

The House met at 2:00 P.M.

Prayers.

The House began by commemorating the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

The Hon. The Speaker said:

“This year, 2007, will mark the 90th Anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. By pausing to remember veterans and to reflect upon their sacrifices, we honour and thank all those who served and those who died protecting our country.”

GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTION

Res. No. 2460 - Hon. The Premier - saluting soldiers involved in the Battle of Vimy Ridge, who selflessly and stubbornly moved the Allied Forces forward in defence of the freedom of our neighbours, which transformed this country into a great nation.

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

Comments were made with the Hon. Mr. Scott, Mr. Dexter and Mr. Samson. A moment of silence was observed.

PRESENTING AND READING PETITIONS

Pursuant to the order, the Hon. Mr. Parent, Minister of Environment and Labour, tabled a petition calling for support of local pork farmers.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTION

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

Res. No. 2461 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister responsible for Military Relations - recognition of Eastlink Communications for their support and generosity to the families of servicemen and servicewomen.

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

Res. No. 2462 - Hon. Mr. Goucher, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Heritage - recognition of Jean Watson and Tartan Day.

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

Res. No. 2463 - Hon. Mr. Parent, Minister of Environment and Labour - recognition of Team Nova Scotia as a recycling leader at the Canada Winter Games.

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

Res. No. 2464 - Hon. Mr. Goucher, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Heritage - recognition of Camilla Peck on her 50 years of service in the tourism industry.

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

Res. No. 2465 - Hon. Ms. Streach, Minister of Community Services - recognition of the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank on their new initiative "Great Things in Store".

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

Res. No. 2466 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - recognition of the RCMP for its 75th anniversary of providing police service in Nova Scotia.

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

Res. No. 2467 - Hon. Mr. Parent, Minister of Environment and Labour - recognition of Chuck Cartmill of C-Vision, Global Manufacturing Innovators on being named Atlantic Entrepreneur of the Year.

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

Res. No. 2468 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister responsible for Human Rights - supporting the implementation of the Kelowna Accord.

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. 178. An Act to Require That Government Buildings Constructed in the Future Comply With Green Energy and Environmental Design Standards

(Mr. Samson - Leader of the Liberal Party)

No. 179. An Act to Amend Chapter 340 of the Revised Statutes, 1989, the Pension Benefits Act

(Ms. M. MacDonald - Halifax Needham)

NOTICES OF MOTION

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

Res. No. 2469 - Mr. Corbett, Cape Breton Centre - recognition of Tartan Day and the 50th anniversary of the Cape Breton Tartan.

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

Res. No. 2470 - Mr. Samson, Leader of the Liberal Party - recognition of Canadian soldiers at Vimy Ridge.

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

Res. No. 2471 - Hon. The Premier - recognition of Le Club Kinsmen de Cheticamp on its 30th anniversary.

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

Res. No. 2472 - Mr. Dexter, Leader of the Opposition -

congratulations to Annapolis, Maryland on its 300th year of incorporation.

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

Res. No. 2473 - Mr. Colwell, Preston - recognition of Deacon Gordon Dale Wright on receipt of the Reverend William Pearly Oliver Wall of Honour Award.

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

Res. No. 2474 - Hon. Mr. Baker, Minister of Finance - recognition of the Kilted Frenchman Steakhouse on receiving the National Post People's Choice Restaurant Award.

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

Res. No. 2475 - Mr. David A. Wilson, Sackville-Cobequid - recognition of Jean Watson on being named Scot of the Year.

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

Res. No. 2476 - Mr. Theriault, Digby-Annapolis - encouraging promotion of a fast train in Nova Scotia.

Res. No. 2477 - Mr. MacLeod, Cape Breton West - congratulations to Daniel Boutilier and best wishes when he competes in the CanWest CanSpell National Spelling Bee.

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

Res. No. 2478 - Mr. MacDonell, Hants East - recognition of Mary McMullen on receiving the Golden Pin Award by the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

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

Res. No. 2479 - Mr. Estabrooks, Timberlea-Prospect - recognition

of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.

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

Res. No. 2480 - Mr. Glavine, Kings West - supporting a petition with respect to the hog industry.

Res. No. 2481 - Mr. Porter, Hants West - recognition of Chris Phillips on receiving the Sheelagh Nolan Award for Excellence in Teaching in the Field of Autism.

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

Res. No. 2482 - Mr. Fage, Cumberland North - recognition of students at Cumberland North Academy in adopting soldiers.

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

Res. No. 2483 - Mr. MacKinnon, Pictou East - recognition of the late A. Lloyd MacDonald, former MLA.

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

Res. No. 2484 - Mr. Colwell, Preston - congratulations to Earl and Ruby Bundy on their 60th wedding anniversary.

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

Res. No. 2485 - Mr. Dunn, Pictou Centre - recognition of the Aberdeen Hospital Foundation and Trust on celebrating its 20th anniversary.

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

Res. No. 2486 - Hon. Mr. Morse, Minister of Natural Resources - recognition of Justine Muller on organizing an Atlantic conference for political science students.

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

Res. No. 2487 - Hon. Mr. MacIsaac, Minister of Transportation and Public Works - recognition of the Alix George curling team from Dr. J.H. Gillis Regional High School for winning the 2007 NSAF Girls Curling Championship.

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

Res. No. 2488 - Hon. Mr. Muir, Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations - recognition of the volunteer service of Brian Hayden and on winning the Volunteer of the Year Award.

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

Res. No. 2489 - Hon. Mr. Goucher, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Heritage - recognition of Stephen Anthony on representing Nova Scotia at the 2007 Canada Winter Games.

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

Res. No. 2490 - Hon. Ms. Casey, Minister of Education - recognition of Daniel MacKenzie for being selected Male Student of the Month.

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

Res. No. 2491 - Hon. Mr. d'Entremont, Minister of Health - recognition of Michel and Mary Ella d'Entremont for their work in the community.

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

Res. No. 2492 - Mr. Porter, Hants West - recognition of the old textile mill known as Mill Island.

With the unanimous consent of the House, the usual two days'

notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 2493 - Hon. Mr. Muir, Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations - congratulations to Francis Collins on being recognized at the African Heritage Month banquet.

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

Res. No. 2494 - Hon. Mr. d'Entremont, Minister of Health - recognition of Georges d'Entremont for his contribution to the sport of hockey in Yarmouth County.

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

Res. No. 2495 - Hon. Mr. MacIsaac, Minister of Transportation and Public Works - recognition of the Dr. J. H. Gillis Regional High School Girls Basketball coach Gail MacDougall.

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

Res. No. 2496 - Hon. Mr. Parent, Minister of Environment and Labour - recognition of the efforts of firefighters and Valley Communications.

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

Res. No. 2497 - Hon. Mr. Dooks, Minister of Energy - congratulations to the Chezzetcook and District Lion's Club on their 22nd Charter Anniversary.

Res. No. 2498 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Catherine Rector on being named Youth Volunteer of the Year.

Res. No. 2499 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Norma Crawford on being named Volunteer of the Year.

Res. No. 2500 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Annie Glenn on being named Volunteer of the Year.

Res. No. 2501 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Austin Patriquin on being named Volunteer of the Year.

Res. No. 2502 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Brandon White on being named Most Dedicated Player by the Springhill Minor Basketball Association.

Res. No. 2503 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Patrick Ellis on being named Student Athlete by the Springhill Minor Basketball Association.

Res. No. 2504 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Justin Capon on being named Most Improved Player by the Springhill Minor Basketball Association.

Res. No. 2505 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Cody Hunter on being named Most Valuable Player by the Springhill Minor Basketball Association.

Res. No. 2506 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Austin and Claire Patriquin on being named Volunteer Family of the Year.

Res. No. 2507 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Abigail Wood and Kalei Petten on their awards from the Chignecto East Regional Science Fair.

Res. No. 2508 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Kaitlin Pettigrew on winning the Lions Speak Out contest.

Res. No. 2509 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Billy McNutt on his athletic awards from Oxford Regional High School.

Res. No. 2510 - Hon. Mr. Scott, Minister of Justice - congratulations to Rebecca-Lee MacAloney on her outstanding speech and for placing second at the Lions Speak Out contest.

Res. No. 2511 - Hon. Mr. Dooks, Minister of Energy - congratulations to Musquodoboit Harbour and District Lions Club on their 25th Charter anniversary.

Res. No. 2512 - Mr. Glavine, Kings West - recognizing Tami Maillet for her contributions to the St. John's Ambulance Therapy Dog program.

Res. No. 2513 - Mr. Fage, Cumberland North - congratulations to Bill Adshade for helping to build homes for the poor in El Salvador.

Res. No. 2514 - Mr. Fage, Cumberland North - congratulations to honour students at Nova Scotia Agricultural College on being named to the President's List.

Res. No. 2515 - Mr. Fage, Cumberland North - congratulations to Amherst Regional High School Vikettes Girls Basketball team for winning the Nova Scotia School Athletic Federation Division II girls basketball championship.

Res. No. 2516 - Mr. Fage, Cumberland North - congratulations to Constable Francis Smith and students for their dedication to traffic safety.

Res. No. 2517 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2518 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Larry Powell and staff, and to the Annapolis County Spectator for being named one of the top Canadian community newspapers.

Res. No. 2519 - Mr. Porter, Hants West - applauding Fidel Castro and Castro's Tae Kwon Do Club in Hantsport.

Res. No. 2520 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Chris Burrell of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2521 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Lucas Halliday of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2522 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Danny Hudson of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2523 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Joey

Hudson of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2524 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Mark Cromwell of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2525 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Mitchell Marshall of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2526 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Nathaniel Fells of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2527 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Philip Messenger of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2528 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to coach Rev. Alden Fells of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2529 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to assistant coach Kerry Johnson of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2530 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Anthony Burrell of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2531 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Henry Fredericks of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2532 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Scott Last of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2533 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Team Manager Donna Fells of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

Res. No. 2534 - Mr. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulations to Owen Ritchie of the Annapolis West Education Centre Knights on winning the Boys Division 3 Provincial Championship.

TABLING REPORTS, REGULATIONS AND OTHER PAPERS

The Hon. Ms. Casey, Minister of Education, tabled the public consultation meeting schedule relating to the Minister's review of services for students with special needs.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Pursuant to the order, Ms. Conrad, Queens, moved the following Resolution:

Res. No. 19 - TPW - Roads: Queens - Improve

A debate ensued during which the following took part: Hon. Mr. MacIsaac, Messrs. Theriault and Parker. The debate was deemed to be adjourned.

Pursuant to the order, Ms. Raymond, Halifax Atlantic, moved second reading of the following bill:

No. 73. Health Insurance Protection Act

A debate ensued during which the following took part: Hon. Mr. Baker, Mr. H. David Wilson and Ms. M. MacDonald. The debate was deemed to be adjourned.

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House to meet Thursday, April 5th at 9:00 A.M.