



House of Assembly  
Nova Scotia

## DEBATES AND PROCEEDINGS

Speaker: Honourable Kevin Murphy

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### Second Session

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016

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House of Assembly  
*Nova Scotia*

**HALIFAX, TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016**

**Sixty-second General Assembly**

**Second Session**

**1:00 P.M.**

**SPEAKER**

Hon. Kevin Murphy

**DEPUTY SPEAKERS**

Mr. Gordon Wilson, Mr. Keith Irving

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. We'll begin the daily routine.

**PRESENTING AND READING PETITIONS**

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Inverness.

MR. ALLAN MACMASTER: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to table a petition from people travelling through the area and residents of Churchview, Soapstone Mines, Roseburn, and Kewstoke, the operative clause being:

. . . we call upon the House of Assembly to increase the budget to upgrade the Whycocomagh-Port Hood Road and to provide better road maintenance for safe, driveable roads in the area.

Mr. Speaker, this petition contains 329 names, including my own.

MR. SPEAKER: The petition is tabled.

The honourable member for Sackville-Cobequid.

HON. DAVID WILSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to table a petition, the operative clause is:

We the undersigned object to the current practice by the Nova Scotia Health Authority to permit various hospitals under its auspices to accommodate both men and women in the same room without the express permission of the patient(s) involved.

Mr. Speaker, there are 331 signatures, and I have affixed my signature.

MR. SPEAKER: I'll take the petition under advisement and review the operative clause and report back to the House.

### **PRESENTING REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Sackville-Beaver Bank.

MR. STEPHEN GOUGH: Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Committee on Private and Local Bills, I am directed to report that the committee has met and considered the following bill:

#### **Bill No. 176 - Otter Lake Landfill Act.**

and the committee recommends this bill to the favourable consideration of the House, with certain amendments.

MR. SPEAKER: Ordered that this bill be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on Bills.

### **TABLING REPORTS, REGULATIONS AND OTHER PAPERS**

### **STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**

### **GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTION**

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Premier.

HON. STEPHEN MCNEIL (The Premier): Mr. Speaker, may I make an introduction before I read the resolution?

MR. SPEAKER: Permission granted.

THE PREMIER: I'd like to draw the attention of the House to the east gallery where we have with us today World Junior Championship curlers Kristin Clarke, Karlee Burgess, Janique LeBlanc, and their coach Andrew Atherton. I'd ask them to stand and receive the warm welcome of the House. (Standing Ovation)

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, their skip Mary Fay couldn't be with us today; she is writing an exam. But I would also like to acknowledge the mothers of the curlers who are with us today. I want to wish them a belated Happy Mother's Day and welcome them to the House - as well, Dan Clarke is here. So I would ask them also to rise and receive a warm welcome of the House. (Applause)

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Premier.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3578**

THE PREMIER: Mr. Speaker, I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas World Junior Curling Championship curlers Mary Fay, Kristin Clarke, Karlee Burgess, Janique LeBlanc, and their coach, Andrew Atherton, have had an incredible year of competition; and

Whereas at the end of January the team from Chester won the Canadian Junior Women's Curling title in Stratford, Ontario; and

Whereas in March the curlers came out on top in a battle against the United States, during the final, to capture gold at the World Junior Curling Championships in Denmark;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly congratulate Mary, Kristin, Karlee, Janique, and Coach Andrew on their extraordinary accomplishments in the world of curling, commend them for their dedication to sport, and thank them for representing Nova Scotia and Canada with such pride.

Mr. Speaker, I request waiver of notice and passage without debate.

MR. SPEAKER: There has been a request for waiver.

Is it agreed?

It is agreed.

Would all those in favour of the motion please say Aye. Contrary minded, Nay.

The motion is carried.



The honourable Minister of Labour and Advanced Education.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3579**

HON. KELLY REGAN: Mr. Speaker, I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas 24 years ago - on May 9, 1992 - an explosion tore through the Westray Mine killing 26 men, a tragedy that prompted changes in workplace health and safety in Nova Scotia and Canada; and

Whereas Nova Scotians will always remember the men - husbands, fathers, sons, and brothers - who lost their lives that day; and

Whereas after Westray, federal legislation was passed to hold responsible those who fail to ensure safe workplaces, and provincial legislation and regulations were changed to ensure mine operations in Nova Scotia are held to very high safety standards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House honour the memory of those who lost their lives in the Westray Mine 24 years ago, and recognize the impact the disaster has had on workplace safety and the lives of many workers across Nova Scotia.

Mr. Speaker, I request waiver of notice and passage without debate.

MR. SPEAKER: There has been a request for waiver.

Is it agreed?

It is agreed.

Would all those in favour of the motion please say Aye. Contrary minded, Nay.

The motion is carried.

The honourable Minister of Health and Wellness.

HON. LEO GLAVINE: Mr. Speaker, may I make an introduction?

MR. SPEAKER: Permission granted.

MR. GLAVINE: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, joining us in the gallery this afternoon it is a pleasure to introduce Diane MacDougall who is with the Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia. If she would rise in her place and we will give her a warm welcome. (Applause)

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Minister of Health and Wellness.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3580**

HON. LEO GLAVINE: Mr. Speaker, I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia works to improve the quality of life for those affected by schizophrenia and psychosis through education, support programs, and research; and

Whereas the society held its signature fundraising event, the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Road to Recovery Walk on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>; and

Whereas this year's theme, Connection, Collaboration and Community, emphasized the importance of individuals, organizations, and communities being welcoming, inclusive, and connected for all Nova Scotians;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House congratulate the Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia volunteers, and all walk participants, for their ongoing support for Nova Scotians affected by schizophrenia and psychosis.

Mr. Speaker, I request waiver of notice and passage without debate.

MR. SPEAKER: There has been a request for waiver.

Is it agreed?

It is agreed.

Would all those in favour of the motion please say Aye. Contrary minded, Nay.

The motion is carried.

The honourable Minister of Health and Wellness.

HON. LEO GLAVINE: Mr. Speaker, may I make an introduction?

MR. SPEAKER: Permission granted.

MR. GLAVINE: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, joining us in the gallery this afternoon, it is my pleasure to introduce Ann Mann who is with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Nova Scotia. Also, happy that Ms. Mann is able to join us today. I would ask members of the House to give her a warm welcome.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Minister of Health and Wellness.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3581**

HON. LEO GLAVINE: Mr. Speaker, I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia has 14,000 licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, and nurse practitioners working as direct care providers, educators, researchers, and health system leaders; and

Whereas nurses are highly trained professionals who work tirelessly to improve the lives of their patients and play a vital role in the health care system; and

Whereas nurses are dedicated and committed to ensuring Nova Scotians receive quality health care every day throughout the year;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House recognize National Nursing Week, May 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, and thank all nurses for their professionalism and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I request waiver of notice and passage without debate.

MR. SPEAKER: There has been a request for waiver.

Is it agreed?

It is agreed.

Would all those in favour of the motion please say Aye. Contrary minded, Nay.

The motion is carried.

The honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs.

HON. ZACH CHURCHILL: I'd like to rise on an introduction and bring the House's attention to the east gallery, where we are joined by steering committee members who are leading the efforts to improve the lives of people in Pictou and achieve governance structural change. I'd like to recognize them - please rise when your name is called.

From the Municipality of Pictou County: Warden Ron Baillie, Councillor Deborah Wadden, and Chief Administrative Officer Brian Cullen.

From the Town of New Glasgow, we have Mayor Barrie MacMillan, and Chief Administrative Officer Lisa MacDonald.

From the Town of Pictou, we have Mayor Joe Hawes, Councillor Cam Beaton, and Chief Administrative Officer Scott Conrod.

These folks have taken on a great responsibility. They are working to ensure that the long-term sustainability and success of their community is achieved through structural change. It takes courage to do that. These folks are not working in self-interest; they're working in the interests of their greater community. I'm very proud to say that the Province of Nova Scotia stands firmly behind them in their efforts to achieve that great change for the Pictou region. (Applause)

### **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

**Bill No. 182 - Entitled an Act to Amend Chapter 246 of the Revised Statutes of 1989. The Labour Standards Code. (Ms. Marian Mancini)**

MR. SPEAKER: Ordered that this bill be read a second time on a future day.

### **NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS**

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley.

### **MACMINN, JAMIE/WESTERN CDN. POWERSTROKES - FORT MCMURRAY ASSISTANCE**

MR. LARRY HARRISON: The devastation in Fort McMurray is tremendous, but so too are the hearts and the spirit of people. While families were evacuating their homes for safety, groups of volunteers banded together to get back into Fort McMurray to assist those in need. One example is Jamie MacMinn, 18, of Stewiacke. He was part of a group of volunteers called the Western Canadian Powerstrokes, who were purchasing supplies with their own money, loading them into trucks to take to the people in need at the camps, and offering free gas to those stranded on the highway.

I want to acknowledge the bravery and generosity of Jamie MacMinn, the Western Canadian Powerstrokes, and all other volunteers helping in this time of crises. I would also like to encourage my fellow Nova Scotians to continue to contribute to aid efforts for the people of Fort McMurray.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Sackville-Cobequid.

**NATL. NURSES WK.: NURSING COMMUN. - THANK**

HON. DAVID WILSON: Mr. Speaker, this being National Nurses Week, I want to take a few moments to recognize the tireless work of nurses in Nova Scotia. Nurses are the backbone of our health care system. Their commitment to their profession goes above and beyond the call of duty. From day shift to night shift, their skills are put to the test, often in highly stressful situations.

Mr. Speaker, nurses do more than administer tests and procedures, nurses get to know the families who make repeat visits, or endure long stays in hospital. Nurses provide comfort to patients and parents who may be having a difficult time. Nurses can simply offer a smile when one is needed.

I want to thank all the women and men of the nursing community, who continue to make invaluable contributions to our health care system. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Halifax Citadel-Sable Island.

**MACEACHEN INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY (DAL.) - OPENING**

HON. LABI KOUSOULIS: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to acknowledge the exciting grand opening of Dalhousie's MacEachen Institute for Public Policy, which I attended yesterday. As many of you know, this new institute is a nationally focused, non-partisan think tank. It will help develop progressive policy, encourage citizen engagement and have numerous research themes on policy issues. It's a fantastic initiative that honours the progressive political legacy of the Honourable Allan MacEachen.

It was an honour to have former Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, and the Honourable Bob Rae attend the opening. I look forward to the institute's future research, outputs and engagement opportunities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Argyle-Barrington.

**NATL. NURSES WK.: NURSES - SALUTE**

HON. CHRISTOPHER D'ENTREMONT: Mr. Speaker, this week is National Nurses Week in Canada. It is a time to honour the nursing profession and thank the dedicated professionals who do so much for their patients, and the health care system.

This year the Canadian Nurses Association has chosen "Nurses: With you every step of the way," as the theme of Nurses Week. It emphasizes how important nurses are in our lives. There are almost 7,000 registered nurses, LPNs and nurse practitioners in our province, who are there for us in our most difficult and in our happiest times.

Today, I invite all members to join me in saluting the Nova Scotia nurses and thanking them for the important role that they play in our health care system.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Dartmouth South.

### **MINIMUM WAGE - RAISE**

MS. MARIAN MANCINI: Mr. Speaker, some people mistakenly believe that those earning the minimum wage are working just for pocket money. This is not accurate. In 2011 an estimated 23,600 employees in Nova Scotia, or about 6 per cent of all waged workers in the province, were earning minimum wage. Almost two-thirds are women.

Many minimum wage workers are seniors who are facing the duration of their lives without the benefit of a pension. Mr. Speaker, 40 per cent of children living in poverty in Nova Scotia live in families with at least one full-time, full-year worker, who in many cases, is earning the minimum wage. Minimum wage workers are forced to make difficult choices as they struggle to make ends meet for themselves and their children. Isn't it time that the bar was raised a little higher?

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Fairview-Clayton Park.

### **ISSA, SAAD IBRAHIM: DEATH OF - TRIBUTE**

MS. PATRICIA ARAB: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the passing of Saad Ibrahim Issa, a hard-working, much loved family man who passed away suddenly on March 21, 2016 at the age of 67.

Saad was born in Lebanon in 1949 and retired from the Lebanese Army before immigrating to Canada in 1995. He was the proud owner of Issa's Saj House, where he loved working every day since the day he opened in 2004. He was a friend to all who were fortunate to cross paths with him in this life. In his spare time Saad loved to hunt, spend time outside, work on cars and putter around the house. He will be greatly missed and will remain forever in the hearts of friends and family.

He is survived by his wife Carolann, and his children Hassan, Jihan, Chirine, Jad, and his grandchildren Gabriel, Salwa, and Victoria, as well as brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and extended family.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize this wonderful man and his great contribution to our community.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Pictou Centre.

**MURRAY, DON & JEAN - COMMUN. CONTRIBUTIONS**

HON. PAT DUNN: Mr. Speaker, I rise to tell all members about two New Glasgow seniors, Don and Jean Murray, who continue to be very active in their community.

Throughout the years Jean has worked on many federal and provincial campaigns. She continues to be a very active member of the Trinity United Church. Jean is also well known for her excellent baking skills. Donnie has spent his lifetime in and around sports, playing senior softball for Trenton teams, he also played hockey and is a competitive bowler. Donnie is often seen at the Abercrombie Golf Club during the summer. Both Don and Jean continue to enjoy life, recently travelling to Italy to visit their son and watch their 13-year-old grandson race in the EasyKart 100 series.

Jean and Don continue to contribute to their community and make it a better place to live.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River.

**PICTURE PLANT: STUDIO BLACK - TV SERIES AWARD**

MS. LENORE ZANN: Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to offer my congratulations today to the Lunenburg-based production company Picture Plant for winning Screen Nova Scotia's award for Best Television Series for their innovative production Studio Black.

Studio Black is a mini-series presented in a style that mixes theatre and studio television. The episodes are based on African Nova Scotian stories collected in the 1920s by American civil rights activist, educator, and folklorist Arthur Fauset. The award was announced at Screen Nova Scotia's second annual awards event, which I was pleased to attend on May 7<sup>th</sup>, along with a sold-out crowd, at Casino Nova Scotia.

As the Critic for the NDP for film and television, I am thrilled to congratulate Studio Black's producers Bill MacGillivray and Terry Greenlaw; directors Cory Bowles, Juanita Peters, and Jarrett Shaw; and the entire cast. I am also proud to be part of a Party that is committed to restoring the Film and Television Tax Credit to Nova Scotia.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Yarmouth on an introduction.

HON. ZACH CHURCHILL: Mr. Speaker, I just want to recognize that I forgot to mention one of the Pictou delegation members who was here, Councillor Denise Taylor from the Town of Stellarton. Councillor Taylor is a dogged supporter and worker in terms of achieving this great structural change in Pictou County. I just want to make sure that it's on the record that she was here as well and has been doing great work in her community. I want to apologize for not mentioning her at the original introduction.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Dartmouth North on an introduction.

HON. JOANNE BERNARD: Mr. Speaker, if I could bring everyone's attention to the east gallery, where we have a lovely, courageous, brilliant young woman named Kayley Dixon. Kayley, could you stand, please, and we could give her the warm welcome of the House. (Applause)

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Dartmouth North.

### **DIXON, KAYLEY: POEM - THANK**

HON. JOANNE BERNARD: Mr. Speaker, last week at Northbrook Community Centre, located in Dartmouth North, an extraordinary thing happened. Our government announced over \$200,000 to a handful of community groups that over the course of the next year will be doing innovative and creative projects addressing sexual violence. As exciting as that announcement was for us, it was the spoken word piece from Kayley Dixon that, without a doubt in anyone's mind, was most definitely the extraordinary thing.

Previously, we had asked Kayley if any of her poems touched on sexual violence from a teenage girl's perspective. They did not, so this 15-year-old Grade 9 student from John Martin Junior High wrote a poem in one night. It's entitled "A Touch of Sexual Assault." Kayley's three-minute performance, in a clear, powerful voice, with 15 years' experience, did what no legislator can do: she brought clarity and truth to sexual assault in the eyes of a young woman.

The tears experienced by many of us did not prepare us for what would happen over the course of the next eight days. Kayley's poem, so eloquently spoken in a small community hub in Dartmouth North, has received almost 15 million views on the Internet.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Kayley for her courage, wisdom, and resilience in highlighting sexual violence so profoundly and with such power.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Northside-Westmount.

### **BRETON BREWING/BIG SPRUCE BREWING - C.B. KITCHEN PARTY**

MR. EDDIE ORRELL: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Breton Brewing in Westmount and the Big Spruce Brewing in Nyanza on hosting a very successful Cape Breton Kitchen Party. This event featured over 10 Nova Scotia craft breweries; local restaurants creating some awesome food; and music by the Jordan Musycyn Band, Dave Sampson, and the Keith Mullins Band. This well-attended event allowed all who participated to sample great craft beer, local food, and music. Congratulations to the event organizers, Big Spruce Brewing and Breton Brewing.



We hope that the government sees these events as good for the province and will meet with the Craft Brewers Association of Nova Scotia to discuss the difference in taxation compared to Nova Scotia wineries and distilleries.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Queens-Shelburne.

### **WESTRAY MINE DISASTER: VICTIMS - RECOGNIZE**

HON. STERLING BELLIVEAU: Yesterday marked 24 years since the Westray Mine disaster in Plymouth, Pictou County. On May 9, 1992, methane gas escaped at the mine, causing a fire and a powerful explosion that killed 26 people. The pain caused by the incident is still felt today.

All these years later, the disaster serves as a reminder of the importance of occupational health and safety. As a society, we are more aware that these types of incidents can happen. Legislation and regulations have improved, but such improvements are in vain if employers and employees are not committed to making health and safety the number one priority of any job.

On behalf of the NDP caucus, I want to recognize those 26 workers killed and offer our support to their families and friends.

Mr. Speaker, we will remember.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Cape Breton-Richmond.

### **JEUX DE L'ACADIE RÉGIONAUX: ORGANISATEURS - MERCI**

HON. MICHEL SAMSON: Monsieur le Président, le 19 Mai, le comté de Richmond aura la chance d'accueillir les jeux de l'Acadie régionaux.

Plus de huit-cent élèves âgées de dix à dix-huit ans, de onze régions francophones en Nouvelle-Écosse, participeront dans nombreux évènements sportifs.

Comme évènement spécial, Madame Marie-Phillippe Poulin, deux fois récipiendaire de la médaille d'or de la ligue canadienne de hockey féminin, parlera lors des cérémonies d'ouverture et de fermeture, et prendra de son temps pour rencontrer et entretenir en discussion les étudiants-athlètes.

Les leçons du travail d'équipe, de l'esprit sportif, de l'importance du français, ainsi que les relations amicales, resteront avec ces étudiants pour plusieurs années à venir, grâce à cet évènement sportif important.

Ces jeux permettront aussi au comté de Richmond de célébrer sa diversité culturelle et la beauté de ses ressources naturelles au plusieurs visiteurs - parents, entraîneurs, et familles qui voyageront avec les athlètes.

Monsieur le Président, s'il vous plaît, joignez-vous à moi pour remercier tous les organisateurs de cet évènement pour leur travail acharné, et en leur souhaitant beaucoup de succès lors de ces jeux magnifiques.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley.

### **WAR AMPS KEY TAG SERV. - ANNIV. (70<sup>TH</sup>)**

MR. LARRY HARRISON: The War Amps Key Tag Service is celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and a young Stewiacke “Champ” helped them to celebrate. Three-year-old Jaelynn Creelman has just returned from the War Amps 2016 Atlantic Child Amputee Seminar in Charlottetown. Born a left-arm amputee, Jaelynn joined other child amputees and their parents to learn about the latest in artificial limbs, dealing with teasing and bullying, and parenting an amputee child. The War Amps Key Tag Service program provides financial assistance to amputees for artificial limbs and devices, as well as employing amputees and people with disabilities.

I want to congratulate the War Amps on the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the program and encourage our members and the public to participate in this worthwhile program. I also want to acknowledge young Jaelynn Creelman on her strength of character and courage to learn that she can do anything that she sets her mind to.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Sackville-Cobequid.

### **MATTICE, PETER - PHYSICIAN SHORTAGE**

HON. DAVID WILSON: Retirement is something we all hope to enjoy at some stage in our lives. It seems to me that this would be a happy event for most people. Unfortunately, for a doctor who is ready to retire, they have the displeasure of advertising to their long-term patients that they'll need to find another doctor. If it was only that simple. Peter Mattice is one such patient in his 70s who, after 32 years with the same doctor, is now searching for a replacement. Like many residents, Mr. Mattice needs regular blood work and relies on his health care provider to monitor his health conditions.

On behalf of Mr. Mattice and all Nova Scotians like him, I'm calling on the government to address this growing problem before it gets any worse, and live up to their promise of a doctor for every Nova Scotian.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Clayton Park West.

HON. DIANA WHALEN: I'd like to do an introduction while I'm on my feet and it's my turn, if I could.

MR. SPEAKER: Permission granted.

MS. WHALEN: I'd like to draw your attention to the Speaker's Gallery. I would like to introduce to you a young man whose name is Seohko Lim. Thank you for standing.

Seohko is from South Korea, but he came here as an international student and graduated from Halifax West High School. He is also a friend of the son of the Chief Clerk, whom we all know so well, and has come as a guest of the Chief Clerk today. Seohko and I met at community meetings in Clayton Park West, and he is heading off to Waterloo this fall.

But before you sit down, Seohko, I think it's good to know he's a great example of someone who has come here as an international student, and his family are actually going to be coming and immigrating to Nova Scotia. I'd like to give you the warm welcome of the House. (Applause)

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Clayton Park West.

**MCGUINNESS, JOE:  
DOWNTOWN VIBRANCY/SAVOUR FOOD & WINE FEST. - THANK**

HON. DIANA WHALEN: On a separate matter, if I may read a statement, I'd like to do that.

I would like to recognize Joe McGuinness, a resident of Clayton Park West who has made an important contribution to Nova Scotia's food and beverage industry. Joe is the owner of Dirty Nelly's pub and grill, a popular destination in downtown Halifax. When it opened in 2008, many appreciated its authentic Irish feel, and that is because it actually is a genuine Irish pub - designed and built in Dublin, shipped to Nova Scotia, and reconstructed piece by piece.

Building on the success of his business, Joe is also part owner of the Stubborn Goat, another successful downtown pub. Along with these busy business demands, Joe has for several years taken the time to be the chairman of the very successful Savour Food and Wine Festival, which is held on an annual basis to spotlight the excellence of Nova Scotia products. The festival is now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year.

Mr. Speaker, Joe McGuinness is a great volunteer and entrepreneur in our province. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Joe for his great contribution to the vibrancy of downtown Halifax and for his willingness to share his time and talents to promote the Savour Food and Wine Festival.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Pictou West.

**MATHESON, LORNE/FOLEY, WENDY:  
PICTOU ISLAND WOODEN TENT - OPENING**

MS. KARLA MACFARLANE: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lorne Matheson and Wendy Foley for starting Pictou Island Wooden Tents, a campground conveniently located off the beaten path. The Wooden Tents campground opening on Pictou Island this summer will offer visitors a unique cross between wilderness camping and glamping, as each campsite comes fully equipped with all amenities.

Traditional camping has never really been a viable option on the island as it is only accessible by ferry or plane. Now, thanks to Lorne and Wendy, everything campers need is already there. All the visitors have to do is get there.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely congratulate Lorne and Wendy on this entrepreneurial endeavour and want to wish Pictou Island Wooden Tents the best of luck.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River.

**HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS IN YOUTH: STUDENTS - THANK**

MS. LENORE ZANN: Mr. Speaker, Healthy Relationships in Youth is a peer-led violence prevention program being facilitated at the Truro Junior High School by students from Cobequid Educational Centre. For the past 12 weeks students have been meeting with two classes of Grade 9ers to talk about racism, sexism, gender stereotyping, social media, stereotyping in media, healthy and unhealthy relationships and diversity.

The program is run through Central Nova Women's Resource Centre and is being taught in more than 20 schools this year. It has encouraged a healthy dialogue about many topics, including the issue of consent, so I'm very pleased to see how Healthy Relationships in Youth is empowering and educating our young women and young men in Truro and surrounding areas. I thank the dedicated CEC high school students who are committed to driving these discussions forward.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Antigonish.

**PETTIPAS, EMILY - LT.-GOV.'S AWARD**

HON. RANDY DELOREY: Monsieur le Président, today I have the honour to congratulate Emily Pettipas on being awarded the Nova Scotia Lieutenant Governor's Respectful Citizenship Award. Emily was presented with the award on February 24, 2016,

by His Honour Brigadier General the Honourable J.J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, and the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Mr. Speaker, 18 awards are given out annually to students who are making a positive difference in their schools, their communities and their province. They demonstrate leadership and a commitment to creating a safe environment where bullying is not accepted and tolerance is encouraged.

Emily est un étudiant dans la onzième année à l'École acadienne de Pomquet et a été victime d'intimidation à un âge jeune. Cependant, avec son attitude positif, elle a décidé de donner l'exemple.

Elle encourage activement et positivement ses camarades de classe, travaille avec le conseil étudiant, et organise des activités pour ses camarades en les encourageant à être actifs.

Mr. Speaker, it is Emily's respect for others, her positive outlook and her compassion that makes her a leader at her school. She's a great example for her peers and I commend her on her great work.

Je tiens à féliciter Emily sur son prix, l'adapter est bien méritée.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Pictou East.

### **NIGHTHAWKS U-13 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM - PROV. BRONZE MEDAL**

MR. TIM HOUSTON: Mr. Speaker, the Nighthawks U-13 girls volleyball team took home the bronze medal at provincials recently. I know a lot of time is invested in every sport and it is great to see all of that training and playing resulting in the girls bringing home the hardware. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge manager Hayley MacDonald and coach Leonard Thompson for their dedication and the expertise that brought these young girls into the winners circle.

I ask all members of this House to congratulate the girls on a job well done and wish them continued success in their sport and in their academics.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Queens-Shelburne.

### **ROSEWAY HOSP. - ER CLOSURES**

HON. STERLING BELLIVEAU: Mr. Speaker, as I went home this weekend to celebrate Mother's Day with my family, I noticed that there was a Mother's Day gift waiting for the people of Queens-Shelburne from the Liberal Government: the gift of more ER closures at Roseway Hospital.

The ER was closed again - I repeat, again - on Mother's Day from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., a total of 14 hours. The ER closed again yesterday at 6:00 a.m., and didn't reopen until this morning at 8:00 a.m., a total of 26 hours.

Mr. Speaker, the mothers of Queens-Shelburne are not pleased with their gift from this government of 40 more hours without an ER. To be continued.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Kings South.

**DAVIDSON, BASIL/ARENBURG, DAVID & LURENDA  
- COMMUN. CONTRIBUTIONS**

MR. KEITH IRVING: Mr. Speaker, the contribution that volunteers make to our province is valued in the billions of dollars. Today I would like to recognize a special team of volunteers whose support for many community members has meant this much and more.

For decades, the team of Basil Davidson and David and Lurenda Arenburg has organized and put on musical benefits and auctions from one end of the Annapolis Valley to the other. The team springs into action when they get a call that a child is sick, a home is destroyed by a fire, or there has been a diagnosis of cancer. They have also put on benefits to help families buy Christmas gifts for their children.

On behalf of the Nova Scotia House of Assembly, I would like to offer our sincere gratitude for the many years of service Basil Davidson and the Arenburgs have offered to our communities and to Nova Scotians in times of crisis.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Sydney River-Mira-Louisbourg.

**MEN OF THE DEEPS - ANNIV. (50<sup>th</sup>)/ALBUM RELEASE**

HON. ALFIE MACLEOD: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge North America's only coal miners' chorus, the Men of the Deeps, as they celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. To mark a half century of making music, the Men of the Deeps recently completed a 14-stop tour of Ontario, and just last weekend, they held two sold-out shows in Cape Breton.

Every concert performed in 2016 will be a tribute to the memory of the late Rita MacNeil. Rita was a big part of the Men of the Deeps. Along with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is the upcoming release of the group's tenth album, Coal to Gold, which includes the MacNeil composition "Home I'll Be."

It's a true honour to congratulate the Men of the Deeps on their golden anniversary and wish them many more years of success.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Hammonds Plains-Lucasville.

**EWING, MS. JORDYN:  
INTL. GYMSPORT GYMNASTICS COMP. - CONGRATS.**

MR. BEN JESSOME: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to extend congratulations to Jordyn Ewing of Hammonds Plains, who was the winner of the youth all-round gold medal at the International GymSport Gymnastics Competition in Anadia, Portugal, on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Jordyn is a member of the Sackville TAISSO Club and is on her way to a bright future in the sport. Mr. Speaker, it's encouraging for young athletes to see their hard work and practice pay off, and in Jordyn's case, her work has led to being named an international champion.

Through you, Mr. Speaker, I ask all members in the House of Assembly to congratulate Jordyn on her accomplishment and give well wishes to this promising young athlete to continue her dedication in this sport.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Pictou West.

**LEBLANC, SARAH/BOWE - IFCS WORLD AGILITY CHAMPIONSHIP**

MS. KARLA MACFARLANE: Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Sarah LeBlanc and her border collie, Bowe, who recently travelled to the Netherlands to represent Canada and compete in the IFCS World Agility Championships. This was Bowe's fourth international event and his second time attending the IFCS championship. Sarah and Bowe were one of 20 Canadian teams that qualified for the event, as it was based on their performance at last year's national competition in British Columbia.

The recent international event featured up to 23 obstacles in each course, which they were not allowed to study in advance. The duo did very well, placing in the top 10 for individual agility in their category.

I extend congratulations to Sarah and Bowe. What a great note to enter retirement on.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Fairview-Clayton Park.

**MSVU/DUC D'ANVILLE SCH. - SYRIAN TUTORING PROG.**

MS. PATRICIA ARAB: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two educational institutions in the Fairview-Clayton Park constituency, Mount Saint Vincent University and Duc d'Anville Elementary School, that have created an important, vital partnership.

Last month the Mount began a special tutoring program for 39 Syrian students at Duc d'Anville. The Syrian students meet with their tutors in the library every Monday after school. The tutors are volunteer university students who are enrolled in the School Psychology program at the Mount.

All of the new students from Syria speak very little English, and most of the tutors from the Mount do not speak Arabic. They are successfully managing to communicate with each other. The Syrian students are then able to assist their families with translation at home. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the pivotal roles that the Mount and Duc d'Anville are playing in teaching English to our new Nova Scotians. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Pictou Centre.

### **PICTOU CO. HELP LINE - CLOSURE**

HON. PAT DUNN: Mr. Speaker, for the past 33 years the Pictou County Help Line has offered assistance and advice to the residents of Pictou County. Unfortunately, this valuable service will be closing its doors at the end of this month due to lack of funding. The Pictou County Help Line is the only remaining service of this kind in Nova Scotia, answering calls from all over the province and providing a confidential telephone service 365 days a year to people in crisis.

In 2015, volunteers answered 5,673 calls. Help Line Executive Director Arlis MacCallum and all the volunteers are to be congratulated for providing this essential service for the past three decades. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Timberlea-Prospect.

### **MORTON, VICKI: COURAGE/DETERMINATION - RECOGNIZE**

MR. IAIN RANKIN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Vicki Morton of Hatchet Lake. Vicki, the mother of two young daughters, lost a leg in an accident that changed her life in 2011. Rather than focusing on what she could no longer do, Vicki sought out opportunities for new things to pursue. She took up playing sledge hockey with the Halifax Sledge Grinders hockey team five months after her accident. She excels in this sport, and not only is she a star player on the ice, she contributes as a coach and serves as treasurer on the board of directors. Vicki was involved in the World Sledge Hockey Challenge tournament held in January 2016 in Bridgewater, as a player and a host.

Vicki is also involved in Sail Able as a volunteer and a member of the race team. She placed first in the ARK Regatta at the Bedford Basin Yacht Club for the Martin 16 fleet in 2015.



Vicki leads a full and active life and she is an inspiration to all who know her. I would like the members of the Nova Scotia House of Assembly to join me in recognizing Vicki's courage and determination, and wish her well in all her future endeavours. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Sydney River-Mira-Louisbourg.

**MS MO. (05/16): FIGHT - JOIN**

HON. ALFIE MACLEOD: Mr. Speaker, May is Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month, which aims to raise awareness about this terrible condition. Our caucus is supportive of the MS Society of Canada and the Atlantic Division and the great work they do to help all Canadians impacted by this disease. We will continue to do our part to bring forward issues of the utmost importance for those affected by MS. Canada has the highest rate of MS in the world. Today, please join me in fighting to end multiple sclerosis. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Sydney-Whitney Pier.

**“GIVIN’ BACK TO THE MAC” CONCERT (SYDNEY): COMMUN. - THANK**

MR. DEREK MOMBOURQUETTE: Mr. Speaker, all across our province and across the region we have seen communities and organizations come forward to support the families that have been affected by the devastating fires in Fort McMurray. I rise specifically to talk about a great event that is taking place at Centre200 on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, a benefit concert called Givin’ Back to the Mac. This is a concert that has been put forward and organized by the local community. To date Matt Minglewood, the Barra MacNeils, Bruce Guthro, the Men of the Deeps, Aaron Lewis, and Jordan Musycsyn have confirmed to perform along with hosts Bette MacDonald and Maynard Morrison.

I rise today to thank the community for putting together that concert and thank everybody involved with this great event to support the families affected by the fires in Fort McMurray.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Pictou East.

**PICTOU CO. HELP LINE APPRECIATION DAY (05/29/16): WORK - THANK**

MR. TIM HOUSTON: Mr. Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart to acknowledge May 29<sup>th</sup> which has been proclaimed Pictou County Help Line Appreciation Day. Normally, an appreciation day is the time for a celebration but in this case it is marking the end of an era for the Pictou County Help Line. Certainly, we will celebrate their many successes over 33 years, but there is an underlying sadness because this organization has succumbed to the ongoing struggle to sustain funding. Executive Director Arlis MacCallum has given her

all, as have the staff, the volunteers, and the board members who every day, for all these years, were only a phone call away from anyone in distress. I would like to thank them for their work over the years and wish them good luck in their future endeavours. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Clare-Digby.

### **GROUNDHOG DAY STORM (02/02/76): BRIER ISLAND - COMMUN. SPIRIT**

MR. GORDON WILSON: Mr. Speaker, when discussing the weather in our area, there are two types of people: those who remember the Groundhog Day storm, and those who keep hearing about it. For many of us the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the storm brings back memories of winds, power outages, flooding, and damage to our buildings, roads, and wharves. The day that started as quite ordinary would end up with an area experiencing the most destructive storm in memory. Years later, there are two certainties about the storm: we will continue to compare all subsequent storms to the one of February 2, 1976, and that we can get through anything by leaning on each other.

On Brier Island, which was declared a disaster area, the storm destroyed 27 buildings on the waterfront, including Robicheau General Store. There and everywhere, neighbours and strangers helped to rebuild the damage caused by the storm. Forty years later the R.E. Robicheau Ltd. General Store continues to operate, and neighbours continue to step forward to help each other in an emergency. That's why I think my community is a great place to live.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Inverness.

### **WAYCOBAH FIRST NATION COMMUN. HALL - REBUILDING**

MR. ALLAN MACMASTER: A hall is a place of celebration for a community. It's where people gather to make memories. On December 28, 2015, a fire destroyed the Waycobah First Nation community hall. Thankfully no one was hurt. The facility has served local residents since 1967.

Now it is time to rebuild. Chief Rod Googoo and the band council hope to break ground on the project this Spring. Waycobah is one of the few communities in rural Nova Scotia that continues to grow. There will be weddings, baptisms, and parties in this new centre. This is an opportunity for the community to have a modern, efficient structure. May the construction phase proceed safely, as we wish them the best here in our provincial Legislature.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Lunenburg.

**MAHONE BAY: TOWN COUN. MEETINGS - SKYPE ATTENDANCE**

MS. SUZANNE LOHNES-CROFT: With today's technology, there is very little we can't do. It helps in our day-to-day lives, our schools, our homes, and our governance. The Town of Mahone Bay has taken this to a new level. Councillors can now virtually attend town council meetings from anywhere in the world, providing they can connect to the Internet. Using applications such as Skype, councillors who virtually attend meetings can verbally participate in those meetings as well as vote on matters at hand. As a forward-thinking action for one of Nova Scotia's smallest towns, not only does it allow councillors to attend meetings, even if they aren't physically able to do so, it also makes the idea of becoming a councillor more attractive to the general public, and that is always a good thing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all members of the House to join me in congratulating the Town of Mahone Bay for looking towards the future and incorporating this technology into its meetings.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Cumberland South.

**GEORGE, ELDON THOMAS - BIRTHDAY (85<sup>TH</sup>)**

HON. JAMIE BAILLIE: I rise today to congratulate Eldon Thomas George on his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday. Eldon was born on May 10, 1931. He has been a major force in Cumberland County since he began his fossil and mineral hunting career in the 1940s. Eldon opened the Rock and Mineral Shop and Museum in Parrsboro in 1948. He only recently donated the collection to Parrsboro's Fundy Geological Museum.

Over the years, Eldon George has received many awards, including the Order of Nova Scotia, a Distinguished Service Award, and the TIANS Tourism Champion Award. Eldon has been featured in *The New York Times*, *National Geographic*, and on the CBC-TV series *Geologic Journey*.

Mr. Speaker, I am honoured to know him and to wish Eldon George a very happy 85<sup>th</sup> birthday.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Sackville-Beaver Bank.

**SACKVILLE HEIGHTS COMMUN. CTR.:  
SENIORS LUNCH - CARNATIONS FOR MOTHER'S DAY**

MR. STEPHEN GOUGH: On Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, my constituency assistants attended the weekly seniors' lunch at the Sackville Heights Community Centre. After extending my regrets and assuring the attendees that I was in the House attending to their business, they passed out carnations in recognition of Mother's Day. Apparently, these

were very well received and served to spread good cheer among both the diners and the volunteers.

While circulating the carnations, they were able to identify several community concerns which are being followed up on through the constituency office. Reaction was very positive, with the recipients being very surprised and pleased. No one was expecting to get a Mother's Day flower from their MLA. Random acts of kindness do not happen nearly enough but go a long way to spread happiness and express appreciation.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Inverness.

### **INVERNESS CO. CARES: WORK - THANK**

MR. ALLAN MACMASTER: Inverness County Cares has been working with Brother Kennedy Oronjo Omondi to provide food, shelter, and education for street children in Kenya. They have recently partnered with Chalice, an international development agency that began right here in Nova Scotia. The partnership has allowed Inverness County Cares to expand its appeal for donations, and those donations are making a real difference for young people who have few options without this support. The support has helped the St. Charles Lwanga school in Nairobi. Students are learning how to be leaders, they are learning how to use agriculture to improve nutrition, and they are becoming educated for future careers.

Let us thank the board of Inverness County Cares for the good work they continue to do to make our world a better place.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Cole Harbour-Eastern Passage.

### **EAST. PASSAGE/COW BAY BENEVOLENT SOC. - ANNIV. (25<sup>TH</sup>)**

MS. JOYCE TREEN: The Benevolent Society is celebrating 25 years of assisting the residents of Eastern Passage and Cow Bay. Over this time the society has raised in excess of \$100,000 that has been used to help constituents cover medical costs that were not within their budgets. This very important society has been a saving grace to many residents when they have been faced with an unexpected medical bill that they simply could not afford.

Over the past two and a half years my office has developed a great working relationship with the Eastern Passage/Cow Bay Benevolent Society, and I have been fortunate enough to see their work first-hand.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the members of this House of Assembly to join me in recognizing and congratulating the Eastern Passage/Cow Bay Benevolent Society on their 25 years of serving their community.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Argyle-Barrington.

**SMITH, MATTIE ALLISON - LT.GOV.'S MEDAL**

HON. CHRISTOPHER D'ENTREMONT: Mr. Speaker, a ceremony to present the Lieutenant Governor's Medal to Grade 11 students in the Tri-County Regional School Board was held at Lockport Regional High on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Among those being recognized was Mattie Allison Smith from Barrington Municipal High School.

Mattie is a wonderful example of academic excellence, athletic achievement, and community leadership. While maintaining the highest academic average in her grade level for the last two years, she has also continued to compete in a variety of varsity sports, even winning Junior Female Athlete of the Year two years ago.

Mattie recently took her volunteerism to Ecuador as she participated in the Me To We Service Learning Experience. I'd like to congratulate Mattie Smith on receiving this award and wish her continued success.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Waverley-Fall River-Beaver Bank.

**BURES, FREYA ET AL: FOOTBALL PLAYERS - CONGRATS.**

MR. BILL HORNE: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to recognize four local girls: Freya Bures of Fall River, Maddie Gould of Halifax, Katie Cox of Lakeview, and Fall River's Novalea Pineo. These female athletes are challenging the stereotype that football is only for boys. Bures and Gould both played on the Atom Boys Dragons Team while Cox and Pineo played for the Lockview High Dragons boys football team.

The girls chose to join and play football because of their genuine interest in the sport and the strong team aspects of the game. They enjoy the challenge of showing that they can play with and against the boys. Congratulations to these young ladies, whose strength and determination on the field will carry over to future successes.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Hants East.

**ENFIELD DIST. SCH.: THINK 100 - CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE**

HON. MARGARET MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a wonderful display of community spirit and goodwill by the students of Enfield District School. I would further offer the thanks of the community to Grade 3 teacher Tammy Wentzell, who both conceived of and organized the campaign.

Six weeks prior to Christmas, our local food bank was in need of additional donations, and the school knew they could help. Not only would this help members of their

community but it would serve as a great opportunity to teach students about the virtues of kindness and generosity. Each class was challenged to Think 100 - a challenge to collect 100 food items per class prior to Christmas break. If successful, it would have meant a total of 1,300 items.

Within the first two weeks of the challenge they had achieved their goal, and before Christmas they had delivered 2,000 items to the food bank. This mound of food was on full display for the students in the school lobby, allowing them to see how coming together can make a difference - a valuable lesson indeed, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Just in the few seconds before we move on to Question Period, I'll take the opportunity to revisit the petition brought forth earlier today by the honourable member for Sackville-Cobequid. For the record, I will reread the prayer:

We the undersigned object to the current practice by the Nova Scotia Health Authority to permit various hospitals under its auspices to accommodate both men and women in the same room without the express permission of the patient(s) involved.

Unfortunately, while it does contain an objection, it does not contain an ask of government. Therefore, the petition is rejected.

## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **ORAL QUESTIONS PUT BY MEMBERS TO MINISTERS**

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Leader of the Official Opposition.

### **PREM. - PORTLAND (ME): TERMINAL TRAVEL LANES - PAINTING**

HON. JAMIE BAILLIE: Mr. Speaker, Nova Scotians continue to be shocked at what the Premier is committed to spending in the City of Portland, Maine. That spending includes having Nova Scotia taxpayers pay for terminal upgrades in downtown Portland and now it appears it also includes a requirement that the taxpayers of Nova Scotia pay "to paint or repaint the lines in the travel lanes" that lead up to the terminal itself.

So imagine that, Mr. Speaker, our taxpayers are now being asked to paint the lines in the travel lanes of downtown Portland. I'd like to ask the Premier - and I'll table that by the way - why did the Premier agree to have Nova Scotia taxpayers pay to repaint the travel lanes in downtown Portland?

THE PREMIER: Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the honourable member for the question. Again I want to thank the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal for the work he has been doing on behalf of all Nova Scotians, to ensure . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. The honourable Premier has the floor.

THE PREMIER: . . . to ensure that that international link, Nova Scotia's international link to our largest trading partner to enlarge the tourism opportunity that we have, is connected.

I want to thank those tourism operators - who suffered through a number of years under the NDP, Mr. Speaker, when there was no ferry service - who continued to keep their businesses afloat. I want to thank them for the investments they made last year in their business, because they knew that ferry was coming. I again want to thank them for the work they're doing to invest in their tourism opportunities again this year so that we can build on the positive year we had last year.

MR. BAILLIE: Well, Mr. Speaker, the government of the City of Portland clearly thought of everything when they were making this deal. They threw in everything, including the kitchen sink and including painting the travel lanes in the downtown area of Portland, Maine.

This has become a very bad deal for the taxpayers of Nova Scotia. It's great for Portland, it's great for Bay Ferries since they get a guaranteed and secret profit, but it is not great for the taxpayers of Nova Scotia.

You know what, Mr. Speaker? It's an international link for the City of Portland too, so I'll ask the Premier, what does Portland have to pay for, for this international link?

THE PREMIER: Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the honourable member for the question. I can't tell you how excited we are to continue to welcome our American tourists who are going to continue to build on the great year we had last year, not only in southwestern Nova Scotia, though I can tell you I've heard from a lot of tourism operators in southwestern Nova Scotia who are excited to see that link continue. I've heard throughout our province, the excitement that tourism operators are seeing.

We are seeing positive signs in the economy, Mr. Speaker. We're one of the few provinces in the country that has delivered a balanced budget. At the same time youth employment is up; the same time our population growth is up. There are positive things happening in the Province of Nova Scotia, and it's unfortunate that the Opposition continues to be so negative when Nova Scotians are so optimistic about the future.

MR. BAILLIE: Mr. Speaker, we're optimistic still today that someday the Premier will actually answer some questions about this very bad ferry deal.

Mr. Speaker, and in all these conversations he's having, and all these thanks that he provides, he should at least be able to tell people how much he's asking them to pay - how much to upgrade the terminal in downtown Portland? How much to paint those travel lane

lines in downtown Portland, while so many roads, and so many ferries, and so many docks here in Nova Scotia go without? It's a very basic question.

So, I'll ask the Premier, will he tell us today and table the information, if not today, before the end of the week, how much are we paying for that terminal? How much are we paying to paint the lines on the streets of downtown Portland?

**THE PREMIER:** Mr. Speaker, again I want to thank the honourable member for the question. He raised an important part in his preamble about all the wharves across Nova Scotia. It has been really exciting to see the catches that are taking place not only in southwestern Nova Scotia, but indeed the entire province. I can't tell you how proud I was and how happy I am about the great work that the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture is doing, working with our partners to open up trade opportunities.

Think about this - last Christmas you were paying \$8 a pound for lobster on wharves in Nova Scotia, that's because of the great work of the fishermen across this province, on the very wharves he's talking about, and it's why we're continuing to invest in rural communities, it's why we're continuing to see growth, Mr. Speaker, and it's why we're seeing Nova Scotians optimistic about the future, instead of pessimistic the way the Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party is.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable Leader in the House of the New Democratic Party.

#### **PREM.: PANAMA PAPERS - N.S. INCOME INEQUALITY**

**MS. MARIAN MANCINI:** The international focus on the Panama Papers is helping to highlight the gross income inequality existing in countries around the world, including here at home. Mr. Speaker, in Nova Scotia the average tax filer, in the top 1 per cent makes ten and a half times more than the bottom 90 per cent of tax filers, and I will table that.

So, my question to the Premier is, what is his assessment of income inequality in Nova Scotia?

**THE PREMIER:** I want to thank the honourable member for the question. I want to congratulate the Minister of Community Services for continuing to work to make sure that vulnerable Nova Scotians are continuing to be represented at the Cabinet Table. It's why we had the single largest increase in income assistance in provincial history this year. We're continuing to work with them.

I want to thank the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, who's continuing to make sure that child care is an important part of how we deliver service to Nova Scotians. It's why in this budget we announced an increase in wages for early child care educators, why we're looking to ensure that the subsidy associated with those seats



reflect today's reality so we leave more money in the pockets of Nova Scotians, so that they continue to invest in services across this province, from one end of this province to the other. We continue to look forward to making sure that those Nova Scotians who need government support will continue to receive it.

MS. MANCINI: Here's another perspective, Mr. Speaker. For two and a half years, this government has imposed outdated, austerity-driven policies that have made life more difficult for the bottom 90 per cent of tax filers in Nova Scotia. This government has frozen social assistance rates for two years. This government has cut funding to community organizations and not-for-profits that help bridge the gap between the rich and poor. This government has lifted the cap on tuition rates, driving students deeper into debt. So I ask the Premier, why is his government pursuing policies that increase income inequality in Nova Scotia?

THE PREMIER: I want to thank the honourable member for the question. I want to remind her, her Leader, and members sitting around her that they were part of a government that cut \$6 million out of child care when they had an opportunity to be in government. I want to remind the honourable member that, as I just referenced in my earlier answer, the Minister of Community Services announced in this budget the largest single increase for income assistance in the history of this province.

While they were ignoring the needs of families across this province, this government is responding to the needs of its citizens. We're going to continue to work with our citizens across this province to ensure that we look after the most vulnerable citizens in the province, and we're going to do it in an equitable, fair way.

MS. MANCINI: There are serious concerns about the moral compass of this government. Last year the Royal Bank recorded record profits of \$10 billion. That's the equivalent to the province's annual budget. Yet this government chose to provide the Royal Bank with a payroll rebate of \$22 million. Meanwhile, in last year's budget, this government took \$30 million in revenue from small business owners by reducing their Dividend Tax Credit. So I ask the Premier, how will taking millions away from small business owners and giving it to a bank with record-setting profits help address income inequality in Nova Scotia?

MR. SPEAKER: I'd like to remind the honourable member the term "moral compass" is an unparliamentary term.

THE PREMIER: I want to thank the honourable member for the question. I want to remind her that small business optimism and confidence is higher today than it ever was under an NDP Government. Small businesses across this province are investing in their companies, they're hiring young Nova Scotians, and they're employing more Nova Scotians. Our population is on the rise. When they had an opportunity to be in government,

what did they do? They saddled up next to union leaders, gave union leaders high increases, changed the tax rate (Interruptions)

Let me finish. I'm not finished. They changed the tax rate in this province, which gave themselves a pay raise. They forgot about the vulnerable Nova Scotians in this province. We're going to make sure every Nova Scotian is reflected in the decisions our government is making. We will make decisions based on every Nova Scotian, not the select few.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Pictou East.

### **ENERGY: MUSKRAT FALLS DELAY - EFFECTS**

MR. TIM HOUSTON: My question is for the Minister of Energy. There is an increasing uncertainty about the Muskrat Falls megaproject. During a media scrum in late April, the minister was asked if there's a Plan B if Muskrat Falls is delayed. His response: there's no Plan B because there's no fear of Plan A not going forward.

Now we've got not one but two consultant reports in one week that say the government should plan for delays at best and the entire cancellation of the project at worst. My question for the minister is, will Nova Scotia still reach its target of 40 per cent renewables by 2020 if Muskrat Falls is delayed?

HON. MICHEL SAMSON: We continue to work not only with Nova Scotia Power but with all Nova Scotians at finding alternative sources of fuel here in this province to meet our renewable energy targets and to lower our carbon footprint. Technology is developing all the time. We've made strategic investments in battery storage, for example. The investments we're making in tidal energy, the investment we've made with Efficiency Nova Scotia that is helping Nova Scotians lower the amount of power they use, all those continue.

Our targets are four years down the road. We've already met our 2015 targets and we remain committed to meeting our 2020 targets.

MR. HOUSTON: Mr. Speaker, it sounds like maybe there are some Plan Bs in the works there. Four years may seem like a long time sometimes but it's not that long, really, in the grand scheme of things.

In that same late April scrum, the minister told the media that the agreement with the federal government to reduce our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, while keeping some coal-fired plants open, is a whole separate discussion from the Muskrat Falls project. I'd just like to paint a little line for the minister between those two things because the federal government exempted the province, based on increasing the use of renewable energy by 2020, which is supposed to come - much of it, 20 per cent of it - from Muskrat Falls.

My question for the minister is, in light of the latest developments with Muskrat Falls, has the minister discussed the status of the agreement on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions with the federal government?

MR. SAMSON: Mr. Speaker, what the member is referring to is the equivalency agreement, which actually is negotiated between the Department of Environment and the federal government. I can assure him that we continue to work closely between departments, along with our federal colleagues. Nova Scotia has been leading the way in lowering our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and that's something that all Nova Scotians can be proud of.

We had a history of very heavy coal dependence here in this province. The amount of reduction we've been able to do is something all Nova Scotians should be proud of. It's by initiatives that a number of administrations have brought forward, which we continue to support.

Mr. Speaker, we have a way to go but there's no doubt that Nova Scotia is leading the way here in this country and we'll continue to work closely with our federal government. Whether it be on mercury emissions, whether it be on sulphur emissions, whether it be on greenhouse gases, we continue to work with them as a partner, but there's no question that Nova Scotia is certainly doing its part.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River.

#### **PREM.: WORKING WOMEN (N.S.) - POVERTY LEVEL**

MS. LENORE ZANN: Mr. Speaker, my question today is for the Premier. Women are among the hardest hit by the effects of income inequality. One of the main reasons for the gender wage gap is that most women work in lower-wage occupations and lower-paid industries. A fact sheet produced by this government states that women represent 100 per cent of those employed in six of the 10 lowest-paying occupations in the province. I'll table that.

Women over 65 are more likely to live in poverty and less likely to have access to employment-related pensions. I'll table that.

My question for the Premier is, if the Premier truly wants to make sure that every Nova Scotian is looked after, not just the select few, does he find it acceptable that women working in Nova Scotia in 2016 are still living in poverty?

THE PREMIER: I want to thank the honourable member for the question. I think no Nova Scotian wants to see any Nova Scotian living in poverty. We recognize the issues she brought to the floor of the House of Assembly; it's why every decision that our government makes does so through a feminine lens, quite frankly.

As a child raised by a single parent, Mr. Speaker, I know well what it's like to be in one of those households. I want to tell the honourable member that shortly after becoming government I took to the national level the issue around maintenance enforcement. In my view it's unacceptable. If two adults have differences that's their business but you have a responsibility to care for your children. It's our government's mission to ensure that those who are responsible to raise their children, they will.

Mr. Speaker, I'm very proud of the fact that I've appointed more women to the Executive Council than ever in our history. I'm very proud of the fact that at the deputy minister level, the gender balance is 50-50. I'm very proud of the fact that when I have an opportunity to appoint people to the bench, I've appointed more women to the bench than that government did in four years. I did in a very short period of time. We're going to continue to make sure that the gender balance and gender equality continues to remain the focus of this government.

Do we have work to do? Of course we do but we're going to continue to work with those Nova Scotians who recognize that this government is looking forward and not looking back at the years and the mess they left us in.

MS. ZANN: Mr. Speaker, I commend anybody for putting women in any positions of authority and I commend the Premier for that. However, I am talking about poverty in Nova Scotia and how we're going to deal with that issue.

A recent report on the gender wage gap in the retail sector found that even when working in the same types of jobs, men are paid more than women and when full-time positions become available they are more likely to be given to men. Low wages contribute to the gender wage gap and income equality, and this is both an important social issue and an economic challenge.

The McKinsey Global Institute calculates that \$12 trillion could be added to the global GDP by 2025 if steps were taken to advance women's economic equality. Could the Premier please explain what this government is actually doing to address the gender wage gap?

THE PREMIER: Mr. Speaker, I again want to thank the honourable member for the question. Not only have we made the investments and appointments that I referred to earlier but we're continuing to work with our private sector partners to drive growth opportunities. We are very encouraged by the fact that we led the country in retaining young people in this province. We've very encouraged by the population growth that's taking place. We're encouraged by the excitement we're seeing in the private sector to create opportunities with our citizens.

I also want to remind the honourable member that we're very encouraged by the fact that when we look across our professional service, many of our daughters are not only

making up 50 per cent of those classes but making up more than 50 per cent in some of the professions across our government services.

We're going to continue to lead by example, and we're going to stand beside our daughters to ensure that they recognize that they have the same equal opportunity and the same opportunities in this province as their brothers do.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Leader of the Official Opposition.

