

JOURNAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

TUESDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2018

The House met at 2:00 p.m.

Prayers

Routine Proceedings

Journals

Journals for Friday, 8 June 2018 were adopted by the House without amendment.

Doors were opened

Hon. Mr. Speaker welcomed Members, staff and the media to the continuation of the 3rd Session of the 65th General Assembly.

On Motion of the Hon. Premier, seconded by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition,

RESOLVED that the following students be appointed as Pages for this Session of the Legislative Assembly:

Zach Wilson, Bluefield High School
Alyx Hodson, Charlottetown Rural High School
Ellen O’Rielly, Colonel Gray High School
Shona Arseneault, École François-Buote
Dakota MacWilliams, Kinkora Regional High School
Berry Genge, Montague Regional High School
Abby Griffin, Morell Regional High School
Emily Ching, Souris Regional High School
Rebecca Procter, Three Oaks Senior High School
Emily Maxfield, Westisle Composite High School

Matters of Privilege

None

Statements by Members

2:30 Leader of the Third Party recognized the Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Wendell’s wish.

2:32 Matthew MacKay (Kensington-Malpeque) acknowledged women from the Kensington Legion Auxillary for their service in Kensington and surrounding areas.

2:34 Jamie Fox (Borden-Kinkora) recognized Bridgette, Maggie, and Charlotte Linkletter, who were recognized for their sports accomplishments.

2:35

Questions by Members

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At the conclusion of Oral Question Period, Hon. Mr. Speaker advised all members that time limits for answers and questions ought to be adhered to more closely and that he will not be extending the time period for Oral Question Period as this is established in the Rules.

Statements by Ministers

3:17 Hon. Sonny Gallant (Workforce and Advanced Learning) announced amendments and legislation protecting the rights of Island workers and students.

3:21 Steven Myers (Georgetown-St. Peters) and Hannah Bell (Charlottetown-Parkdale) added their comments.

3:23 Hon. Robert Mitchell (Health and Wellness) recognized Nurse Practitioner Week.

3:24 Sidney MacEwen (Morell-Mermaid) and Leader of the Third Party added their comments.

Presenting and Receiving Petitions

None

Tabling of Documents

The Clerk informed the House that the following documents were received, pursuant to Rule 80 (k) of the Rules of the Legislative Assembly, by the Office of the Clerk and tabled intersessionally since the House last met on June 12, 2018:

2017 Annual Report for the Workers Compensation Board of Prince Edward Island

2016-2017 Annual Report for Workforce and Advanced Learning

2017 Annual Report for Island Waste Management Corporation

2016-2017 Holland College Annual Report

2017 Annual Report for Prince Edward Island Marketing Council

2016-2017 Annual Report for Agriculture and Fisheries

2015-2016 Prince Edward Island Lotteries Commission Annual Report

2016-2017 Prince Edward Island Lotteries Commission Annual Report

2016-2017 Department of Finance Annual Report.

2017-2018 Tourism PEI Annual Report

2017-2018 Crown Building Corporation Annual Report

2017-2018 Finance PEI Annual Report

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2017-2018 Island Investment Development Inc. Annual Report

2017-2018 Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission Annual Report

2017-2018 Health PEI Annual Report

2017-2018 Public Accounts of the Province of Prince Edward Island (Volumes 1, 2, & 3)

2017 Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner Annual Report

2017-2018 Recorded Information Management Assessment Annual Report

2017-2018 RCMP Prince Edward Island Annual Report

2013-2014 Community Services and Seniors Annual Report

2014-2015 Community Services and Seniors Annual Report

Answers to written questions from the 3rd Session of the 65th General Assembly; Nos. 7, 13,14, 24, 26-31, 43, 47, 52-55, 60-78, 81, 84, 86, 87, 94, 96, 102-108, 113-118 and 126.

Answers to written questions from the 2nd Session of the 65th General Assembly; Nos. 1103-1110, 1388-1408, 1416-1421, 1508, 1155 through 1224.

Answers to written questions from the 1st Session of the 65th General Assembly; Nos. 12, 62, 64, 66-69, 70-73 and 79.

Reports by Committees

None

Introduction of Government Bills

The following Bills were introduced and read a First Time:

Eric Donovan Act (An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act) (Bill No. 42) by Hon. Sonny Gallant (Workforce and Advanced Learning).

Post-secondary Institutions Sexual Violence Policies Act (Bill No. 41) by Hon. Sonny Gallant (Workforce and Advanced Learning).

An Act to Amend the Workers Compensation Act (No. 3) (Bill No. 40) by Hon. Sonny Gallant (Workforce and Advanced Learning).

An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act (No. 4) (Bill No. 32) by Hon. Sonny Gallant (Workforce and Advanced Learning).

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An Act to Amend the Highway Traffic Act (No. 3) (Bill No. 43) by Hon. Paula Biggar (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy).

An Act to Amend the Highway Traffic Act (No. 4) (Bill No. 44) by Hon. Paula Biggar (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy).

