

JOURNAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

THURSDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2016

The House met at 2:00 p.m.

Prayers

Routine Proceedings

Journals

Journals for Tuesday, 13 December, 2016 were adopted by the House without amendment.

Doors were opened

Matters of Privilege

None

Statements by Members

2:16 Sonny Gallant (Evangeline-Miscouche) congratulated Father Charles Gallant, on received the Order of Merit from the Saint Thomas Aquinas at the 97th Annual General Meeting.

2:18 Bush Dumville (West Royalty-Springvale) acknowledged the retirement of Judy Lower, owner and operator of National Music.

2:19 Bradley G. Trivers (Rustico-Emerald) recognized James Gallant of Rustico, on his Christmas light display that raises money for the Children's Wish Foundation.

2:21 Leader of the Third Party recognized the 175th anniversary of the St. John Baptist Anglican Church in Crapaud.

2:23

Questions by Members

Statements by Ministers

3:04 Hon. Premier announced that he would be tabling a framework for economic growth for Prince Edward Island, entitled "The Mighty Island".

3:07 Hon. Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Third Party added their comments.

3:12 Hon. Heath MacDonald (Economic Development and Tourism) announced the Air Tech Communications, a locally owned and operated ISP company, announced its expansion into Maximeville area.

3:14 Bradley G. Trivers (Rustico-Emerald) and Leader of the Third Party added their comments.

3:16 Hon. Robert Henderson (Health and Wellness) announced that the Department of Health and Wellness is hiring a Principal Advisor on Seniors Health.

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3:18 James Aylward (Stratford-Kinlock) and Leader of the Third Party added their comments.

Presenting and Receiving Petitions

None

Tabling of Documents

Hon. Premier tabled,

1st, by leave, “They Mighty Island”, a Framework for Economic Growth in Prince Edward Island;

2nd, by leave, a letter addressed to political party leaders on the topic of campaign financing.

Chris Palmer (Summerside-Wilmot) tabled, by leave, written questions to the Minister of Workforce and Advanced Learning.

Colin LaVie (Souris-Elmira) tabled, by leave, written questions to the Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy and the Hon. Premier.

Reports by Committees

Sonny Gallant (Evangline-Miscouche), Chair of the Standing Committee on Infrastructure and Energy, presented a report of the said committee on Committee Activities.

[Appendix ??? – Infrastructure and Energy – Page ???]

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

Introduction of Government Bills

None

Motions Other Than Government

James Aylward (Stratford-Kinlock) moved, seconded by Hon. Leader of the Opposition, the following Motion (No. 71):

WHEREAS the Auditor General has completed a review of government’s involvement in the failed E-gaming initiative;

AND WHEREAS the Auditor General’s Report revealed instances of conflict of interest; non-compliance with legislation, policies and controls; and lack of due regard for transparency and accountability by current and former senior government officials and current and former Members of this Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the Auditor General’s Report found a culture of secrecy that went to extraordinary lengths to withhold information about public expenditures from internal and external public disclosures;

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AND WHEREAS the Auditor General's Report determined that at least two provincial laws, the *Financial Administration Act* and the *Archives and Records Act*, were broken by government officials, including current and former Members of this Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the findings in the Auditor General's Report contradict information provided to this Assembly and Islanders by current and former Members of this Assembly, creating a situation where facts were deliberately misrepresented to this Assembly and to Islanders;

AND WHEREAS this creates an abuse of the public trust of Islanders and a direct challenge to the integrity of this Assembly that risks weakening public confidence;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Assembly condemn in the strongest terms possible the actions of current and former senior government officials and current and former Members of this Assembly with regards to the E-gaming scandal, including former Premier Robert Ghiz and former Finance Minister Wes Sheridan.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Assembly establish a Special Committee to consider what further sanctions, including administrative and financial, may be appropriate for the Assembly to pursue against current and former Members of the Assembly involved with the failed E-gaming initiative.

Debate was commenced by the Mover (3:30); continued by the Seconder (3:39); Hon. Heath MacDonald (Economic Development and Tourism) (3:54); Darlene Compton (Belfast-Murray River) (4:05); Steven Myers (Georgetown-St. Peters) (4:14); Bradley G. Trivers (Rustico-Emerald); 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)

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

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

Promoter: Hon. H. Wade MacLauchlan
Chair: Chris Palmer

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 read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of the Whole House:

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AN ACT TO AMEND THE INNOVATION PEI ACT (Bill No. 53)

Promoter: Hon. Heath MacDonald
Chair: Hal Perry

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:

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT (Bill No. 58)

Promoter: Hon. Robert Mitchell
Chair: Jordan Brown

After some time spent therein, Hon. Madam Speaker resumed the Chair and the Chairperson reported the Bill agreed to with amendment.

On Motion that the Report of the Committee be adopted, Hon. Madam Speaker put the Question. A Recorded Division being sought, the names were recorded by the Clerk as follows:

Nays (6)

Hon. Leader of the Opposition
James Aylward (Stratford-Kinlock)
Bradley G. Trivers (Rustico-Emerald)
Sidney MacEwen (Morell-Mermaid)
Darlene Compton (Belfast-Murray River)
Steven Myers (Georgetown-St. Peters)

Yeas (14)

Hon. Richard Brown (Workforce and Advanced Learning)
Hon. Paula Biggar (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy)
Hon. Premier
Hon. Alan McIsaac (Agriculture and Fisheries)
Hon. Tina Mundy (Family and Human Services)
Bush Dumville (West Royalty-Springvale)
Hon. Robert Henderson (Health and Wellness)
Hon. Heath MacDonald (Economic Development and Tourism)
Hon. Robert Mitchell (Communities, Land and Environment)
Sonny Gallant (Evangeline-Miscouche)
Leader of the Third Party
Hal Perry (Tignish-Palmer Road)

