

## JOURNAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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FRIDAY, 27 APRIL 2018

The House met at 10:00 a.m.

### **Prayers**

### **Routine Proceedings**

### **Journals**

Journals for Wednesday, 25 April 2018 were adopted by the House without amendment.

Doors were opened

### **Matters of Privilege**

None

### **Statements by Members**

10:20 Kathleen Casey (Charlottetown-Lewis Point) updated the House on the continuing success of the Charlottetown Islanders and encouraged Islanders to support them during their playoff run.

10:22 Steven Myers (Georgetown-St. Peters) informed the House of Georgetown Elementary School through a letter written by Layla O'Brien, a grade 5 student.

10:24 Brad Trivers (Rustico-Emerald) made a statement to recognize the van attack tragedy in Toronto and pay tribute to the victims.

10:28

### **Questions by Members**

Before the start of Oral Question Period, Hon. Paula Biggar (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy) responded to an Oral Question taken as notice.

During Oral Question Period, Hon. Mr. Speaker cautioned members to be respectful and listen to questions and answers during Oral Question Period.

At the conclusion of Oral Question Period, Leader of the Third Party, rising on a Point of Order, objected to a misrepresentation of his position on highways from Hon. Paula Biggar (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy). On a second Point of Order, Leader of the Third Party asserted that Hon. Paula Biggar (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy) presented incorrect information to the House on women's participation on agencies, boards, and commissions on Prince Edward Island.

Hon. Mr. Speaker took both matters under advisement.

### **Statements by Ministers**

11:11 Hon. Chris Palmer (Economic Development and Tourism) announced the Culture Action Plan to support art and culture on Prince Edward Island.

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11:14 Steven Myers (Georgetown-St. Peters) and Hannah Bell (Charlottetown-Parkdale) added their comments.

11:19 Hon. Robert Mitchell (Health and Wellness) informed the House on the importance of immunization to protect the health of all Islanders.

11:21 Sidney MacEwen (Morell-Mermaid) and Leader of the Third Party added their comments.

11:24 Hon. Sonny Gallant (Workforce and Advanced Learning) acknowledged the Day of Mourning to honour the memory of workers who have lost their lives in the workplace.

11:26 Sidney MacEwen (Morell-Mermaid) and Hannah Bell (Charlottetown-Parkdale) added their comments.

### **Presenting and Receiving Petitions**

None

### **Tabling of Documents**

Hon. Paula Biggar (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy) tabled,

1<sup>st</sup>, by leave, a document showing how many women were appointed to agencies, boards, or commissions through Engage PEI.

2<sup>nd</sup>, by leave, a document showing the status of fossil fuels for energy.

### **Reports by Committees**

None

### **Introduction of Government Bills**

None

### **Orders of the Day (Government)**

The Order of the Day being read for the consideration of the Estimates in Committee, Kathleen Casey (Charlottetown-Lewis Point) took the Chair of the Committee to consider the Estimates for Health PEI.

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

The House then reverted to

### **Government Motions**

Hon. Tina Mundy (Family and Human Services) moved, seconded by Hal Perry (Tignish-Palmer Road), the following Motion (No. 59):

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**WHEREAS** more than \$40 million in new provincial and federal investments annually has been made to help our province's most vulnerable Islanders over the past three years;

**AND WHEREAS** this government has placed significant emphasis and investment in helping to better the lives of Islanders, including:

- A generic drug program to help Islanders with lower medication costs, with more than 19,000 Islanders registered;
- Increases to seniors and low-income home repair programs that have helped 4,200 Islanders and that were cancelled by the former Conservative government;
- Breakfast program funding doubled to \$200,000;
- Increases to minimum wage that now stands at \$11.55 per hour – the highest in Atlantic Canada;
- From Budget 2015 through to Budget 2018 tax reductions that have brought the total number of islanders who no longer pay provincial income tax to 30,000. These tax reductions total \$21.75M and include adjustments to personal income taxes, HST refunds and rebate of the provincial portion of sales tax on residential electricity, wood, pellets and residential propane;
- Increases to the child care subsidy program that has directly helped more than 1,000 Island children;
- Introduction of a Grandparents and Care Providers Program that sees care givers receive \$700 per month, per child;
- Introduction of the Seniors Independence Initiative that sees seniors receive up to \$125 per month to help with the costs of items like snow removal and light housekeeping;
- An additional funding of more than \$2 million to non-government organizations this year to help connect Islanders to jobs and provide benefits to those Islanders who need them the most;
- Five years of increased food rates and an increase of shelter rates; and
- The launch of the Be Aware, Get Your Share initiative

**AND WHEREAS** this government is committed to working with all Islanders, community organizations, the business sector, and all levels of government to continue this work;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Legislative Assembly encourage government to continue to promote these initiatives so that all eligible Islanders receive the benefits that they are entitled to;

**AND THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Legislative Assembly call on government to continue to work with all partners to continue to meet the needs of Islanders and families.

Debate was commenced by the Mover (12:35); continued by the Seconder (12:52); and, on his Motion, debate was adjourned.

**Adjournment**

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1:00 On Motion of Hon. Robert Mitchell (Health and Wellness), seconded by Kathleen Casey (Charlottetown-Lewis-Point), the House adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 1, 2018.

Charles H. MacKay  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly