

The House met at 10:00 A.M.

Prayers.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE

Hon. M. Samson, Richmond, rose on a point of privilege concerning the statements attributed to the Member for Lunenburg West concerning creation of Legislative Internal Economy Board Regulations.

The Hon. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

PRESENTING AND READING PETITIONS

Hon. M. Scott, Cumberland South, tabled a petition concerning a correctional centre in Cumberland County.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTION

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

Res. No. 1 - Hon. G. Steele, Minister of Finance:

“Mr. Speaker, I hereby give notice that on a future day I shall

- (1) read and table the message from Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor transmitting the Estimates of Sums required for the service of the Province for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2011, for the consideration of this House;
- (2) table the Estimates books;
- (3) table the Crown Corporation Business Plans;
- (4) table the Estimates and Crown Corporation Business Plans resolutions;
- (5) deliver my Budget Speech; and
- (6) move that the Estimates of Sums required for the service of the Province, for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2011,

being Supply to be granted to Her Majesty, and the Crown Corporation Business Plans be referred to the Committee of the Whole House on Supply.

Mr. Speaker, for the information of the House, the budget will be presented on Tuesday, April 6th of the week after next.”

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. 1. An Act to Establish a Management Commission for the Effective Administration of the House of Assembly

(Hon. D. Dexter)

No. 2. An Act to Amend Chapter 195 of the Revised Statutes, 1989, the Health Act

(Hon. S. McNeil - Leader of the Official Opposition)

No. 3. An Act to Amend Chapter 365 of the Revised Statutes, 1989, the Provincial Finance Act, Respecting District Health Authorities

(L. Glavine - Kings West)

No. 4. An Act to Amend Chapter 25 of the Acts of 2004, the Electricity Act, Respecting Renewable Energy Providers

(A. Younger - Dartmouth East)

No. 5. An Act to Amend Chapter 365 of the Revised Statutes, 1989, the Provincial Finance Act, Respecting Write-offs

(L. Glavine - Kings West)

NOTICES OF MOTION

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

Res. No. 2 - A. Younger, Dartmouth East - congratulating snowboarder Sarah Conrad on her inspiring performance at the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.

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

Res. No. 3 - Hon. K. Casey, Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party - congratulating Progressive Conservative Leader, David Alward, for his leadership and his consideration of the interests of all Nova Scotians.

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

Res. No. 4 - Hon. S. McNeil, Leader of the Official Opposition - urging the government to make sure a ferry service is in place in Yarmouth.

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

Res. No. 5 - A. MacMaster, Inverness - remembering the late MLA Charles MacArthur and his service to the people of Inverness County, the Province of Nova Scotia and our country.

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

Res. No. 6 - H. Theriault, Digby-Annapolis - remembering the late MLA Joe Casey for his dedication to his family, his friends, his business associates and his constituents.

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

Res. No. 7 - K. Bain, Victoria-The Lakes - recognizing Jessica Wong and her talent as one dynamic hockey player and wishing her every success.

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

Res. No. 8 - K. Regan, Bedford-Birch Cove- remembering the late A. Garnet Brown, MLA, who represented Halifax Eastern Shore from 1969 to 1978, and sending condolences to his wife, Betty and family.

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

Res. No. 9 - C. Porter, Hants West - recognizing Wilfred Jodrey on his 50 years of Freemasonry service.

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

Res. No. 10 - Hon. K. Colwell, Preston - recognizing the late Charlie MacArthur, Warden and MLA for Inverness and sending condolences to his family.

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

Res. No. 11 - Hon. M. Scott, Cumberland South - encouraging government not to increase the HST.

Res. 12 - Hon. M. Samson, Richmond - recognizing Father John J. MacDonald's 80th birthday.

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

Res. No. 13 - Hon. C. Clarke, Cape Breton North - calling for assistance of the Point Tupper to Sydney rail line and reaffirm support for Sydney Harbour.

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

Res. No. 14 - L. Glavine, Kings West - recognizing the late Sgt. Kirk Taylor, his duty to his country and his devotion to his friends, family and community.

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

Res. No. 15 - Hon. C. d'Entremont, Argyle - urging the government to provide funding for a ferry service in Yarmouth.

Res. No. 16 - Hon. W. Gaudet, Clare - Yarmouth deserves real solutions and urging the government to make clear level-headed decisions.

Res. No. 17 - A. MacLeod, Cape Breton West - recognizing Jill MacPherson of Port Morien on winning top prize at this year's Active 8 campaign.

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

Res. No. 18 - D. Whalen, Halifax Clayton Park - recognizing Purple Day and founder Cassidy Megan for challenging people to show support for those living with epilepsy.

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

Res. No. 19 - Hon. K. Casey, Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party - recognizing Mount Saint Vincent University's Communication Studies Department.

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

Res. No. 20 - A. Younger, Dartmouth East - encouraging Nova Scotians to participate in International Earth Hour on March 27th.

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

Res. No. 21 - Hon. M. Scott, Cumberland South - congratulating the Cumberland County Community Credit Union Midget Girls Hockey team on earning a spot in the Nova Scotia Provincial "A" Female Midget Championship.

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

Res. No. 22 - Hon. K. Colwell, Preston - calling for funding for a ferry service in Yarmouth.

Res. No. 23 - Hon. C. Clarke, Cape Breton North - recognizing the work of Katie MacEachern and her Green Team in organizing a free coffee house by candlelight in the lead up to Earth Hour.

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

Res. No. 24 - Hon. W. Gaudet, Clare - congratulating Canadian Paralympic athletes for their hard work and skill during the 2010 Vancouver Paralympic Games.

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

Res. No. 25 - A. MacLeod, Cape Breton West - recognizing Bertram Bernard on being the top essay winner in the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association of Canada competition.

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

Res. No. 26 - C. Porter, Hants West - recognizing the Windsor Rotary Club as they celebrate eight decades of service.

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

Res. No. 27 - Hon. C. d'Entremont, Argyle - congratulating crew and students of SV Concordia on their skill and courage when the Polish-built barquentine sank off the coast of Brazil and thank the Brazilian Search and Rescue and the Brazilian Navy for their heroic rescue.

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

Res. No. 28 - K. Bain, Victoria-The Lakes - congratulating students involved in the Cape Breton Post Regional Spelling Bee on February 27th.

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

Res. No. 29 - A. MacMaster, Inverness - Nova Scotians should not have to face raised taxes to pay for the deficit the NDP created.

EMERGENCY DEBATE

Hon. K. Casey, Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, moved the business of the House be set aside to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely the loss of a ferry service in Yarmouth.

SPEAKER'S RULING

Mr. Speaker ruled the matter in order and by agreement, the matter would be dealt with at the moment of interruption.

ADDRESS IN REPLY

On motion, the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply was then resumed. The debate continued with Hon. S. McNeil and Hon. K. Casey, who adjourned the debate.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House to meet Monday, March 29th at 7:00 P.M.

EMERGENCY DEBATE

As requested earlier by Hon. K. Casey, Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, the debate began with the following taking part: Hon. C. d'Entremont, Hon. B. Estabrooks, Hon. S. McNeil, Hon. C. Clarke, Hon. S. Belliveau, Hon. W. Gaudet, C. Porter, G. Ramey and Hon. K. Colwell.

NOTICES OF MOTION UNDER RULE 32

The following notices were passed in at the Clerk's table:

Res. No. 30 - Hon. M. Scott, Cumberland South - congratulating Sgt. Michael Spearns on his retirement from the Halifax Regional Police.

Res. No. 31 - C. Porter, Hants West - wishing the best of luck to the Pictou Regional Development Commission with their conference Rural Pictou County: Exploring Opportunities Conference.

Res. No. 32 - C. Porter, Hants West - congratulating the Berwick Food Bank for meeting their communities needs.

Res. No. 33 - C. Porter, Hants West - congratulating firemen honoured by the Lawrencetown, Annapolis County Fire Department on their many years of service at their annual awards banquet.

Res. No. 34 - L. Glavine, Kings West - urging help for Nova Scotia Cattle Producers.

Res. No. 35 - Hon. Maureen MacDonald, Halifax Needham - recognizing March 26th as Purple Day for epilepsy awareness.

Res. No. 36 - Hon. K. Casey, Cumberland Colchester North - wishing Upper Stewiacke the best of luck with their Maple Syrup Festival.

Res. No. 37 - C. Porter, Hants West - acknowledging the work of the Windsor Rotary Club as they celebrate eight decades of service.