

JOURNAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

TUESDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2016

The House met at 2:00 p.m.

Prayers

Routine Proceedings

Journals

Journals for Thursday, 1 December, 2016 were adopted by the House without amendment.

Doors were opened

Matters of Privilege

Matthew MacKay (Kensington-Malpeque), rising on a Point of Order and citing a Speaker's Ruling from April 20, 2016, objected to a Government announcement made in Summerside on Tuesday morning and reminded Government that such announcements are to be made in the House while it is in session.

Hon. Mr. Speaker advised that he would take the matter under consideration and report back to the House.

Statements by Members

2:18 Kathleen Casey (Charlottetown-Lewis Point) congratulated Carolyn Bateman on receiving the Order of PEI in recognition of her efforts to raise awareness and advocate for the treatment and education of children with autism.

2:19 Jordan Brown (Charlottetown-Brighton) congratulated Kate Ryan on receiving the Volunteer of the Year Award from Junior Achievement PEI.

2:21 Matthew MacKay (Kensington-Malpeque) recognized Mike and Pam James, owners of Spring Valley Building Centre and O'Leary Building Centre, for their contributions to their community.

2:22

Questions by Members

Statements by Ministers

3:05 Hon. Premier announced the appointment of lawyers Catherine Chaisson and Lisa Louise Goulden as Queen's Counsel.

Hon. Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Third Party added their comments.

3:08 Hon. Heath MacDonald (Economic Development and Tourism) highlighted the opening of a new marine manufacturing facility in Slemon Park that is a partnership between Nautican Research and Development, Babcock Canada and the province.

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3:10 Matthew MacKay (Kensington-Malpeque) and Leader of the Third Party added their comments.

3:12 Hon. Doug Currie (Education, Early Learning and Culture) highlighted progress made by Island students as measured in the latest PISA results.

3:15 Steven Myers (Georgetown-St. Peters) and Leader of the Third Party added their comments.

3:20 Hon. Paula Biggar (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy) highlighted the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women and requested a moment of silence in memory of the 14 women who were killed at the École Polytechnique in Montreal on December 6, 1989.

3:25 Darlene Compton (Belfast-Murray River) and Leader of the Third Party added their comments.

Presenting and Receiving Petitions

3:28 Leader of the Third Party presented to the House a Petition of 316 signatures calling on the Legislative Assembly to urge Government to establish separate cycling paths along the Hillsborough Bridge and the North River Causeway, and to continue to expand the network of cycling paths in order to fully implement the 2012 Regional Active Transportation Plan.

ORDERED, that the Petition be received and lie on the Table.

Tabling of Documents

3:31 Colin Lavie (Souris-Elmira) tabled, by leave, written questions to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Reports by Committees

None

Introduction of Government Bills

None

Government Motions

None

Orders of the Day (Government)

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

AN ACT TO AMEND THE EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS ACT (NO. 2) (Bill No. 56)

Promoter: Hon. Premier
Chair: Hal Perry

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After some time spent therein, Hon. 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.

3:51 The following Bill was read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of the Whole House:

AN ACT TO REPEAL THE STORE HOURS ACT (Bill No. 55)

Promoter: Hon. Premier
Chair: Jordan Brown

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

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

Hon. Alan McIsaac (Agriculture and Fisheries) moved, seconded by Hon. Allen Roach (Finance), that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to further consider Capital Estimates to be granted to Her Majesty.

The House resolved itself into the said Committee, Kathleen Casey (Charlottetown-Lewis Point) took the Chair of the Committee, which further 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, 2018, and also until the passage of the Capital Estimates for the fiscal year ending 31 March, 2019.

Hon. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and the Chairperson reported progress and asked leave to sit again, to which the House agreed.

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

7:00 p.m.

Motions Other Than Government

Motion No. 72 (Calling for the elimination of the five year provincial requirement for a school review process) being again called, debate was resumed by Hon. Robert Mitchell (Communities, Land and Environment) (7:03); Hal Perry (Tignish-Palmer Road) (7:06); and Chris Palmer (Summerside-Wilmot) (7:08).

There being no further speakers, the Mover (Steven Myers, Georgetown-St. Peters) closed the debate.

Hon. Mr. Speaker put the Question. A Recorded Division being sought, the Clerk Assistant recorded the names as follows:

Nays (13)

Hon. Richard Brown (Workforce and Advanced Learning)

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Hon. Paula Biggar (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy)
Hon. Premier
Hon. Alan McIsaac (Agriculture and Fisheries)
Hon. Doug Currie (Education, Early Learning and Culture)
Bush Dumville (West Royalty-Springvale)
Pat Murphy (Alberton-Roseville)
Hon. Robert Mitchell (Communities, Land and Environment)
Sonny Gallant (Government House Leader)
Kathleen Casey (Charlottetown-Lewis Point)
Hal Perry (Tignish-Palmer Road)
Chris Palmer (Summerside-Wilmot)
Jordan Brown (Charlottetown-Brighton)

Yeas (8)

Leader of the Third Party
Hon. Leader of the Opposition
Matthew MacKay (Kensington-Malpeque)
James Aylward (Stratford-Kinlock)
Bradley G. Trivers (Rustico-Emerald)
Darlene Compton (Belfast-Murray River)
Steven Myers (Georgetown-St. Peters)
Colin LaVie (Souris-Elmira)

Motion resolved in the Negative.

Matthew MacKay (Kensington-Malpeque) moved, seconded by Darlene Compton (Belfast-Murray River), the following Motion (No. 61):

WHEREAS today's students are now accessing various forms of credit cards, bank accounts, online banking and debit cards;

AND WHEREAS many students lack the financial literacy to understand the terminology in their financial dealings in terms of loans, weekly pay checks, bills and budgets;

AND WHEREAS students face financial challenges upon their entry into college/university relating to household budgets, bill payments and savings;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly encourage government to ensure that Island students are given access to courses that teach financial terminology and budgeting as it impacts on day-to-day living in today's complex society.

Debate was commenced by the Mover (7:28); continued by the Seconder (7:35); Hon. Doug Currie (Education, Early Learning and Culture) (7:43); Hon. Richard Brown (Workforce and Advanced Learning) (7:49); Bradley G. Trivers (Rustico-Emerald) (7:50); Leader of the Third Party (7:56); Jordan Brown (Charlottetown-Brighton) (8:00); and Bush Dumville (West Royalty-Springvale) (8:02).

There being no further speakers, the Mover (Matthew MacKay, Kensington-Malpeque) closed the debate.

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Hon. Mr. Speaker put the Question.

Motion was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and resolved accordingly.

Jordan Brown (Charlottetown-Brighton) moved, seconded by Kathleen Casey (Charlottetown-Lewis Point), the following Motion (No. 85):

WHEREAS the idea of Canada was born at the Charlottetown Conference of 1864;

AND WHEREAS the “Confederation Birthplace Act” was passed by this Legislative Assembly in 1992 (repealed by 2002, c.23, s.1);

AND WHEREAS former Member of Parliament George Proud unsuccessfully sought to have a Private Member’s bill entitled “Commemoration of the Birthplace of Confederation Act” passed by the House of Commons;

AND WHEREAS by Proclamation of the Prime Minister of Canada, on September 1, 1996, the role of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, as the birthplace of Confederation was recognized and affirmed as an integral part of our Canadian heritage;

AND WHEREAS the “Birthplace of Confederation Act” was passed by this Legislative Assembly in 2014;

AND WHEREAS Bill C-253 entitled “Recognition of Charlottetown as the Birthplace of Confederation Act” was introduced, in the Spring of 2016, as a Private Members bill by Malpeque Member of Parliament Wayne Easter in the House of Commons;

AND WHEREAS this Assembly supports the letter and spirit of Bill C-253;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Assembly urge the passage of Bill C-253 by the House of Commons;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Motion be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Caucus House Leaders in the House of Commons and all Prince Edward Island Members of Parliament and Senators.

Debate was commenced by the Mover (8:09); continued by the Seconder (8:18); Hon. Richard Brown (Workforce and Advanced Learning) (8:22); and Hon. Premier (8:25).

8:26 There being no further speakers, the Mover (Jordan Brown, Charlottetown-Brighton) closed the debate.

Hon. Mr. Speaker put the Question.

Motion was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and resolved accordingly.

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Leader of the Third Party moved, seconded by Hal Perry (Tignish-Palmer Road), the following Motion (No. 83):

WHEREAS implementing a universal basic income in Prince Edward Island would significantly reduce or potentially eliminate poverty in the province;

AND WHEREAS a universal basic income would likely have many other positive effects, including local economic growth, supporting entrepreneurship, reducing administrative complexity and costs, improving working conditions, reducing crime, improving health, and helping to build vibrant rural communities;

AND WHEREAS all four Prince Edward Island political parties have indicated their support for exploring a universal basic income;

AND WHEREAS the federal government has indicated an interest in exploring a universal basic income;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge government to pursue a partnership with the federal government for the establishment of a universal basic income pilot project in Prince Edward Island;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Government shall provide an update on the progress of this initiative in every session of this assembly.

Debate was commenced by the Mover (8:28). During his remarks, Leader of the Third Party referred to the absence of a member from the Chamber. Hon. Mr. Speaker reminded all Members that they are not to refer to the presence or absence of Members in the Chamber during debate.

Hon. Mr. Speaker called on Leader of the Third Party to continue with debate; continued by Hon. Richard Brown (Workforce and Advanced Learning) (8:37); Bradley G. Trivers (Rustico-Emerald) (8:45); Steven Myers (Georgetown-St. Peters) (8:48); Hon. Leader of the Opposition (8:52); Jordan Brown (Charlottetown-Brighton) (8:53); and Hon. Alan McIsaac (Agriculture and Fisheries) (8:55).

8:57 There being no further speakers, the Mover (Leader of the Third Party) closed the debate.

Hon. Mr. Speaker put the Question.

Motion was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and resolved accordingly.

Adjournment

On Motion of Sonny Gallant (Government House Leader), seconded by Jordan Brown (Charlottetown-Brighton), the House adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2016.

Charles H. MacKay
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly