The House met at 2:00 P.M.

Prayers.

PRESENTING AND READING PETITIONS

A. MacMaster, Inverness, tabled a petition asking that the Crowdis Bridge replacement be made a priority.

Z. Churchill, Yarmouth, tabled a petition asking for a permanent upgrade to the road at Lake George, Norwood and Lake Annis.

J. Boudreau, Guysborough-Sheet Harbour, tabled a petition for the elimination of Toadfish Lakes Patch 419 from protected land selection process.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Hon. F. Corbett, Deputy Premier, rose to make a statement in tribute to the late Rita McNeil who passed away today.

Comments were made by G. MacLellan and A. MacLeod.

A moment of silence was observed.

Hon. P. Paris, Minister of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism, rose to make a statement about the appointment of an independent group to promote tourism in the Southwest of the Province and the effort to find an operator for a new Yarmouth Ferry.

Comments were made by Z. Churchill and Hon. C. d'Entremont.

Hon. D. Dexter, Premier, rose to make a statement about the Province's energy infrastructure, including the development of a west to east oil pipeline.

Comments were made by Hon. S. McNeil and Hon. J. Baillie.

Hon. D. Wilson, Minister of Health and Wellness, rose to make a statement about improvements in access to health care and the government's Better Care Sooner program.

Comments were made by L. Glavine and Hon. C. d'Entremont.

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Hon. S. Belliveau, Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture, rose to make a statement about parks and protected areas plan and public consultations.

Comments were made by A. Younger and C. Porter.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The following bill was introduced by the following Member, read a first and ordered to be read a second time on a future day:

No. 50. An Act to Amend Chapter 160 of the Revised Statutes, 1989, the Maintenance and Custody Act

(K. Bain – Victoria-The Lakes)

GOVERNMENT NOTICES OF MOTION

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

Res. No. 377 – Hon. D. Dexter, Premier – celebrating the impact Rita MacNeil has made on our province and country.

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

Res. No. 378 – Hon. D. Dexter, Premier – recognizing the incredible life of Ben McCrea, a leader in development and economic growth and a proud Nova Scotian.

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

A moment of silence was observed.

Res. No. 379 – Hon. D. Wilson, Minister of Health and Wellness – recognizing this week as Reflexology Therapy Week.

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

Res. No. 380 – Hon. P. Paris, Minister of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism – congratulating Events Nova Scotia on being

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nominated for Canada Sports Tourism Alliance Prestige Award.

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

Res. No. 381 – Hon. R. Jennex, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development – congratulating Kendra Lemke and Meredith Faulkner on their International Space Station experiment and encouraging our students and young people to reach for the sky.

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

Res. No. 382 – Hon. L. Preyra, Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage – extending our sympathy and support to family and friends of Raymond Taavel on the 1st anniversary of his death.

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

A moment of silence was observed.

Res. No. 383 – Hon. D. Wilson, Minister of Health and Wellness – congratulating Pubnico and Belle-Île-en-Mer, France on the 10th anniversary of the twinning of their communities.

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

Res. No. 384 – Hon. M. Smith, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, on behalf of the Hon. L. Preyra, Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage – celebrating Pictou and Antigonish Regional Library's launching of a new online program – NovaStory.ca.

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. 385 – K. Regan, Bedford-Birch Cove – remembering the late Raymond Taavel.

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

Res. No. 386 – A. MacLeod, Cape Breton West – sending our condolences to the family and friends of Rita MacNeil as we mourn the loss of one of Canada's finest songstresses.

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

Res. No. 387 – Hon. M. Smith, Antigonish – congratulating Radio Station 98.9, the Niche-XFM, on 70 successful years.

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

Res. No. 388 - K. Regan, Bedford-Birch Cove – acknowledging today as Equality Day and extending appreciation to those who worked for repatriation.

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

Res. No. 389 - E. Orrell, Cape Breton North, on behalf of K. Bain, Victoria-The Lakes – reflecting on the anniversary of the death of Raymond Taavel and what has been accomplished.

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

Res. No. 390 – Hon. Maureen MacDonald, Halifax Needham – remembering Raymond Taavel on this anniversary of his death and sending our thoughts to the community of Halifax Needham.

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

Res. No. 391 – Hon. J. Baillie, Cumberland South – sending our condolences to family and friends of Ben McCrea on his passing.

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

Res. No. 392 - Hon. J. MacDonell, Hants East - congratulating

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(Malcolm) Mac Noble on receiving the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and thanking him for 52 years of service with the community.

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

Res. No. 393 – J. Boudreau, Guysborough-Sheet Harbour – reminding the Member for Annapolis that Nova Scotia law prohibits use of their tainted trust fund dollars for any political purpose.

Res. No. 394 – B. Kent, Cole Harbour-Eastern Passage – congratulating Dorothy "Dot" White on her retirement from "The Beacon" after 10 years of dedicated service.

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

Res. No. 395 – V. Conrad, Queens – recognizing Doreen Holdright for her many contributions to her community through volunteering.

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

Res. No. 396 – C. MacKinnon, Pictou East – congratulating the Bank of Nova Scotia in Westville on their 125^{th} year of operation.

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

Res. No. 397 - H. Epstein, Halifax Chebucto – demanding the explanation from the Liberal Party of where the tainted trust fund money has been spent.

Res. No. 398 – B. Kent, Cole Harbour-Eastern Passage – congratulating the Dartmouth United Soccer Club U-12 boys teams for their success at the East Hants Soccer Tournament.

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

Res. No. 399 – Hon. B. Estabrooks, Timberlea-Prospect – congratulating Hannah Miles on her award and representing Nova Scotia in the Lethbridge, Alberta, Science Fair.

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

Res. No. 400 - S. Prest, Eastern Shore – asking the Liberal Party to explain to Nova Scotians why this money was transferred to another Party unrestricted account and what it was used for.

Res. No. 401 - C. MacKinnon, Pictou East – congratulating Neil Kenney for his 37 years of work in forestry, his commitment to proper forest management and willingness to work with other entities for the betterment of the forestry.

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

Res. No. 402 - M. Whynott, Hammonds Plains-Upper Sackville – congratulating the students of Millwood High School on the success of their production of "Grease".

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

Res. No. 403 – J. Morton, Kings North – congratulating Summit Hyundai Valley Wildcats for winning the Atlantic Major Midget Hockey Championship 2012-13.

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

Res. No. 404 – Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – extending our condolences to Ben McCrea's wife and children on his passing.

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

Res. No. 405 - P. Birdsall, Lunenburg – congratulating Donna and Andy on receiving the Children's Music Award at the East Coast Music Association.

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

Res. No. 406 – A. Younger, Dartmouth East – stating the NDP had accepted illegal donations in their 2009 election and told Nova Scotians

they had returned them.

Res. No. 407 – Hon. M. Smith, Antigonish – applauding the work of the Crime Prevention Health Relationships for Youth Program.

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

Res. No. 408 – V. Conrad, Queens – congratulating Kaitlin Scott for her many contributions to her community through her volunteerism.

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

Res. No. 409 – J. Boudreau, Guysborough-Sheet Harbour – congratulating Courtney Cameron on receiving the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

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

Res. No. 410 – J. Morton, Kings North – congratulating T.A.N. Coffee in Kentville for its achievements in being named the Valley's Best Coffee Shop for 2013.

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

Res. No. 411 – P. Birdsall, Lunenburg – commending Cassandra Zinck on being chosen to participate in seamanship deployment.

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

Res. No. 412 - L. Zann, Truro-Bible Hill – asking the Liberal Party Leader to admit to tainted trust fund money and his shell game in 2009.

Res. No. 413 - K. Colwell, Preston – stating the Premier used taxpayers' money to pay his Barristers' fees and asking for his apology.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Hon. M. Samson, House Leader of the Official Opposition, called the following bill:

No. 1. Accountability in Economic Development Assistance Act

A debate ensued during which the following took part: L. Glavine, P. Birdsall, C. Porter and K. Colwell. The debate was deemed to be adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House to meet Thursday, April 18th at 12:00 Noon.

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 J. Boudreau, Guysborough-Sheet Harbour:

"Therefore be it resolved that the Liberal Party Leader and the Liberal caucus explain to all Nova Scotians why their Party transferred \$365,000 from the questionable trust funds gained during years of Liberal patronage and kickbacks into the Liberal election effort just before new legislation prohibiting this took effect, and what the money was used for."

A debate ensued during which the following took part: J. Boudreau, Z. Churchill and Hon. C. d'Entremont.

NOTICES OF MOTION UNDER RULE 32

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

Res. No. 414 - C. Porter, Hants West – recognizing the efforts of Chris Spencer and on receiving the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Res. No. 415 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Crystal Slack of the Great Village and District Fire Brigade on receiving her 10-year Long-Term Service Award.

Res. No. 416 - Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating David Slack of the Great Village and District Fire Brigade on receiving his 15-year Long-Term Service Award.

Res. No. 417 - Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North - congratulating

Douglas Congdon of the Great Village and District Fire Brigade on receiving the Claude O'Brien Memorial Award for 2012.

Res. No. 418 - Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Drew Lundie of the Great Village and District Fire Brigade on receiving the Junior Firefighter Award for 2012.

Res. No. 419 - Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Janet Harrington of the Great Village and District Fire Brigade on receiving the award for Firefighter of the Year for 2012.

Res. No. 420 - Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Jeremy Smith of the Great Village and District Fire Brigade on receiving the award for the Most Improved Firefighter for 2012.

Res. No. 421 - Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Joe Slack of the Great Village and District Fire Brigade on receiving the award for Officer of the Year for 2012.

Res. No. 422 - Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Pat Flemming of the Great Village and District Fire Brigade on receiving his 5-year Long-Service Award.

Res. No. 423 – Hon. K. Casey, Colchester North – congratulating Lowland Gardens, owned by Gerri and Toni van den Hoek, on receiving the Steve Francis Memorial Award for 2012.

Res. No. 424 – Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Lauren Wentzell and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 425 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Julie Theisen and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 426 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Erica Theisen and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 427 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Kelsey Charlton and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 428 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis - congratulating Sage

Dixon and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 429 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Maridith Brown and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 430 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Emma Gillespie and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 431 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Sydney Smith and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 432 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Tara Armstrong and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 433 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Jenn Adams and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 434 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Kyra Britney and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 435 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Toni Jewer-Pineau and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 436 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Eden Burke and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 437 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Coach Greg Bower and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.

Res. No. 438 - Hon. S. McNeil, Annapolis – congratulating Coach Nick Baskwill and the Middleton Monarchs on their well-deserved victory as Division 3 Provincial Champions in basketball.