**TIR - SHULIE RD.: RD. CONDITION MAP - OMISSION**

HON. JAMIE BAILLIE: Mr. Speaker, my question is to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. Route 209, known as the Shulie Road, runs between Joggins and Apple River. It connects the world-renowned Joggins Fossil Cliffs with Cape Chignecto Provincial Park.

The road is still there, but it has been erased from the government road condition map. That omission makes it harder for local tourism operators to attract people to the area and make a living.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to ask the minister, why was Route 209, the Shulie Road, erased from the provincial road condition map?

HON. GEOFF MACLELLAN: Mr. Speaker, I thank the member opposite for the question. It really is an important one; obviously that's a significant road for the connection it makes in the member's constituency.

The only information I have about the online technology we have is that a lot of times it's based on volume. I don't know if there's any weight or any inclusion of the significance from a tourism or an economic perspective. I can certainly check on the details of that road, and if we can do that with respect to this particular Shulie Road, then certainly we'll do so.

MR. BAILLIE: I appreciate that answer. After all, rural Nova Scotia does deserve a chance to succeed. There have been cuts to many government services in rural areas, but erasing the Shulie Road off the road condition map seems to be a step too far.

I appreciate that the minister is going to look into it. Will he share with the House when he will have an answer to the Shulie Road issue, and will he commit to putting it back on the map, if at all possible?

MR. MACLELLAN: Mr. Speaker, I'm sure we can get a response from our local team on the ground there by the end of the day, and if there's any way we can put that back on the map, we'd be happy to do so.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Pictou Centre.

**EECD: PROV. ATTENDANCE POLICY - STAKEHOLDERS**

HON. PAT DUNN: Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. During estimates the minister spoke about the important issue of attendance for students. When a student is not at school, there are no safeguards to ensure that students are safe. We believe that schools should have a policy on how attendance is enforced, and parents should be aware of the policy.

My question to the minister is, will the minister assure the members of this House that all stakeholders will be involved in the creation of a provincial attendance policy?

HON. KAREN CASEY: Thank you to the member for the question. It certainly was a topic for discussion during estimates. One of the things we are doing with all the provincial policies that we are developing is that we make sure that all stakeholders - parents, students, teachers, administrators, and the public - are involved as we collect data to help us put together a policy that is appropriate, effective, and meaningful.

We have done that with the homework policy and with the code of conduct so that there is one provincial policy. All schools, all principals, and all teachers adhere to that, and we are doing the same thing. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the Youth Advisory Council that I have struck at our first meeting discussed this very issue.

MR. DUNN: Mr. Speaker, students and parents are concerned about the discrepancies between school boards and how they treat attendance. Inconsistent attendance with high school courses has created significant problems for schools.

My question to the minister, will the minister commit to having the policy implemented before the start of the school year next September?

MS. CASEY: Mr. Speaker, we recognize that the input is important. We need to have that before we come out with a policy, and it would be our goal to have something ready for September. We need to know that the policy is in the hands of those who will be implementing it, and we are well along our way to developing this particular policy on student attendance. It is our goal to have that effective in September of 2016.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Sackville-Cobequid.

**PREM.: HEALTH SERV. ACCESS - TRANSPORTATION COSTS**

HON. DAVID WILSON: My question is for the Premier. We know the government's new strategy for health care in Nova Scotia relies upon patients' ability to move from one end of the province to the other. We have seen this with mental health

patients being forced to drive from New Glasgow to Yarmouth for treatment. This system will have serious impacts on rural Nova Scotians, many who are already struggling to make ends meet. I would like to ask the Premier, what is the government's plan to support patients who will experience increased transportation costs to access health services in Nova Scotia?

THE PREMIER: Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the honourable member for the question. I want to thank the Minister of Health and Wellness for the tremendous work that he has been doing with our partners to unify our health care system across our province.

The honourable member raises a great question. I cannot tell you how happy Nova Scotians are when I hear from them. They talk about the fact that they are not stuck in their old district health authority, that if they live in the Valley and they can access orthopaedic surgery in Pictou County of course they want to go to Pictou County - under the new system, they have that opportunity, but if you have that requirement, you can wait in your local community for longer; they recognize that. When some people go to access services elsewhere, it drops the wait-list in their respective communities.

We are seeing very positive signs, encouraging signs, from health care providers who are working very hard with government, with our support network, as well with patients to ensure that we reduce wait times and deliver the same quality health care that Nova Scotians have come to expect in this province.

MR. DAVID WILSON: Mr. Speaker, I think the Premier is missing the point. There are people stuck in communities. Some people do not have a working vehicle. They may not have access to public transportation. The Premier and I are able to maybe travel to the next community; I understand that. But there are people in rural communities who are less fortunate, who are struggling, who do not have access to a vehicle. That is a major challenge if you are dealing with health issues. So, I would like to ask, will the Premier commit to ensuring that those Nova Scotians who are vulnerable in our communities will have some kind of support from the government if they are forced to leave their community to seek health treatments and health services?

THE PREMIER: Mr. Speaker, I understood the question from the honourable member. I want to assure him I have lived in rural Nova Scotia all my life, I continue to live in rural Nova Scotia, and I will always live in rural Nova Scotia. What I said is that under a single health care system across this province, there are people who can move to get serviced quicker in another community, and it reduces the wait-list in the community where someone may not be able to which means they have access. We have a uniform health care system across this province when it comes to accessing the services that Nova Scotians require. (Interruption)

It is unfortunate that the New Democratic Party stands in this House and continues to shout across the floor. I wish they would have shown half as much energy when they

had an opportunity to make a decision. The fact of the matter is, they chose to invest in administration and saddle up to the union leaders when we are investing in patient care.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Dartmouth East.

### **ENVIRON.: FALL RIVER QUARRY - PUBLIC APPLICATION CLOSURE**

MR. ANDREW YOUNGER: Last week, residents near the proposed Fall River Goffs quarry received a letter from the Minister of Environment which I will table that says public consultation on the new application is now closed.

Interestingly, that letter came just days before the completion of a troubling independent report which I will also table using the proponent's own data by Dr. Favreau, a national blasting expert and professor at the World Military College, who has raised concerns about the project location and the safety of the project for, of all things, the Tufts Cove Generating Station. He says that the types of blasts intended for the proposed quarry will without doubt create vibration levels excessive as those shown in Table B and this is an unacceptable situation for the safety of the natural gas pipeline which supplies all of Halifax.

Why did the Minister of Environment decide to close public input on the application without public notice and will she instruct her department to consider the report of Dr. Favreau?

HON. MARGARET MILLER: Mr. Speaker, all quarries in this province have a form of environmental oversight, and this quarry is no exception. There was an application put forward. I know that the proponents were working, were actually submitting information, and we have had a lot of documentation about them, but the decision will be made and whether there is an approval or not will be based on what's best for the community - sorry not for the community, it will be based on facts and not on letters from the community.

MR. YOUNGER: Mr. Speaker, I wasn't suggesting it should be based on letters from the community, but actually an independent report from one of Canada's top experts who is saying that the province's natural gas pipeline is at risk based on the application before her.

Mr. Speaker, two residents from the area are with us today, Stacey Rudderham and Emma Doucet, and as she would know they are also involved in the court challenge. I understand the minister can't speak to the court challenge, but what's interesting is right up until last week these residents have received documents through FOIPOP which her department has not disclosed in court as part of the disclosure process. The residents' lawyer raised this point with the Justice Department, who told their lawyer that the Environment Department simply hasn't provided the records required by repeated court



deadlines. Now, whether one supports the quarry or not I hope the minister would be troubled by this.

So, why is the Environment Department not complying with the legal disclosures and the court process as the Justice Department says they're not, and what will the minister do to ensure that the documents are properly disclosed?

MS. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, you know, as with the Goffs quarry we revoked, certainly he knows that that ministerial approval, or the approval was revoked formally. At this point the application is still considered incomplete. Once it's complete, the department will have 60 days to review all of the application material and render a decision.

So, we'll be moving forward on that basis. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Pictou West.

#### **ENVIRON.: LONG LAKE CLEAR-CUT - UPDATE**

MS. KARLA MACFARLANE: Mr. Speaker, my question through you is to the Minister of Environment.

Last November a section of forest in the Long Lake Provincial Park mysteriously disappeared. In March a spokesperson for the Minister of Environment said the department had identified a contractor who may have clear-cut part of the park, an investigation was to begin.

Will the minister update the House, please, about the status of the investigation?

HON. MARGARET MILLER: Mr. Speaker, my conservation officers with the Department of Environment have completed their investigation for Long Lake. All that material has been turned over to the Crown Attorney. As the House members are all aware, the Crown Attorney is a separate entity from government, and they will decide when and how they proceed. Thank you.

MS. MACFARLANE: Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the minister for her answers. I appreciate it has been turned over. I have received a number of calls just this past week from residents in that area, and I'm wondering, can the minister advise when those residents may have closure on finding out what actually happened there?

MS. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, thanks to the member opposite for that question. Certainly she's not alone in hearing from the residents and people who are very, very concerned about this issue. Some of our own members have also been very concerned about this. This has been a major problem, this is cutting on provincial park property. So, I hope to have an answer for her very soon on this.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Sydney River-Mira-Louisbourg.

**DIS: NEW GOV'T. POSITIONS (2015) - STATUS**

HON. ALFIE MACLEOD: Mr. Speaker, my question through you is to the Minister of Internal Services.

There are 10,100 unemployed youth in Nova Scotia according to Statistics Canada numbers released last week. We also found out in the last session that the majority of the government jobs posted for new grads were temporary, short-term jobs. With the highest taxed province, youth are looking for permanent careers.

So, my question for the minister is, will the minister tell the House today how many of the positions that were announced last year are still filled?

HON. LABI KOUSOULIS: Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, in November our department released 70 positions geared towards youth. I can report back that since that time we have actually filled more than double that in youth in the Public Service Commission.

Mr. Speaker, as I've said before in this House, this was only possible because this government decided to eliminate the requirement for anyone joining the Public Service, to have two years' experience, and this opened the door to our new graduates in universities and in colleges across the province.

Mr. Speaker, I am also excited to report that since taking government, this government has had over 1,000 youth come into the Public Service.

MR. MACLEOD: You know, Mr. Speaker, it's quite interesting, there must be a course that's given to the ministers on how not to answer questions when they take their oath. The minister seems content to hang his hat on temporary jobs that do not create long-term, sustainable career paths for our youth. The unemployment rate in Cape Breton is 18.5 per cent. This is the fifth highest unemployment of any region in the country.

The ninth goal of the Ivany report is Nova Scotia's youth unemployment rate will be at better than the national rate in that year. I'll table that, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the minister would tell us, when will the government take substantial steps to address youth retention and employment in the Province of Nova Scotia?

MR. KOUSOULIS: Mr. Speaker, I'm not sure what the member is talking about with his question not being answered. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The honourable Minister of the Public Service Commission has the floor.

MR. KOUSOULIS: Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, there are 1,000 full-time positions for youth since this government has taken office - 1,000 full-time positions. I can also tell you that in the last year youth unemployment has fallen in the Province of Nova Scotia, with a significant fall since the last month. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The honourable Minister of the Public Service Commission has the floor.

MR. KOUSOULIS: Mr. Speaker, I would also like to report to the House that Nova Scotia is leading Canada in youth retention in the provinces.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Sydney River-Mira-Louisbourg.

### **HEALTH & WELLNESS: C.B. DOCTOR-PATIENT RATIO - NUMBERS**

HON. ALFIE MACLEOD: Mr. Speaker, my question through you is to the Minister of Health and Wellness. Two weeks ago the Minister of Health and Wellness was quite quick to stand in his place and talk about how Nova Scotia had the third highest doctor-patient ratio in the country. At that time he was requested to produce the numbers for Cape Breton Island. We're still waiting.

I wonder if indeed he can reply so quickly on his feet about what is going on, how come he can't come up with the numbers to prove what the doctor-patient ratio is on Cape Breton Island.

HON. LEO GLAVINE: Mr. Speaker, I met with Janet Knox, the CEO of the Nova Scotia Health Authority this morning. We are gathering those up-to-date figures from the Health Authority, since there have been a few new doctors going into practice, and we will have those available for the honourable member.

MR. MACLEOD: Mr. Speaker, it is high time that the Minister of Health and Wellness of this province tells the people of Cape Breton Island the truth; tell them what's really going on. On the weekend we found out that there are three more specialists who are going to leave Cape Breton Island. The minister told us in the House during Question Period that there were seven new doctors going to Cape Breton yet the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal announced that there were 10 new doctors coming to Cape Breton.

What is the truth? The people of Cape Breton Island deserve the truth, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I'd like to remind the honourable member, inferring that any member of the government is not telling the truth is unparliamentary.

MR. MACLEOD: Mr. Speaker, I'll be glad to retract that statement when he actually tells the truth. (Interruptions)

MR. GLAVINE: Mr. Speaker, what I can say to the honourable member is that recruiting is going well and that's why the figures are changing. By the end of the summer the member will be able to see some of the new doctors who will be in practice in Cape Breton.

In terms of specialists and when it comes to doctors, what the member needs to realize is that they are individual business people who make decisions for a whole lot of different reasons. That goes on across the province on a continuous (Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please.

The honourable Leader in the House of the New Democratic Party.

### **PREM.: AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS - RESPONSE**

MS. MARIAN MANCINI: My question is for the Premier. HRM is facing an affordable housing crisis: 25 per cent of all households, just over 40,000, are spending more than 30 per cent of their income on shelter. Even more concerning is that close to 20,000 households are spending 50 per cent or more of their household income on housing costs, classifying them as in extreme housing need, and I will table that. We have found out recently that this government has underspent on affordable housing by millions. What does the Premier have to say to those living in HRM who are choosing between food and shelter?

THE PREMIER: I want to thank the honourable member for the question. I want to remind her that shortly after becoming government we instituted rent supplements - really across the province, but the bulk of them would be in HRM - to deal with the very issue she is talking about. She again is misrepresenting what was in the budget when she talks about housing being underspent. That money has been committed. What's happening is potentially contractors haven't finished the project, or there has been a delay in having it completed for the fiscal year.

Unfortunately, we can't do the trick that they did when they were in government, which was pre-paying things and all that other stuff. We have to do the appropriate thing, which is to account for it in the year it is spent. What we have to do is say that that money is still there, but it's committed. It will be spent, and it is continuing to be spent as we stand here today and speak - in addition to the new money that's been added to our budget.

MS. MANCINI: The Premier on previous occasions in Question Period had spoken about rollovers, but for the average Nova Scotian looking in, that excuse simply doesn't cut it. In HRM roughly 15,000 households have an income of less than \$17,000, with the vast majority spending more than 50 per cent of their income on shelter, and I will table

that. This is a deeply concerning problem that goes beyond affordable housing - not to mention we aren't even talking about the issues in rural Nova Scotia. How can the Premier justify his inaction given the tens of thousands of households in HRM that are in extreme housing need?

**THE PREMIER:** Again, I want to thank the honourable member for the question. I want to tell her again, as she would know, that in any government-owned housing, rent is a percentage of income when people are living in it, the very issue she's referring to. The rent supplement issue that we talked about is the very fact to deal with the issue she's referring to where we pay for a portion of the rent based on income. That is across the province. It's predominantly here, though, where we'd be seeing that. We're continuing to work with our service providers across this province to deal with a myriad of housing options.

Again, I want to correct the honourable member. She knows full well that continuing to repeat the fact that that money was not spent is not accurate. It's been committed to Nova Scotians across this province. I'm sure she's not suggesting that we should take that money from those Nova Scotians who have gone out and hired contractors who are prepared to do the renovations in their home to upgrade their homes to reduce the energy costs to make sure it's more affordable for them to live in. I know that's not what she's referring to, Mr. Speaker, so I think it would be appropriate at some point, when she stands up, that she would fully understand and tell this House that she knows what's happening and that she's standing with this government, which has made commitments to low-income Nova Scotians.

**MR. SPEAKER:** The honourable member for Argyle-Barrington.

**TIR: RTE. 203 (E. KEMPTVILLE) - UPDATE**

**HON. CHRISTOPHER D'ENTREMONT:** My question is to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. As he knows there is a road called Route 203, which travels from Shelburne through East Kemptville over to Carlton, so it basically ranges between Shelburne municipality way over to Yarmouth municipality. It's in disrepair. There are some parts of it that have been fixed, but the part that goes across where the East Kemptville mine is, is in atrocious shape. There has even been talk of returning that road to gravel. I'm just wondering if the minister has an update on what's going on with Route 203 through East Kemptville.

**HON. GEOFF MACLELLAN:** I thank the member for the question. I've heard about this road - the Tin Mine Road, as it's known in the region - from all sides of the House. It's one of those challenging roads, for sure. It's about 60 kilometres in total and there certainly are some rough sections, but the challenge becomes that there's about - the average is about 50 vehicles per day. The department identified a number of years ago that they would turn some of the roughest sections into gravel, and when the consensus of the

members who represented the respective areas was that certainly wasn't acceptable for the community.

What we've done in the meantime is continue to monitor the volumes and look at the patching - the best patching that we could. Again, I made the commitment to the many members who had asked that we wouldn't proceed with the gravel unless it was supported by the community, and clearly it isn't. So we'll have to do our best to maintain the roadbed and fix the paving as we can. Thanks.

MR. D'ENTREMONT: You know, there's a lot of people who travel along that road - especially people going to Trout Point Lodge, which is a really nice, high-level place to come and stay in the beautiful constituency of Argyle-Barrington - and they have to actually travel across this road. God forbid that it's wet, because there's so much water that gets into the roads there that it is terrible.

I'll take the commitment from the minister that they're going to monitor it, but I'm just wondering if it's another chicken-and-egg problem, that there's only 50 people who travel by car because only 50 people can get up that road. If it was actually fixed, it would have more people traveling up that road. Gravel is not the way to go, but there still needs to be some stuff done to keep it safe for motorists.

MR. MACLELLAN: Mr. Speaker, the member is correct. I see in the development of the private sector operation that the member alluded to that they hope that one day the Tin Mine would be explored. That would certainly drive volume and other developments that could happen in the area. We will continue to monitor it. Even though it is a very long stretch of roadway with a very low volume, obviously those roughest sections become worse as time goes on.

We'll reach back into the local department with Steve MacIsaac and his team to see what we can do for this year, and I'll check in with our chief engineer Bruce Fitzner to see what immediate upgrades we can do to make sure that we at least address some of those roughest sections in the very near future. Thanks.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Argyle-Barrington.

#### **BUS.: DIGBY PINES/LISCOMBE LODGE SALE - UPDATE**

HON. CHRISTOPHER D'ENTREMONT: Mr. Speaker, my next question is to the Minister of Business. In a FOIPOP received by our office on April 7<sup>th</sup>, we identified that Cushman & Wakefield had received nearly \$250,000 for facilitating the sale of Digby Pines and Liscombe Lodge. The contract was dated June 2015 and effective for August 2015, and has been in effect for nearly nine months right now. The province has spent millions on maintenance to our signature sites while trying to divest of these properties.

Will the minister update the status of the sale of Digby Pines and Liscombe Lodge, and maybe provide a complete breakdown of the cost associated with the sale and maintenance so far?

HON. MARK FUREY: Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for the question. As he knows, this property has been for sale for an extended period of time. While they were in government they faced the same challenges. We continue to work with the private sector and those individuals who've expressed interest in the properties, and when we're able to find a deal that's in the best interest of Nova Scotians, we'll act on that.

MR. D'ENTREMONT: There was a public tendering process, and apparently as many as six offers were received, Mr. Speaker. In a briefing note contained in that FOIPOP, it was mentioned that the Office of the Minister of Municipal Affairs arranged a meeting with a potential buyer, and there was another meeting arranged by Tourism Nova Scotia that took place on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

Will the minister confirm that the public tendering process and the sale of these properties was not compromised as a result of the interference by himself, Tourism Nova Scotia, or the Minister of Municipal Affairs?

MR. FUREY: Mr. Speaker, one of the important pieces of this particular tendering process is the interest it has sparked in businesspeople in the community. They've reached out to their local MLAs - and I want to advise my colleagues from other sides of this Legislature. We've accommodated them and the expression of interest that they've shared, and our departments, individually, have facilitated those discussions to ensure that those interests, those proponents, have accurate information and are able to consider all facts in furthering any offer to the province.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Dartmouth South.

#### **PREM. - CHILD POVERTY (N.S.): STATISTICS - ACCEPTABILITY**

MS. MARIAN MANCINI: My question is directed to the Premier. Mr. Speaker, poverty exists across Nova Scotia and it is even worse in Cape Breton. The unemployment rate in Cape Breton in April was at 18.2 per cent, and I'll table that.

According to a CCPA report, almost 38,000 Nova Scotia children - that's one in five - were living in poverty in 2013. It's the highest rate in Atlantic Canada. The situation is even worse for children under the age of six. According to the same report, Mr. Speaker, 27 per cent of Nova Scotia children under the age of six live in poverty, and the numbers are worse in Cape Breton. I will table that.

Does the Premier agree that these statistics are completely unacceptable in 2016?

THE PREMIER: Mr. Speaker, again I want to thank the honourable member for the question. As I've said many times in this House, of course, who would agree that children living in poverty is acceptable? The debate will go on about how we help those families. They have an approach that they didn't implement when they had an opportunity to implement.

We have the fourth highest minimum wage in Canada right now. We've chosen to invest, through the work of the Minister of Community Services, in making sure that Nova Scotians on income assistance are getting support.

Can we do more? Should we do more? Of course we can; of course we should, and we will. The Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development is investing in child care. We'll make those spaces available so that children are getting the child care they deserve, so parents can go to work resting assured that their children are getting the quality services they deserve.

We're going to continue to work with our private sector partners. It is why, through the Minister of Labour and Advanced Education, we've asked employers to give the universities and community colleges their first job opportunity at home, through the Graduate to Opportunity program.

There are a number of programs that we're working towards. It has taken a long time to get us in this position; it will take a long, sustainable way to get us out. The good news is we're seeing youth retention up. We're seeing our population grow and we're seeing Nova Scotians, for the first time in a long time, optimistic about the opportunities and the possibilities here at home.

MS. MANCINI: Mr. Speaker, Emera Inc. recently made public the salaries and benefits paid to its senior administrators, and I will table that. The documents show that in 2015 Emera's President and CEO made \$4.3 million in salary, stock options, and benefits. The income disparity is staggering. Emera's CEO made \$4.3 million while, as indicated by the tabled report, 43 per cent of Cape Breton children under the age of six are living in conditions of poverty. This does not have to carry on and be sustained. I'd ask the Premier to explain, what is he doing to help Nova Scotia children who are living in poverty?

THE PREMIER: Mr. Speaker, again I want to thank the honourable member for the question. I want to tell her what we've been doing: we've reinstated the cuts to public education that her government made when they had an opportunity in government. We know that the single best thing we can do for children living in poverty is support them through their adolescence and ensure that they have a quality education and career opportunities to achieve their full potential. That's why we made that investment for low-income families.



We're working very hard to ensure that the subsidy towards child care reflects the reality of today; it's what this budget did today. While they cut \$6 million out of child care, we're working with the Minister of Labour and Advanced Education to ensure that when young people leave community college, university, that we have a program called Graduate to Opportunity where we're working with employers to hire young Nova Scotians, to give them their first job opportunity here at home.

These are all positive signs that we are moving in the right direction. Can we do more? Will we do more? Absolutely, Mr. Speaker, we're going to continue to work with Nova Scotians to move this province forward in a sustainable, long-term way.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Pictou West.

### **MUN. AFFS.: TAXATION LEVELS - HFX. REG. COUN. REQUEST**

MS. KARLA MACFARLANE: Mr. Speaker, my question through you is to the Minister of Municipal Affairs. The Halifax Regional Council passed a motion requesting the province provide greater autonomy to set commercial taxation levels by area, and I can table that document. There has been no public update from the government on this. Can the minister please provide an update as to whether or not the government is going to accept this request?

HON. ZACH CHURCHILL: We are continuously working with HRM and all our municipal units to develop new tax tools, tools for economic development and business growth in our communities. We recently had one that was introduced before the House in Bill No. 177, where we are providing one such tool. Those conversations will continue with HRM and all our municipal partners, and we'll develop new ones as we move forward.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The time allotted for Oral Questions Put by Members to Ministers has expired.

The honourable Minister of Labour and Advanced Education on an introduction.

HON. KELLY REGAN: I'd like to direct the members' attention to the east gallery where we are joined today by a former member of this House, a former Minister of the Crown, l'honourable Allister Surette, le recteur de l'Université Sainte-Anne. I would like members to give him the warm welcome of the House. (Applause)

### **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Government House Leader.

HON. MICHEL SAMSON: Mr. Speaker, would you please call the order of business, Public Bills for Second Reading.

**PUBLIC BILLS FOR SECOND READING**

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Government House Leader.

HON. MICHEL SAMSON: Mr. Speaker, would you please call Bill. No 174.

**Bill No. 174 - Financial Measures (2016) Act.**

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Kings North.

MR. JOHN LOHR: Mr. Speaker, I guess I would like to confirm I have 19 minutes left - is that correct? Okay.

It's my pleasure to rise again to speak to the Financial Measures (2016) Bill to address some of the issues in the budget. I was looking at the line items in the budget, and the fifth-largest line item in the budget is the payment of interest on the debt. That is in the vicinity of \$800 million and far exceeds the money spent on a number of other line items.

I realize that number got to be that large not in one government; there have been a number of governments that have contributed to that, certainly. But it is of concern to see the debt continue to rise and continue to be a factor in the operation of the province. Certainly to have a balanced budget, and we've addressed some of the concerns we have about the budget and if it's really balanced, but it is the direction we need to go in as a province. I believe that we need to have a balanced budget.

I know there has been a fair bit of talk about the Yarmouth ferry in this budget and the total cost of the Yarmouth ferry. I know that we have speculated that over the course of the 10 years it's going to be \$100 million, and the government has said that's not correct, but has not offered an alternative number. If you look at the cost of the *Nova Star* for two years - I believe that was in the vicinity of \$40 million. If you extrapolate and multiply that number by five - two times five being 10 years, \$40 million being 10 years - that could be as high as \$200 million. It's not likely that that will be the case, I hope, but the total cost to the province is of great concern to us.

When I'm around in my constituency, I know that my constituents are very concerned about the total cost of the Yarmouth ferry - not because they are against the Yarmouth ferry in principle, not at all, but maybe more so because they are afraid that the total cost being so high means that that will ultimately attack the viability of that ferry, that it's too expensive, that we as a province cannot afford to have that ferry if that's actually how much it costs. Their concern is not so much that we shouldn't have a ferry but that if we're going to have one we need to have one that we can sustain. If the cost of the ferry is unsustainable, we'll lose the ferry. That's the concern. The concern is about the economics of it, and I think it's fair to say that even in Kings North we can see the benefit of the ferry service.

I know that I've heard my colleagues from around the province say the same thing, that by having that direct link to the U.S., we create a loop for tourists. Whether they go one direction or the other, they're still accessing that. I think it's fair to say that we all want to see a healthy, economically viable ferry.

There are a number of concerns that I have about the way this whole deal has been structured and happened. One major concern was the fact that we were under the impression - and maybe this was not correct and maybe the minister can correct me on this if I'm wrong - that early in the Fall of 2015, I was under the impression that if we were going to change operators there would be a boat - one of the requirements of changing operators was that the operator we switched to had a boat. I know that there was a switch to a new operator, but there was no boat for quite some time. This was a factor in the way this all played out. Certainly, we would have liked to have seen the ability for U.S. tour operators to be selling tours into Nova Scotia early last Fall, but I understand that wasn't the case. It took quite some time for all of this to come together.

I know that in my business life experience, making changes always takes longer than you expect it will. There are always unintended consequences to these changes. What we saw was in changing operators, putting the whole thing - it just really all came together in the last couple of months - last month, possibly. This represents quite a loss of time for bookings and it is of great concern that it transpired this way.

I believe that this is a factor, unfortunately, in the overall deal. Hindsight, of course, is 20-20, and it is easy for us to say here, from this side, you should have done this or you should have done that. I realize that there are many dilemmas and many issues that go into making these types of deals, but it is quite clear that last Fall, even early in the Fall, if the operator was going to be changed, it had to be done pretty quickly or it would not be possible because all of these things take time to put together. It is unfortunate the way that has transpired, and I realize we are looking back at it with hindsight now. I know that at the time it was said, if we are going to change operators to the ferry, there has to be a boat, and it seems like that was not stuck to. The operator was changed and there was no boat for quite some time. That was an issue with this ferry.

Another issue with the ferry that we have been concerned about from this side is the details of the contract. Clearly, it seems like we were not bargaining from a very strong position, and I think that is unfortunate. Nevertheless, it is clear that things - that raises questions. Why were we negotiating for it from such a weak point? I do not know the answer to that, but it causes one to wonder. As I said, I am sure that my constituents want to see a ferry that is viable, healthy, successful, and affordable.

If we look back over the history of the province, there have been times in different industries when we have had to say this is no longer affordable; we have to cut this loose. I do not know where that point is on the Yarmouth ferry; I really do not, but clearly, if the costs are in excess of \$100 million over 10 years, it causes one to wonder. This has been a

factor in this. I realize that for that ferry to be successful, there needs to be lots of opportunity to make bookings. I believe there needs to be truck traffic, and there needs to be time for the U.S. companies that market tours to have that opportunity to market those tours. That was not a factor this year, and it is unfortunate that transpired that way.

Did we get the right boat? Time will tell. As I said, it is our hope that the ferry does turn out to be much more economically viable than the previous one. Even if we are correct and it is only half as costly as the previous ferry, which is where our estimate comes from, which I think is a very kind estimate over 10 years - if the previous ferry was \$40 million over two years, if this one here is \$100 million over 10, then it is only costing half as much as the previous ferry. That is, I think, a kind estimate. I think if it is less expensive than that, then the government needs to explain how that is the case over this time frame.

If that is our estimate, and I know this has been debated in the Legislature here, then it would be good to have the government explain where their estimate comes from, to the extent that they can explain it publicly, realizing that some things are hidden by the fact that there are nondisclosure agreements involved.

Those are concerns of mine about the budget. There is a concern about the overall economy of Nova Scotia. I know that if we look at this current budget, a lot of the economic development stuff in it - there are really, I think, two main areas of economic development in the budget, obviously. One is the ferry. That has to be counted as a pretty large area of economic development for the province in the sense that it is a huge factor for the tourist industry to have that ferry operational. That is one area of economic development that I see in the budget.

The other area of economic development relates back to the Department of Business and is in several different areas. There is the Nova Centre. There is the Jobs Fund from the NDP era, which is money going out to over 100 different companies. Clearly some of those investments will bear some fruit. Clearly we like what we see happening with the Irving shipyard having an impact in Halifax that's going back to an NDP-era Government, so there's quite a bit of this economic development in the budget that relates back to the previous government, things that they have done and whether we'll have to see how that all turns out. Clearly some of that work is bearing fruit.

What I'm drilling down into is in reality the Ivany report has told us that we have a long way to go in economic development for the economy of the province. At about the same time as the Ivany report came out, the Department of ERDT was all changed and it's hard to say whether that was the right or wrong thing to do. I realize that was a subject of debate. We have a much leaner Department of Business now, yet at the same time we have a much greater demand for the business of the province to be developed.

How does that all jibe? I'm not quite sure in my own mind. I know it has been said by the government that government hasn't done a very good job in developing business

and maybe there's some truth in that over the years if the amount of money and the amount of rhetoric that has gone into how great each new endeavour is in business development then you do wonder at what rate should the government be involved in developing the business of the province. It's certainly clear that government does have a role and I believe that the Ivany report says we do have a role in developing business.

If I look at this budget and ask myself about the Ivany goals, I ask myself, how does that all fit together? It nibbles at it, but I think that nibbling isn't going to be good enough. We need to be making bigger strides forward in the Ivany report to meet some of those goals. Some of them, I think business will achieve some of those Ivany goals despite us, possibly. We see big jumps in exports in fisheries, in lobster, and that's just because of world market conditions, and we can be very grateful for that for our province, yet we see business, various cycle of the industry cycle up and down.

As my colleagues know, one of our bright stars of agriculture a couple of years ago was the fur industry and that is now, because of world conditions, in a big decline. So we see industry cycles on its own, in spite of government likely, and so we certainly hope that we, as government, can play a role that promotes industry in the province.

Just to summarize my comments, I know there are some big questions about this budget in our minds - is there really a \$17 million surplus? There's a \$17 million surplus on paper, will it really materialize? One of the huge issues is the assumptions that were made in the budget is that there would be a \$108 million increase in personal tax revenue. To achieve that personal \$108 million with approximately 500,000 working Nova Scotians - and I realize that people who don't work, possibly on fixed incomes, they pay tax, too - but if you look at the 500,000 working Nova Scotians, to achieve the increase that is recommended just by straight math, you can quickly arrive at our needing 20,000 more working Nova Scotians, or we would have to have a pretty good jump in the wage rate in the province.

I say to that, I wish, I hope the minister's estimates come true, but I know when questioned about that rosy estimate the minister said those numbers came from Ottawa and I certainly look forward to hearing - I know at some point the minister will have an opportunity to address some of these concerns and will, no doubt, flesh out further where that rosy number came from.

As I've mentioned several other times in the House when talking to this, at the same time that the budget came out, the Auditor General Report came out on the follow-up to the 2012-2013 recommendations. I know for the Department of Finance and Treasury Board one of the recommendations that was not done was related directly to these sorts of things, where do these estimates come from? As I read the Auditor General's Report, a lot of the things that the Auditor General is asking government to do would be very standard to someone in business who had to deal with ISO 9001 or food safety compliance, simply what would be a documentation of the facts and a method or setting into procedure a

method to verify and confirm and document that everything has been done. Not to say that those things aren't being done, but that there isn't a verification or documentation of those.

It's a type of compliance. As I read the Auditor General's Report - and maybe I haven't looked into it deeply enough, but as I read it, those types of just basic compliance, things which really aren't that difficult when you start to address them - it's often simply a matter of documentation. I'm disappointed that there are so many recommendations, both from the Department of Business and the Department of Finance and Treasury Board, that haven't been done. A lot of them relate to some pretty big issues in this budget.

With the Department of Business, a lot of the compliance-type stuff that has been asked for relates to how the Jobs Fund is managed. Although we're not taking applications on the Jobs Fund, we're disbursing the huge amount of money in the Jobs Fund. It needs to have good oversight, given the fact that last year's estimate was \$35 million in the Jobs Fund and it turned out to be \$44 million, so we have a pretty big jump - I believe it might have been \$39 million, but it was a multi-million dollar jump in the amount of money that went out in the Jobs Fund.

If that doesn't call for greater oversight into what is happening - that's really a huge variation. That alone begs - well, you could have a better estimate at the beginning of the year if you had better connections to these companies and knew what they were doing and where they were going. I know the minister has said that some part of it relates to two different bankruptcies.

Another big concern for me in this budget is the fact that in this past year the Department of Health and Wellness had a considerable amount of money in its (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please. The honourable member for Kings North has the floor.

MR. LOHR: One of the major concerns for me, and frankly a shock, was the amount of money in hospital infrastructure that was not spent. I don't have the number right in front of me, but I believe it was \$42 million in hospital infrastructure and \$15 million was spent. So \$28 million went somewhere. I was telling that to a constituent this weekend, and they said, where did the money go? I said I didn't even think to ask the question, but where did the money go? What was that \$42 million allocated for, and why wasn't it spent?

Presumably when a budget is made, the estimate of the amount of money being spent has allocations of different items in that estimate of where the money is going to be spent. To be underspent by that significant amount when, in fact, we have so many big needs in our hospital infrastructure is really very, very shocking to me. I didn't realize that was the case. I know that that \$15 million that wasn't spent would have provided us a hospice in the Valley, would have provided us dialysis in the Valley - two big issues in

Kings County that I know the minister is very well aware of. The money for that was there in the last year's budget, and it was simply not spent.

I'm sure that if we really look at the needs of hospital infrastructure in the province we could probably come to hundreds of millions of dollars without too much work, yet there is \$42 million allocated to it, and \$15 million of that, or a significant portion of that, wasn't spent at all. I can't quite comprehend that.

How is that decision made at a certain point of the year where, no, we're not going to spend that money? Where did that money go? Even when I asked the minister about dialysis, I look at the five-year plan. This year's five-year plan in buildings shows a dialysis building in Annapolis Valley. Yet I asked the minister about this and I don't seem to really get a clear-cut answer - like, when will we know when the hospice and the dialysis will be done in the Annapolis Valley?

The fact that the money was in the budget last year and not spent is doubly troubling to me. I question how much organization is there, or how disorganized are we in the Department of Health and Wellness? Surely to goodness when we made a budget and we have plans to spend the money, those needs don't evaporate. They are still there and they still need to be done. It's a matter of organization.

It's very disturbing to me to discover in this budget, quite by accident, that that much money was left on the table. I'm very disappointed about that.

I realize my time has come up. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Northside-Westmount.

MR. EDDIE ORRELL: Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to rise this afternoon and speak a little bit to Bill No. 174, the Financial Measures (2016) Act.

Mr. Speaker, during estimates and a few other things that went on over the last number of days here, we heard a lot about the Financial Measures (2016) Bill. We heard how there were some good things in the budget, how there were some things that were questionable in the budget and, quite frankly, we heard some things in the budget that we thought weren't up to scratch.

Now, Mr. Speaker, when we heard some of the questions in the Education and Early Childhood Development budget it seemed like they were putting some more money back in the education budget, which is a good thing. The SchoolsPlus Program benefits all kids in the province, it provides well-needed resources. Some money put into early childhood development is a good thing, and it's good to see some mental health money going into the budget into the education in the school system.

But when we get into mental health, Mr. Speaker, we start hearing some real horror stories from mental health situations in our hospitals. Mental health situations in New Glasgow, the Pictou area. The Aberdeen Hospital, that unit closed for what was supposed to be a temporary period of time, and we find out that it's not opening. That money has been transferred to a mental health unit in Truro, which means the people in New Glasgow and Pictou County area have to travel to Truro for mental health issues.

Mr. Speaker, when you have to start a patient with some mental health issues on a journey to Truro, to be there by themselves to receive that treatment, without family members who may not be able to get there, that's not conducive to good mental health care. We heard some horror stories in the Cape Breton area where people have tried to commit suicide, went into the hospital and there wasn't room for them, and they were moved to another area.

To me that is the basis of our health care system, having some of this happen locally, and with no money in the budget to have that stuff happen locally our health care suffers. We look at emergency room closures and we heard the member from Queens-Shelburne talk about the emergency room closures in his area that happen on a weekly basis. I know in my area the emergency room at the Northside General is open only 8 hours a day, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. I know the minister is trying to focus on primary care, but while we get primary care under control we have to have secondary tertiary care. We have to, Mr. Speaker. People who are ill at the present time are going to need those services. They're going to need the services that our small hospitals offer, because some of the larger hospitals can't handle the cases and the care that happens when those other areas are closed.

I know when the Northside General is closed - and I had the unfortunate opportunity to happen to use the emergency room with my mother-in-law, when we had to call emergency medical people, would have had to go to Glace Bay, because the emergency room at the Cape Breton Regional Hospital was full and the Northside General was closed. So, that's a 45-minute drive, Mr. Speaker, for someone who is in an emergency. And our emergency medical care is great, but the intent of the medical emergency care is actually to treat those people in an emergency situation, to stabilize and treat them as best they can and get them to the medical facility where they have all the equipment in place to deal with that type of emergency.

So, to find out that places like the Aberdeen Hospital is not reopening for mental health care, to find out that places like the Northside General Emergency Room is going to be changed into something - it's a good thing that that's going to change, Mr. Speaker, but it's not emergency care. We know the people who provide that care do an excellent job, but they're overwhelmed, and with the shortage of doctors who are working the emergency room, are also working their own private practice and they're working in places that we have in Cape Breton like "orphan clinics."



Now, Mr. Speaker, the orphan clinic that they had in North Sydney - or the "unattached clinic," as they call it - sees people who don't have a family doctor, but recently we heard that the orphan clinic being offered in Sydney that's being staffed by these emergency room doctors, these general practitioners who have their own practice, is having to stop receiving patients. They've reached their cap of 100 patients. What do they do now? What do the rest of the people do who don't have a clinic, who don't have a doctor?

We hear the ratio to doctor size, Mr. Speaker, is good in the province, and I understand that, but you have to realize that specialists, people who are doing research, people who are teaching, all factor into that doctor-patient, specialist doctor-patient ratio. Although we may have that, we do not have any exact number on what the actual working GP-to-patient ratio is.

I could tell you, Mr. Speaker, some of the GPs in my area have huge caseloads, and if these guys decide to retire and we do not have two or three doctors to take over their caseload, we are going to face another crisis. It is not the fault of the physicians. They cannot take on patients forever and ever and ever and the more complicated it gets as their patients get older. They are doing their best. We just need more. We have heard over the last week that there are 10 new doctors coming to Cape Breton, but we have also heard of four or five or six more leaving. So the net gain there would probably be only two or three doctors.

Some of those doctors who are specialists will make it necessary for - my math is not great I am told by the member for Cape Breton Centre - point taken but the point is well taken that we do not have the same numbers. So people are still going without the doctors.

In the budget, itself, as far as health care goes, the recruitment of doctors is there. Where are we going to be able to recruit enough? Are we going to be able to entice those doctors to come to rural Nova Scotia? I sure hope so because as we age and as people age and retire they like to retire in areas of rural Nova Scotia. So in order to have them retire there and contribute to society because they have been away or they like to stay around their grandkids, we have to have the services there for them. Otherwise, they are not going to look at coming back here.

We have already had enough people leave to go to work, and with the recent disaster in Fort McMurray, a lot of these people are returning home not knowing if they are going to be going back to work. That again is going to put more of a strain on our system, our health system, our mental health system, and all aspects of living. Without that steady income, even if they are away they are not going to be able to put that back into our community.

So without these necessary doctors, without these necessary specialists, people who are elderly do not want to travel to receive their health care - they will, and they know if it

is necessary they will because we do have some fine specialists in the province, and especially here in Halifax. Anyone who has really complicated medical issues comes here.

The Victoria General, and the Halifax Infirmary sites have been an important part of medical care in our province, especially now in Cape Breton because people are constantly coming up here to deal with cardiac issues, industrial health issues that have happened over the years - specialists in respirology, specialists in cardiovascular - they travel here.

We also hear that some of the ambulances that are coming up are double stacked. They have two patients at once coming for a specialist visit or a test that can only be done here in Halifax. So the VG and the Infirmary are necessary institutions here in our province. With those, the uptake and the increase in money having to be spent on them is necessary but we have not heard a lot in this budget about the actual build, the actual transfer of patients. Where are they going to go? What is going to happen to them when they need to go and they are going to repair the VG site, the Centennial site, how are we going to do it with the volume of people that need to be seen?

Not only are they provincial hospitals but they are Atlantic hospitals. People come from all over the Atlantic Provinces to see some of the specialists that we have here. We need that to happen to make sure we can continue to keep people in our province, to bring people back to our province. But we also need jobs for that to happen.

When I look at the budget, I look at a revenue increase this year of - I think it is approximately \$371 million. When you find out where that money is coming from, it is on estimates or their recovery increasing, government business money increasing, personal income tax increases. If people aren't working, unless they raise the personal income tax, that's not going to happen. We hear about some of the jobs that are created, part-time jobs - they are not full-time jobs. A person with a full-time job will be able to pay that tax, and we can run the province the way we need, to put the money into the necessary areas we need to put it in.

They are talking about corporate tax being decreased - not from a decrease in rates but from what they think is going to be a decrease in income. Your income tax is going to go up, but your corporate tax is going to go down. I can't see how that works together.

They're talking about an increase in the HST this year of \$50 million - \$50 million, Mr. Speaker. If income taxes are increased and corporate taxes are decreased, how do they think they're going to have people spending more money?

They're talking about the fuel tax going up \$10 million. Unless they plan on keeping the price of gas high, with the price of oil the way it is, then that revenue could be hard to achieve.

The tobacco tax is up \$100,000. Well, they just raised that tax, and that's something that may be achievable.

Motor vehicle taxes are going to be up \$1 million. You have all kinds of tax increases - increases in gambling revenue.

They are just projections, Mr. Speaker, and they haven't reached that level in the last couple of years, what they're projecting to be this couple of years. They have a razor-thin surplus that's going to happen, \$17 million. Then we hear the day afterward that they have to purchase a new LifeFlight helicopter, \$3.5 million. There's money being spent here, money being spent there, money that's not mentioned, spent here and there. That surplus becomes razor thin.

To achieve that you're going to have to do a pile of cutting in other places. I hope that they do achieve that and that we don't need to spend any extra money on different things, but in order to make the province work, we have to have that factored in.

I also noticed that there are increases in some federal contributions in there but no talk about increases in money for places like the ferry in Yarmouth, no money for different things federally, no money for the hospital to rebuild, no money to put in the infrastructure of the health care system. If that's the case, that money has to come from our own budget.

While I was listening to some of the debates here, I heard one of the members, so proud to be part of a government that's doing great things, but he didn't mention things like the Film Tax Credit being cut. When you cut that and you put our youngest and brightest people out of work here in our province and they have to move, it again starts to happen that that revenue that they're predicting isn't going to happen.

I look at things like Pharmacare. Because of a boo-boo in trying to change the Pharmacare system, they ended up having to spend \$3 million more on that system. After we heard about that, and the seniors in this province weren't happy with it, they reversed that decision, but it still cost \$3 million more. When that happens, that's money that's not spent in other places. It doesn't get accounted for and it comes out of the pockets of the people of Nova Scotia.

I know the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal is doing great work on the railway, trying to save the railway in Cape Breton, a necessary infrastructure that we think is essential if we're going to develop a port in Sydney, a container port, a bulk products port, whatever. Without that railway, we're going to have trouble convincing people this is a good place to do business.

The Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal and all Parties in this House have been working on that, but I didn't hear from the Minister of Finance and Treasury Board in the budget that there was going to be some extra money there in case

we needed it to boost that. They projected that there's \$30 million needed over the next five years to bring that railway up to - I think it's 40 kilometres to 60 kilometres an hour to make sure the railway can operate another 10 years. You spend \$30 million over five years to keep the railway operating over 10 years, and that comes down to \$3 million or \$4 million a year. That's not big money in a \$9 billion budget, but it's essential.

Like I talked about earlier, the unattached patient clinic, doctor shortages, staffing challenges - it's huge to us, Mr. Speaker, here in Cape Breton. I haven't heard about any money that has been introduced to business growth in Cape Breton. Nova Scotia hasn't really announced that there's going to be any new money being spent in Cape Breton.

Mr. Speaker, one of the really disturbing parts of that budget was an actual cut in the Justice budget, a cut that is going to affect a program that was introduced many years ago called Boots on the Street. In talking to policing professionals and people on the street and police officers themselves, this money was used in the communities that they were to hire more police officers - more officers to fight street crime, to combat child pornography, child exploitation, drug issues, all kinds of different things. They used it to train a lot of our brightest and youngest people coming onto the police force so they could fight crime in the area and reduce crime rates.

One of the reasons we heard that they cut the program was that crime rates are down. Well, I'm probably not the brightest guy in this Chamber, but when you put money into a program to fight crime and the crime rates go down, why would you take the money out of that program and have the crime rates go back up again? It has defeated the whole purpose of using that money for the purpose that it was used for.

What's going to happen to these young police officers who were recently hired to do this program when that is cut and there's no money there for them? We're going to lose them. We've put a lot of money into their education and to their ability to fight crime in our communities. To have it go by the wayside - I can't see where that's a good, positive move.

We've had a lot of recent crimes in Halifax involving gun crimes. Just imagine if they take another - I think it's 20-some officers here in Halifax, in the HRM, off the street. What's going to happen to that crime? I know in talking to members of the police force in Cape Breton that that money, that extra staffing money, the extra programs they are able to provide had a great impact on our communities - an impact that everybody feels.

We all want to feel safe in our community, and our valuable officers of all police forces provide that for us - excellent protection. When you start cutting those programs so that they have to lay off or they have to discontinue certain programs, the public are the people who suffer. I would like to see some of that changed.

Mr. Speaker, while I was in Budget Estimates, I was asking a few questions to the Minister of Health and Wellness about the emergency room at the Northside General. I had something happen in those estimates that I never had happen in estimates in the five years that I've been here. I was using an example of an industrial problem that could happen in our area, and I got some heckling from the member for Yarmouth, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, about the ferry that runs from North Sydney to Newfoundland and Labrador, about the subsidy provided to that ferry. My interpretation of it was he was saying we should cut that subsidy and relook at that subsidy to make it necessary to protect what they're doing or defend what they're doing for the ferry in Yarmouth - or as we call it now, the Nova Scotia ferry that operates out of Yarmouth.

Mr. Speaker, it almost was like he was recommending that the ferry there be taken out of service, which I think is absurd because there's no one in this House - nobody - who thinks the ferry from Yarmouth to Portland is not essential.

I played ball in Yarmouth over the years when the ferry was running. We used to have to book our rooms down there the year before in order to get a room. Now if they feel that deal is the best they can come up with, we'll see on that.

When you think about what we've found in the last little while about some of the money that's being spent in certain areas and how it's being spent, and what the deal is, I hope that it is the best deal, it is the best ferry for the area, and the people of Nova Scotia, especially southwestern Nova Scotia, benefit from this. But for that member to suggest that the Newfoundland and Labrador ferry is a bad deal for the province and for the country, there are a few other little facts that happen with that.

The ferry from Newfoundland and Labrador to North Sydney, or North Sydney to Newfoundland and Labrador, is federal funding. It's funding that comes from the federal government under a constitutional requirement, Mr. Speaker, and under the Terms of Union in Newfoundland it says that ". . . Canada's assumption of various services (Term 31), Canada's maintenance of a North Sydney - Port-aux-Basques ferry service . . ." So in order to have that happen, we have to open up the constitution to change that, and for that member of the Executive Council to suggest that that's the case is absurd.

Now, there is a little difference too, Mr. Speaker. The Newfoundland ferry is a year-round ferry. It operates year-round. It runs between two Canadian provinces, the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Province of Nova Scotia, and it brings great services there. It transports freight, daily, and it transports passengers, daily. People pay in Canadian dollars, not American dollars. The people of Newfoundland and Labrador are able to get fresh fruit and vegetables, daily. Now, if that was just a freight service out of Montreal, like is being proposed, that wouldn't happen.

We know that living in Newfoundland and Labrador right now is expensive enough. Imagine what the cost would be if you had to double the cost of transferring goods to

Newfoundland and Labrador because they took a subsidy away from an essential transportation link, a constitutional transportation link in Canada.

The other thing, Mr. Speaker, is it operates between two Canadian provinces. Both provinces benefit from it; both provinces are able to reap the benefits of a daily ferry service between the two areas. Another thing is it employs Nova Scotians. A lot of my friends work at the Marine Atlantic Ferry Terminal on this side, and I'm sure everybody in this Chamber knows somebody who works at the Marine Atlantic Ferry Terminal on the Newfoundland and Labrador side. They get paid, they live here; they live in Nova Scotia or Newfoundland and Labrador. They spend their money in our communities, and they bring passengers to and from who also spend money in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, when I think of that, the fact that he would even suggest that be looked at, it gives me an awful feeling in my stomach. The fact that he would try to cut the throat of the people who work on the Newfoundland ferry system, or cut the ferry system itself, to benefit a deal that think is the best deal they can make in Yarmouth, is absurd. I mean, we've got a ferry in Digby, a ferry in Pictou, all receive funding, we understand that. There's not a ferry in the province that doesn't receive funding, some kind of subsidy.

Last year we raised the price of the small ferries, the Englishtown ferry, the Little Narrows ferry. They probably carry way more passengers per year than the ferry in Yarmouth is predicted to carry, but they raised the prices, Mr. Speaker. Those are our vital transportation links as well. Some of them are convenient, but in saying that, when you have an emergency and you need that transportation, it's not a transportation of convenience, it's then necessary.

There is an article from the local news in Newfoundland and Labrador that says an affordable ferry service between Port-aux-Basques and North Sydney is entrenched in the province's Terms of Union. So to do what that minister suggested is absurd. To think that we are going to axe one area to benefit the other area, I think is - I want to tell you what I think it is but I can't, Mr. Speaker, because it's probably unparliamentary. For that to happen, I think we need to look at the deals that we're cutting.

There's a book recently out that one of the former federal MPs has published, *Negotiating so Everyone Wins* - that is what we need to do here, use money wisely in our province to make sure that when we spend our money, we spend it wisely and make good decisions. Don't go back on a decision that was made many years ago and change it because it's not necessary or it's not going to benefit one person's area. Mr. Speaker, we're a province, and without southwestern Nova Scotia benefiting, without Halifax benefiting - it benefits us all, and if we can spend our money wisely to make sure that all do benefit, then the whole province wins.

Some of the things in the budget that I haven't heard of - I haven't heard any money for the ferry terminal in Sydney, a second ferry berth for passengers for cruise ships. It's

estimated that another 100,000 or 125,000 people could come to Cape Breton. What happens is some of the ships now don't want to anchor in the harbour and be tendered to shore, so they bypass Sydney altogether. An upgrade to that area of I think \$7 million is the ask - I didn't see that in the budget. It's a three-stage program - municipal, federal, and provincial - to increase the number of cruise passengers coming to Sydney for the sake of \$7 million. I didn't see that - that kind of disappointed me.

The highway infrastructure budget remained the same, which is a good thing, but with costs and general recovery costs going up, it means they're going to do with less this year. Those people who work in those departments do the best they can possibly do - to do it with less money is hard. I know everybody in the Chamber has people in their office daily about road problems. Maybe the Halifax-area MLAs, who have municipal roads, don't hear it as much, but I know in our area, in rural Nova Scotia, daily there's a complaint about a road, the side of a road, the RIM money not being spent, or not having enough of it to do what they need to do - I haven't seen any of that.

I haven't seen any money to improve or increase the number of nursing home beds we have in the province. Our population is aging, and the Minister of Health and Wellness talks about the reduction in the number of people on the waiting list. When they changed the rules of entry that automatically took people off the list, almost implying that when they were put on the list they didn't need to be there. The good people who do those assessments would never jeopardize their reputation and their skills to say a person needed to be somewhere without having to be there - I didn't see any of that. The wait-lists are growing; our demographics are growing. To have that happen without a plan to improve our nursing home care, to improve the number of beds that our people can use is disappointing.

I've never seen a lot about recreational facilities, having some upgrades to those facilities. We want our children to grow up healthy and decrease the incidence of diabetes that's on the rise, and obesity. We don't have a lot of money that has been put into our recreational facilities.

I know the departments have changed now and some of that grant money is going to come out of a different department. I know that minister is sincere in saying that he will do his best to make sure we get that money in the places it needs to be. I hope those places where it needs to be are some Opposition ridings as well because it seems that sometimes it's difficult - we find out about the programs after the money has been disbursed, or our area didn't qualify for whatever reason. I'm hoping that we see that money distributed evenly so that we all have a chance to spend some of it to increase the health of our population.

I know in my own area, there has been some money won in a contest last year, some equal investments from the municipality waiting for some federal money. I'm hoping that some of the provincial money will flow so that we don't lose that ability to upgrade some

facilities for our children, so that our children know that the government cares about them, so they know that we can use this facility for years to come, safely. I hadn't seen any money there for that but I know, like I say, hopefully that money will be able to flow through some of these departments and offer that for the ability for our children to use.

I'm disappointed in some of the things in the budget, Mr. Speaker. Some of the things are good; the education increases, some of the mental health money that has increased for children. We know that Dr. Stan Kutcher said it's essential that we diagnose and recognize some of these mental health issues early, that we can simply treat them early so that they don't develop into full-blown issues in adults where we have to spend more money. But the necessity of those adults having to travel to receive their treatment with their families is hard on them, hard on the system.

