

At the hour of 11:00 A.M. this day, His Honour the Honourable J.J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Nova Scotia, came to the Chamber of the House of Assembly and, seated in the Speaker's Chair, was pleased to prorogue this, the First Session of the Sixty-second General Assembly with the following speech:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the House of Assembly, in closing this, the First Session of the Sixty-second General Assembly, I thank you for the attention, consideration and care you have given to the legislation and measures that have come before you.

During the last session government continued to fulfill its commitments to Nova Scotians. It made good on its promises to remove the efficiency tax from power bills, eliminate the interest on Nova Scotia student loans, modernize the apprenticeship system, reinvest in the school system, and reinstate ferry service between Yarmouth and the northeastern United States.

Government brought in legislation to guarantee essential care for Nova Scotians during a strike or lock-out affecting health care, seniors' homes, youth, or people with special needs, and tabled a budget to encourage private sector economic growth.

Other highlights from the session included giving small businesses better access to loans with an improved Credit Union Small Business Loan Guarantee Program, investing in children and families with Family Resource Centre funding, changes to the Nova Scotia Child Benefit, creating a new direction for economic development so the private sector will drive the economy, beginning to reorganize the province's health authorities, and working to reduce wait times for orthopaedic surgery.

Twenty-seven bills received the approval of the House during the session.

I thank you for the ample provision you have made for the Public Service, and I assure you that care and prudence will be exercised to ensure that the amounts voted are expended in the best interests of Nova Scotia.

I now bid you farewell.”

Hon. S. McNeil, Premier, then said:

“Mr. Speaker, and members of the House of Assembly, it is the will and pleasure of His Honour, the Lieutenant Governor, that this, the

First Session of the Sixty-second General Assembly be prorogued and this session is accordingly prorogued, and that the Second Session of the said General Assembly meet at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon of this day for the dispatch of business."

His Honour was then pleased to retire and the Speaker withdrew.

The House rose at 11:17 A.M.

Neil R. Ferguson
Chief Clerk, House of Assembly