

JOURNALS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

FIRST SESSION

OF THE SIXTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2006-2007

Begun and holden at Halifax on Thursday, the twenty-ninth day of June in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and six in the fifty-fifth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her Other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2006

The House opened at 11:00 A.M.

{The First Session of the 60th General Assembly was opened on an overcast day.}

The Honourable The Premier read the following message from Her Honour, the Honourable Myra F. Freeman, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Nova Scotia:

“Hon. Rodney J. MacDonald
Premier of Nova Scotia

GREETINGS:

WHEREAS the present General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia was summoned to meet on Thursday, the 29th day of June next, then to be begun and held at Halifax, from which date the said General Assembly will meet for the dispatch of business;

AND INASMUCH as I cannot conveniently be present in the said Legislature until the Members who have been elected to serve in the House of Assembly have elected their Speaker;

NOW THEREFORE I have thought fit to require and command you, and do hereby require and command you, to convey and declare to the Members of the House of Assembly that I will defer declaring the causes for which I have summoned them to assemble until the House of Assembly has elected a Speaker who shall be presented in the said House for my approbation.

GIVEN under my Hand and Seal at Arms this 22nd day of June, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and six in the 55th year of Her Majesty's Reign.

(Signed) Myra A. Freeman
Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia"

The Chief Clerk then tabled the Returns of the most recent General Election and reported that 52 members had taken the Oath and signed the Roll.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The Chief Clerk then stated that he would now accept nominations for the position of Speaker.

Mr. Samson, Leader of the Liberal Party, then moved the nomination of Mr. Cecil Clarke, Member for Cape Breton North, for the Office of the Speaker.

There being no further nominations, the Chief Clerk declared Mr. Cecil Clarke, Member for Cape Breton North, elected Speaker of the House of Assembly.

Mr. Speaker thereupon addressed all Honourable Members as follows:

“I thank the House for the great pleasure and honour that has been bestowed upon me. I will do my best to uphold the prestige and high tradition of the Speaker’s Office. I respectfully ask the assistance and co-operation of all honourable Members.”

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

The Speaker then stated that he would now accept nominations for the position of Deputy Speaker.

The Hon. The Premier, submitted the name of Mr. Wayne Gaudet, Member for Clare.

There being no further nominations, the Speaker declared Mr. Wayne Gaudet, Member for Clare, elected Deputy Speaker of the House of Assembly.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTION

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

Res. No. 1 - Standing Committees: Special Committee Appointed
{Rule 60} - Hon. Mr. Baker, Government House Leader

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

At 11:10 a.m. Her Honour, the Honourable Myra A. Freeman, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Nova Scotia, came to the Chamber of the House of Assembly and was seated in the Speaker’s Chair.

The Hon. The Premier then addressed Her Honour as follows:

“May it please Your Honour, the House of Assembly, agreeable to Your Honour’s command, has proceeded to the choice of a Speaker and has elected Cecil Clarke, Member for the electoral district of Cape Breton North, to that Office and by its direction, I present him for the approbation of Your Honour.”

After which Her Honour was pleased to say: “I approve of the Speaker whom the House of Assembly has chosen.”

Mr. Speaker then addressed Her Honour as follows:

“Your Honour’s ready approval of the choice with which I have been honoured by the House, having constituted me, in due form Speaker of the House of Assembly, it has now become my duty in the name of the representatives of Her Majesty’s loyal subjects, the people of this Province, respectfully to demand all their accustomed rights and privileges, and that they shall have freedom of speech in their debates, that they may be free from arrest during their attendance in Parliament, and that I, as their Speaker, may have free access to Your Honour’s person.”

The Lieutenant Governor then replied as follows: “I most cheerfully grant your request and declare that this House is now in session.”

Her Honour was then pleased to retire.

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House until 2:00 P.M. this day.