

Prince Edward Island

Daily Journal for the
Legislative Assembly for
Friday, December 8, 2006

The House met at 10:00 a.m.

PRAYERS

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Journals:

Journals for Wednesday, December 6, 2006 were adopted by the House without amendment.

Doors were opened

Matters of Privilege:

There were none.

Statements by Members:

10:12 Fred McCardle (Borden-Kinkora) made a Statement congratulating Nathan McIver on his NHL debut.

Olive Crane (Morell-Fortune Bay) made a Statement on the Matinee Racetrack Development Project, in particular the Central Kings Driving Park.

10:15 Carolyn Bertram (Crapaud-Hazel Grove) made a Statement recognizing the C.H.A.N.C.E.S. Family Resource Center.

10:17 Questions by Members:

Statements by Ministers:

10:58 Honourable Jamie Ballem (Environment, Energy and Forestry) made a Statement announcing the PEI Energy Savings Bonds program.

11:00 Richard Brown (Charlottetown-Kings Square) added his comments.

11:01 Honourable Premier made a Statement on the 2006 Premier's Award for Diversity Leadership.

11:03 Honourable Leader of the Opposition added his comments.

11:05 Honourable Premier made a Statement on an announcement later today of future expansion of the Charlottetown Airport

Honourable Leader of the Opposition added his comments.

Presenting and Receiving Petitions:

There were none.

Tabling of Documents:

Carolyn Bertram (Crapaud-Hazel Grove) tabled various articles regarding a new Tourism Accommodation Levy: correspondence from various hotel/motel operators and Minister of Tourism, a Memorandum of Understanding, press release, briefing document and excerpt from the *Tourism Industry Act*.

Reports by Committees:

There were none.

Introduction of Government Bills:

The following Bill was introduced and read a First Time:

An Act to Amend the Certified Fisheries Organizations Funding Act (Bill No. 20) by Honourable Jim Bagnall (Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture).

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS:

Honourable Chester Gillan moved, seconded by Eva Rodgerson, the following Motion for a Resolution (Motion No. 22):

WHEREAS through a region-wide consultation process, the West Prince community expressed a high degree of support to establish a single new acute care hospital, centrally located between the two existing hospitals as a means to stabilize delivery of acute care services in West Prince;

AND WHEREAS the Western Community Hospital Board, the Community Hospital Board, and Community Hospital Auxiliary and Foundation supported the single hospital concept;

AND WHEREAS the single hospital concept will provide a more attractive working environment by reducing overtime hours and staff burnout by ensuring enough staff is available to cover sick leave, vacation time, and professional development leave;

AND WHEREAS physicians and staff indicated that a single hospital will improve the on-call system for nurses and doctors, thus reducing the workload and strain on our valued healthcare staff in West Prince;

AND WHEREAS almost 1200 individuals participated in the consultation process which included six private stakeholder meetings and six public forums. There were also four formal, written submissions and 109 further responses were submitted through e-mails, a

toll free telephone line, an informative web-site, and mail-in responses;

AND WHEREAS the West Prince Chamber of Commerce expressed support for the single hospital concept;

AND WHEREAS the government has already indicated that the Community Hospital and Western Hospital will continue to be utilized by the province's health care delivery system for the provision of long-term care;

AND WHEREAS in January, 2006, the physicians at both hospitals passed a resolution to fully support the single hospital concept, and the majority of staff at both hospitals also expressed support for this concept;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Members of the Legislative Assembly support the establishment of one hospital, centrally located between the two existing hospitals, in West Prince.

Debate was commenced by Honourable Gail Shea (Transportation and Public Works) (11:13); continued by the Seconder (11:20); Honourable Premier (11:42); Honourable Leader of the Opposition (11:50); Cletus Dunn (Government House Leader) (12:02); and, on his Motion, debate was adjourned.

ORDERS OF THE DAY - GOVERNMENT:

12:10 The following Bill was further considered by a Committee of the Whole House:

POLICE ACT (Bill No. 10)

Promoter: Honourable Mildred Dover

Chair: Dr. David McKenna

After some time spent therein, Honourable Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and the Chairperson reported Progress and begged leave to sit again to which the House agreed.

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

ADJOURNMENT:

1:00 On Motion of Cletus Dunn (Government House Leader), seconded by Olive Crane (Morell-Fortune Bay), the House adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2006.

Charles H. MacKay
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly