

The House met at 2:00 p.m.

Prayers.

TABLING REPORTS, REGULATIONS AND OTHER PAPERS

Pursuant to the order, the Hon. Mr. Christie, Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, tabled the Nova Scotia Real Estate Commission Annual Report for 2002-2003.

Pursuant to the order, the Hon. Mr. Muir, Attorney General, tabled amendments to the Civil Procedure Rules made January 24, 2003, June 24, 2002 and May 31, 2002.

Pursuant to the order, the Hon. Mr. Russell, Minister of Environment and Labour, tabled the Workers' Compensation Board, Annual Report for 2002.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Pursuant to the order, the Hon. Mr. Olive, Minister of Natural Resources rose to announce that severe damage had occurred as a result of flooding and that a Disaster Assistance Program will be instituted for all affected areas of Nova Scotia.

Comments were made with Messrs. Corbett and MacAskill.

Hon. Mr. Clarke, Minister of Economic Development rose to congratulate Oscar winner Michael Donovan, and the success of the Nova Scotia film industry.

Comments were made with Messrs. Dexter and MacKinnon.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTION

Pursuant to the order, the following notices were passed in at the Clerk's table:

Res. No. 300 - Hon. the Premier - remembering the late Margaret Savage.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 301 - Hon. Mr. Muir, Attorney General, remembering the late Bernadette MacDonald.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 302 - Hon. Mr. Olive, Minister of Natural Resources - congratulations to Avarud Hudgins on receipt of an award.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 303 - Hon. Ms. Purves, Minister of Health - congratulations to C100 FM for raising funds for the I.W.K.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 304 - Hon. Mr. Russell, Minister of Environment and Labour - congratulations to Louis Comeau on receipt of an Order of Canada.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 305 - Hon. Mr. Olive, Minister of Natural Resources - congratulations to Dr. Donald Forsyth on receipt of the A.G. Huntsman Award.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The following Bills were introduced by the following Members, read a first and ordered to be read a second time on a future day:

No.16. An Act to Guarantee Equality of Treatment for All Sufferers of Hepatitis C

(Mr. Dexter - Dartmouth-Cole Harbour)

No. 17. An Act Respecting the Administration of Justice**(Hon. Mr. Muir - Minister of Justice)****No. 18. An Act Respecting Fair-marketing Practises in the Sale of Gasoline and Diesel Oil.****(Mr. Holm - Sackville-Cobequid)****No. 19. An Act to Amend Chapter 5 of the Acts of 1993, the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act****(Mr. Samson - Richmond)****No. 20. An Act Respecting the Closure of Schools and to Set Aside Decisions of School Boards Closing Schools and to Review the Funding Needs of the School Boards****(Mr. Epstein - Halifax Chebucto)****No. 21. An Act to Establish a Board to Distribute to Charities One Half of the Profits From the Sydney Casino****(Mr. Wilson - Glace Bay)****No. 22. An Act to Provide for the Recovery of Health-care Costs Related to the Exposure to Tobacco Products.****(Mr. Deveaux - Cole Harbour-Eastern Passage)****NOTICES OF MOTION**

Pursuant to the order, the following notices were passed in at the Clerk's table:

Res. No. 306 - Mr. Dexter, Leader of the New Democratic Party - remembering the late Margaret Savage.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 307 - Mr. Gaudet, Leader in the House of the Liberal Party - congratulations to Jim Comeau and his recent honour.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 308 - Ms. McGrath, Halifax Bedford Basin - applauding the success of the United Way Campaign.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 309 - Mr. Pye, Dartmouth North - urging the Minister of Community Services to review Employment Support and Income Assistance Regulations.

Res. No. 310 - Mr. MacAskill, Victoria - chastizing government for not maintaining bridges.

