

JOURNAL
of the
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of the Province of
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
2019

Thursday, June 13, 2019

2:00 p.m.

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The Clerk and Clerks Assistant entered the Assembly Chamber, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Clerk read the following letter:

Government House
Charlottetown
Prince Edward Island
June 6, 2019

Joseph A. Jeffrey
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Hon. George Coles Building
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

Dear Mr. Jeffrey,

I am directed by Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to indicate through you to the Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly that Her Honour is constrained from opening the first session of the 66th General Assembly of this Province until such time as Honourable Members have elected one from among their numbers as Speaker of the House.

Further, Her Honour is anxious for the Honourable Members to know that she will proceed immediately to the opening of the session when one such Member is duly elected as Speaker.

I have the Honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

Cindy Cheverie
Private Secretary

The Clerk then advised the House that, pursuant to Rule 9(3) of the Rules of the Legislative Assembly that the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly had received two written notices of intention to seek the Speakership of the Legislative Assembly.

The following Members were declared eligible for election as Speaker:

Colin LaVie, Souris-Elmira
Hal Perry, Tignish-Palmer Road

The Clerk then informed all Members of the process he intended to follow, and then requested that Members come forward to cast their ballots at the voting booths provided in the Chamber.

Hon. Premier and Hon. Leader of the Opposition proceeded to the Table, followed by all other Members, and received their ballot paper for the purpose of electing a Speaker.

The Clerk then informed the House that all Members had an opportunity to cast ballots and advised the he and the Clerks Assistant would now retire from the Chamber to count the ballots.

The House recessed and the Clerk and Clerks Assistant retired from the Chamber.

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Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms rang the bell and the Clerks returned to the Chamber. Members having resumed their seats, the Clerk informed the House as follows:

“Honourable Members,

The Clerks Assistant and I have counted the ballots and are pleased to declare the Honourable Colin LaVie elected as Speaker of this House. I would now invite the Honourable Premier and the Honourable Leader of the Opposition to escort the Honourable Member for Souris-Elmira to the Chair.”

The Clerk having declared Hon. Colin LaVie duly elected, he was taken out of his place by Hon. Premier and the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and escorted to the dais. Hon Premier presented the Speaker’s tricorne hat and the Hon. Leader of the Opposition assisted Hon. Mr. Speaker in donning the Speaker’s robe. The Sergeant-at-Arms removed the Mace from the lower rack and placed it on the Table. Standing on the upper step, Hon. Mr. Speaker addressed the House as follows:

“Honourable Members,

It is my pleasure today to express my grateful acknowledgement of the honour conferred on me by the House in electing me to be its Speaker. Conscious as I am of my comparative inexperience in parliamentary procedure, I would have hesitated in accepting a position involving so much responsibility were it not for the fact that I know I shall be able, at all times, to rely with confidence upon the courtesy, forbearance and kindness of every Member of the Assembly. Again, my thanks to you and I now submit myself to the House.”

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

RESOLVED that Hal Perry (Tignish-Palmer Road) be appointed Deputy Speaker of the House.

On Motion of Hon. Premier, seconded by the Hon. Government House Leader:

RESOLVED that a **Special Committee on Committees** be appointed, said Committee to prepare and report back with all despatch, a list of Honourable Members to compose the Standing Committees now ordered pursuant to the Rules of this House, and that the said Committee on Committees be composed of the following Members:

Sidney MacEwen (Government House Leader), Chair
Hannah Bell (Opposition House Leader)
Cory Deagle (Montague-Kilmuir)
Sonny Gallant (Third Party House Leader)
Hon. Steven Myers (Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy)

Hon. Mr. Speaker made reference to the letter read by earlier by the Clerk from Her Honour, indicating that she would proceed to the Hon. George Coles Building to open this Session of the Assembly when a Speaker had been duly elected. Hon. Speaker then left the Chair in anticipation of Her Honour’s arrival.

The Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, having escorted Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to the Chamber Doors, knocked three times on the door with the Black Rod and requested, on behalf of Her Honour, permission to enter the Assembly Chamber. Permission having been granted, Her Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor assumed the Chair and the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

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Hon. Mr. Speaker then spoke the following effect:

“May it please your Honour:

It is my duty to inform you that the Legislative Assembly has been pleased to elect me to the important and time honoured position of Speaker and I hereby present myself for your Honour’s approval.”

The Clerk of the House then said:

“Mr. LaVie,

I am commanded by Her Honour the Lieutenant Governor to declare to you that she is fully sensible to your zeal for the public service and of your sufficiency to execute the duties of the Office to which you have been elected by this Legislative Assembly. Accordingly, she doth now readily approve of its choice, and, allow and confirm you to be its Speaker.”

Hon. Mr. Speaker then addressed Her Honour in the following words:

“Your Honour having been pleased to approve the choice of the Assembly in electing me to be its Speaker, it now becomes my duty, in the name of and on behalf of the Assembly, to CLAIM and DEMAND that they have all of their ancient and accustomed rights and privileges, most especially;

- freedom from arrest
- freedom of speech in debate
- access to your Honour when they think the welfare of the public service demands it, and,
- that the most favourable consideration be put on all of their proceedings.

And, on my own behalf, I beg to request that any wrong of mine not be imputed to the Assembly.”

To which the Clerk of the House replied:

“Mr. Speaker;

Her Honour has the utmost confidence in the loyalty and attachment of the Assembly to Her Majesty’s person and government in the wisdom, temper and prudence which will accompany all its proceedings. Her Honour doth most willingly and readily grant and allow them all their privileges in as full and ample a manner as they have at any time heretofore been granted and allowed.

And, with respect to yourself Mr. Speaker, though Her Honour is sensible that you do not stand in need of such assurance, Her Honour will ever put the most favourable construction on your words and actions.”

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor greeted all Honourable Members on behalf of Her Majesty and wished them a successful first session of the 66th General Assembly. Her Honour then advised that Her

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Government was prepared to formally commence the first session of the 66th General Assembly tomorrow, Friday, June 14, with the reading of the Speech from the Throne. Her Honour was pleased to retire.

Hon. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair. Hon. Mr. Speaker thanked members for the trust they had placed in him to be their Speaker

On Motion of Sidney MacEwen (Government House Leader), seconded by Hon. Premier, the House adjourned until 11:00 a.m. on Friday, June 14, 2019.

Joseph A. Jeffrey
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly