

THURSDAY, 15 APRIL 2010

The House met at 2:00 p.m.

Prayers

Routine Proceedings

Journals

Journals for Tuesday 13 April 2010, were adopted by the House without amendment.

Doors were opened

Matters of Privilege

None

Statements by Members

2:17 Bush Dumville (West Royalty-Springvale) made a Statement on the opening of the 2010 angling season on Prince Edward Island.

2:19 Robert Henderson (O'Leary-Inverness) made a Statement on the Maple Leaf Curling Club.

2:20 Jim Bagnall (Montague-Kilmuir) made a Statement on a benefit for fire victims in the Montague area.

2:22

Questions by Members

Statements by Ministers

3:03 Hon. Premier made a Statement update on government's commitment to the Acadian and Francophone community.

3:07 Hon. Richard Brown (Environment, Energy and Forestry) made a Statement on the opening of the 2010 fishing season.

3:08 Hon. Ron MacKinley (Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal) made a Statement on the Net Metering Initiative project.

3:10 Hon. Doug Currie (Education, Early Childhood Development and Attorney General) made a Statement on opportunities for students in the Theatre Arts.

Hon. Carolyn Bertram (Health and Wellness) made a Statement recognizing participants at the Sport PEI awards.

Presenting and Receiving Petitions

None

Tabling of Documents

Robert Mitchell (Charlottetown-Sherwood) tabled, by Leave, a Petition opposing the relocation of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal's body and paint ship to Western PEI.

3:16 Hon. Carolyn Bertram (Health and Wellness) tabled a news release regarding development of electronic health records, dated January 10, 2006; excerpt from Hansard, dated December 12, 2006; selection without competition policy; list of contracts issued through ITSS; and Memorandum of Agreements re electronic health records.

Reports by Committees

Jim Bagnall (Montague-Kilmuir), Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, presented a Report of the said Committee on Activities of the Committee.

(See Appendix L, Page ???)

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be received and adopted.

Introduction of Government Bills

Bills introduced and read a First Time:

Labour Mobility Act (Bill No. 38) by Hon. Allan Campbell (Innovation and Advanced Learning).

An Act to Amend the Apprenticeship and Trades Qualification Act (Bill No. 39) by Hon. Allan Campbell (Innovation and Advanced Learning).

3:21 **An Act to Amend the Charlottetown Area Municipalities Act** (Bill No. 40) by Hon. Wes Sheridan (Finance and Municipal Affairs).

Motions Other than Government

Jim Bagnall moved, seconded by Hon. Olive Crane, the following Motion (Motion No. 52):

WHEREAS the lobster fishing industry is of critical importance to the Island economy;

AND WHEREAS Island lobster fishers rely on fair pricing in order to sustain their business and compete in the marketplace;

AND WHEREAS the lobster fishing industry in Prince Edward Island is facing a crisis in regards to low pricing;

AND WHEREAS the P.E.I. Fishermen's Association has proven that lobster sold to processors in other areas of the Atlantic region have yielded higher prices than what lobster sold to processors on P.E.I. have yielded;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Members of this Legislative Assembly recognize the socio-economic importance of the lobster industry to Prince Edward Island;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Members of this Legislative Assembly encourage government to immediately enact legislation that would ensure licensed Island buyers are required to pay the same price for Island lobster as other licensed buyers in the region.

Debate was commenced by the Mover (3:24); continued by the Seconder (3:42); and Hon. Neil LeClair (Fisheries, Aquaculture and Rural Development) (4:13); who moved, seconded by Hon. Robert Vessey (Tourism and Culture), the following amendment:

Insert the following clauses after the fourth Whereas clause:

AND WHEREAS fishers and seafood processors at the PEI Lobster Industry Roundtable have raised the priority to examine a fair and equitable shore price mechanism that could benefit fishers and processors in Prince Edward Island;

AND WHEREAS a study was completed in 1999 to examine mechanisms that could be put in place but the options presented in the review were largely not acted upon;

AND WHEREAS the PEI Fishermen's Association and the PEI Seafood Processors Association have called upon the provincial government to support another review of pricing mechanisms for possible implementation by the PEI lobster fishery;

Delete the final operative clause and replace with the following:

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Members of the Legislative Assembly encourage government to support a review of lobster price setting mechanisms and involve representatives of the PEI Fishermen's Association and PEI Seafood Processors Association in its development.

Debate on the amendment was continued by Hon. Premier (4:25); Charles McGeoghegan (Belfast-Murray River) (4:27); Jim Bagnall (Montague-Kilmuir) (4:32); Hon. Ron MacKinley (Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal) (4:47); and, on his Motion, debate was adjourned.

5:00 Hon. Madam Speaker declared recess until 7:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Government Motions

None

Orders of the Day [Government]

7:01 The following Bill was read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of the Whole House:

GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION ACT (Bill No. 35)

Promoter: Hon. Robert Ghiz

Chair: Gerard Greenan

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

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

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

STATISTICS ACT (Bill No. 36)

Promoter: Hon. Wes Sheridan

Chair: Robert Mitchell

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

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

Hon. Wes Sheridan (Finance and Municipal Affairs), sought, and received, consent of the House to revert to

Government Motions

Hon. George Webster moved, seconded by Robert Henderson, the following Motion (Motion No. 27):

WHEREAS the Alternate Land Use Services (ALUS) program provides financial compensation to farmers and landowners for the contributions they make to help protect the quality of Prince Edward Island's soil, air and water resources and to enhance wildlife habitat;

AND WHEREAS Prince Edward Island is the first jurisdiction in Canada to offer the program on a province-wide basis;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has allocated \$1 million a year over five years in support of the program;

AND WHEREAS the contributions made by farmers and landowners provide environmental benefits to all of society;

AND WHEREAS farmers and landowners have made significant investments in on-farm conservation projects that meet and exceed environmental standards;

AND WHEREAS the ALUS program supports and complements the efforts of watershed management groups;

AND WHEREAS Prince Edward Island farmers and landowners are leading the way in the adoption of environmentally responsible land use practices;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island go on record as commending the provincial government for the support it provides to farmers and landowners under the ALUS program for the adoption of sound stewardship practices;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly recognizes and commends farmers and landowners for their efforts to protect and enhance the quality of the environment.

Debate was commenced by the Mover (7:31); continued by the Seconder (7:39); Hon. Leader of the Opposition (7:53); Alan McIsaac (Vernon River-Stratford) (7:54); Bush Dumville (West Royalty-Springvale) (8:02); Hon. Allan Campbell (Innovation and Advanced Learning) (8:04); Hon. Wes Sheridan (Finance and Municipal Affairs) (8:10); Hon. Carolyn Bertram (Health and Wellness) (8:15); Paula Biggar (Tyne Valley-Linkletter) (8:22); Hon. Neil LeClair (Fisheries, Aquaculture and Rural Development) (8:25); and Sonny Gallant (Government House Leader) (8:32).

There being no further Speakers, the Mover then closed the debate (8:33).

Hon. Madam Speaker put the Question which was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and resolved accordingly.

Motion No. 18 (Regional Red Meat Industry), being again called, debate was resumed by Alan McIsaac (Vernon River-Stratford) (8:42); continued by Robert Henderson (O'Leary-Inverness) (8:45); Hon. Ron MacKinley (Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal) (8:52); and, on his Motion, debate was adjourned.

Adjournment

9:00 On Motion of Sonny Gallant (Government House Leader), seconded by Bush Dumville (West Royalty-Springvale), the House adjourned until 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 16, 2010.