Res. No. 311 - Mr. Parent, Kings North - gratitude to the Kentville Fire Department, EMO and the Town of Kentville for their work.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 312 - Mr. McDonnell, Hants East - congratulations to Heather Hennigar on her track success.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 313 - Mr. MacEwan, Cape Breton Nova - voters must take notice of the experience with the NDP in Ontario.

Res. No. 314 - Mr. O'Donnell, Shelburne - commending Bobby Truckair and his crew for their response to a ship in distress.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 315 - Mr. Epstein, Halifax Chebucto - congratulations to Lenny Gallant and Sandy Greenberg on their East Coast Music Awards.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 316 - Mr. Smith, Dartmouth East - congratulations to participants in the climb of Mount Kilimanjaro and the Make A Wish Foundation.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 317 - Mr. Chipman, Annapolis - applauding the talents of the band Country Generations.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 318 - Mr. Estabrooks, Timberlea Prospect - remembering the SS Atlantic disaster.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 319 - Mr. Wilson, Glace Bay - congratulations to the Paul Flemming rink on their curling success.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 320 - Mr. MacDonell, Hants East - congratulations to the Halifax Airport Authority on its expansion.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 321 - Mr. Samson, Richmond - the government must admit the budget is not balanced.

Res. No. 322 - Mr. MacEwan, Cape Breton Nova - workers of Nova Scotia ought not to support the NDP.

Res. No. 323 - Hon. Mr. Clarke, Minister of Economic Development - remembering the late Harvey Webber.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 324 - Mr. Dexter, Leader of the New Democratic Party extending sympathy to those suffering from flood damage.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 325 - Mr. Smith, Dartmouth East - thanking Lions Clubs of Nova Scotia for their work.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days' notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 326 - Mr. Wilson, Glace Bay - the government must increase funding for the loan remission program.

Res. No. 327 - Mr. Estabrooks, Timberlea Prospect - congratulations to the Lions Club and Knights of Columbus for the Prospect Road Winterfest.

Res. No. 328 - Mr. Parent, Kings North - expressing gratitude to the Halls Harbour Fire Department and others.

Res. No. 329 - Mr. Parent, Kings North - expressing gratitude to the Department of Transportation and Public Works and others.

Res. No. 330 - Mr. Parent, Kings North - expressing gratitude to the Kentville Police, Kings RCMP and Kings EMO.

Res. No. 331 - Mr. Chipman, Annapolis - congratulations to Jim Comeau on national recognition for his volunteer work.

Res. No. 332 - Hon. the Speaker congratulations to the Amherst Region Special Olympics Floor Hockey Team on their success.

Res. No. 333 - Hon. the Speaker - congratulations to Dee Jay Baker and the "Girls at The Junction" group.

Res. No. 334 - Hon. the Speaker - congratulations to Carl Black on his firefighter service.

Res. No. 335 - Hon. the Speaker - congratulations to Brittany Blue and the "Girls at The Junction" Group.

Res. No. 336 - Hon. the Speaker - congratulations to Debbie Boudreau on receipt of a tourism award.

Res. No. 337 - Hon. the Speaker - congratulations to John Bragg on his achievement in business.

Res. No. 338 - Hon. the Speaker - congratulations to Harold Nicholson on his firefighter service.

Res. No. 339 - Hon. the Speaker - congratulations to Doris Hunter on behalf of her late husband on receipt of a Dutch Medal of Remembrance.

Res. No. 340 - Hon. the Speaker - congratulations to John Hopkins on his firefighter service.

Res. No. 341 - Hon. the Speaker, congratulations to Kristin Higgins and the "Girls at The Junction" group.

ADDRESS IN REPLY

On motion, the adjourned debate on the Address and Reply was then resumed. The debate continued with the following Messrs. MacDonell, Gaudet, DeWolfe and Estabrooks, who adjourned the debate.

MOTIONS UNDER RULE 5(5)

Mr. Speaker interrupted the business having received notices of motion under Rule 5(5).

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House to meet Wednesday, April 2nd at 2:00 p.m.