

The House met at 9:00 A.M.

Prayers.

SPEAKER'S RULING

"Yesterday, after I delivered a ruling on a point of order, the honourable Member for Richmond rose and made several remarks asking me about what he said was a reversal by the Treasury Board of a decision that had been made by the House of Assembly Management Commission.

To be clear, as the honourable Government House Leader pointed out, it was not the Management Commission that made the initial decision in the matter, but rather it was the *Special Committee to Review the Estimates of the Auditor General and the Chief Electoral Officer*, which is made up of the same people as those who are on the Management Commission, but is a separate committee of the House.

The Member asked me a number of questions, including whether further recommendations respecting decisions of the Committee would be honoured by the government. Without speculating on any of the questions posed to me by the Member, I must point out that I cannot speak for the future, or to anything that may be done by the government, or even by the committee of the House.

Turning to the procedural issues arising from the Member's questions, I have reviewed Hansard and it is now clear that he did not rise on a point of order or a point of privilege. After my ruling on a point of order, he asked me a series of questions.

I remind all Members of rulings in 2010, by the previous occupant of this Chair, that it is out of order for the Members to raise questions respecting the Speaker or matters falling under the administration of the Speaker in the House. If a Member has questions about such things, the Member can raise them outside the House with the Speaker.

As set out in *Campion*, questions on such matters should be addressed to the Speaker by private notice - this includes matters relating to my involvement with committees of the House.

On another point, some of the Member's questioning yesterday related to decisions of the Treasury Board. Those decisions have nothing to do with the Speaker and can be addressed more appropriately to the responsible Minister, in a parliamentary manner. Further, it is not the role

of the Speaker to rule on questions of law, or statutory interpretation, which appear to me to be part of what he was asking.

The Speaker will not be drawn into debate in the House. What the Member for Richmond asked was not a proper point of order or privilege. Members need to remember to follow proper procedure when raising things in the House. I have issued my ruling with respect to the previous point of order and have no intention of being dragged into a debate over the budget of the Office of the Auditor General.

Having taken this matter under advisement yesterday so that I could carefully review Hansard as to what was raised by the Member at that time, I rule that there is no point of order and no point of privilege raised by the honourable Member.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTION

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

Res. No. 139 – Hon. M. Smith, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal – recognizing April 6th as Tartan Day in Nova Scotia and welcoming Scotland's Minister Brown and his delegates in promoting cultural ties throughout the world.

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

Res. No. 140 – Hon. D. Dexter, Premier – congratulating Brian Flinn and his wife, Tana, on the birth of their son, who was born last night.

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

NOTICES OF MOTION

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

Res. No. 141 – Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – acknowledging April 6th as Tartan Day, as well the Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia for their efforts in keeping our Scottish culture alive.

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

notice was waived and the motion carried nem con.

Res. No. 142 – A. MacLeod, Cape Breton West – extending our sincere condolences to the family on the passing of Hugh Tweedie.

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

Res. No. 143 – Hon. C. d'Entremont, Argyle – extending our condolences to Michael Jeffrey Doucette's family and friends.

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

Res. No. 144 – E. Orrell, Cape Breton North – congratulating the community, staff and everyone who helped make the fundraising for the Northside Community Guest Home Gala 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. 145 – Z. Churchill, Yarmouth – congratulating the Red Cap Restaurant Bantam A Female Mariners on their impressive hockey season and championship win.

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

Res. No. 146 – A. McMaster, Inverness – congratulating the Port Hawkesbury Veterans Memorial Park Society for building a park recognizing the veterans.

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

Res. No. 147 – E. Orrell, Cape Breton North – recognizing Tartan Day as a day to show appreciation for heritage.

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

On motion, Hon. F. Corbett, Government House Leader, called the

following Resolution:

Res. No. 39 – Estimates: CWH on Supply – Referral

The debate resumed with the following: D. Whalen and Hon. J. Baillie. There being no further debate, the Estimates were ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House on Supply.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House to meet Monday, April 8th at 4:00 P.M.

NOTICES OF MOTION UNDER RULE 32

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

Res. No. 148 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Matthew Scott for being chosen as December 2012 Student of the Month.

Res. No. 149 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Andee Weatherby on being selected as December 2012 Student of the Month at North Colchester High School.

Res. No. 150 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Ashley Redmond on being selected as Student of the Month at North Colchester High School.

Res. No. 151 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Colin MacDonald on being selected as Student of the Month at North Colchester High School.

Res. No. 152 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Colton Mardian on being selected as Student of the Month at North Colchester High School.

Res. No. 153 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating DJ Joudrie on being selected as Student of the Month at North Colchester High School.

Res. No. 154 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Keelie Bennett on being selected as Student of the Month at North Colchester High School.

Res. No. 155 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Megan Waugh on being selected as Student of the Month at North Colchester High School.

Res. No. 156 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Raven Kersey on being selected as Student of the Month at North Colchester High School.

Res. No. 157 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Sara Langille on being selected as Student of the Month at North Colchester High School.

Res. No. 158 – A. Younger, Dartmouth East – joining Nova Scotians of Scottish descent and wishing them well for this year's Tartan Day celebrations.