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Chris Palmer (Summerside-Wilmot)
Jordan Brown (Charlottetown-Brighton)

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

The following Bills were read a Third Time and Passed, with unanimous consent where required:

AN ACT TO AMEND THE MUNICIPALITIES ACT (Bill No. 24)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PLANNING ACT (Bill No. 25)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE UNSIGHTLY PROPERTY ACT (Bill No. 35)

PROCUREMENT OF GOODS ACT (Bill No. 36)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE TOBACCO AND ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES SALES AND ACCESS ACT (Bill No. 37)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (Bill No. 38)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE REGISTERED NURSES ACT (Bill No. 39)

AN ACT RESPECTING THE WINDING UP OF JUDGMENT RECOVERY (P.E.I.) LTD.
(Bill No. 40)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PREMIUM TAX ACT (Bill No. 42)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ADULT PROTECTION ACT (Bill No. 41)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE TEACHERS' SUPERANNUATION ACT (Bill No. 44)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION ACT (Bill No. 45)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EQUITY TAX CREDIT ACT
(Bill No. 46)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ACT (Bill No. 52)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE SOCIAL WORK ACT (Bill No. 47)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE INNOVATION PEI ACT (Bill No. 53)

PRIVATE TRAINING SCHOOLS ACT (Bill No. 48)

HANNAH'S BILL (AN ACT TO AMEND THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT) (Bill No. 49)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT (Bill No. 50)

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AN ACT TO AMEND THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT (NO. 2) (Bill No. 51)

APPROPRIATION ACT (CAPITAL EXPENDITURES) 2017 (Bill No. 54)

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

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT (Bill No. 58)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE HEALTH SERVICES PAYMENT ACT (NO. 3) (Bill No. 59)

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

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT (NO. 2) 2016 (Bill No. 60)

Sonny Gallant (Government House Leader) then advised that Government had concluded the business it wished to conduct during the Fall sitting.

Hon. Madam Speaker advised the House that His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island had arrived at the Hon. George Coles Building for the purpose of granting Royal Assent to additional Bills passed during this, the fall sitting of the Second Session of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly. Hon. Madam Speaker then left the Chair in anticipation of His Honour's arrival in the Chamber.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor then proceeded to the Legislative Chamber and was seated. Hon. Madam Speaker having returned to the Chamber, the Clerk advised the House as follows:

“Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly has passed certain additional Bills during this, the Second Session of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly, and now begs Your Honour's consideration of the grant of Royal Assent for the following Bills:

AN ACT TO AMEND THE MUNICIPALITIES ACT (Bill No. 24)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PLANNING ACT (Bill No. 25)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE UNSIGHTLY PROPERTY ACT (Bill No. 35)

PROCUREMENT OF GOODS ACT (Bill No. 36)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE TOBACCO AND ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES SALES AND ACCESS ACT (Bill No. 37)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (Bill No. 38)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE REGISTERED NURSES ACT (Bill No. 39)

AN ACT RESPECTING THE WINDING UP OF JUDGMENT RECOVERY (P.E.I.) LTD.
(Bill No. 40)

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AN ACT TO AMEND THE ADULT PROTECTION ACT (Bill No. 41)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PREMIUM TAX ACT (Bill No. 42)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE TEACHERS' SUPERANNUATION ACT (Bill No. 44)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION ACT (Bill No. 45)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EQUITY TAX CREDIT ACT (Bill No. 46)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE SOCIAL WORK ACT (Bill No. 47)

PRIVATE TRAINING SCHOOLS ACT (Bill No. 48)

HANNAH'S BILL (AN ACT TO AMEND THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT) (Bill No. 49)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT (Bill No. 50)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT (NO. 2) (Bill No. 51)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ACT (Bill No. 52)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE INNOVATION PEI ACT (Bill No. 53)

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

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

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT (Bill No. 58)

AN ACT TO AMEND THE HEALTH SERVICES PAYMENT ACT (NO. 3) (Bill No. 59)

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT (NO. 2) 2016 (Bill No. 60)."

Royal Assent was announced by the Hon. Lieutenant-Governor in the following words:

"In Her Majesty's name, I assent to these Bills."

Hon. Madam Speaker then said:

"May it please Your Honour,

We, Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island in session assembled, approach Your Honour at the close of our labours with sentiments of unfeigned devotion and loyalty to Her Majesty's person and Government. We do humbly beg for your Honour's acceptance of a Bill intituled:

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APPROPRIATION ACT (CURRENT EXPENDITURES) 2017 (Bill No. 54)

Thus placing at the disposal of the Crown the means by which Government can be made efficient for the service and welfare of the Province.”

To this Bill, Royal Assent was announced by the Clerk in the following words:

“The Honourable Lieutenant-Governor doth thank Her Majesty’s loyal and dutiful subjects, accepts their benevolence and assents to this Bill in Her Majesty’s name.”

[Appendix ??? – Progress of Bills – Page ???]

His Honour was then pleased to address the House and commend all Hon. Members for the conscientious manner in which deliberations were conducted to this point during the Second Session of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly, wished all Members good health and prosperity and that peace and freedom for all people shall be more nearly achieved.

At the conclusion of the Address, His Honour retired from the Chamber.

Hon. Madam Speaker resumed the Chair and thanked all Hon. Members and staff for their work during the session, and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Adjournment

9:00 On Motion of Sonny Gallant (Government House Leader), seconded by Hon. Premier, the House adjourn to the call of the Speaker.

Charles H. MacKay
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly