

Prince Edward Island

Daily Journal for the
Legislative Assembly for
Tuesday, December 12, 2006

The House met at 2:00 p.m.

PRAYERS

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Journals:

Journals for Thursday, December 7, 2006 were adopted by the House without amendment.

Doors were opened

Matters of Privilege:

There were none.

Statements by Members:

2:07 Helen MacDonald (St. Eleanors-Summerside) made a Statement on the 10th anniversary of Summerside Intermediate School's Breakfast Buddies program.

2:09 Eva Rodgeron (West Point-Bloomfield) made a Statement on the West Prince Caring Cupboard program.

Carolyn Bertram (Crapaud-Hazel Grove) made a Statement on the room tax issue and enabling legislation introduced this session.

2:13 Questions by Members:

Statements by Ministers:

2:55 Honourable Elmer MacFadyen (Community and Cultural Affairs) made a Statement on the 40th anniversary of the Canada Winter Games being held in Whitehorse, Yukon in 2007.

2:57 Carolyn Bertram (Crapaud-Hazel Grove) added her comments.

2:58 Honourable Mildred Dover (Education and Attorney General) made a Statement on the *Floral Hills Memorial Gardens Administration Act* to be introduced later today.

3:03 Carolyn Bertram (Crapaud-Hazel Grove) added her comments.

3:05 Honourable Philip Brown (Tourism) made a Statement on the new eastern coastal touring drive.

3:07 Carolyn Bertram (Crapaud-Hazel Grove) added her comments.

Presenting and Receiving Petitions:

There were none.

Tabling of Documents:

There were none.

Reports by Committees:

There were none.

Introduction of Government Bills:

The following Bills were introduced and read a First Time:

An Act to Amend the Dog Act (Bill No. 24) by Honourable Jim Bagnall (Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture).

Floral Hills Memorial Gardens Administration Act (Bill No. 23) by Honourable Mildred Dover (Attorney General).

An Act to Amend the Highway Traffic Act (Bill No. 27) by Honourable Gail Shea (Transportation and Public Works).

Appropriation (Capital Expenditures) Act 2007 (Bill No. 21) by Honourable Mitch Murphy (Provincial Treasurer).

An Act to Amend the Long-Term Care Subsidization Act (Bill No. 25) by Honourable Chester Gillan (Health).

An Act to Amend the Public Health Act (Bill No. 26) by Honourable Chester Gillan (Health).

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS:

Honourable Premier handed a Message from Her Honour, the Honourable Barbara A. Hagerman, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Prince Edward Island, transmitting Supplementary Estimates of Expenditures to Honourable Mr. Speaker, who asked the Clerk Assistant to read the same to the House as follows:

“Honourable Gregory J. Deighan, MLA
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Province House, Charlottetown
Prince Edward Island

Her Honour, the Honourable Barbara A. Hagerman, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Prince Edward Island, hereby transmits Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure that were required to carry on the public services of the Province for the fiscal year ending 31

March 2006 and for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2007.

In accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, the Prince Edward Island Terms of Union, 1873, and the *Financial Administration Act*, Her Honour recommends the same to the Legislative Assembly.

Commended by

W. Alexander (Sandy) Stewart
Clerk of the Executive Council

Honourable Barbara A. Hagerman
Lieutenant Governor

At Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
this 5th day of December, 2006"

By Command of Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Honourable Premier presented to the House Supplementary Estimates of Expenditures for the Province of Prince Edward Island for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2006 and for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2007.

Honourable Premier moved, seconded by Honourable Mitch Murphy (Provincial Treasurer), that consideration of the Supplementary Estimates in Committee of the Whole House be added to the Orders of the Day until such time as they are despatched, to which the House agreed.

Honourable Mitch Murphy (Provincial Treasurer) sought, and received, consent of the House to revert to

Introduction of Government Bills:

The following Bill was introduced and read a First Time:

Supplementary Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2006 (Bill No. 22) by Honourable Mitch Murphy (Provincial Treasurer).

ORDERS OF THE DAY - GOVERNMENT:

3:20 Honourable Mitch Murphy (Provincial Treasurer) moved, seconded by Honourable Premier, that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to take into consideration Capital Estimates to be granted to Her Majesty.

The House resolved itself into the said Committee, Andy Mooney (Souris-Elmira) took the Chair of the Committee, which considered the Capital Estimates which were required to carry on the public services of the Province of Prince Edward Island for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008, and also until the passage of the Capital Estimates for the fiscal year ending 31 March, 2009.

After some time spent therein, Honourable Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and the Chairperson reported that the Committee had gone into Capital Estimates to be granted to

Her Majesty and had come to certain resolutions thereon, which said resolutions he was directed to report to the House whenever it should be pleased to receive the same.

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be now received.

The said Resolutions were severally read at the Clerk's Table and are as follows:

RESOLVED, that the following sums be granted and placed at the disposal of the Crown.