I hope that the money is spent wisely, I hope that the estimates that they come in with are accurate. I have my doubts but I will be the first to say yes, I was wrong, if that's the case and I will congratulate the government if it is. But if it's not, then we've been saying all along that we hope they find the money to make sure that the essential programs in the province continue to work and that the province continues to thrive.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Queens-Shelburne.

HON. STERLING BELLIVEAU: Mr. Speaker, it's certainly a pleasure to talk on the Financial Measures (2016) Bill. It's not very often that you finish the week on Friday and get to talk about the budget in the first day of the week. Actually, before I get into my notes here, I actually left the backbenchers, in the sitting government in the Cabinet, in the Premier's Office with some homework Friday afternoon so I'm just going to give you a little advance heads-up that there's going to be a quiz at the end or somewhere in the middle of this speech. The quiz was about how to get 20 million pounds of fish to the Portland Fish Exchange, so I'm eagerly waiting for those responses. As of yet I haven't received one from the sitting government.

I'll talk about health care first, Mr. Speaker. One of the things I was anxiously waiting for was funding to deal with what I have said many times is a health care issue in Nova Scotia. I also suggested many times that the Premier has broken his election promise of 2013 to have a doctor for every Nova Scotian. To me that is something that I think the previous speaker talked about, creating priorities, whether you're running a government the size of Nova Scotia or your own family, it is about setting priorities in dealing with the money that you have to manage. That's basically what I'm trying to describe here in the next few minutes.

Mr. Speaker, this government in the last year also created one super Health Authority board to manage the regional district health authorities that we had previously. Again, the promise was to save \$15 million. I want to point out that it has cost \$15 million



more, the administrative charges for these individuals have soared and to me it is not addressing the major health care crisis that we have across this province.

What has really been noticeable is the increase of ER closures, not only in Shelburne but right across our province. I am convinced that this is the most serious issue that we are facing as a province. I also can point out that health care - from the very first breath that you take to the last breath that you take - health care, hospitals, and doctors are certainly something important to all our well-being.

One of the things I failed to address, Mr. Speaker, in the time in this session is the effect it has on individuals. Now I can paint you a scenario that there is health care, a medical situation that most anybody in this province can endure. What I fail to bring to this Chamber is the effect it has on the extended families of that individual. Now you can put young parents in a medical situation but there are grandparents, there are parents that have to travel great distances. This is what we have to endure when we have a medical situation and somebody from Queens-Shelburne is suggesting, well, just call 911 and go on to the regional hospital in Yarmouth, Bridgewater, or Halifax. What I failed to do in this session is to point out that not only is it the family - the immediate family, a young family - that has to endure that medical situation, it is the parents and grandparents that have to do the travelling to be at the side of their loved ones. This is what needs to be recognized by this government.

I also recognize my colleague, the member for Sackville-Cobequid who has seen 13 of these budgets and when he suggests that there has been a freeze or a cut to health care, I respect that. The only positive sign that I have seen in evaluating or hearing the discussions in the Budget Estimates is when the Minister of Health and Wellness - and I want to recognize this - says that there is ongoing discussions that will take place this Fall regarding the new health accord Act. I really want to be hopeful that these concerns that we raise in this Chamber will be presented to the Health Ministers across our country and that the possible health care accord can be looked at seriously to address the issues. Universal health care, Mr. Speaker, is a source that we are all proud of.

There is another point that I want to talk about. It is this baby-boomer iceberg that is moving through the system. I was part of that baby-boomer iceberg and, I remember as a youth enjoying a new bike, perhaps, my siblings had a hula-hoop. Guess what, we are at the stage now that we are requiring the health care services. To me, one of the interesting points that I raised here last week is when you look at the land mass of the communities today in Nova Scotia that do not have access to a family doctor - let us just talk about it. Cape Breton, Pictou, Lunenburg, Digby, and we cannot forget Shelburne County, if you total that land mass, just quick numbers will show you it will be double the size of P.E.I. Now, if I was to say that large land mass, double the size of P.E.I., never had access to gasoline or phone services, you would say, I think we have a problem. Well, we have a problem and it is called health care and we have a Premier who made a political promise of having a doctor for every Nova Scotian. It is not working, it is simply not working.

I pointed out last week a medical situation in Lockeport, last weekend, and I raised it every opportunity I had about the closures at Roseway. A young family that can leave Lockeport, travels to Roseway, is informed that it is closed, calls 911, proceeds on to Yarmouth last weekend, and waits nine hours to see a doctor. Again, we have a lot of well-educated people here and I think we all understand the golden hour. Well, that golden hour is not working for that family that came out of Lockeport and travelled to Roseway to see closed doors then proceeded on to Yarmouth to wait nine hours. We have an issue with doctor shortages and ER closures across Nova Scotia. We have a super Health Authority that has been amalgamated, and I can assure you that the voices of rural Nova Scotia are not being heard by this authority. The Premier promised to address this, and failed.

We have a new group, and I will table this again, we have a new group that has been established out of Digby and is dealing with just the topic I am talking about. That new group is called the Digby Area Health Coalition, and I'll table that again, because they were not very sympathetic towards the local politicians or this government that is dealing with (Interruptions) I've got my little notes here in case I get heckled by people like the members for Clare-Digby, and Yarmouth, and I said before in my notes that when I get heckled by the Liberal colleagues all I have to mention is offshore oil and the words "dispersants," or "lobster handling course," or perhaps the "funding for the Yarmouth ferry," and they become silent, Mr. Speaker.

I'll continue on with my speech to address the doctor shortages. So we have determined that this government has failed to address the health care issues across our beautiful province. I say when we have the territory of double the size of P.E.I. that we are entering a doctor shortage crisis. I talked about how 1,000 Nova Scotians turn 65 every month, and people are saying, well maybe it will just evaporate and that issue will go away. I'm saying no, it won't. There are more seniors coming at it and there's going to be more seniors demanding that they have access to this service.

What we are losing sight of is when there is a medical emergency in a family, it doesn't only include those individuals, it includes their parents and their grandparents and there are a lot of people who have to travel for these services. What I suggested, Mr. Speaker, whether it's the government's budget that we're dealing with now, or a family, it's all about setting priorities, and how we pay for this.

I turn my attention to the Yarmouth ferry and I've seen numbers, and I've seen a lot of people ask different questions of how much is this going to cost? The only one that really surfaces is \$100 million for the Yarmouth ferry over the next 10 years. Now, as we dig deeper into this particular contract we learn that there are nine blackout days, and just today we learned that we're also going to pay, the Nova Scotia taxpayers are going to pay to paint highway lines in the Portland street.

Now I ask myself, who is the one who negotiated this deal? The needs of a ferry system in Nova Scotia has never been greater. We have historical landings and I pointed

out earlier that over 60 per cent of Canada's landed values of fisheries is west of Halifax in the Tri-Counties, and that most of it has to go by transport truck. We have a ferry service out of Digby, which is 30 per cent capacity reduced from the former ferry there, and to me there is a greater demand for this, but yet who negotiated this deal for the Yarmouth-Portland ferry, suggested that Portland didn't want our commercial fish trucks going through their wharves, or going through their streets.

That's when I posed a question. When you have Portland with their fish exchange and it handles 20 million pounds of fish a year, and the question I posed, Mr. Speaker, through you on Friday afternoon - and they have also a very heavy presence of a fishing fleet in Portland, the pictures I've seen and I've been there a number of times and I observed all of this. My question I asked in this Chamber back on Friday was, how does this fish get to this particular exchange? I've checked my emails, until this last hour, and I asked for the backbenchers, I asked for the Cabinet Ministers, I asked for the Premier's Office, I asked for the Premier to acknowledge this. How can this fish make it to the fish exchange and go through the streets of Portland? I haven't seen any response.

I'm not trying to be too brilliant here because to me, it's a simple explanation - it has to be by commercial trucks that service that large fleet in Portland. It's common sense. Again, we've asked people to negotiate on behalf of Nova Scotians and commercial traffic on that particular ferry has been severed; we do not want it, and I have some difficulty with that. Mr. Speaker, 9,000 tons of fish each year to that Portland fish exchange is a good example of what I would suggest is heavy commercial traffic in that city. To suggest that we do not want Canadian fish, I would think is the wrong approach.

We have nine blackout days and we are painting the highways in the City of Portland. Where does this particular deal stop? We're also preparing the terminal. Now to me it's a fancy word for a wharf to dock that particular boat. What's interesting is that there are a number of wharves in Nova Scotia that are not being looked at. I can assure you that District 33, from Baccaro to Sambro, is one of the fastest-growing commercial fleets in Atlantic Canada. Not one penny from this budget is going towards their wharf upgrades and there are a number of them, yet we are spending millions on Portland's terminal and we haven't determined how much but we'll put it at the millions and we're painting the highway lines.

Now to me that is a pretty good deal if you are on the American side. I would suggest that you've got to laugh the whole way to the bank on that one. But it's not sitting very well with the people in all the wharves along Nova Scotia's seacoast who have been waiting five or six years for Small Craft Harbours to give them a promise of a wharf upgrade.

Now what I tried to do, Mr. Speaker, Friday and today, is to talk about priorities and how we can spend money more carefully. I'll also use the example of the *MV Miner*, and I compliment the Minister of TIR on doing that and cleaning that up. That work was

done in the vicinity of Scaterie Island. It was a great project and there's nothing wrong with that. The only concern that I had was the commitment to go and get reimbursed from our federal government to pay for that clean-up, which was a great idea, I have no problem with that, but I haven't seen anywhere in this budget that that work is being done or we're going to be reimbursed for that money - \$12 million to \$14 million.

I made the point about the upgrades to Portland's ferry terminal; I have made the point about the *MV Miner* of \$12 million or \$14 million, I'm starting to get up there, Mr. Speaker. Now just keep that all in mind and what we have is that we don't only have that one *MV Miner* in Scaterie, we have a number of them across Nova Scotia. I have one in my hometown of Shelburne tied to the wharf and there are a number of them in Bridgewater tied to the wharf. I have one in my hometown, a small one, but it's tied to the wharf, and what I've done is just remove the names and put *MV Miner* on it. Great idea, because I know I'm going to get it cleaned up, right? But, it hasn't worked. So, I've got two points.

First of all, there are a number of *MV Miners* across Nova Scotia these issues need to be addressed, but the most important point is that the money to do the original *MV Miner* in Scaterie Island, Nova Scotia taxpayers still pay for that and are still waiting to get reimbursed from our federal government. By the way, Mr. Speaker, there are 400 or more of these *MV Miners* across Canada, and my point is, you tally all the money that I talked about, the ferry terminal upgrades in Portland, the painting of highway markers, the *MV Miner*, you would come up with a reasonable amount of money, and I would suggest what I had mentioned earlier, that it's all about setting priorities.

Now, we have an issue that I think is the issue facing all Nova Scotians. We have baby boomers, this large iceberg that's moving through our system, 1,000 Nova Scotians a month reaching the age of 65, and I would suggest that they're going to be using our health care system later in their lives, versus the earlier parts, but we have a budget that doesn't reflect that and I have some serious concerns with this approach.

What I recall is the Premier, on the eve of election, to get everybody's attention, says, I'll get a doctor for every Nova Scotian. Well, it hasn't worked, Mr. Speaker, it simply has not worked and we have seen some poor negotiations on this particular ferry deal. It's basically the use of our money being used unwisely. To not recognize that we have a health care issue in rural Nova Scotia is a sad day. I would like to take the opportunity here in my closing minutes, to say that this is the issue. This is the issue facing Nova Scotians and we have to take it seriously.

We have some serious issues in our major hospitals in this city and there has to be a plan to address that. This budget has done little if nothing to address health care and it's time that we get on the right track to do that. In my final minutes, Mr. Speaker, I'm going to suggest that we're heading into the summer months, the weather is co-operating and I suggest that the present government, their ministers and their backbenchers will be going out to the barbecue circuit.

Now, I can suggest that they'll have some warm announcements that they may endorse, but I'm willing to bet, Mr. Speaker, during the discussions of an hour or two hours of the barbecue circuit or any social event, health care is going to come up, and you had the opportunity to deal with this in this Chamber. You had the opportunity to deal with the most serious issue facing this province, and I have seen nothing but silence from this government. This is going to be a sad day, Mr. Speaker, when you have to go to that barbecue and you have to address the public and say, I had the opportunity, but I sat on my hands and I remained quiet.

I also want to suggest, Mr. Speaker, that in the next few months, maybe 18 months, maybe longer, maybe shorter, there may be an election on the horizon. Now, I'm willing to bet that if you duck the question at your barbecue circuit, I would double down - and I'm not a betting man but I'm willing to bet on this one - that you're going to hear this issue on the doorsteps of Nova Scotians as you go face them for the next election. Health care is a universal message that all Canadians are proud of. We have seen this government backtrack and not produce a doctor for a number of communities across Nova Scotia. You need to get off your hands, and you need to open that microphone and start speaking up and talking about the issue in Nova Scotia.

I hope some of these messages get through to this government. I hope that we see a positive change. I know that the minister will be looking at the other Health Ministers across Canada, and I hope some of this will get through to this government. Thank you for your time.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Pictou Centre.

HON. PAT DUNN: It gives me great pleasure to rise to my feet and to say a few words about the most recent budget. I must say, Mr. Speaker, that it is a daunting task for the minister to put together a budget of that magnitude, \$10 billion. Any budget that is introduced by a government certainly has positive and negative connotations, depending on who is examining the document. I will attempt to indicate some areas that, in my opinion, are positive and others that perhaps need some improvement, or may be on the negative side, or have been neglected.

Just a quick overview of the budget - a budget on the surface that appears to ignore mental health issues, which I will delve into a little later. A budget doesn't apparently create jobs, a budget that doesn't improve our economy, a budget that does not offer tax relief for hard-working Nova Scotians.

We are pleased that the government finally adopted the Food Bank Tax Credit for Farmers, a tax credit for donations to food banks. I know we are all aware that this certainly helps the food banks, it helps the recipients, and it helps the farmers who are donating the fresh produce - again, a very positive thing. It certainly recognizes the generosity and assistance from our farmers.

As I continue to delve into the various estimates of the budget, it becomes obvious that the budget is lacking in some important things. Can we support this budget? I'm not sure. Why? It does very little to address the underlying issue of high taxes facing the businesses of Nova Scotia. Passing this bill will permit the government to claim they are providing tax relief, when in reality, the government is actually pushing costs to future years. Businesses in this province want actual tax relief, and this budget does nothing to assist business in Nova Scotia.

Improvement in the educational field certainly is a positive thing. When I look at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development capping classes - they've been involved in capping classes in Primary to Grade 3, and they're looking at Grades 4 to 6 and into middle school. Capping classes will make things very manageable for the school system, for teachers, for EAs who are teaching and working with our students in our various classrooms. Improving math and literacy certainly is a positive thing. Our math and literacy scores, over the past number of years, have dropped and certainly need a great deal of attention to bring them up to the national standards.

Mr. Speaker, coding again is another thing that is being introduced into our schools, introduced to Primary to Grade 3 and is going right through the system from Primary to Grade 12. In fact this year's theme is Media Literacy: Empowering Critical Thinking in a Digital Media World. So I applaud schools for teaching our youth to become responsible and ethical digital citizens. This is a great concept and I can only see some huge benefits from it.

On the other hand, Mr. Speaker, dealing with the concept coding, there is an underlying problem. The problem many schools will have is, unfortunately, old technology. What many teachers are finding is that when they take their group of students to a tech lab in the school, sometimes it will take them eight to 10 minutes to boot up their machines, and during the process of the class sometimes some of the machines will crash.

Most classrooms have four computers, Mr. Speaker, depending on the school board, depending on where you are in the province, depending on the school - there's quite a variance with regard to how new the technology is. So the schools that are having problems with their technology because of age - and there are many of them - are going to have difficulty using coding or using the technology for any particular purpose in the educational field. However, this coding is certainly a very positive move forward.

Some schools, Mr. Speaker, have a lack of tech support. The tech support sometimes is not available because some technological experts are responsible for several schools and cannot be at your beck and call all the time. There's also the professional development of teachers to make sure that the teachers are well trained to help their students. What happens is that sometimes one teacher from the school may go to a PD day - a professional development day - where it will be basically a crash course for a day and they are expected to go back and train the teachers in their school. So what happens is the

teachers sometimes become overwhelmed with all the responsibilities from day to day and they are not quite as prepared as they should be - they need more professional development in that area.

Mr. Speaker, in general, when you are looking at the budget I feel there's more debt, higher taxes, no job plans, no additional help for mental health, a lack of fiscal planning for the province. Is the government relying on hidden tax increases? Just what is the reality for Nova Scotia families? The reality is that more than likely our personal income taxes are going up, they are going to climb; however, wages and job opportunities are not.

The hidden tax increase, known as bracket creep, takes approximately \$19 million to \$22 million more from the Nova Scotia taxpayers. Mr. Speaker, Nova Scotia already has the second highest personal income tax in the country, second only to Quebec. That is the reality of where we find ourselves.

We need new, private sector jobs, especially in small and medium-size businesses. Mr. Speaker, is the government relying on health transfers from Ottawa, plus taxes and fees from Nova Scotia? A growing economy is a better way to pay for our glaring infrastructure needs, health care, and education. Sustainable resource development, fairer tax rates, and realistic spending control is a fair way to go as opposed to having taxpayers paying more.

The budget fails the thousands of Nova Scotians in need of assistance, and the list of broken promises continues to grow. Fuel tax rebate for the mining industry - something that was promised and they continue to request, and as the years go on this request has been ignored. The film industry is still hurting. Another one would be fixed election dates, another promise that is being ignored; and the list continues to grow.

What is happening with the Halifax convention centre? The government appears to be spending the same money in four different ways: one perhaps to create an unrealistic surplus; another one perhaps to pay down the debt; another one to fund a new hospital; or the same money to build the trade and convention centre.

Several speakers have already talked about the Yarmouth ferry, a priority of the government and the significant amount of money that is presently being spent and the money that is going to be spent in the future. I don't think anyone can tell us how much it is going to cost. Terminal upgrades, painting travel lanes, blackouts, there are a lot of things happening; it seems like an awfully one-sided contract.

When we look at our budget for roads and infrastructure, RIM budget - down 25 per cent from four years ago; our Health budget held to a 0.9 per cent increase. So, will this really happen? What are the odds of those types of things happening within this budget? It could occur, perhaps due to further reduction in services, closure of different units across

the province. We have people visiting the ER being sent home prematurely. There is certainly a doctor shortage. Hardly a week goes by that we don't get a call to our constituency office with people looking for a family doctor.

It is not a real representation of the facts. To say we have enough doctors, per capita, may be mathematically accurate, but when you talk to people across the province, that is not necessarily true. In fact, on a radio show this morning, someone from the Sackville area was talking about the lack of doctors. This person didn't have a doctor, and the doctor retiring, I believe, could have had somewhere around 3,500 patients. This is happening right across the province. You heard the member for Sydney River-Mira- Louisbourg talk during Question Period about the lack of doctors in Cape Breton.

Another area that I think is perhaps positive with regard to spending is the early childhood development. Those are dollars that are well invested. We all know from birth to six years of age is where the greatest impact can be made with our youth. I had mentioned before, during that particular time their brains are basically like a sponge and what happens during those critical years is going to map out what they are going to do the rest of their lives, how successful they're going to be.

Mr. Speaker, we certainly are supportive of any extra funding that is directed towards mental health, especially mental health professionals. When we talk about the SchoolsPlus program, it's a wonderful, great program and it's certainly very beneficial to have these programs in our schools. Many of our high schools have health centres, so to have a professional coming in dealing with students who are suffering from anxiety, or depression, or other mental issues, I think those are dollars well spent. These health centres also have other people coming in and speaking with students on nutrition, other health issues and, again, these types of investments with educational dollars are going to pay great dividends.

So, Mr. Speaker, even though the SchoolsPlus program occurs in perhaps as many as 200 schools in the province, there's certainly a need to further grow that initiative - we need all our schools involved with the SchoolsPlus program. We need more professionals in our schools to help students, not just in high school, but elementary, middle school, and high school. So I think one of the most important questions that Nova Scotians will ask MLAs around their constituency, around their area, is how is this budget improving our lives - does the budget improve my quality of life? Will I have more money to spend? Will I have more money in my pocket to spend? And they'll often say that the status quo is not good enough.

The other thing that they're very, very interested in, is in the Spring when the budget is presented, Mr. Speaker, did the government lower my taxes? If it is balanced, if the budget is balanced, well, how did they balance it? Because the feeling is if it's balanced then there are certainly programs and services that have been cut in the province.



Mr. Speaker, approximately four months ago the government thought it would complete the year with approximately \$241 million in debt. Now, most Nova Scotians felt it was not possible to have the budget balanced with the previous forecast, especially in such a short time. We are hoping the government would decrease small business or other corporate taxes, we were hoping that they would decrease the taxes for small business in order to spur investment. Technology, science, innovation, and entrepreneurship must be connected to expand the small business base of the province.

The biggest disappointment is that there doesn't appear to be a plan for job creation and growth. It's not likely we will see the kind of job creation or wage increases to make people want to stay in the province - or able to. Again, Mr. Speaker, with what's happening out in the western provinces, especially at Fort Mac, we will probably have an influx of people returning to the province, so this will only increase this particular problem. The budget did not indicate that real tax relief was on the horizon, and again, we know Nova Scotians are looking for jobs, they want jobs, they want to stay here and raise their families. Nova Scotians also want a modest decrease in the amount of tax dollars that leave their pockets.

Mr. Speaker, the government revenue projections seem to be very healthy. The government believed they will receive an extra \$146 million in income tax revenue. I'm not so sure where this revenue is coming from. Can Nova Scotians be expected to pay more? I guess the answer is no. Many of them already have a difficult time making ends meet and they certainly do not want to pay additional taxes.

Mr. Speaker, one can look at the budget and think that the government's financial projections were created around assumptions. Now if anything happens - unexpected costs - the surplus of that budget will disappear very quickly, so these are very risky projections. We must balance our need for fiscal sustainability, through creating conditions for real job growth. Nova Scotians were looking and expecting additional funding for repairing roads. Needless to say, they are disappointed. Many of our members stood in the House talking about the roads in their area. Even as recently as today, the member for Argyle-Barrington and the member for Sydney River-Mira-Louisbourg talked about the conditions of the roads in their particular constituency.

Mr. Speaker, the budget certainly doesn't repair the damage suffered by the film industry and we continue to hear practically every day from this industry. The budget doesn't appear to tackle the repairs to our railway system. One thing that is personally very disappointing is the government decided not to increase the base funding to libraries. I believe this, again, is another broken campaign promise. The libraries are now facing a seventh year without any base funding increase and it looks like that will climb to an eighth, ninth and tenth year. As a result, they have to find a way to survive. What may be happening in some of the libraries across the province is looking at shorter hours, fewer staff, perhaps some staff losing some benefits, laying off employees, closing for an extra day.

There are a lot of reasons why our libraries are extremely important to Nova Scotians. I'm certainly not going to list a lot of reasons why because I think they're very obvious. They are used by residents of Nova Scotia of all ages. They are in need of a small investment from the government. They need an investment to keep their services so they don't have to decrease services; to keep their employees, FTEs and their part-time employees. It would take only a small amount of money from the government to mitigate this particular problem. It's just a matter of adding some dollars to their base funding to get them over the problem they are facing.

Mr. Speaker, the libraries in most communities are maxing out their welcome. They have gone out to their communities, to organizations, to businesses, to individuals, to their major supporters looking for more dollars to keep their service open. It's not fair to place a larger burden on their local government or volunteers who continue to fundraise. Some of these people who are fundraising for years are getting to the point where they want to step aside. When this happens, there are fewer people in the community who are able to help. We know that several government-sanctioned reports confirmed that public libraries are underfunded, but these recommendations continue to remain on the shelf.

Libraries have their backs to the wall. Many of them have made cuts to all line items. The regional boards requested that government create a funding formula task force for sustainable library service. However, the department said the work had to be done with no new funding in the provincial base grant. As I mentioned earlier, Mr. Speaker, we are in our seventh year without any increase to base funding. The search goes on for more volunteers to fundraise. They continue to approach businesses for donations, and that is basically the reality of what's happening across the province. I believe the libraries are tapping out the goodwill of their communities, and enough is enough. Therein lies the problem.

Another thing, too: seniors continue to drop into our offices, and some of them phone. There's still concern over what might happen with Pharmacare. What's going to happen in the future with Pharmacare? They already had a scare with regard to what was announced earlier. They feel that something is happening in the backrooms now, and they're going to get hit again in the next fiscal year. It used to be a 75-25 ratio, with the province paying 75 per cent. Of course, we all know that has changed. It's 70-30 now, with seniors paying 30 per cent instead of 25. Again, these seniors are having difficulty due to their fixed incomes. We know that no senior in this province should go without drugs or medicine due to the cost.

The budget did indicate some additional funding for mental health professionals. I mentioned earlier the need for more help in our schools. We all know the vision of Dr. Stan Kutcher with regard to helping the youth in our province and perhaps attacking the problem earlier through our school system at a much lower cost than it would be if we ignored it. There is an overwhelming need for more funding to address the gaps in our mental health system. There are major flaws that exist in our system.

We continue to be informed that the mental health system in Pictou County is better than it has ever been. I'm not so sure I can agree with that. I know families that have members suffering from mental distress certainly do not agree. I had a call yesterday from a family with one of their children suffering from anxiety and depression, and they are very frustrated with the assistance that they're getting. Again, the list is quite long, and it continues to go on and on and on.

I know that the personnel at the various hospitals and at the Aberdeen back home are doing their very best to handle patients that are coming forth. But we also know with two observation beds that some patients will be sent wherever there's a bed available if they need some long-term care. We know that could be Yarmouth, could be Sydney, could be Antigonish, or could be Truro. The further away they go, the less support from families will be available. We can all agree that family support is certainly needed during these crises.

Mr. Speaker, as I said earlier, there are some positive things in the budget, in particular in my Critic area of Education and Early Childhood Development. There are a lot of other areas that certainly need improvement. We look at the government's proposed revenue projections - where is this revenue coming from? As I mentioned earlier, unfortunately, it looks like it's going to come from the pockets of Nova Scotians, the pockets of seniors on fixed incomes.

Although there is a little assistance in a few areas in this budget, there is nothing significant. It is basically setting up the groundwork for the rest of the year when perhaps the hope is that we may get an increase in federal infrastructure dollars that we'll be able to use for various things in our province.

Mr. Speaker, with those few comments - one can also go on and talk about dialysis in the health field. In Pictou County we have people who are on a waiting list, trying to receive dialysis, and there are not enough chairs available to have that. It would be nice to have a dialysis unit at the Aberdeen Hospital to take care of that waiting list.

With those few words, Mr. Speaker, I'm going to take my place. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Inverness.

MR. ALLAN MACMASTER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Here we are on second reading of the Financial Measures (2016) Bill. One of the items in the budget I was pleased to see back again this year is support for the harness racing industry. Now, a lot of people would say, well, why is the government involved in the harness racing industry? Why is the government supporting that?

Well, I know there are three tracks in the province: North Sydney, Truro, and of course, Inverness. I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that is a busy track, the one in Inverness,

throughout the summer. Wednesday evenings, Sunday afternoons, the harness racing industry is a real attraction. It's a very unique attraction. I know one of Tourism Nova Scotia's goals is to attract visitors looking for world-class experiences, and people who are first-time visitors to Nova Scotia.

I think about people who may be coming for golf in Inverness, who might be very intrigued to go down to a local racetrack and see grassroots horse racing. A lot of these people, I'm sure, can go to the Kentucky Derby if they want; they've got all kinds of money to do that, but they might be very interested in checking out the raceway in Inverness.

It's those kinds of unique experiences that I think help to keep people around, increase their expenditure in tourism, and give people something to do. We have some great assets in this province, Mr. Speaker, but I do feel that work can be done to further develop the products that we offer. We spend lots of money on marketing, and that certainly has its place, but when people come here, they need things to do and they can't be expected to figure it out for themselves once they get here.

I think that's a challenge for us, but it's also potential for us. You take an attraction like the raceway in Inverness - I know I've met with the board there a number of times over the years, and some of our more recent discussions involved looking at how they could increase revenues at the track from visitors. I think they can make a case for further investment at that track, and perhaps other tracks as well, as long as there's a return on that investment to the province.

Now, the harness racing industry alone, just the local industry and the local interest in it - the people who are involved in that are spending money on their horses. That could be feed, veterinary bills, spending money travelling into the communities where the races are held, and they're placing bets at the track. All that activity - those people, if they weren't involved in that industry, in that hobby, would likely be spending that money on something else, and quite possibly it could be money that's spent out of the province. Maybe they'd be travelling to Cuba or somewhere during the wintertime. Instead, they're spending their money here at home; their leisure money is spent here in the province.

I think there's an opportunity to expand that industry, and in the case of Inverness, some of the things we've talked about involved sprucing up the track, specifically for those people who are coming for the first time. People who are coming may have lots of money, as I've said. They may be coming for the golf courses, with two now in Inverness. Of course, we also have Le Portage in Cheticamp and Highland Links not too far away in Ingonish. We know that people travelling for that golf experience have lots of money, and if we can keep them interested in staying in the area for an extra night or two, or adding to their visit, we could end up increasing revenues at the raceway in Inverness.

I'm glad to see that the government is continuing to make that investment. It's certainly something that has been in place for some time. I'm glad to see it was retained

when the NDP were in government, and now that the Liberal Party is governing the province and has kept that as well. So that's something I'm pleased to see in the budget.

Mr. Speaker, I know that in the case of tourism, it's a very important industry in Inverness County. We have the world-famous Cabot Trail as well, and that is, I believe, the number-one attraction in the province, and probably one of the finest attractions in our country. That can be experienced at just about any time of year, although I do recall trying to drive to Pleasant Bay one winter and I had to end the mission because I did not want to travel through the mountains on snow-covered roads during a snowstorm. But in most cases, throughout the year, that experience is amazing, whether it's in the early Spring or in the Fall. It can be done in the wintertime - I've done it before - but a lot of the side roads are built up with walls of snow, because those areas are closed off to the public.

AN HON. MEMBER: And potholes in summer?

MR. MACMASTER: Oh, I'll get to the potholes in a while here, but I'm trying to stay positive - for a little while, anyway.

One of the big challenges for us in Inverness is the length of the tourism season. If the season could be made longer, particularly for people who own accommodations, they could generate more revenue, which would allow them to invest more back into their properties and perhaps be more responsive to whatever visitors are looking for. One of the things we see in the tourism strategy is focus on world-class experiences and invest in markets of highest return. Well, we know those markets are going to be wanting to pay more money when they come to stay, but perhaps they're also going to be a little more fussy, if I may use the term, about where they're staying and what the experience is like. We want to make sure they're happy and satisfied.

That is a challenge, and I feel for our tourism operators who are doing their best, they're running their businesses, they're making payroll for their workers, and they're making a good living for themselves. I would love to see our province help them by helping to further develop the products we're offering, to extend the season to improve revenues for them. One begets the other, Mr. Speaker.

I also think of a market like snowmobile tourism in the wintertime, and I think about provinces like Quebec and New Brunswick - particularly Quebec. From what I hear, they have a very well-developed winter tourism industry based around snowmobiling. We could be doing the same thing here, certainly in parts of the province. I know up toward the Margarees and up toward Cheticamp, toward the National Park, there's lots of snow there each year. That is an opportunity, but people are going to want the product.

The product is the trails, which we have generally in pretty good abundance, but they're also going to want those trails groomed. That's why I've made a public appeal on behalf of the local snowmobile association to help them by using all the donated labour

they offer, by helping them with some funding for snow groomers so they can get those trails groomed. If people are going to travel all the way from Quebec or up from the United States for this experience, they expect a groomed trail, and they deserve that.

So there is a potential investment - a small investment that I believe would bring returns quite quickly, and at a time of the year when a lot of those businesses aren't getting business. You need the trails, which we have, but they need to be well groomed and they need to be accessible for people who need to come off the trail if they're looking for fuel, looking to buy groceries, looking to come off the trail to stay somewhere for the night.

I think that is a good market. One of the challenges for us is that in Inverness County, many of the tourism operators are just not open in the winter. We need to get them to open. Once again, it's a matter of one begets the other: if we don't have the groomed trails, we can't attract or satisfy the visitors if they do come, and if we don't have that, we're not really building the market so that tourism operators can be open to provide them the services when they're here.

We also know that people who own snowmobiles - these are not little toys anymore. They cost well into the thousands of dollars. Most models would be pretty well \$10,000; I'm sure there are many you can buy that are well above that. But people who have the money for those kinds of hobbies, they have money to spend and they're looking to spend it. That is another market that I think we could be looking at.

I also think about - and it's not something that's funded in the budget. Granted, perhaps there has been no specific ask to government, at least with respect to this budget, but I think there certainly has been an ask to this government and also to the federal government for those snow groomers.

The importance of having a budget that has the flexibility, that has the cash flow available to support those kinds of initiatives, I think is very important, Mr. Speaker. We can spend all the marketing money we want, but if we don't have the product for people when they get here, we're not doing ourselves any favours. There are people who are consultants in the tourism industry, and people with Tourism Nova Scotia, who I'm sure know lots more than I do about that industry, but I think we should be investing more in our product.

I think we've also depended too much over the years on volunteers and communities to provide the product for us. They've received very little investment from government, but they're expected to provide the experiences for visitors when they come here. A lot of those people - and this is not meant as a criticism, but they would not have the insight that people in something like Tourism Nova Scotia, perhaps, would have about what those people are looking for and how they want the product delivered to them. I think we've relied too much on volunteers. Government could be playing a more supportive role for them and helping them to develop attractions and to package product so that more

people come and more money is spent on those experiences - which in turn enriches those communities.

One example is Celtic Colours, which has tremendous success; it brings about \$10 million into the economy each year. There's an example where government has supported that segment. We know a lot of people come to the province for music, and Celtic Colours is probably the biggest music event we have. I know there's also the Tattoo, which has a lot of music as part of it, but an event that's purely about music. Celtic Colours is pretty much purely about music, and it's a proven success. There are all kinds of concerts and dances you can attend all through the summer, but that event in the shoulder season of the Fall has proven very successful. It's almost like something we already had, but it was branded, it was enriched by bringing artists from other countries over, and it was marketed. All of a sudden, you have a proven festival. Some of the concerts are pretty well sold out a year in advance. We know the benefit that that brings to tourism operators who stay open during those weeks in the shoulder season in the Fall.

I think there is a lot of potential for tourism. I'm hoping that this year, with the exchange rate being as it is, we'll receive more American visitors and of course also European visitors. We're hoping for a good year in Inverness County, and it is an important industry. Tourism is right up there, Mr. Speaker, and we're hoping for a good year.

I talked a bit about Celtic Colours. We know that the Gaelic Affairs budget has been reduced. That is something that we don't like to see. We want to see results for the money that's invested at Gaelic Affairs. We want to see young people learning to speak the language. At events like Celtic Colours, when you have young people who can speak the language and perform, that adds a lot of authenticity to what we are promoting. If we're getting \$10 million through Celtic Colours alone, shouldn't we be investing something back - and beyond the event itself, investing in the people who are actually making the event what it is?

I think the Gaelic Affairs Office is an investment in those young people. It's important if we want to have an authentic cultural experience for people; that's why they're coming. They're not going to travel across the Atlantic Ocean or from the southern U.S. all the way here for a plastic experience.

We're living in a day and age where a lot of cultures and languages are dying in our world. I think it's important - some people would say, "Well, why are you bothering to invest in that? Let those people figure out themselves if they want to keep their culture." The reality of it is, that culture has declined in large part due to things that happened 100 years ago that were of the province's own doing. The education system had no interest in Gaelic. Teachers who were brought in to rural areas had no interest in it. In fact, they disrespected it.

It got to the point where the language became so ostracized that parents stopped speaking it to their children because they didn't want them to go through the experiences that they went through. I think the province owes it to Gaelic, especially given the revenues that come into this province. It owes a little something back. The Gaelic Affairs budget is pretty small, and I'm just sorry to see that it's gotten a little smaller this year.

In terms of tourism, with a desire to bring in a higher-end visitor, I think about how maybe visitors who are coming from that background are going to want to fly here more than anything, versus driving, coming by train, or whatever the case may be. I wonder where the future lies for tourism in that sense. Is there more return on an investment to bring flights into Halifax and perhaps move them around by air within the province once they're here? We don't hear too much about that in this budget, but that is something I think we have to keep our eye on. Government has to be looking at those business cases and has to be deciding where the return on investment here is. What works?

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to move on now to - well, why not talk about roads for a little bit? It has been my favourite topic. I'd love to be saying I'm pleased about the investment in roads but I'm not. We know the RIM budget is 25 per cent lower, indexed for inflation, from what it was in 2008-2009. I've tabled that information previously in the Legislature.

This government has raised it by \$1 million, which was kind of cute because it's still well below what it was before the previous NDP Government. Roads are a big issue in Inverness County and I know we recently had the minister visiting down to Deepdale Road - just one example of many. I drove it about a month ago; I know I told members in the Legislature here that a seven minute drive took me over 30 minutes - full of potholes.

It's hard for me, Mr. Speaker, to vote for this budget when I know that it does nothing to help people on Deepdale Road. In fact, I can't vote for this budget for that very reason. I know members opposite - I know one over there is wondering, member for Inverness, how can you not support the budget? That's a very specific example.

I know there was a road that collapsed in Victoria County as well, so I just can't be supportive of a budget that does not address a very significant need in Inverness County. Our roads have been neglected and now they are in need of - some of them are in need of reconstruction but beyond the maintenance budget, the capital budget can't be used for reconstruction because the government's own policy will not allow it. These roads that need to get fixed are not going to get fixed.

Mr. Speaker, the government can talk about having a plan. Well, we know by looking at the budget that there really is no plan. If there's no plan, there's no vote from me for this budget.



A year ago I tabled a petition here in the Legislature and that petition was simply to call the government's attention to transfer a road from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. It is a year later, Mr. Speaker, and I got a call again from the fishermen who use this road and a year later no change, nothing has happened, so that's disappointing. We have a couple of names for it but it's the road that goes down to Margaree Harbour wharf. That's something that I want to draw attention to both ministers - Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, and Natural Resources - that's something that is yet to be resolved. Perhaps by them hearing about it here today in the Legislature, there's something they can do to get that done, because it has been brought to the attention of the government since a year ago now.

Mr. Speaker, roads are a very significant concern for me and I just can't give this government a passing grade on roads. I hear one of my honourable colleagues saying hear, hear. You know in the old days people would say well the member is not getting any money for his road because he is not of the right political stripe (Interruption) - but it never happens any more, that's right. The member for Cumberland North has stated that and I believe he is right because if it was, I'd be making noise about it. It's something I watch and it's good that is not happening anymore because we all need money for our roads.

I know there are lots of members from all stripes around this House who are in the same situation that I am in, and hopefully we can work together and rectify that, hopefully. Unfortunately it's not going to happen this year.

Mr. Speaker, I want to move to another program that's very important, and that is the Recreation Facility Development Program. I know that program is key to building the infrastructure we need around this province, social infrastructure for communities. I know it is now at the Communities, Culture and Heritage office and that budget helps communities. Not only does it help in terms of its dollars but it helps those communities that can get that funding to leverage other dollars. Often 60 or 70 per cent of the remainder of those projects are leveraged, and even higher sometimes, up to 85 per cent are leveraged by way of getting that initial contribution from the province. So I'm glad to see that's in the budget.

There was some question in my mind because there were no application forms this past year. I thought for sure if they're not bothering to put out application forms, they're probably not planning to fund anybody who would make application. So we look forward to seeing those applications come forward, Mr. Speaker.

It's a key program and we'll be looking to ensure that the government is fair with that program and with these changes. I know there have been a lot of groups over the past year that want to apply to that program, Mr. Speaker. I hope they have a chance, fair and square, the same as everyone else. I hope the program is made public and that people know how to apply, because it does fall now under another department.

Another item is - well, a couple of items. One is the Access Nova Scotia centres. I know there's no change there, Mr. Speaker. The government made an announcement just before the budget and I think that has - I'm glad that the matter is resolved. We had heard that the government was doing this for the sake of reducing its cost of investment and upgrading its technology, but it has been a tough year for people working in those offices because they've had to live with uncertainty - the uncertainty of what is going to happen to their positions, will changes in technology mean changes for their positions. I'm glad that is resolved.

Another issue was the visitor information centres, Mr. Speaker, something that we felt we had to make a lot of noise about. The Port Hastings VIC is in my area and the rumours abounded that they weren't going to get funded. We were concerned about that and we made that an issue. I was glad to see that the VICs did make it into this budget. I know they were missing from the visitors' guide, which also added to speculation, but glad to see that that centre is going to be in operation again this summer.

There are a lot of people employed there and I believe they have a key role to play in doubling our tourism revenue. We have that as a goal in this province and I think they play a key role in that. They provide a personalized experience, they help people to ensure the experiences they have when they come to visit here are all that they can be, and there is no substitute for getting that word on the street when you're travelling.

I know in the case of Port Hastings that as soon as you cross the causeway, there's a very visible centre there - you know you're entering one of the world's finest islands, as we know. People know that if they stop in there, they can add to whatever they've researched online and they can ensure they have their itinerary properly set up and that they get to experience everything they hoped to. Sometimes, I know there are times when people learn about new things and new places they can go.

I also think about high-speed Internet service. I know this is a challenge for the province, and I know they have been trying to build on work of a past Progressive Conservative Government where broadband was subsidized in this province, and there was a goal to get everybody connected. That contract recently ended. It lasted for five years. Of course, there are still people who aren't connected.

One of the things, when I was first elected, that I realized with the statement about getting everyone connected, is that sometimes there are people who have still not expressed interest to get connected. That's always going to be the case because people are going to move into areas where service is weak, and they're going to want to be connected.

We know that subsidy has run out. Those companies that received it are no longer on the hook to provide that guaranteed service. We know the government is working with them. We know there is money available from the federal government - I think it's \$500

million - but unfortunately, when you spread that around the country, there are going to many areas that are still with a level of service that is lacking satisfaction for users.

We did see some money in the budget for broadband and high-speed Internet. We know there is consultation going on, and that is good. I think high-speed Internet service is as important to your home as indoor plumbing and electricity. I say that because if you're looking to buy a home now, you want to make sure you have those services because it's part of life.

If we want to have hope in rural Nova Scotia, I think we need to have high-speed Internet and cellphone coverage. We are told, don't be expecting the big Michelines or the big paper mills of the past to be setting up shop. The jobs that we have lost in those industries are not going to be replaced by new large industry. Maybe they will. I hope they are, Mr. Speaker, but a lot of economic experts tell us not to expect that, that we are going to have to replace those jobs with jobs that are more likely from small enterprise, small businesses started by Nova Scotians or people who want to move here. I think the infrastructure of high-speed Internet and cellphone service are an absolute necessity to attract that business here, throughout the province. It's important infrastructure. I'm watching very closely to see what happens with the review of broadband in this province.

I know in some of the things I've said in the past, I've encouraged the government to use its buying power. We have a lot of people - I can't think of the numbers now, so there's no point in me quoting them - but there are thousands of people working for government that have government cellphone accounts. That's a significant chunk of business that is brought to companies that provide cell service. We should be using our buying power to try to improve coverage around the province. I know there was work done in Victoria County. I've tried to work with our municipality in Inverness to bring them an opportunity for partnership with the province to improve coverage in Inverness County. It can't be done all at once, but step by step is at least one approach to getting it done. I hope the government is open to that, should Inverness decide that it has prioritized an area.

Moving along here, I also want to talk a little bit about the Department of Justice, which is one of my main critic areas. There were a couple of things that stood out for me. I think about the Law Reform Commission. I know the minister had said the other day, perhaps this is more an issue for educational institutions, law schools. This is something more for them to be supporting, or for the law firms around the city here and throughout the province, more so something for them to be supporting - and yes, I can buy into that, Mr. Speaker. It saves the province money.

But we also know that the province has been a big benefactor of the Law Reform Commission. Numerous pieces of legislation over the years have benefited from the consultation completed by the Law Reform Commission. The many hours donated by the legal community through the Law Reform Commission - developing ideas, digesting the

consultation with Nova Scotians - and the advice that those lawyers have offered through the Law Reform Commission, as you know, have significant value.

In the case of the Powers of Attorney Act reform - that's something that there was a public consultation on; it went on for four or five years - I asked the Law Reform Commission, what was the cost of all of that? That's important information for government. The cost was about \$300,000, which is much more than the budget for this year.

When you think about that, Mr. Speaker, I think one thing the government has failed to do in terms of the Law Reform Commission is complete a cost-benefit analysis. Of course, the decision was made, and it's a done deal now. I know the Law Reform Commission is disappointed, and law firms around the province have all written letters of support. They felt it was a good investment. It remains to be seen where things go from here on that, but that is something that has stood out for me in the Department of Justice.

Another is the Boots on the Street budget. I stated the other day that there are recent homicides in the city. Mr. Speaker, I'm sure it wouldn't matter how many police officers we had on the street; we probably could not have stopped those homicides. But one thing we do know is that the rate of serious crime in the province has decreased since that program, which put more police officers on our streets, was first started in 2007. So there is a correlation - a successful correlation - between increasing the number of police officers and the reduction of crime.

We do know from questioning on the budget and during estimates that the cut to Boots on the Street is \$0.5 million. However, there are no specifics on how that money is going to be taken out of that budget, because there is yet to be any consultation on it. I guess that's my point: there has been no consultation. They say the cut is going to be made based on the consultation, but they've made the cut.

I guess it remains to be seen how that money is going to be removed from the budget. We've asked, are you going to be removing police officers? We've been given the suggestion that no, there will not be a reduction in police officers, but we don't know. The minister tells us that she and her department will be consulting with police forces and others about that and how that reduction is going to be made. But we would have expected that that work would have been done before the budget, so that we would know. In reality, if we're expected to accept that change - but there are no details given on that change. Even for government members to be expected to accept a decision that has been made - but really the specifics of it have yet to be made - to me, that work should have been done before the budget was presented.

So that, Mr. Speaker, leaves questions for people in the province about that Boots on the Street program. Also, there is the contract for the review of that program was sole-sourced. Mr. Speaker, I know the minister has said that had they put it to tender, there

probably would have been a general consultant that would have then subcontracted it to the group that has been chosen. But procurement rules as they are, I mean generally when items are sole-sourced it does raise eyebrows about fairness and who is to say there might not be other organizations that could have equally done that review. That is something that has surprised me as well, but the government has made their decision on that. We look forward to the review and what it is going to generate.

Another significant observation I have had about this budget is the Department of Health and Wellness. It is incredible to me that just after - I cannot recall if was the 2012 or the 2013 budget, but the Department of Health and Wellness was growing at a rate of 7.9 per cent. At that rate, over 10 years that budget would double. If our economy was not growing at a rate of 7.9 per cent, which it certainly is not unless we were perhaps in China, there is no way that we would be able to keep up with that expenditure.

Giving the example, let us assume there was zero rate of growth in the province, which is also unrealistic, but just assume for a minute that there was zero rate of growth, if the Health budget over that 10-year period did double because of that rate of 7.9 per cent, you would have almost 90 per cent of the budget devoted to health care. Right now it is about between 40 and 45 per cent and, if it was 90 per cent, we would not have money for anything else.

Obviously, there have been some major changes in the Department of Health and Wellness. I know the government's labour negotiations have contributed to that, but that to me was an extraordinary rate of growth at 7.9 per cent. Now, just as extraordinary is the assumption in this budget that the Department of Health and Wellness is basically going to not grow this year which is amazing. I am going to be watching that and I am hopeful because if that rate of growth has been controlled, I mean that is good news for the province, provided it does not mean an impact on services to people. But we will be watching that and, you know, that is significant.

In an ideal world, that rate of growth would be decreased because we are all living healthier lifestyles or that we have found the fountain of youth. I know we have an aging population; there is not a lot we can do about that. Certainly in the long term, the real root of containing the cost of health care does have to do with us living healthier lifestyles and that is why I was so disturbed last year when there were not applications being put out for the Recreation Facility Development Program, one of the few wellness initiatives in the province that reaches into communities with something tangible for them to benefit from, whether it is a ballfield, a walking track, a curling rink, a community centre where there is recreation for seniors or whomever, that is a very important program.

One of the things in the budget was there is more money for hip and knee surgeries. Certainly, hip and knee surgeries may be a result of people who have sustained an injury or something like that but, in a lot of cases, those operations are necessary because people

have not perhaps had the ability to live a healthy lifestyle that allowed their joints to last as long as the rest of them, if I may say it like that.

Mr. Speaker, we see the costs of health care. I think Scotia Surgery is going to be doing those operations; they've been doing a good job. I remember there was a debate at one time: should the province be funding Scotia Surgery? Well Scotia Surgery is getting the job done and they have proven to be efficient at it. They are saving money, which allows for further investment, because we all know people who are waiting for these operations.

I will be quite amazed if the Health and Wellness budget can, as they say, hold the line in health and that that Health and Wellness budget is not going to increase this year. We know that there is a pretty razor-thin surplus, which is all right, but any sneeze in health care is probably going to mean that the rest of the budget is going to get sick - if I can borrow the often-used economic expression between the U.S. and Canada. Mr. Speaker, no pun intended on the illness involved with sneezing.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to talk about the debt and the fact that this looks like a balanced budget, which is great, if it balances, because it will mean an end to a significant period of debt in this province's history. Fully one-quarter of our debt has been added just in the last six years. After eight balanced Progressive Conservative budgets, we had six years of debt.

MR. GORDON WILSON: Was that under Buchanan?

MR. MACMASTER: Actually the member for Clare-Digby raises a good point, a lot of debt was added in the 1980s when the debt from Sydney Steel was moved from that Crown Corporation onto the province's books. At that time that represented about one-quarter of the debt. Of course it has grown as time has gone on. We may say that if we look at half of the provincial debt, half was created by Sydney Steel and the other half was created in the last six years - 25 per cent and 25 per cent.

It's a sobering thought, Mr. Speaker, because we know that \$1 out of every \$10 in the budget goes to interest payments on the debt. It's hard to change that now. It's too late to turn back now and we're not falling in love with the debt. Nobody got that one. I had a song come into my head, an old tune. (Interruption) That's another one, that's Cher, this is another tune from the 1970s.

Mr. Speaker, I'm a big fan of 1970s music but I'm looking to see that the budget does balance in a year's time and, if it does, that is good news. Hopefully we are ending that chapter of debt for the province.

Mr. Speaker, another item that I was pleased to see, and I'm sure the government is pleased to see me being positive here, something that has been brought to this Legislature

by both the Minister of Health and Wellness and myself is a tax credit for farmers who donate to food banks. That has worked well in Ontario. It's a good, practical measure and it's working there. I spoke with the director of the food bank in Sudbury, Ontario, and he said it is working great. It is providing more food that is local and fresh, for people who are in need of that food. Giving a tax break to farmers who in some cases have already been donating, it will certainly encourage further donations. How can we go wrong with that? So I'm glad to see that that is finally going to be put into action, and we'll see how that goes over the next year.

Hopefully, it will result in more fresh food. This is an issue. People who are living in poverty, one of their most significant challenges is a nutritious diet. That impacts everything. If you're able to eat a nutritious diet, that's going to have an impact on you every hour of the day, quite literally. Especially for kids at school, if they're eating good food, that's something that's going to benefit them for the rest of their lives. This, I believe, is a good, practical way of stimulating that and improving the amount of nutritious food that's available. I'm glad to see that that's in the budget.

I'll move on to another issue now, Mr. Speaker. I'll talk a little bit about the environment for a minute, and I talked a bit about tourism. When we talk about the economy, the reality of it is we need consumption to drive our economy, whether it's population growth or just more consumption by the population that we have. That, of course, takes its toll on the environment. It is a dilemma because, unless we can find ways to improve people's standard of living that do not involve consumption, we are naturally going to gravitate towards that. People want better standards of living.

One example is tourism. If we have people flying here - I was reading on the weekend that I believe on an international flight a person uses either 500 litres or 500 gallons of fuel. So clearly one of the most significant forms of pollution is travel by way of planes. But we also know that it saves people time, and it gets people to places where they probably dream of going. So we certainly can't blame people. But it has an impact.

The other day I was talking about the climate conference in Paris. I think there were 14,000 people who flew to that conference. We know that when emissions are expelled above - I don't know the right terminology, but basically above the cloud cover at a certain altitude, that pollution is more damaging at that level. I guess when we think about our own environment here in Nova Scotia - we're not going to want to shut down the airline industry, because it benefits our tourism and because we need it for many different reasons beyond tourism.

But it begs the question, what can we be doing for our environment here where we can have a real impact? One area I think about is septic systems. It's a very controversial topic because a lot of people say, well I can't afford to have a properly working septic system. But that has an impact on our environment. If we don't have clean water, we don't

have a clean environment. I'm not seeing anything really specific in the budget around this, but I know that is a real issue.

It's a real issue that's playing out in Mabou right now. We have a great oyster harvesting industry there. It's worth about \$1 million, and a number of people are making a good living at that. It's something that's good, Mr. Speaker. It's food. It's protein. It's an industry that's renewable and an industry that's going to be very important as the demand for protein increases as we have more and more people entering the middle class throughout the world. We see prices rising - they're always going to rise and fall, but I believe even in the mid-term the overall price for things like seafood is going to go up because more and more people in the world are demanding it. They have the money to buy it. So right now in Mabou we have an oyster industry that's a bit at risk if things continue because, you know, there are things in the water that shouldn't be there, and oysters can clean some of that stuff out, but we need to be looking to make sure that we're not putting those things in there.

You know, that brings us back to the point around septic systems and municipal water systems, and also agricultural practices, although I know that the local Agriculture office has been working with farmers to minimize any of that impact. So, these things can be solved, Mr. Speaker, but they take effort and they take a resolve to get them solved. So that's something I want to bring up.

Another thing that's related to the environment and we've recently seen the biomass plant in the Strait area, you know we've seen that biomass plant no longer be designated must run. And I know a lot of people are concerned about clear-cutting, and we know that clear-cutting is not illegal, but that kind of harvesting does have an impact. We would hope that the industry, and primarily it's papermaking, doesn't need to rely on clear-cutting and, hopefully, there will be less and less need for it in the future, because that is something, Mr. Speaker, that people see and it bothers them. We get lots of calls about that, people concerned about that. We also see how clear-cutting affects things even like roads.

When you cut all the trees down you're no longer seeing those trees absorb rainfall and water runoff. So, that water keeps running off and it runs onto the roads, which affects the quality of the roads we're driving and it increases the cost to maintain those roads. We also see areas dry up, Mr. Speaker, because the water is running right off them; there's nothing to retain the water. We also see it, and I think of in the Margarees, we see how, if clear-cutting is happening, you have that water running off, you have it coming down into the river, you have floods that widen the river, and then when that water rushes through your river is more shallow, and when it's more shallow it's easier for the sun to heat it up, and when you heat up the river the salmon don't like that. They are sensitive to temperature and like it cold, a lot colder than we like it, but that's what they're used to and that's what they want. Things like that have a real impact, and salmon fisheries is another significant tourism generator for our area.



So, Mr. Speaker, the environment is important and that is I guess the challenge between our consumption and our need to try to improve people's standard of living. We see the NDP looking to introduce a bill to increase the minimum wage, they are trying to increase people's standard of living. We all want people's standard of living to increase, but I guess the big challenge is if we're doing it based on increased consumption, which invariably is usually the way we do it, it has an impact on the environment.

So, these are things that I think about, and things that I think are important for all of us to be thinking about when we look at this budget, and what it's going to mean for Nova Scotians in the year ahead. So, Mr. Speaker, I think with that, and noting the time here, I only have very little time left, I basically used all of my time, I think I will conclude. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable member for Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley.

MR. LARRY HARRISON: Mr. Speaker, two things I guess to start off with, I am surrounded by many, many extremely gifted minds (Interruptions) Who me? Yes, and I say that because these colleagues of mine can take something, dissect it, and come out with so many different angles on it. My mind doesn't work that way so I'm different in that sense.

Am I going to take an hour like Allan did? No, I will not be doing that either. What I do want to do, though, is - I guess I'm more used to principles than facts and figures and so on. I just want to talk about this from a principle point of view, kind of an underlying principle, underlying foundation, for any financial budget.

I want to go back in time a little bit. Communities years ago - and even when I started working I went into rural communities out on the Noel Shore. When I went out to the Noel Shore, I serviced an area that at one time had five churches in that area. Every single community - Moose Brook, Minasville, Noel, East Noel, Lower Selma - they all had their own church, their own hall, their own school. Stores, they would probably have to travel to Maitland or down into Walton or maybe Kennetcook. These communities were all healthy and they were functioning very well.

Then everything started to change. Now there were three main industries in Nova Scotia: fishing, farming and forestry. These communities were usually built around whatever the industry was. I know on the Noel Shore it was farming and it was shipbuilding at one time. Of course, you can look at any community in Nova Scotia, Mr. Speaker, and you will find that the people in that community were involved with a very important aspect of our industry and culture. There was a sense of community that I think we have lost in the process. Even the family doctor, out on the shore, he would call me and take me to accidents and people who might have died - go tell the families and that kind of thing. Well that just doesn't happen anymore but I know he would involve me in all the community activity that took place.

As I said before, things have changed over the years. As much as people don't want to go back to those times, because they were hard times - no question, Mr. Speaker, they were very hard times - but in the process of our growth, I think we lost that sense of community that was once there and we never grow out of that. We can grow out of a lot of things but we cannot grow out of a need to be in good community.

As I say, the changes took place, there was travelling, people had cars, motorized; they could go anywhere they wished. Farms that were small and family-oriented were now becoming larger and larger, to the point where a lot of the small farms would disappear and only the big farms would remain.

People went to town for groceries over the years and we now have that in a massive way. People had more to do. On a Sunday or a Saturday night, my goodness, I remember those days when you'd gather at someone's house on a Saturday night. They'd have the fiddle, guitar, piano and you would just enjoy each other's company. Sunday you would all go to worship and Sunday afternoon you would probably just go and socialize with your neighbours.

Again, all that stuff seems to have gone with our growth in technology, with a need, I guess, to just experience other things. But you looked at the communities, they just dotted the landscape of Nova Scotia; very tiny communities were just dotted everywhere. These were good communities. They were good communities because people were there for one another, whether it be at worship, whether it be at work, whether it be playing, they were all there for one another, and they had that nice cohesive gathering.

As people got creative with technology, larger and better just seemed to be the mantra. Government wanted to see communities grow; that was important. You had a lot of things then being transferred into Truro, Halifax, Yarmouth, Sydney, and so many other major centres in our province. The smaller communities, they just kept going backwards and backwards and backwards, now to the point that most communities do not have their schools anymore. Most small communities do not have their churches anymore and if they are, they are part time. Most small communities have lost their stores, lost their post office, and it just goes on and on and on.

As they say, I think we have grown in a lot of good ways. People don't want to go back to those hard times, but I think we have lost that sense of community that we had and what everybody needs and everybody really wants. Communities left - well we know they have changed because they have lost most things but, when I say communities really need to be out there in community, good togetherness, good environment, they are working very hard at that.

A lot of the small communities now are trying to get folks together to work on their sense of community, to put things in there that may be small but at least it gets folks together. I am thinking of the Musquodoboits that are working very hard at that. The town

of Stewiacke is working very hard at that. Brookfield is working hard at that. There are various pockets throughout the province that are working hard at that.

I believe our mandate is to make decisions that are geared for the welfare of the Province of Nova Scotia, but even beyond that. These decisions should be geared for every single individual who lives within this province.

For those of you who are familiar with parables, I want to call your attention to the parable of the 99 and one - the one sheep that was lost. Are you satisfied with the 99 and just gather them in and keep them safe? Not bad, you lose one that is not bad. But there is a different thing that was brought up in that parable, you go searching for that number one that was lost.

I just want to look at a couple of basics here for a few moments. The majority of people now live in urban areas. The people who are out in the rural areas seem to be missing quite a few things that urban areas have. It almost seems that in some ways the rural areas are looking for the droppings from the urban areas. They still need to have access; they still need to have health care; they still need to have the work; they need to have and should have whatever they wish to have, the same as urban people.

Health care is getting more and more centralized. These people who live on the outside of urban areas are really struggling to find their doctors. I don't know how we're going to solve this problem in the very near future, but the fact remains that every single individual in this province deserves to have health care. It's almost like those living in rural areas are waiting for - I'm trying to think of a word other than "droppings," but anyway - the leftovers.

With respect to roads, again, I know the roads were not built for the kind of traffic that we have in this present time. But at the same time, the folks who live out in these rural areas still need to have access to their doctors, to their stores, and to their work. The potholes are really hard on the vehicles, and people are thinking twice about going to visit or going out. They'll try to put everything together and just make the one trip. But again, these folks deserve all of these things. The programs, the food, the shelter - every single Nova Scotian deserves to have all of those.

What I'm trying to say is that we should never stop until 100 per cent of Nova Scotians have the standard of care that the rest of us have. That's our mandate as a province making decisions. I really believe that if we start with that principle, if we have that as our guiding principle, the other things will follow suit.

I realize that we can't do everything at once. All the roads aren't going to get done next year. Everyone isn't going to have a doctor by next year. But we need to be constantly working in that direction. I don't just mean the government; I mean all of us who are in this Legislature should be working very, very hard to get all of those things accomplished.

One other thing I want to say about rural areas: people really enjoy going out to rural areas just to enjoy - to do the fishing, to do the hunting, to do the hiking, to do the four-wheeling - all of those things. Even though we have many protected areas, which is a very good thing, I would hate to see all of those areas cut off from the people who want to do all of those other things just for their entertainment. I think people will look after this province if we look after this province. We just have to set the example in the kinds of decisions we make.

Anyway, as I said at the very beginning, Mr. Speaker, I don't have the kind of mind that can take everything apart. But I do know what the principle is, and it's the same principle why I decided to run for office: to have some kind of effect on the lives of individual people who need the kind of care that we may need to give them in the decisions we make.

I hope that will be our guiding principle. It still is mine. I hope it is for all of us.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I'm going to adjourn debate.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is to adjourn debate. Would all those in favour of the motion please say Aye. Contrary minded, Nay.

The motion is carried.

The honourable Deputy Government House Leader.

MR. TERRY FARRELL: That concludes the government's business for today. I move that the House do rise to sit again tomorrow between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

I'll turn it over to the honourable Official Opposition House Leader to set their business for tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Official Opposition House Leader.

HON. CHRISTOPHER D'ENTREMONT: After the daily routine and Question Period, we'll be calling two bills: Bill No. 155, the On-shore Petroleum Resource Development Clarity Act, and Bill No. 179, the Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Act.

Mr. Speaker, I also move that we now adjourn to meet again tomorrow between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is for the House to rise until tomorrow, Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m.

Would all those in favour of the motion please say Aye. Contrary minded, Nay.

The motion is carried.

The House now stands adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m.

[The House rose at 5:50 p.m.]

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**NOTICES OF MOTION UNDER RULE 32(3)****RESOLUTON NO. 3582**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas MacIssac's Funeral Home has remained a family owned and operated business since its inception by the late Jack MacIssac in 1926; and

Whereas the MacIssac family has provided fully personalized service for three generations, while viewing their business as a way to honour the community; and

Whereas the funeral home has always been known to provide a compassionate and dedicated service to the families of the Antigonish area and beyond;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate MacIssac's Funeral Home on its 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and thank this amazing family for the service they provide the community.

**RESOLUTON NO. 3583**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas from April 5 to 7, 2016, students from all over the Strait Regional School Board congregated for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Strait Regional Science Fair; and

Whereas winners will attend the Nova Scotia Science Fair Showcase in Halifax from May 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, as well as the Canada-Wide Science Fair being held at McGill University in Montreal from May 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>; and

Whereas Grade 8 student Ms. Lyza Ells from St. Andrew's Junior School and her project, Le Guerre Froid, was one of the grand prize winners;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Ms. Lyza Ells on placing third overall at the Strait Regional Science Fair, and wish her the best in these upcoming science fairs.

**RESOLUTON NO. 3584**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas in May of 2013, Neil Myers took ownership of the already well-known and established Antigonish location of Pizza Delight; and

Whereas since that time the quality of service at Pizza Delight Antigonish has only increased; and

Whereas this increased quality was recently recognized by Pizza Delight Canada at their annual awards gala;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Neil Myers and Pizza Delight Antigonish for being recognized as one of the top 10 Pizza Delight locations in the country, and being recognized for a 10 per cent year-to-year increase in sales, and to Melinda MacLean for being recognized in her role as manager.

**RESOLUTON NO. 3585**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Hadhad family, formerly of Damascus, Syria, were forced to leave their home and livelihoods due to the ongoing violent conflict; and

Whereas the family, helped by the efforts of Syria-Antigonish Families Embrace, is now settled in the Antigonish community; and

Whereas in their short time here, the Hadhads have enriched our community through their entrepreneurial efforts, educational speaking engagements, and determination to rebuild what they had unjustly lost;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate the Hadhad family of Antigonish on their immigration to Nova Scotia and on their success in their endeavors thus far.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3586**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas in March of 2016, nine St. Francis Xavier University students were awarded scholarships to help them stay in the province to do research that could lead to new products and opportunities; and

Whereas Ms. Stephanie MacIntyre is an Antigonish resident and student in the Masters of Earth Science program whose research focuses on the implications of forest harvesting on the soil stability, particularly how clear-cutting alters the quantity and quality of carbon in the soil; and

Whereas her research is of significant importance to Nova Scotians given the importance of our environment and natural resources to our province;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Stephanie MacIntyre for receiving a Nova Scotia Research and Innovation Graduate Scholarship in the amount of \$3, 000.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3587**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Antigonish Highland Dance Association hosted the 2016 ScotDance Nova Scotia Provincial Competition the weekend of April 23; and

Whereas dancers from across the province showcased their hard work and talent while competing for a spot to represent Nova Scotia at the 2016 ScotDance Canada Championship Series this summer in Winnipeg; and

Whereas Courtney MacDonald, Abigail MacDonald, Megan Smith, Carly MacDonald, Hannah Delorey, and Erin Gilfoy each secured a spot as a Nova Scotia Provincial Representative for the 2016 ScotDance Canada Championship Series;

Therefore be it resolved that the Members of the House of Assembly congratulate the Antigonish Highland Dance Association, the newly selected provincial representatives,



and all involved in the 2016 ScotDance Nova Scotia Provincial Competition for their roles in such a successful, culturally enriching event.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3588**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas this year Ross Screenprint Ltd. of Antigonish is celebrating 25 years in business; and

Whereas in the past quarter century Ross Screenprint has evolved from a simple T-shirt company to a full-service screenprint, embroidery, and promotional product supplier that serves customers around the world; and

Whereas the business has not only become a successful business but also a role model for community support, having supported countless local events, community groups, sports teams, and causes; and

Whereas having nurtured this company since the age of 16, Daniel Ross is truly an inspiration for entrepreneurs across the province;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Daniel Ross and the entire Ross Screenprint Ltd. team on a tremendously successful 25 years in business.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3589**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas six students at Dr. John Hugh Gillis in Antigonish have recently liquidated their company, Antigobaskits, a Junior Achievement Company that aimed to reduce the stress associated with studying while learning about the world of business; and

Whereas Antigobaskits measure their success by posting a profit, providing a 20 per cent return to shareholders, having every company member win an award and by winning the JA Month Award by promoting Junior Achievement throughout the month of February, and

Whereas programs such as the Junior Achievement Company Program are equipping Nova Scotian youth with the entrepreneurial skill set we as a province need to thrive;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Isaac Ketchum, Katie Broussard, Brianna Benoit, Sarah England, Siobhan MacLellan, and Mizuki Yamamoto of Antigobaskits on their success in the Junior Achievement Company Program.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3590**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Ms. Holly Bartlett, a remarkable young women who never let her disability define her, stands out as an inspiration and role model for all Nova Scotian's facing adversity; and

Whereas the Holly E. Bartlett Memorial Bursary was established after her untimely passing in 2010 providing support to Atlantic Canadian deserving female undergraduate students who are committed to both community service as well as student activities while maintaining an average of 75 per cent; and

Whereas second year St. F.X. student Ms. Jessie Doyle of Antigonish has exemplified these qualities in the eyes of those closest to Holly;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Jessie Doyle, recipient of the 2016 Holly E. Bartlett Memorial Bursary.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3591**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas April 17 to 23, 2016, was Education Week in Nova Scotia; and

Whereas Mr. Christopher Lumsden was one of four teachers recognized for their contributions to our education system over the last 14 years; and

Whereas Mr. Lumsden encourages digital literacy in his classroom and throughout the school, demonstrated through his role in establishing a technology lab at St. Andrew's Junior School which is complete with robotics kits, 3D printing, and coding resources;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Christopher Lumsden on receiving a 2016 Education Week Award and thank him for his leadership in encouraging youth to become better acquainted with technology.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3592**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Mr. John Garth MacDonald was recently honoured with the Public Service Award from the Tema Conter Memorial Trust in Toronto, a leader in providing peer support, family assistance, and training to public safety and military personnel dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); and

Whereas Mr. MacDonald who lives with PTSD himself planned the first ever "Helping the Helpers Awareness and Education Day" and

Whereas Helping the Helpers Awareness and Education Day is now an annual event raising awareness of PTSD in frontline professions, while connecting hundreds of attendees with keynote speakers and clinical education;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate John Garth MacDonald on receiving the 2016 Tema Conter Memorial Trust Public Service Award and his hard work in bettering the lives of those living with post-traumatic stress disorder.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3593**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas 18 Nova Scotia Lieutenant Governor's Respectful Citizenship Awards are given out annually to students who are making a positive difference in their schools, their communities, and their province; and

Whereas Ms. Emily Pettipas, a grade 11 student from École Acadienne de Pomquet, positively encourages her classmates, works with student council, and organizes events for her fellow students encouraging them to be active; and

Whereas her positive outlook, compassion, and respect for others make her a true leader and role model in her school community;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Emily Pettipas as a recipient of the 2016 Nova Scotia Lieutenant Governor's Respectful Citizenship Award and for all of her great work.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3594**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Coach Brad Peddle of the St. FX X-Men hockey team led the X-Men through a tremendous season, leading them to an AUS Championship through to the University Cup finals; and

Whereas he has dedicated a substantial amount of time and effort to the X-Men hockey program since his time as a nationally ranked player for the X-Men; and

Whereas his character, work ethic, determination, and achievements were recognized by his peers from across the country;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Brad Peddle for being recognized as both the 2016 AUS and CIS Coach of the Year.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3595**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas for the past 16 years students from across the province have participated in the annual Nova Scotia Recycles Contest; and

Whereas educating our youth as well as ourselves on the benefits of recycling helps us better our province; and

Whereas in a province with so much artistic talent within its borders, it is heartening to see that students are using that talent to propagate real change;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Reanne Jean, Elise Canning, Olivia Rehill, Jessica Murphy, Georgia Sajatovich, Bryden Manthorne, Romine Oliver Charles, Alex LeBlanc, and Nick Murray on their recognition as Region Two winners and runners-up in the 2016 NS Recycles Contest.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3596**

By: Hon. Lena Diab (Immigration)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas during the week of April 25, 2016, medical students at the Dalhousie Medical School organized an advocacy week focusing on Refugee Health Care; and

Whereas two of my constituents, Victoria Bentley and Kirsten Kukula, both in their second year of Medical School and part of the Dalhousie Medical Students Society invited me to participate and meet with them in person; and

Whereas on April 27 I had the opportunity, together with Minister Leo Glavine, to meet Victoria, Kirsten, Lucy Soudek, and Natasa Zatezalo to discuss refugee access to health care in Nova Scotia and steps that can be taken to ensure prompt and effective primary health care to refugees;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Ms. Victoria Bentley, Ms. Kirsten Kukula, and all medical students, on their hard work and dedication and wish them success as they continue their medical studies.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3597**

By: Hon. Lena Diab (Immigration)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Immigration Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS) and its predecessors have been welcoming newcomers to our province for more than 30 years and have grown and flourished under the leadership of the current Director of Programs, Claudette Legault; and

Whereas today ISANS offers a full range of services from pre-arrival counselling, language training, and supporting immigrant entrepreneurs, to playing a key role in the Syrian refugee effort by welcoming more than 700 government assisted refugees to Halifax since January and ensuring smooth transitions; and

Whereas I recently learned that Claudette Legault has decided to retire in June after three decades of service;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly thank Claudette Legault for her extraordinary and compassionate contributions to our city and province and wish her a terrific retirement.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3598**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas on March 26, 2016, Guysborough resident Emily Hart and her team, the Pictou County Peewee Selects, made Nova Scotia hockey history whilst competing against the TASA Ducks at the Hockey Nova Scotia Peewee Double A female championship in Upper Tantallon featuring Nova Scotia's best 10 and 11-year-old female players; and

Whereas Emily Hart is a Grade 6 student and a Chedabucto Education Centre who plays right wing for the Pictou County Selects in the top female division, Peewee Double A; and

Whereas the competing teams were declared co-champions by Hockey Nova Scotia finishing in a 1-1 tie after having played four and a half hours on the ice, a total of 10 periods including seven overtimes, thus making this the longest hockey game in Nova Scotia history;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly acknowledge this outstanding achievement made by these young ladies, demonstrating strength and determination well beyond their years, and congratulate them on their hard work and dedication to the sport of hockey.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3599**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas every April municipalities in Nova Scotia nominate a volunteer to receive a Provincial Volunteer Award; and

Whereas Ms. Leslie Klapstein was recognized for her outstanding contributions to the Municipality of the County of Antigonish including but not limited to her work with Girl Guides, Scouts Canada, 4-H, and the Fresh Air Society; and

Whereas she sets an incredible example to all residents of Antigonish County through her donation of time to the youth of our community;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Ms. Leslie Klapstein for being recognized as Antigonish's Volunteer of the Year for 2016.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3600**

By: Hon. Randy Delorey (Finance and Treasury Board)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas every April municipalities in Nova Scotia nomine a volunteer to receive a Provincial Volunteer Award; and

Whereas Mr. Andrew Murray was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the Town of Antigonish, including but not limited to his work with the town's Beautification and Land Rehabilitation Committee, the First Voice Creative Collective, Antigonish Culture Alive, the St. James United Church Council, the Antigonish Heritage Association and Theatre Antigonish; and

Whereas Andrews art work, window displays, and interior designs that are showcased in many of Antigonish's downtown businesses have become a staple of our community aesthetic;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the House of Assembly congratulate Mr. Andrew Murray for being recognized as Antigonish's Volunteer of the Year for 2016.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3601**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Christine Sinclair, presented by Chedabucto Education Centre student Olivia Hart;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Olivia in recognition of her participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish her continued success in all her future endeavours.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3602**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Old School, presented by East Antigonish Education Centre Grade 7 student Jillian Vink;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Jillian in recognition of her participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish her continued success in all her future endeavours.



**RESOLUTION NO. 3603**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Maple Syrup, presented by Chedabucto Education Centre student Avery Doiron;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Avery in recognition of his participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish him continued success in all his future endeavours.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3604**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Newfie Bullet, presented by Chedabucto Education Centre student Carter Monks;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Carter in recognition of his participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish him continued success in all his future endeavours.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3605**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Orangutan Original, presented by Chedabucto Education Centre student Caroline MacKeen;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Caroline in recognition of her participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish her continued success in all her future endeavours.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3606**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Colleen Jones, presented by Chedabucto Education Centre student Ryan Sangster;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Ryan in recognition of his participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish him continued success in all his future endeavours.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3607**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as My WW I Relative, presented by East Antigonish Education Centre Grade 5 student Amy Hallet;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Amy in recognition of her participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish her continued success in all her future endeavours.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3608**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Broken Arrow/AVRO, CF105 Arrow, presented by Chedabucto Education Centre student Will Imlay;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Will in recognition of his participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish him continued success in all his future endeavours.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3609**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Built to Last, presented by East Antigonish Education Centre Grade 7 student Savana Delorey;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Savana in recognition of her participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish her continued success in all her future endeavours.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3610**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Refugees in Canada, presented by Chedabucto Education Centre student Noor Mohrez;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Noor in recognition of his participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish his continued success in all his future endeavours.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3611**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Mercy Phoenix, presented by Chedabucto Education Centre student Mackenzie Sangster;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Mackenzie in recognition of her participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish her continued success in all her future endeavours.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3612**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Port Shoreham, presented by Chedabucto Education Centre student Lydia MacPherson;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Lydia in recognition of her participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish her continued success in all her future endeavours.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3613**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to Grade 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements and so much more, showcasing projects such as Carpentry and the Boucher Family, presented by East Antigonish Education Centre Grade 5 student Rory Wood;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Rory in recognition of his participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish him continued success in all his future endeavours.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3614**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grade 4 to 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage, while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements, and so much more, showcasing projects such as Fiddling Around With my Grandfather, presented by East Antigonish Education Centre Grade 7 student Ethan Mattie;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Ethan in recognition of his participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish him continued success in all his future endeavours.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3615**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grades 4 to 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones,

achievements, and so much more, showcasing projects such as Knitting, presented by Chedabucto Education Centre student Lindsey Connolly;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Lindsey in recognition of her participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish her continued success in all her future endeavours.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3616**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas heritage is a vital part of our lives, representing so much value and playing a huge role in developing our communities and province; and

Whereas Heritage Fair projects are created each year by Grades 4 to 8 students across the province and are designed to encourage youth to explore local and Canadian heritage while allowing them to gain public speaking skills and a sense of accomplishment; and

Whereas the Strait Regional School Board is celebrating its 18<sup>th</sup> year of Heritage Fair, each project telling the many stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, achievements, and so much more, showcasing projects such as Port Hawkesbury Paper Mill, presented by East Antigonish Education Centre Grade 5 student Logan DeCoste;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly extend their sincere congratulations to Logan in recognition of his participation in the Strait Regional School Board Heritage Fair and wish him continued success in all his future endeavours.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3617**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and



Whereas Miranda Purcell is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Guysborough Youth Health and Services Centre;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Miranda for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3618**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Mary Armstrong is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Guysborough Historical Society;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Mary for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3619**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Wayne O'Leary is recognized for his outstanding contribution to the Chedabucto Volunteer Fire Department;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Wayne for selflessly devoting his time to making a difference in his community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3620**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Eddy Hanifen is recognized for his outstanding contribution to the Erinville and District Volunteer Fire Department;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Eddy for selflessly devoting his time to making a difference in his community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3621**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Cora Pollard is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Shamrock Club;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Cora for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3622**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Dan Gillis is recognized for his outstanding contribution to the Chedabucto Place Association;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Dan for selflessly devoting his time to making a difference in his community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3623**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Hannah Kamogawa is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Cyril Ward Memorial Library;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Hannah for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3624**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10th to 16th and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Jean Grant is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Tops-St. Francis Harbour;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Jean for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3625**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Harold Smith is recognized for his outstanding contribution to the Harbourview Volunteer Fire Department;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Harold for selflessly devoting his time to making a difference in his community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3626**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Joyce Kirton is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Upper Big Tracadie Seniors Action Club;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Joyce for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3627**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Jessica Mizuguchi is recognized for her outstanding contribution to Mulgrave Volunteer Fire Department;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Jessica for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3628**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Heather Toole is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the MADD Guysborough County Chapter;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Heather for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3629**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Edward Avery is recognized for his outstanding contribution to Communities Along the Bay and Dept.;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Edward for selflessly devoting his time to making a difference in his community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3630**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Eileen Haynes is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 081;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Eileen for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3631**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Bernice Munroe is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Little Dover Community Association;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Bernice for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3632**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Veronica Jack is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Seal Harbour United Baptist Church;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Veronica for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3633**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Shae Nickerson is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Canso Flying Figure Skating Club;



Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Shae for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3634**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Meagan Cody is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Guysborough Youth Health and Services Centre;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Meagan for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3635**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Audrey MacPherson is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Chedabucto Fitness Centre;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Audrey for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3636**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Alison Myers is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Guysborough Girl Guides;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Alison for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3637**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Debra Schnare is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the 5th Canso and Area Scout Troop;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Debra for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3638**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Ada Ehler is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the St. Francis Harbour Ladies' Aid;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Ada for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3639**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Berkley Flick is recognized for his outstanding contribution to the Stormont Masonic Lodge No. 96;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Berkley for selflessly devoting his time to making a difference in his community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3640**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy, and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Veronica Jack is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Seal Harbour United Baptist Church;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers and offer a sincere thank you to Veronica for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3641**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Sheila Nickerson is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Cemetery Improvement Association of New Harbour;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Sheila for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3642**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Martha Jane Mansfield is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Sunnyville Ballfield Committee;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Janie for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3643**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Phil O'Regan is recognized for his outstanding contribution to the Chedabucto Curling Club Junior Curlers;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Phil for selflessly devoting his time to making a difference in his community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3644**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Mary Ann Clyke is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Sunnyville Community Association;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Mary Ann for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3645**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Marg Halloran is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Guysborough Memorial Hospital Auxiliary;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Marg for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3646**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Hilda George is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Whitehead Community Association. Hilda has 38 years of dedicated service to both the former fire department and Whitehead Community Association;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Hilda for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3647**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas National Volunteer Week took place this year from April 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> and is a time to recognize, celebrate, and thank Canada's 12.7 million volunteers; and

Whereas volunteers are the fabric, the backbone, the heart, and the roots of our communities, tirelessly dedicating their time, energy and resources, all in the name of enhancing the communities where we live; and

Whereas Katherine Gerro is recognized for her outstanding contribution to the Ladies Auxiliary;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of our community volunteers, and offer a sincere thank you to Katherine for selflessly devoting her time to making a difference in her community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3648**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future date I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas firefighter Andrew Marsh received the Canadian Fire Services Association Medal for 30 years of service also reached Veteran Status for a combined 35 years of service with Hantsport, Brooklyn and Summerville Fire Departments;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Andrew on his 30-year award and thank him for his continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3649**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future date I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas firefighter Jim Salter received his 35-year service award for his dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Jim on his 35-year award and thank him for his continued service.



**RESOLUTION NO. 3650**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future date I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas firefighter Bob Shay received his 25-year service award for his dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live, along with the Provincial Long Service Medal;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Bob on his 25-year award and thank him for his continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3651**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future date I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas firefighter Jeff Cruickshank received his 10-year service award for his dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Jeff on his 10-year award and thank him for his continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3652**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future date I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas firefighter Brian Shay received the Canadian Fire Services Association Medal for 30 years of service and is to be commended for his dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Brian on his 30-year award and thank him for his continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3653**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future date I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas Safety Officer Karrie Ritchie received her 10-year service award for her dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Karrie on her 10-year award and thank her for her continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3654**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future date I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas firefighter Scotty Walsh received his 20-year service award for his dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live, along with the Federal Exemplary Service Medal;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Scotty on his 20-year award and thank him for his continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3655**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future date I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas firefighter Larry LeCouter received his 15-year service award for his dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live, along with the Kings County Anne Longley Memorial Medal;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Larry on his 15-year award and thank him for his continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3656**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future date I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas firefighter Andrew Marsh received the Canadian Fire Services Association Medal for 30 years of service and is to be commended for his dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Andrew on his 30-year award and thank him for his continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3657**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future date I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas firefighter Rick Shay received the Canadian Fire Services Association Medal for 30 years of service and is to be commended for his dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Rick on his 30-year award and thank him for his continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3658**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas veteran firefighter Melissa Merchant received her 15-year service award for her dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live, along with the Kings County Anne Longley Memorial Medal;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Melissa on her 15-year award and thank her for her continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3659**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas firefighter Katie Redden received her 5-year service award for her dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Katie on her 5-year award and thank her for her continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3660**

By: Mr. Chuck Porter (Hants West)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the local fire departments in the Windsor and West Hants areas are top notch when it comes to trained, professional firefighters who put their own lives at risk when the need is there; and

Whereas several members of the Hantsport Fire Department recently received service awards at the 2016 banquet held on April 16, 2016; and

Whereas Captain Joel Neily received his 5-year service award for his dedication and commitment to keeping our community a safer place to live;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Joel on his 5-year award and thank him for his continued service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3661**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas birthdays are an occasion for family and friends to gather together to celebrate the life of an individual; and

Whereas on April 17, 2016, Ann M. Fitzpatrick of Belleville celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday; and

Whereas to have reached 100 years of age and continue to be active and share all the memories gathered over your lifetime with your loved ones is a wonderful reason to celebrate;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Ann on reaching this milestone in her life and wishing her many more happy birthdays and continued good health.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3662**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas anniversaries are an occasion for family and friends to gather together to celebrate the life of two individuals united as one; and

Whereas it was once said that a marriage anniversary is the celebration of love, trust, partnership, tolerance, and tenacity, but the order varies for any given year; and

Whereas on December 18, 2015, a very special occasion took place when Ernie J. and Janita M. Muise of Glenwood celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Ernie and Janita on this remarkable milestone in their life together and wish them many more happy years.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3663**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas "A new baby is like the beginning of all things - wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities," author Eda J. LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on December 13, 2015, Chadsey and Daniel d'Entremont welcomed their daughter into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Chadsey and Daniel on this miraculous event in their lives and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3664**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas "A new baby is like the beginning of all things - wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities," author Eda J. LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on January 3, 2016, Ginette and Renaud d'Entremont welcomed their daughter into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Ginette and Renaud on this miraculous event in their lives and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3665**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas "A new baby is like the beginning of all things - wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities," author Eda J. LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on March 2, 2016, Haley Goreham and Landon Ritchie welcomed their daughter into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Haley and Landon on this miraculous event in their lives and wish them many more happy years as parents.



**RESOLUTION NO. 3666**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas a new baby is like the beginning of all things – wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities, author Eda LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on February 13, 2016, Jody and Jason Nickerson welcomed their daughter into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Jody and Jason on this miraculous event in their lives, and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3667**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas a new baby is like the beginning of all things – wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities, author Eda LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on January 1, 2016, Katelyn Hatfield and Daniel Boudreau welcomed their daughter into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Katelyn and Daniel on this miraculous event in their lives, and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3668**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas a new baby is like the beginning of all things – wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities, author Eda LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on March 26, 2016, Lana and Percy Barkhouse welcomed their daughter into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Lana and Percy on this miraculous event in their lives, and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3669**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas a new baby is like the beginning of all things – wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities, author Eda LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on April 12, 2016, Marcie and Marcel Surette welcomed their daughter into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Marcie and Marcel on this miraculous event in their lives and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3670**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas a new baby is like the beginning of all things – wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities, author Eda LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on December 27, 2015, Nicole and Roger Williams welcomed their daughter into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Nicole and Roger on this miraculous event in their lives, and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3671**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas a new baby is like the beginning of all things – wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities, author Eda LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on March 26, 2016, Tracy Newell and Adam Rafuse welcomed their son into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Tracy and Adam on this miraculous event in their lives, and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3672**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas a new baby is like the beginning of all things – wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities, author Eda LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on January 14, 2016, Megan and Travis Cobbett welcomed their son into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Megan and Travis on this miraculous event in their lives, and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3673**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas a new baby is like the beginning of all things – wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities, author Eda LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on March 26, 2016, Lisa Bowden and Miguel d'Eon welcomed their son into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Lisa and Miguel on this miraculous event in their lives, and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3674**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas a new baby is like the beginning of all things – wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities, author Eda LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on April 22, 2016, Kelsey and Nick Clegg welcomed their son into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Kelsey and Nick on this miraculous event in their lives, and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3675**

By: Hon. Christopher d'Entremont (Argyle-Barrington)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the birth of a child is a momentous event and marks the beginning of a very satisfying journey down a long road, where the rewards far outnumber the challenges; and

Whereas a new baby is like the beginning of all things – wonder, hope, a dream of possibilities, author Eda LeShan wrote; and

Whereas on March 19, 2016, Gisèle and André Surette welcomed their son into the world;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Gisèle and André on this miraculous event in their lives, and wish them many more happy years as parents.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3676**

By: Hon. Lloyd Hines (Natural Resources)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas six-year old Lola Sangster is a resident of Whitehead and a member of the Canso Bluefins' team IP division; and

Whereas Lola was chosen on Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, through a contest held by Antigonish radio station 98.9 XFM, and the home game, played against Université de Moncton, was perhaps the first of many big moments on the ice to come for Lola; and

Whereas Miss Sangster not only participated in the team warmup but was also a part of the team entrance and stood with the starting lineup, proudly holding the St. F.X. flag while they sang "O Canada";

Therefore be it resolved that all members of the House of Assembly acknowledge the remarkable efforts of this young athlete and join me in wishing Lola much future success on and off the ice.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3677**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Maureen (Molly) Butters has kindly given her time at the centre as a receptionist and singing in the choir;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Maureen (Molly) Butters for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3678**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Maureen Wilson has given her time to the centre for nine years in the dining room as a server and was also part of the entertainment committee;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Maureen Wilson for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3679**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Megan Jordan-bagnell has given her time at the centre assisting with bingo, selling 50/50 tickets and bingo books;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Meghan Jordan-bagnell for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3680**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Patrice Hope has joyfully given her time at the centre since 1997 as an art teacher, teaching watercolours, acrylics, and oil painting;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Patrice Hope for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3681**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Ray Rankin has cheerfully given his time at the centre, serving tables during lunch hours and volunteering his time with the membership table;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Ray Rankin for all the hours he has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort he has brought to so many.



**RESOLUTION NO. 3682**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Rose Rothwell has kindly given her time at the centre as a cashier at bingo;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Rose Rothwell for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3683**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Susan McNulty has given her time at the centre since 1992, selling 50/50 tickets at potluck suppers and card parties, and she enjoys meeting new people and taking part in art class and bingo;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Susan McNulty for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3684**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Franzisha Weichselgartner has generously given her time to the centre in Barb's Laundry Department;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Franzisha Weichselgartner for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3685**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Gerry Lethbridge has graciously given his time at the centre on the DSSC Board of Directors, contributing to board meetings and other special events;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Gerry Lethbridge for all the hours he has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort he has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3686**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Gordon Boyce has graciously given his time at the centre as a Meals on Wheels and medical transportation driver, delivering meals to clients and taking clients to their medical appointments;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Gordon Boyce for all the hours he has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort he has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3687**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Gordon Foster has given his time at the centre since 2006, where he was the bartender for many functions and has also been an active member of the board since 2012;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Gordon Foster for all the hours he has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort he has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3688**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Gwen Blake has given her time to the centre in the canteen and her favourite part of volunteering is all of the wonderful people;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Gwen Blake for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3689**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more;

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood;

Whereas Harry Chapman has generously given his time to the centre, sat on the board of directors, and he was also the chairman of the Fundraising Committee;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Harry Chapman for all the hours he has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort he has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3690**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more;

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood;

Whereas Hugh Webber has given his time to the centre for seven years as part of the choir, helping whenever he is needed, and enjoys singing and meeting other people;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Hugh Webber for all the hours he has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort he has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3691**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more;

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood;

Whereas Irene Cooper has graciously given her time at the centre in the canteen, doing reception; she is also part of the membership table and most recently joined the board of directors;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Irene Cooper for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3692**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more;

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood;

Whereas Joyce Boyce has generously given her time to the centre as a medical transportation runner and enjoys getting to know clients and feeling useful;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Joyce Boyce for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3693**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more;

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood;

Whereas June L'Oiseau has kindly given her time to the centre since 2009, in the kitchen and dining room;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to June L'Oiseau for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3694**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more;

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood;

Whereas Dawn Valardo has kindly given her time to the centre as the receptionist;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Dawn Valardo for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3695**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more;

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood;

Whereas Dorothy Webber has given her time to the centre in the dining room, and enjoys helping people and meeting everyone;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Dorothy Webber for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3696**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more;

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood;

Whereas Dot Jack has happily given her time to the centre with the Knit and Stitch group, bingo, and the dining room;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Dot Jack for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3697**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Ed Merlin has kindly given his time to the centre as the organizer of darts, overseeing Wednesday afternoon darts, doing the books, collecting dues, and setting up the hall for players;



Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Ed Merlin for all the hours he has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort he has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3698**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Edith Sutherland has graciously given her time to the centre as a receptionist where she greets people as they arrive and provides information when requested;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Edith Sutherland for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3699**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Edna Landry has graciously given her time to the centre on the membership table as well as the Knit & Stitch group.

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Edna Landry for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3700**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Ellen Jordan has kindly given her time to the centre as a bingo caller;

Therefore be it resolved that member of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Ellen Jordan for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3701**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Ellen Latter has graciously given her time at the centre for over 20 years, selling memberships, calling bingo and serving lunch. She started volunteering because she enjoys meeting new people;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Ellen Latter for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3702**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Emmett Whelly has dedicated his time to the centre on the membership table doing new memberships and renewals, and enjoys meeting and making new friends;

Therefore be it resolved that member of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Emmett Whelly for all the hours he has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort he has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3703**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Evelyn Cox happily given her time at the centre as a part of the catering team and front desk reception;

Therefore be it resolved that member of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Evelyn Cox for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3704**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Audrey Smith has kindly given her time at the centre as a wood carving teacher; while volunteering she shows participants how to carve wood, cut out patterns and provides encouragement cheerfully to all;

Therefore be it resolved that member of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Audrey Smith for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3705**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Amy Houle has generously given her time to the centre as the board of director treasurer where she budgets, performs financial analyses and stewardship;

Therefore be it resolved that member of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Amy Houle for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3706**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Bernie Mooney has kindly given her time to the centre since 2006, playing the piano to entertain diners at lunch time as well as at other functions;

Therefore be it resolved that member of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Bernie Mooney for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3707**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Betty Ronaldson has cheerfully given her time to the centre with the catering team since 2006;

Therefore be it resolved that member of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Betty Ronaldson for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3708**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Bev Prendergast has given her time to the centre since 2010 in the canteen as a cashier, teaches art class, and enjoys being around people;

Therefore be it resolved that member of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Bev Pendergast for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3709**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution;

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a while array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heard of the Dartmouth Senior's Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighborhood; and

Whereas Brenda Jordan has kindly given her time to the centre working at the bingo table and enjoys meeting all the people;

Therefore be it resolved that member of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Brenda Jordan for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3710**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Brenda Pozdnekoff has cheerfully given her time at the centre for 17 years, teaching knitting to others;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Brenda Pozdnekoff for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3711**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Carol Boushel has graciously given her time to the centre as a Meals on Wheels and medical transportation driver, and enjoys meeting all the appreciative clients;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Carol Boushel for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3712**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Cathy Maloney has happily given her time at the centre in the janitorial department, keeping the centre neat and clean;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Cathy Maloney for all the hours she has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort she has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3713**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas Dave Way has cheerfully given his time at the centre for 23 years doing various tasks for the kitchen and canteen, as well as bingo;



Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to Dave Way for all the hours he has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort he has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3714**

By: Ms. Marian Mancini (Dartmouth South)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre provides a whole array of services and programs for seniors and their families in the community, from Meals on Wheels to medical transportation, physical fitness, painting, bingo, and much more; and

Whereas volunteers are the life and the very heart of the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre, providing their many talents to make the centre a vibrant part of the downtown Dartmouth neighbourhood; and

Whereas David Cunningham has given his time at the centre as a Meals on Wheels driver, and he also assists clients with errands, doing favours, and picking up goods;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in offering sincere congratulations and a big thank you to David Cunningham for all the hours he has given to helping Dartmouth seniors, and the comfort he has brought to so many.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3715**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Rye Coombs is a Grade 8 student of North Colchester High School in Tatamagouche who is an active participant in academic and extracurricular activities; and

Whereas Rye's hobbies are numerous and unique and include horseback riding, wood carving, swimming, circus lessons, knife throwing, and he is a valuable player for the Junior Mustangs basketball team; and

Whereas Rye is extremely well-read and well-travelled, especially for his age, and is known for his pleasant and insightful contributions to class discussions;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Rye Coombs for being an excellent student, role model and representative for NCHS, and for being chosen as Student of the Month for February 2016.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3716**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Jamie Jamieson, a Grade 11 student at North Colchester High School in Tatamagouche, receives the highest accolades from her teachers and peers; and

Whereas Jamie has the intelligence, ambition, and learning style to produce quality academic work, and manages her extracurricular activities; and

Whereas she belongs to both the soccer and basketball teams and exhibits the same focus, skill, and determination as she does in her academic pursuits;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Jamie Jamieson for serving as such an excellent role model for her peers, and for being named the Student of the Month for December 2015.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3717**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Alicia Williamson is a Grade 11 student at North Colchester High School in Tatamagouche; and

Whereas Alicia is a solid, hard-working student who is conscientious, co-operative, and produces quality work, all of which indicate an excellent work ethic; and

Whereas Alicia takes dance lessons, plays the clarinet, teaches piano in her spare time, and is an avid reader;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Alicia Williamson for the positive attitude she displays toward her school environment and those around her to become a part of that, and for being named Student of the Month for February 2016 at NCHS.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3718**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Connor Waugh, a Grade 11 student of North Colchester High School in Tatamagouche, is conscientious, enjoys learning, and always puts forth his best effort; and

Whereas Connor has represented NCHS at track and field, enjoys computers and technology, and is an avid outdoorsman; and

Whereas Connor is known for his social skills and is popular with his peers for his loyalty and kindness, and also because he loves to tell funny jokes;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Connor Waugh for his many contributions to student life at NCHS, and for being chosen as Student of the Month for January 2016.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3719**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Katy Hunt, a Grade 12 student at North Colchester High School in Tatamagouche, works hard and is dedicated to her studies; and

Whereas Katy is described as dependable, level headed, organized, quick witted, reliable, and understands priorities; and

Whereas Katy is known for her compassion, kindness, concern for others, and willingness to listen to other students who need a sympathetic or understanding confidante;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Katy Hunt for the high regard for her expressed by both her teachers and peers, and for being named Student of the Month for December 2015 at NCHS.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3720**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Arabella Hayton, a Grade 12 student of North Colchester High School in Tatamagouche, is known for her hard work, positive attitude, and her desire to help others whenever she can; and

Whereas Arabella is known for working diligently behind the scenes, without seeking accolades, to ensure the small but vital jobs get done; and

Whereas she is very gifted artistically, shown by her talent of playing the piano and the many creative art projects she has undertaken both in and out of school;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Arabella Hayton for her creative and scholastic efforts, and for being named Student of the Month for January 2016.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3721**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Robert Dicks for the 20 Year Federal Medal with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3722**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Paul Wilson for the 20 Year Federal Medal with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3723**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Rick Hoeg for 10 years of service with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3724**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Terry Peterson for 10 years of service with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3725**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Tip Smith for the 25 Year Provincial Medal with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3726**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Jeffery Friesen for 5 years of service with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3727**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Mike Forbes for the Firefighter of the Year Award with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3728**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Matt Forbes for the Officer of the Year Award with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3729**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and



Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Eric MacKeen for the 20 Year Federal Medal with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3730**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills, and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Allan Douglas for the 20-Year Federal Medal with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3731**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills, and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Ian Langille for 15 years of service as well as the Fireperson of the Year Award for the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3732**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills, and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Jeremy Russell for 5 years of service as well as the Most Interest in Training Award for the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3733**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills, and time, often

risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Tim Colburn for the Officer of the Year Award with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3734**

By: Hon. Karen Casey (Education and Early Childhood Development)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Nova Scotia's volunteer fire brigades are made up of individuals who show their dedication to serving others by contributing hard work, skills, and time, often risking their lives, taking on the role of first responders, and dealing with incidents of great emotional stress; and

Whereas training, fundraising, recruitment, and public relations are only a few of the additional responsibilities of members of a fire brigade; and

Whereas the members of volunteer fire brigades seldom receive the accolades they deserve, an annual banquet is usually held to thank all their members and to present special awards;

Therefore be it resolved that all members of this House of Assembly congratulate Paul Cook for 5 years of service with the Tatamagouche Fire Department in Colchester North at the 2016 annual banquet.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3735**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Charli LeBlanc of Yarmouth has been selected for the swimming award by the Yarmouth Recreation Association; and

Whereas this award is highlighted at the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Yarmouth County Awards Ceremony; and

Whereas Charli LeBlanc is recognized for her swimming ability, her work at the YMCA and the N.S. Lifeguard Service;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Charli LeBlanc on receiving this well-earned award and thank her for her continuing service to the community.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3736**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Eva Robicheau of Yarmouth celebrated her 105<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 12; and

Whereas she has lived through two World Wars, the Korean conflict, and the Great Depression; and

Whereas Eva Robicheau raised a family and worked as a supervisor at the hospital;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Eva Robicheau on arriving at yet another milestone in her life and wish her continuing good health and longevity.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3737**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Abigail Atwood of Yarmouth has been hand stitching blankets for children at the IWK Hospital; and

Whereas Abigail and her mother, Bobbi Lynn Atwood, have now delivered 110 blankets to the IWK; and

Whereas Abigail has shown great compassion and creativity in this venture;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Abigail Atwood on her great enthusiasm for a good cause and wish her all success in her future ventures.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3738**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the indie rock band Wintersleep, many of whose members are from Yarmouth, is having continued success; and

Whereas Wintersleep, with founding members Tim D'Eon, Paul Murphy, and Loel Campbell, has just released a new album, *The Great Detachment*; and

Whereas Wintersleep has performed on *Late Night with David Letterman* and opened for Paul McCartney for a Halifax concert;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Wintersleep on their continued and growing reputation and wish them continued success.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3739**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Robert White, 94, of Yarmouth, has been honoured by the Veteran Firefighters Association; and

Whereas Robert White's service as a firefighter extends back to his teen years; and

Whereas Robert White worked for many years at Yarmouth's Grand Hotel;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Robert White on his numerous accolades and thank him for his many years of dedication to his community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3740**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Yarmouth Phoenix, a 35-and-over men's hockey team, won the Moncton tournament; and

Whereas this is their second tournament victory in two years; and

Whereas this is a most important tournament for the 35-and-over class of athletes;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate the Phoenix on their second consecutive tournament win and encourage them to keep on skating.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3741**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Skye Lewis of Yarmouth placed second in the fling and the flora at the recent dance competition in Moncton; and

Whereas Skye is a member of the MacKenzie School of Dance; and

Whereas she is a student in the Yarmouth school system;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Skye on her silver medal performances and wish her continued success.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3742**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas four students from Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School travelled to Ecuador during their March break; and

Whereas their trip is part of the Me to We program, aimed at empowering young people to make a difference in the world; and

Whereas the four students - Madison Boudreau, Kaitlyn Mooney, Laura Legere, and Barbara Webster - will work on a project aimed at making improvements for the people of Ecuador;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate these students on their initiative in improving conditions in the world.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3743**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas a Yarmouth heritage property has been purchased by Vera Saeme, a proponent of the arts; and

Whereas Vera Saeme has converted the property to an Art and Culture House for the use of renowned artists; and

Whereas the property is being fully renovated and re-landscaped;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Vera Saeme on her amazing initiative and recognize the great contribution she is making to the arts in the Yarmouth area.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3744**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas James Turpin of Yarmouth and Julian Smith, originally from Cambridge, England, now of Yarmouth, have collaborated on the creation of a film; and

Whereas they have done a workshop on the experience of making short films; and

Whereas James and Julian represent the best in amateur filmmaking;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate James Turpin and Julian Smith on their achievement and wish them success in their future endeavours.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3745**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas four students from Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School travelled to Ecuador during their March break; and

Whereas their trip is a part of the Me to We program, aimed at empowering young people to make a difference in the world; and

Whereas the four students - Madison Boudreau, Kaitlyn Mooney, Laura Legere, and Barbara Webster - will work on a project aimed at making improvements for the people of Ecuador;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate these students on their initiative in improving conditions in the world and for being an inspiration to their fellow students and community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3746**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Kylie Landry of Yarmouth has been awarded the Skate Canada Quadruple Gold Medal; and

Whereas she is the first Yarmouthian to win this distinction; and

Whereas Kylie continues to be a top student at Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Kylie Landry for having earned this prestigious award and wish her continued success.



**RESOLUTION NO. 3747**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas for several years Irene Manthorne and Janet Champdoizeau of Yarmouth's Seniors Second Chance Club have operated a weekly soup kitchen; and

Whereas this is a free service provided by the club and is open to everyone; and

Whereas a typical lunch can serve up to 80 people per week;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Irene Manthorne and Janet Champdoizeau of the Seniors Second Chance Club on this initiative and thank them for giving so generously of their time and energy.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3748**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Southwest Fusion Under-13 Girls volleyball team went undefeated in an eight-team tournament at Acadia University; and

Whereas the team is coached by Yarmouth's Derek Lesser and Janell Stewart; and

Whereas throughout this season the team has been undefeated in both sets and matches;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate the team on their excellent season and wish them continued success.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3749**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Stan Zanis came to Yarmouth as vice-president of Novatech Braids; and

Whereas Novatech Braids began in 1992 as a purveyor of numerous twines and ropes for the fishery; and

Whereas the company is now registered in the United States and has expanded its portfolio, employing 30 workers;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly recognize the work that Stan Zanis and Novatech Braids have done on behalf of the Yarmouth area.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3750**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Krista Smith of Yarmouth has undertaken an overhaul of her Hawthorne Street business; and

Whereas her business, The Style Merchant, will pay homage to the historical background of the premises; and

Whereas Krista Smith has added new life to an old building;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Krista Smith on this new business and wish her every success.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3751**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Mike Sanford, CPA, CA, of Yarmouth has been made a partner with Grant Thornton; and

Whereas Mike gives local businesses sound advice in challenging economic times; and

Whereas he is therefore a valuable member of the Yarmouth business community;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Mike Sanford on his recent promotion and wish him continued success in his profession.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3752**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Irene Manthorne and Janet Champdoizeau of Yarmouth have long operated a weekly soup kitchen; and

Whereas this is a free service provided by the Seniors Second Chance Club; and

Whereas lunches are served to as many as 80 persons per week;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Irene Manthorne and Janet Champdoizeau on their initiative and thank them for their continuing volunteer service.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3753**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Ashlee Muise, formerly of Yarmouth, has recently joined the prestigious Dentists at Norgate dental group in Edmonton; and

Whereas Dr. Muise is a dental officer with the Canadian Forces; and

Whereas she is a graduate of Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Dr. Ashlee Muise on her recent appointment and wish her continuing success in her career.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3754**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Cindy Robichaud's Afghan hound, OoLaLa, has won awards at the Atlanta, Georgia, National Specialty; and

Whereas Cindy Robichaud has been training Afghan hounds for 35 years; and

Whereas OoLaLa placed first in both regular obedience and rally obedience;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Cindy Robichaud on her achievement in training this Afghan hound and wish her continuing success in the future.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3755**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Charli LeBlanc, now a second-year BA student at UNB, has been named UNB female athlete of the week; and

Whereas Charli set a UNB record in winning the 50 metre backstroke at the AUS swimming championships in Halifax; and

Whereas Charli also earned gold in the 50 and 100 metre freestyle races and silver in the 50 metre butterfly;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Charli LeBlanc on her athletic achievements and wish her continued success.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 3756**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Barbara Webster of Yarmouth has been designated the Town of Yarmouth's Volunteer of the Year; and

Whereas she has volunteered regularly with the Yarmouth Central School Breakfast Program, YACRO, and numerous other organizations; and

Whereas she states that it is important to contribute to the community;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Barbara Webster on this recognition and thank her for her contributions to the Town of Yarmouth.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3757**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Craig LeBlanc has been named the Municipality of Yarmouth Volunteer of the Year; and

Whereas Craig has coached the Yarmouth Clippers soccer team and Yarmouth hockey teams as well; and

Whereas Craig has served for several years as a volunteer on numerous boards in this area;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Craig Leblanc on his designation as Volunteer of the Year and thank him for his continuing support in the community.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3758**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Grace Murray of Yarmouth has been awarded the prestigious Ron Joyce Foundation Scholarship at Saint Mary's University; and

Whereas this is a scholarship of \$5,000 per year renewable for four years; and

Whereas Grace is an honours student at Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Grace Murray on this academic achievement and wish her success in her university studies.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3759**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Allie Berry of Yarmouth has been selected as an All-Star on Acadia University's women's basketball team; and

Whereas Allie was also an All-Star during her years at Yarmouth Consolidated Memorial High School; and

Whereas is also an academically strong student;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Allie Berry on this latest honour and wish her continued success both athletically and academically.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3760**

By: Hon. Zach Churchill (Municipal Affairs)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas 68-year-old Imrich Kiraly\_of Yarmouth was a winner at the Canadian Masters Track and Field Championships; and

Whereas he placed first in the hammer throw, the weight throw, and the discus, and won third place in the shotput; and

Whereas Imrich Kiraly provides proof that it is possible to excel in athletics during one's senior years;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of this House of Assembly congratulate Imrich Kiraly on his continuing success and thank him for providing the province with a very positive role model.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3761**

By: Mr. Andrew Younger (Dartmouth East)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Bernie Schultz is a resident of Dartmouth East who will be turning 60 years of age on May 20, 2016; and

Whereas Bernie dedicates his time to volunteer initiatives and improving our community; and

Whereas Bernie has been known to say, “Everything is connected; the trick lies in finding the dots”;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in wishing Bernie Schultz a very happy 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and many more years of finding those dots.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3762**

By: Mr. Andrew Younger (Dartmouth East)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Mark de Jonge is a Halifax-raised kayaker who took home a bronze medal in the 2012 London Olympics; and

Whereas Mark de Jonge won the men’s K1 200-metre final in Gainesville, Georgia, qualifying for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games; and

Whereas Mark de Jonge has three other international competitions this summer in addition to his training for the Olympic Games;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in recognizing Mark for his great success and wishing him all the best with the Rio Olympics and future competitions.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 3763**

By: Hon. Kevin Murphy (The Speaker)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas Paul Euloth is a native of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, and a long-time resident of Porters Lake, Nova Scotia; and

Whereas Paul has recently retired from a long and distinguished career as a planner, serving both the Province of Nova Scotia and the Halifax Regional Municipality; and

Whereas Paul will now have even more time to spend with his two children and four grandchildren, enjoying all that family has to offer, including attending their minor sports activities and enjoying the great outdoors together;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in congratulating Paul Euloth on his retirement and for giving freely of his time and talents for the betterment of our community through his volunteer activities.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3764**

By: Hon. Kevin Murphy (The Speaker)

I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall move the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Petpeswick Yacht Club has been an important part of the Musquodoboit Harbour area for the past 50 years; and

Whereas the Petpeswick Yacht Club enjoys a beautiful location overlooking scenic Petpeswick Inlet, giving sailors and motorboat enthusiasts a safe and welcoming venue for mooring; and

Whereas the Petpeswick Yacht Club has been the site for countless social functions, wedding receptions, community meetings, and youth and seniors' activities, including junior sailing;

Therefore be it resolved that members of this House of Assembly join me in recognizing the Petpeswick Yacht Club and its past and present volunteers on the occasion of its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of serving the people of the Eastern Shore.