

**JOURNALS AND PROCEEDINGS**

**OF THE**

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY**

**PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA**

**FIRST SESSION**

**OF THE SIXTY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**2009-2010**

Begun and holden at Halifax on Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of June in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and nine in the fifty-eighth 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.

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**THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2009**

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The House opened at 12:00 Noon.

{The First Session of the 61<sup>st</sup> General Assembly was opened on a sunny day.}

The Honourable The Premier read the following message from Her Honour, the Honourable Mayann E. Francis, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Nova Scotia:

“Hon. Darrell Dexter  
Premier of Nova Scotia

**GREETINGS:**

**WHEREAS** the present General Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia was summoned to meet on Thursday, the 25<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> day of June, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and nine in the 58<sup>th</sup> year of Her Majesty's Reign.

*(Signed) Mayann E. Francis*  
*Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia*"

The Chief Clerk then tabled the Returns of the most recent General Election and reported that 52 Members present in the House had taken the Oath and signed Roll, and they, therefore, claimed the right to take their seats in this place.

**ELECTION OF SPEAKER**

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

Hon. D. Dexter, Premier, moved the nomination of Charles Parker, Member for Pictou West, for the Office of the Speaker.

There being no further nominees, the Chief Clerk declared Charles Parker, Member for Pictou West, elected Speaker of the House of Assembly.

Mr. Speaker thereupon addressed all Honourable Members as follows:

“Honourable Members of the House of Assembly.

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

#### **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

Hon. R. Landry, Attorney General, pursuant to leave given, introduced the following bill and the same was, on motion, read a first and ordered to be read a second time on a future day:

#### **An Act Respecting Oaths of Office**

#### **GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTION**

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

Res. No. 1 - Rules of the House: Chairman of Committees and Deputy Speakers [Rule 11] - Suspension - Hon. F. Corbett

Res. No. 2 - Standing Committees: Special Committee Appointed {Rule 60} - Hon. F. Corbett

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

At 12:15 P.M. Her Honour, the Honourable Mayann E. Francis, 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.

Hon. D. Dexter, 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 Charles Parker, Member for the electoral district of Pictou West, 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.

Hon. F. Corbett, Government House Leader, then moved that the House adjourn and meet again at the call of the Speaker.

The House thereupon adjourned to meet again at the call of the Speaker.