Government Motions

Hon. Chris Palmer (Economic Development and Tourism) moved, seconded by Hon. Heath MacDonald (Finance), the following Motion (No. 55):

WHEREAS the provincial economy is on a tear;

AND WHEREAS this success is being driven by Islanders from one end of the province to the other;

AND WHEREAS a healthy, vibrant economy benefits all Islanders through increased employment, greater possibilities for success in business and increased tax revenue to expand services to Islanders;

AND WHEREAS Prince Edward Island is at or near the top of the country in a number of important economic areas including new home construction, new car sales, retail sales, manufacturing sales, full time employment, building permits and population growth;

AND WHEREAS Prince Edward Island recorded one million overnight stays for the first time ever in 2017 marking the fourth straight record year for the industry;

AND WHEREAS Prince Edward Island just recorded its fourth straight record year for exports to international markets, and for the first time, exceeded one billion in exports to the United States;

AND WHEREAS employment grew at 3.1 per cent in 2017 which was second among all and ahead of the national average of 1.9 per cent;

AND WHEREAS more and more Islanders are seeing the benefits of entrepreneurship and are taking risks to see their business ideas come to fruition with the assistance of organizations like the Start Up Zone, Launch Pad and Island Capital Partners;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government continue to work very closely with business leaders, industry organizations, trade groups and all Islanders to identify and implement measures to stimulate the economy and maintain the momentum in our economy.

Debate was commenced by the Mover (3:40); continued by the Seconder (3:52); Hon. Paula Biggar (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy) (3:58); Brad Trivers (Rustico-Emerald) (4:15); Hon. Premier (4:32); Hon. Robert Mitchell (Health and Wellness) (4:47); Hannah Bell (Charlottetown-Parkdale) (4:51); and Hon. Sonny Gallant (Workforce and Advanced Learning); and on his Motion debate was adjourned.

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

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7:00 p.m.

Motions Other Than Government

Bills introduced and read a First Time:

An Act to Amend the Municipal Government Act (No. 3) (Bill No. 120) by Brad Trivers (Rustico-Emerald)

An Act to Amend the Innovation PEI Act (Bill No. 123) by Hannah Bell (Charlottetown-Parkdale)

Government Advertising Standards Act (Bill No. 124) by Sidney MacEwen (Morell-Mermaid)

An Act to Amend the Municipal Government Act (No. 4) (Bill No. 121) by Brad Trivers (Rustico-Emerald)

An Act to Amend the Municipal Government Act (No. 5) (Bill No. 122) by Brad Trivers (Rustico-Emerald)

Orders Other Than Government

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

PUBLIC INTERVENER ACT (Bill No. 104)

Promoter: Jamie Fox
Chair: Hal Perry

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.

Jamie Fox (Borden-Kinkora) sought, and did not receive, unanimous consent of the House to move a motion (without notice) to refer Bill No. 104, Public Intervenor Act, to the Standing Committee on Communities Land and Environment for further consideration and report.

Motions Other Than Government

Hannah Bell (Charlottetown-Parkdale) moved, seconded by Leader of the Third Party, the following Motion (No. 71):

WHEREAS The right to adequate housing is embedded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and major international human rights treaties such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

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WHEREAS Housing First is an evidence-based principle used successfully in Canadian jurisdictions resulting in over 80% of those who received Housing First remaining housed after the first year.

WHEREAS safe, affordable housing is directly linked to the health and well-being of the population.

WHEREAS the Charlottetown Youth Housing Report provided the community with 6 recommendations for consideration.

WHEREAS challenges exist for community capacity in delivering transitional and low-barrier housing for vulnerable Islanders suffering from complex mental and physical health needs.

AND WHEREAS government recently asked the public for their input to be included in a Provincial Housing Strategy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge government to apply the 'Housing First' principle in developing future housing policies and strategies.

Debate was commenced by the Mover (8:32); continued by the Seconder (8:41); Hon. Tina Mundy (Family and Human Services) (8:42); and on her Motion, debate was adjourned.

Allen Roach (Montague-Kilmuir) moved, seconded by Hal Perry (Tignish-Palmer Road), the following Motion (No. 74):

WHEREAS it can be difficult for young people to understand and cope when a tragic event happens;

AND WHEREAS children and youth need guidance and support to deal with the finality of death and feelings of sadness, guilt and fear;

AND WHEREAS the way adults manage their feelings and express their emotions influences the reactions of children and youth;

AND WHEREAS Island teachers and school staff play a vital role in helping children and youth deal with a tragic event;

AND WHEREAS Islanders are fortunate to have many caring professionals working in our school system who go above and beyond to support students and staff in times of crisis;

AND WHEREAS school psychologists, social workers and counselors know that death, especially the death of a young person, can be frightening for young people;

AND WHEREAS these knowledgeable and caring professionals work with teachers and administrators to help students share and understand their feelings, and distinguish between children who are able to manage their distress and those who need more help;

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AND WHEREAS when teachers and school staff are struggling to manage the pain of grief, they also benefit greatly from the extra support provided by mental health providers and grief counselors;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly recognize the vital role of teachers, school staff and counselors in helping students, staff and community members get through times of crisis;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that government continue to support these valued professionals who provide needed support and guidance in difficult times, and reduce the potential severe effects of traumatic events.

Debate was commenced by the Mover (8:53), and on his Motion, debate was adjourned.

Hon. Paula Biggar (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy) advised Members and staff to take extra precautions on the snow covered roads.

Adjournment

9:00 On Motion of Hon. Sonny Gallant (Workforce and Advanced Learning), seconded by Alan Roach (Montague-Kilmuir), the House adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 14, 2018.

Charles H. MacKay
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly