

The House met at 2:00 P.M.

Prayers.

SPEAKER'S RULING

“I have a Speaker's Ruling I want to read from an issue that was raised here in the House the other day. The honourable member for Richmond rose on a matter of privilege on Friday, March 26, 2010. The Chair reserved dealing with the matter and indicated a decision would be provided at a later date.

The honourable member for Richmond alleges that a statement made by the honourable member for Lunenburg West in this House on March 25, 2010, constituted privilege. To summarize, the honourable member for Richmond states that all Parties in the House have, and have had, representation on the Legislature Internal Economy Board and that all the members of the House bear responsibility for the system that has been in place respecting members' expenses, not just some members or some Parties or the government at the time; in other words, that all bear responsibility for policies relating to MLA expenses.

It is true that no one government past or present set up the fiscal policies related to MLA expenses, rather it was the decision of various LIEB board members over the years. The Chair treats this matter seriously. I believe though that the statement complained of is not a matter of privilege. It is known that matters of members' expenses are dealt with by the LIEB on which all Parties have representation. It is also known by the Chair that decisions taken there were based on unanimity or consensus. Therefore, the statement about this government, or for that matter any other government, not creating fiscal policies in relation to this matter is factual. Certainly the matter of MLA expenses has been a difficult issue for all of us and I thank members for their attention.”

PRESENTING AND READING PETITIONS

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

K. Bain, Victoria-The Lakes, tabled a petition concerning the paving of roads in the Wagmatcook First Nation.

TABLING REPORTS, REGULATIONS AND OTHER PAPERS

Hon. G. Steele tabled a report entitled, “Getting Back to Balance Summary Report”, dated March 31, 2010.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Hon. D. Dexter, Premier, rose to pay tribute to the St. Mary’s Huskies.

Comments were made by Hon. W. Gaudet and Hon. K. Casey.

Hon. Maureen MacDonald, Minister of Health, rose to announce a travel and accommodations assistance policy for those obtaining medical treatment outside the province.

Comments were made by D. Whalen and Hon. C. d’Entremont.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTION

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

Res. No. 76 - Hon. D. Dexter, Premier - recognizing those who participated in Earth Hour.

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

Res. No. 77 - Hon. D. Dexter, Premier - congratulating Hannah Cameron for winning third place at the 2010 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. 78 - Hon. R. Landry, Minister of Justice - recognizing crime prevention leaders.

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

Res. No. 79 - Hon. Maureen MacDonald, Minister of Health -

recognizing the dedication and commitment of Easter Seals Nova Scotia.

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. 10. An Act to Amend Chapter 63 of the Acts of 2005, the Cape Breton Island Marketing Levy Act

(Hon. P. Paris - Minister of Tourism, Culture and Heritage)

No. 11. An Act to Support Diabetic Persons in Nova Scotia

(D. Whalen - Halifax Clayton Park)

No. 12. An Act to Support Students with Diabetes and Other Life-threatening Illnesses

(K. Regan - Bedford-Birch Cove)

NOTICES OF MOTION

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

Res. No. 80 - Hon. S. McNeil, Leader of the Official Opposition - recognizing the late Dr. Edith Cromwell and her many contributions to the people of her community and 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. 81 - Hon. K. Casey, Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party - calling for action to restore the ferry link.

Res. No. 82 - Hon. R. Jennex, Minister of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations - recognizing Freddy Wilson and the road named for him called Freddy Wilson's Overpass.

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

Res. No. 83 - L. Glavine, Kings West - urging the Minister of Finance to start telling the truth.

Res. No. 84 - Hon. C. d'Entremont, Argyle - asking what the 2009 campaign slogan "Genuine leadership for today's families" really means.

Res. No. 85 - Hon. J. MacDonell, Minister of Agriculture - recognizing organizers of the Peter and Mary Agnes Julian Memorial Hockey Tournament and welcoming the Coral Harbour Peewees to Nova Scotia.

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

Res. No. 86 - Hon. W. Gaudet, Clare - recognizing the service of Marguerite Thibault who will celebrate 29 years as a librarian with the Western County Regional Library.

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

Res. No. 87 - C. Porter, Hants West - recognizing King-Edgehill students for travelling to Poland as part of the 12-day Journey for a Lifetime program.

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

Res. No. 88 - Hon. S. Belliveau, Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture - recognizing Lockeport schools for acceptance to fully participate in a UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network.

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

Res. No. 89 - K. Regan, Bedford-Birch Cove - congratulating those involved in the fight against racism in Andrew Sticking's Grade 5 class at École Grosvenor Wentworth School.

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

notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 90 - K. Bain, Victoria-The Lakes - NDP must explain their refusal to retain the Yarmouth ferry service.

Res. No. 91 - M. Whynott, Hammonds Plains-Upper Sackville - congratulating the Member for Cole Harbour-Eastern Passage on her engagement.

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

Res. No. 92 - D. Whalen, Halifax Clayton Park - congratulating the staff of the Department of Health Promotion and Protection for their United Way efforts.

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

Res. No. 93 - Hon. M. Scott, Cumberland South - congratulating Fred and Sippie Riemersma on their 50th anniversary.

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

Res. No. 94 - G. Burrill, Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley - recognizing the service of Reagh Canning and her life-long contributions to her community.

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

Res. No. 95 - Hon. K. Colwell, Preston - recognizing the service of Gerald Crooks and congratulations on his retirement and service from Station 21, where he spent his whole career as a firefighter.

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

Res. No. 96 - Hon. C. Clarke, Cape Breton North - encouraging the Minister of Community Services to work with the representative of the Rockcliffe Apartment complex.

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

Res. No. 97 - H. Theriault, Digby-Annapolis - congratulating the Admiral Digby Museum on their inheritance of a melodeon and thanking Teresa Henderson for her kind donation.

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

Res. No. 98 - A. MacLeod, Cape Breton West - calling for funding for the CAT Ferry.

Res. No. 99 - K. Regan, Bedford-Birch Cove - congratulating Bruce Russell, Q.C. upon his election to the Board of Governors of the Canadian Tax Federation.

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

Res. No. 100 - A. MacMaster, Inverness - urging the government to retain the soft tissue cap regarding auto insurance.

Res. No. 101 - Hon. K. Colwell, Preston - recognizing Corey Firth, head coach at the Orenda Canoe Club on receiving the 2009 Director General's Award.

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

Res. No. 102 - Hon. K. Casey, Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party - supporting Lawrencetown Exhibition Youth Arena on becoming one of the top five finalists for Kraft Hockeyville.

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

Res. No. 103 - H. Theriault, Digby-Annapolis - recognizing the Wharf Rat Rally's 2009 Ambassador Award and recognizing the many volunteers in making the Wharf Rat Rally a great success.

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

Res. No. 104 - Hon. C. Clarke, Cape Breton North - recognizing the volunteers at the Sydney Mines Policing Office.

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

Res. No. 105 - D. Whalen, Halifax Clayton Park - recognizing Pam Cooley and her company CarShare HFX and congratulate her on receiving the gold award for New Business 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. 106 - Hon. M. Scott, Cumberland South - thanking the Cumberland Child Advocacy Board for all the hard work they do in our community.

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

Res. No. 107 - A. MacLeod, Cape Breton West - recognizing Archbishop Vincent Waterman who was honoured with the Carl Campy Crawford Award in Sydney.

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

Res. No. 108 - A. MacMaster, Inverness - congratulating Kerri Lyn Brown's class at Tamerac Education Centre who sold ribbons to raise more than \$400 to purchase 58 bed nets for children in Africa.

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

Res. No. 109 - Hon. C. d'Entremont, Argyle - congratulating Connor Zinck, Kylee Graven and Richard Gallant, Grade 3 students at Bayview Community School, and teacher Donna Sampson, on raising more than \$500 to aid victims of the Haiti earthquake.

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

Res. No. 110 - K. Bain, Victoria-The Lakes - recognizing the

lasting impact of the late Marvin Harvey and the naming of the Marvin Harvey Building in memory of him.

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

PUBLIC BILLS

Hon. D. Dexter, Premier, moved second reading of the following bill:

No. 1. House of Assembly Management Commission Act

A debate ensued during which the following took part: Hon. S. McNeil and Hon. M. Scott, who adjourned the debate.

ADDRESS IN REPLY

On motion, the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply was then resumed. The debate continued with A. MacMaster, who adjourned the debate.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House to meet Wednesday, March 31st at 2:00 P.M.

MOTIONS UNDER RULE 5(5)

Mr. Speaker interrupted the business having received notices of motion under Rule 5(5). The topic of late debate as submitted by Hon. W. Gaudet, Clare:

"Therefore be it resolved that the House of Assembly urge the Minister of Economic and Rural Development to provide funding for a ferry service between Yarmouth and the United States and support the local economy."

A debate ensued during which the following took part: Hon. W. Gaudet, Hon. P. Paris and Hon. C. d'Entremont.

NOTICES OF MOTION UNDER RULE 32

The following notice was passed in at the Clerk's table:

Res. No. 111 - Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North - congratulating the members of the Saint Mary's Huskies hockey team, coach Trevor Stienburg and staff on winning their first National Canadian Interuniversity Sport Hockey Championship.