. Margaret Reid who has celebrated her 90th birthday.

The Honourable the Minister of Service NL (Mr. Cornect) made a Statement to recognize this day as National Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims.

The Honourable the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Dalley) made a Statement to inform the House about Mineral Resources Review, the annual mining industry conference and trade show which took place during Mining Week and recognize the 150th Anniversary of the Geological Survey.

The Honourable the Minister of Environment and Conservation (Mr. Crummell) made a Statement to announce that the Northeast Avalon Atlantic Coastal Action Programme is the winner of the 2014 Council of the Federation's Excellence in Water Stewardship Award.

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.

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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 develop a comprehensive province-wide strategy for autism spectrum disorder in consultation with parents, advocates, educators, health care providers and experts in the autism community.

Pursuant to notice and on motion debate commenced on the following Resolution standing in the name of the Member for Humber Valley (Mr. Ball):

"WHEREAS the Province's Child and Youth Advocate has requested that Government introduce legislation for the mandatory and immediate reporting by all Government departments and agencies of the deaths of, and critical incidents involving, children and youth;

AND WHEREAS Government has not taken a lead in notifying the Advocate's office of such incidents, and instead, the Advocate has relied on calls from the public and media to be made aware of cases needing her involvement;

AND WHEREAS legislating a direct reporting mechanism from all departments and agencies to the advocate would help improve outcomes for those involved, as would it improve outcomes for other children and youth receiving services; whether as a direct result of earlier intervention in specific cases where a death or critical incident has occurred, or indirectly as systemic issues can be more readily identified and addressed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly urge Government to immediately introduce legislation for the mandatory and immediate reporting by all Government departments and agencies of the deaths of, and critical incidents involving, children and youth."

During the debate the Honourable the Premier (Mr. Davis) moved the following amendment:

"that the Resolution be amended by deleting the second clause, and be further amended at the last clause by deleting the words "to immediately introduce legislation: and substitute the words "in consultation with the Advocate for Children and Youth to develop and introduce legislation."

The Speaker (Mr. Littlejohn) suspended the proceedings at 3:25 o'clock in the afternoon to consider the amendment.

The Speaker (Mr. Littlejohn) resumed the Chair at 3:42 o'clock in the afternoon and ruled the amendment in order.

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Debate continued and concluded on the amendment to the Resolution and the Resolution itself.

The Speaker put the question on the amendment to the Resolution and declared the amendment to the Resolution carried.

The Speaker put the question on the Resolution, as amended, and declared the Resolution, as amended, carried.

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

Sandra Barnes,
Clerk of the House of Assembly.