(CAPITAL ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURES ARE PRINTED AS APPENDIX G, Page ???)

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

Honourable Mitch Murphy (Provincial Treasurer) sought, and received, unanimous consent for more than one Reading in one day of Bill No. 21, **Appropriation (Capital Expenditures) Act 2007**.

The following Bill was then read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of the Whole House:

APPROPRIATION (CAPITAL EXPENDITURES) ACT 2007 (Bill No. 21)

Promoter: Honourable Mitch Murphy
Chair: Andy Mooney

After some time spent therein, Honourable Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and the Chairperson reported the Bill agreed to without amendment.

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted

4:40 The following Bill was read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of the Whole House:

AN ACT TO AMEND THE MUNICIPALITIES ACT (Bill No. 16)

Promoter: Honourable Elmer MacFadyen
Chair: Wayne Collins

After some time spent therein, Honourable Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and the Chairperson reported the Bill agreed to without amendment.

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted

4:55 The following Bill was read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of the Whole House:

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PLANNING ACT (Bill No. 17)

Promoter: Honourable Elmer MacFadyen
Chair: Olive Crane

After some time spent therein, Honourable Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and the Chairperson reported the Bill agreed to without amendment.

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted

5:00 Honourable Mr. Speaker declared recess until 7:00 p.m.

7:00 P.M.

Motions Other Than Government:

Carolyn Bertram moved, seconded by Honourable Robert Ghiz, the following Motion for a Resolution (Motion No. 29):

WHEREAS Prince Edward Island's National Park is a vital part of our province's natural heritage;

AND WHEREAS thousands of visitors from Prince Edward Island, Canada and the world cherish the natural beauty of our National Park;

AND WHEREAS the National Park helps to attract many visitors to our Island;

AND WHEREAS the cost of a day pass for adults has risen by 15 per cent in the last year to \$6.90;

AND WHEREAS the cost of a day pass for families has risen 15 per cent in the last year to \$17.30;

AND WHEREAS the cost of a day pass for seniors has risen more than 18 per cent in the last year to \$5.90;

AND WHEREAS Parks Canada reported in September of this year that park entrances were down 15 per cent from 2005;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island insist that the Conservative government in Ottawa include a reduction in park entrance fees as part of a broader initiative to assist the province's tourism industry.

7:02 Debate was commenced by the Mover; continued by the Seconder (7:15); and Honourable Philip Brown (Tourism) (7:19); who moved, seconded by Honourable Premier, the following amendment:

Delete the final operative clause and substitute the following:

AND WHEREAS the Premier has, with the support of the Tourism Industry Association of Prince Edward Island, written to the Prime Minister to present the case for adjustments in the fee structure for entrance into National Parks;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly support the Premier and the Tourism Industry Association of Prince Edward Island in their efforts to have the Government of Canada restructure Canada's National Parks entrance fee to allow for greater access for all Islanders and tourists.

Debate on the amendment was continued by the Seconder; Carolyn Bertram (Crapaud-Hazel Grove) (7:45); and Honourable Leader of the Opposition (7:48).

There being no further debate on the amendment, Honourable Mr. Speaker put the Question on the amendment which was **CARRIED**.

Debate on the Main Motion, as amended, was resumed by Honourable Mitch Murphy (Provincial Treasurer) (7:50); and Honourable Leader of the Opposition (7:51).

7:55 There being no further speakers on the Main Motion, as amended, the Mover then closed the debate.

Honourable Mr. Speaker put the Question on the Main Motion, as amended, which was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and resolved accordingly.

8:00 Carolyn Bertram moved, seconded by Richard Brown, the following Motion for a Resolution (Motion No. 26):

WHEREAS the Prince Edward Island Museum and Heritage Foundation has become an essential part of our community and the preservation of our history;

AND WHEREAS the Foundation operates seven provincial museums and heritage sites;

AND WHEREAS the Foundation maintains a record of our fishing, shipbuilding, agricultural, social and cultural history;

AND WHEREAS there is a stated need for a provincial museum to coordinate the work of other facilities and offer a central location for the celebration of our heritage;

AND WHEREAS the chair of the Museum and Heritage Foundation, Satadal Dasgupta said "The Board (of the Foundation) continues to discuss its hope of acquiring an appropriate home for the provincial collection and dreams of establishing a provincial museum where much of the Island history presently housed in our 'artifactory' could be presented and interpreted to the public";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly endorse the concept of a provincial museum and urge the government to begin planning as soon as possible.

8:00 Debate was commenced by the Mover; continued by the Seconder (8:16); Honourable Elmer MacFadyen (Community and Cultural Affairs) (8:19); Honourable Mitch Murphy (Provincial Treasurer) (8:35); and, on his Motion, debate was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT:

9:00 On Motion of Cletus Dunn (Government House Leader), seconded by Wes MacAleer (Charlottetown-Spring Park), the House adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 13, 2006.

Charles H. MacKay
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly