Prince Edward Island

Daily Journal for the Legislative Assembly for **Friday, October 26, 2007**

The House met at 10:00 a.m.

PRAYERS

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Journals:

Journals for Wednesday, October 24, 2007 were adopted by the House without amendment.

Doors were opened

Matters of Privilege:

There were none.

Statements by Members:

- 10:19 Robert Vessey (Government House Leader) made a Statement congratulating Pat Coady, recipient of the Joan Teraa Award, Autism Society of Prince Edward Island.
- 10:20 Cynthia Dunsford (Stratford-Kinlock) made a Statement on the Prince Edward Island Allied Youth.
- 10:22 Honourable Leader of the Opposition made a Statement of tribute to Margaret Prouse and the PEI ADAPT Council.

10:28 Questions by Members:

11:09 Cynthia Dunsford (Stratford-Kinlock), rising on Privilege pursuant to Rule No. 44 of the Rules of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island, objected to assertions made by the Honourable Leader of the Opposition during Oral Question Period with respect to her involvement in the handling of a personnel matter by the Office of the Premier.

Statements by Ministers:

11:13 Honourable Doug Currie (Health, Social Services and Seniors) made a Statement recognizing October as Autism month.

Honourable Leader of the Opposition added her comments.

- 11:16 Honourable Carolyn Bertram (Communities, Cultural Affairs and Labour) made a Statement on the Rural Beautification Society Awards.
- 11:20 Honourable Doug Currie (Health, Social Services and Seniors) made a Statement announcing a new Health Care Recruitment and Retention Secretariat.

Presenting and Receiving Petitions:

There were none.

Tabling of Documents:

Honourable Gerard Greenan (Education and Attorney General) tabled, by Command, the Annual Report of the Office of the Attorney General for the period ending 31 March 2005.

Reports by Committees:

There were none.

Introduction of Government Bills:

The following Bill was introduced and read a First Time:

An Act to Amend the Dog Act (Bill No. 18) by Honourable Neil LeClair (Agriculture).

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS:

There were none.

ORDERS OF THE DAY - GOVERNMENT:

11:26 The following Bill was read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of the Whole House:

AN ACT TO AMEND THE GASOLINE TAX ACT (Bill No. 10)

Promoter: Honourable Wes Sheridan

Chair: Alan McIsaac

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

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

11:41 The following Bill was read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of the Whole House:

AN ACT TO AMEND THE REVENUE ADMINISTRATION ACT (Bill No. 4)

Promoter: Honourable Wes Sheridan

Chair: Paula Biggar

After some time spent therein, Honourable Madam Speaker resumed the Chair and the

Chairperson reported the Bill agreed to without amendment.

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

11:50 The following Bill was read a Second Time and referred to a Committee of the Whole House:

AN ACT TO AMEND THE REVENUE TAX ACT (Bill No. 11)

Promoter: Honourable Wes Sheridan

Chair: Pat Murphy

After some time spent therein, Honourable 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:

AN ACT TO AMEND THE INCOME TAX ACT (Bill No. 7)

Promoter: Honourable Wes Sheridan

Chair: Robert Mitchell

After some time spent therein, Honourable Madam Speaker resumed the Chair and the Chairperson reported the Bill agreed to without amendment.

ORDERED, that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

Honourable Wes Sheridan (Provincial Treasurer) sought, and received, consent of the House to revert to

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS:

12:04 Honourable Carolyn Bertram moved, seconded by Honourable Richard Brown, the following Motion for a Resolution (Motion No. 7):

WHEREAS the issue of Sunday shopping is multi-faceted and one around which Islanders have strong feelings, both for and against;

AND WHEREAS in the Fall of 2006 *The Retail Business Holidays Act* was amended to allow Sunday shopping on Prince Edward Island starting in the third week of May and continuing until December 31;

AND WHEREAS the introduction of Sunday shopping under the previous government was made with limited public consultation and input;

AND WHEREAS Islanders have now had a period of six months in which Sunday shopping has been in effect;

AND WHEREAS that experience offers an opportunity to assess the pros and cons of Sunday shopping from varying perspectives;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Committee on Community Affairs and Economic Development be mandated to conduct public hearings on Sunday shopping to solicit the views of Islanders:

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Standing Committee on Community Affairs and Economic Development report back to the Legislative Assembly in the spring of 2008 with a recommendation such that any required legislative changes could be presented in that sitting.

Debate was commenced by the Mover (12:05); continued by the Seconder (12:12); Honourable Leader of the Opposition (12:17); Alan McIsaac (Vernon River-Stratford) (12:20); Honourable Gerard Greenan (Education and Attorney General) (12:23); Honourable George Webster (Environment, Energy and Forestry) (12:26); Bush Dumville (West Royalty-Springvale) (12:27); Honourable Valerie Docherty (Tourism) (12:30); Robert Mitchell (Charlottetown-Sherwood) (12:31); Pat Murphy (Alberton-Roseville) (12:32); Honourable Neil LeClair (Agriculture) (12:33); and Honourable Premier (12:35).

12:39 There being no further speakers, the Mover then closed the debate.

Honourable Madam Speaker put the Question which was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** and resolved accordingly.

ORDERS OF THE DAY - GOVERNMENT:

12:42 The Order of the Day being read for the consideration of the Estimates in Committee, Paula Biggar (Tyne Valley-Linkletter), took the Chair of the Committee to further consider the Estimates for the Department of Tourism (complete); and the Department of Education.

Honourable Madam Speaker resumed the Chair and the Chairperson reported progress and requested leave to sit again, to which the House agreed.

ADJOURNMENT:

On Motion of Robert Vessey (Government House Leader), seconded by Bush Dumville (West Royalty-Springvale), the House adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 30, 2007.

Charles H. MacKay Clerk of the Legislative Assembly