



Commonwealth Youth Parliament

November 6-10, 2016
Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

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P8

DEBATES OF THE

EIGHTH COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PARLIAMENT

(HANSARD)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2016

Afternoon House Proceedings



THE HONOURABLE LINDA REID, SPEAKER

**LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

Honourable Rick Hansen, CC, OBC British Columbia, Canada

**SPEAKER
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

Honourable Linda Reid Legislative Assembly of British Columbia

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Hon. Mark Munnich	Minister of Indigenous and Cultural Affairs
Hon. Sara Aslam	Minister of Justice
Hon. Jordan Kerr	Government Whip and Minister Responsible for Youth
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Aaron McDonnell	Deputy Leader of the Opposition
Davey Haughton	Opposition Whip
Sheridan Hawse	Chair, Committee of the Whole
Elizabeth Kite	Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole

YOUTH PARLIAMENTARIANS

David Akombwa	Zambia	Erin McAuley	Scotland
Jody Aldridge	Falkland Islands	Aaron McDonnell	Australia
Sara Aslam	Pakistan	Jared Avanti McGill	Cayman Islands
Barbara Ojone Awulu	Nigeria	Kareina Mohammed	Trinidad and Tobago
Danish Bhutto	Pakistan	Mark Munnich	Australia
Rebecca Cross	England	Jamie Murray	Scotland
Elise Delpiano	Australia	Connor Mycroft	Canada
Zoé Duhaime	Canada	Oliver Nacey	New Zealand
Laura Elliott	Wales	Christine Wambui Ndiritu	Kenya
Gemma Finn	Falkland Islands	Tifwepo Nkunika	Zambia
Davey Haughton	Jamaica	Anne Shibuko Ogada	Kenya
Nicholas Hawkes	Isle of Man	Muhammad Sultan Owaisi	India
Sheridan Hawse	Canada	Stefanie Lynn Panesar	Canada
Farah Hussain	England	Sheldon Paul	Canada
Dwaynifia Joseph	Montserrat	Sonniel Pickering	British Virgin Islands
Jordan Kerr	Australia	Avery Roberge-Eadie	Canada
Andriy Krugliak	Canada	Abbas Itopa Sanni	Nigeria
Gabriel Laurence-Brook	Canada	Ashvini Savantrapadian	New Zealand
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Sky Losier	Canada	Josh Tordiff	Canada
Arean Louis	Turks and Caicos	Rea Vanterpool	British Virgin Islands
Jabari Lynch	Trinidad and Tobago	Jenae Whittaker	Cayman Islands
Essalene Martin	Montserrat	Robert Winspear	Jersey

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2016

The House met at 1:17 p.m.

[Richard Lee in the chair.]

Kate Ryan-Lloyd (Deputy Clerk and Clerk of Committees):

Pursuant to the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, I'm advising this House of the unavoidable absence of Madame Speaker. Mr. Richard T. Lee, Deputy Speaker for the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, will preside over this afternoon's proceedings.

Routine Business

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): I call on Mackenzie Taylor to lead the House in prayer.

Mackenzie Taylor: Most gracious God, we humbly beseech thee to behold with thy blessing our countries and the peoples of our Commonwealth. We pray especially for this Commonwealth Youth Parliament, at this time assembled, that all things may be so ordered and settled by their endeavours upon the best and surest foundations that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety may be established among us all. Amen.

Introductions by Youth Parliamentarians

Avery Roberge-Eadie: Good afternoon, fellow youth parliamentarians. Last night, as we know, unfolded a very important election for our neighbours in the south. I assure you that our government has put in a plan to help us cope with this brand-new government and its new President.

[1320]

Now, putting our own opinions aside, I would like to extend a very advanced welcome to all the new immigrants I anticipate Canada will receive in the coming four years. I attribute this assumption to the fact that the Canadian Immigration page crashed last night. As well, Air Canada received a very alarming number of calls from Americans last night.

Again, I just wanted to give a very advanced welcome to any newcomers we have to Canada. Welcome from the Americas.

Hon. Robert Winspear: I was initially going to introduce, along similar lines to my hon. friend to my right, the American



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election. However, I feel there's been a lot of rhetoric about this today, and it has led to quite a somber mood. So I propose a slightly different tack. Instead, I'd like to recognize my local football team back home: Liverpool Football Club. For the first time in nearly two years, we're top of our Premier League. I would like to wish them well for the season ahead and hope that we can put our hands on the elusive Premier League title.

Tifwepo Nkunika: I'm Tifwepo Nkunika, and I bring with me warm greetings from my lovely country, Zambia, right in the heart of Africa.

It is really a great honour and a privilege for me to have been selected to represent the youth of my country at such a momentous occasion. Thank you to the CPA for organizing this forum for young people like us with political ambitions. Maybe one day.... I have the ambition to become president of Zambia, so this is a good forum for me.

I'm going to let this House in on a little fact about Zambia right now. We have a new government in place. We've recently had a general election. We are quite anxious. We are anxious to see if our government will deliver on its promises. We are anxious to see if our government will really put its manifesto that it promised us at election time into action.

But the people of Zambia are aware that Rome was not built in a day, so two months is too little for us to start pressuring our government. We're relaxing and waiting and giving our government ample time for them to be able to act upon their promises.

It is my hope today that the opposition of this honourable House will take a lead from the Zambian people. Give us the time. We have a plan. Let us put the plan into action before you have the right to carry out your checks and balances on this hard-working government of Commonwealthland.

Hon. Jordan Kerr: Good afternoon. I rise today to thank the Legislative Assembly of the Australian Capital Territory for providing me with the opportunity to attend this prestigious event. I wish to thank all members and staff of the assembly for their continued support over the past few years.

I would also like to rise to thank all of you — all of the youth parliamentarians from across the Commonwealth. I would like to congratulate you on your individual achievements, your collective achievements and the work that you've been able to do throughout the Commonwealth. It is an honour to stand here beside you today, to work with you on developing a better Commonwealth for us all.

Finally, I would like to thank again the people of the Australian

Capital Territory and, in fact, all of those in Australia for providing us with the opportunity to attend this prestigious event here today.

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Thank you, Member.

Hon. Jordan Kerr: I request leave to call the introduction of bills.

Leave granted.

[1325]

Introduction of Bills

BILL M203 — NATIONAL IDENTITY ACT, 2016

David Akombwa presented a bill intituled National Identity Act, 2016.

David Akombwa: I move that a bill intituled National Identity Act be introduced and now read for a first time.

Motion approved.

David Akombwa: This act is designed to develop an inclusive and diverse process for the growth and further development of a national identity. This act will assist the government in the review and development of national symbols, including a national animal and flower. This act will also provide protections for historical sites and buildings respecting and restoring the diverse history of Commonwealthland. This act will further honour the indigenous people of Commonwealthland and provide a platform for the development of national identity.

I move that this bill be placed on the orders of the day for second reading at the next sitting of the House after today.

Bill M203, National Identity Act, 2016, introduced, read a first time and ordered to be placed on orders of the day for second reading at the next sitting of the House after today.

Youth Parliamentarians' Statements

WALES BRANCH OF COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

Hon. Laura Elliott: Mr. Speaker and fellow youth parliamentarians, it is a tremendous honour to be able to speak to you briefly here today as the representative for the National



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Assembly for Wales branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. It is particularly fitting that I'm able to attend the parliament shortly after our Llywydd and assembly commission have committed to establishing a Youth Parliament for Wales.

The assembly in Wales already has a successful approach to youth engagement. But having been able to be here firsthand, I am beyond excited about the opportunity this presents for our young people in Wales.

My exposure to youth democracy has so far come through the Young Farmers movement, a rural youth organization with agriculture and young people at its heart. Farming can be considered the oldest profession in the world, yet it is often the forgotten child when it comes to service provision and its integral role in our everyday lives. I would urge you all to promote, nurture and encourage your agricultural sectors across the Commonwealth. After all, you have them to thank at every mealtime.

I am fully prepared that the enormity of this experience will not sink in until I return home. I am looking forward to playing a small part in the development of a Youth Parliament in Wales, based on the knowledge and shared experience that I have gained here with you all.

We know very well that the future of our Commonwealth rests with the voices of our young people. I thank the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia and the CPA for allowing us a platform here to showcase this, this week.

Today of all days is great day to stand up for human rights against racism, against sexism, against homophobia, against discrimination, against hate. There is a Chinese proverb that says: "Better to light one small candle than to curse in the darkness." Can I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for lighting a candle this week that will burn bright in my memory forever.

[1330]

KENYA BRANCH OF COMMONWEALTH
PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION AND
ADVOCACY FOR ALBINISM

Anne Ogada: I rise to bring you greetings from the CPA Kenya branch. Today I'd like to recognize an hon. member from the CPA Kenya branch, Hon. Isaac Mwaura, who lives with albinism. Albinism is a genetic condition whereby the person has less pigmentation in their skin, hair and eyes. This Member of Parliament comes from a background where the parents separated because of this condition, as his father didn't accept his state.

Having been nominated by the minority party, which is the

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opposition in my parliament, he has created the Albinism Society of Kenya, which most recently, on 21st of October, had the first-ever beauty pageant for persons living with albinism. That, I believe, was a great achievement.

The member represents persons with disabilities. We appreciate the steps that the CPA Kenya branch has taken to deal with the condition of albinism through the creating of sensitization.

GENDER EQUITY AND IMPORTANCE OF TOLERANCE

Hon. Connor Mycroft: “Because it’s 2015.” Boy, did those words ever ring out. This was the response that Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau gave upon being questioned about his decision to create a gender-balanced cabinet: “Because it’s 2015.”

With the change into the new year, “Because it’s 2015,” quickly became “Because it’s 2016.” We believed that this would be the year where sexual and religious tolerance, racial and gender equality would reign supreme, that we could continue to release ourselves from the shackles of intolerance, hate and discrimination and that at this point in history it was unfathomable for these forms of intolerance to continue to exist.

Unfortunately, as last night’s results have shown, we cannot take progress for granted. Progress does not proceed on a linear line. It is in constant fluctuation. People on the liberal end of the spectrum, including myself, are guilty of operating under the assumption that history is on our side and that the social change we advocate for is inevitable. But this view is not only counterproductive but, as last night has shown, potentially dangerous.

To quote a fellow by the name of Maximillian Alvarez: “We see the present not as an opportunity to fight for what could be but rather as a chance to make good on what should have already happened.” We see the future as having some inherent and inevitable righteousness that adheres to our views.

At the end of the Cold War, Francis Fukuyama famously declared that we had reached the end of history, that there’d be no more ideological conflicts, that western liberal democracy was the final form of our political evolution. Unfortunately, it gave a lot of people the sense that it was no longer necessary to fight for what we believe in but that we simply had to defend the throne of progress. He has since acknowledged how faulty his assumption was.

Something now holds that throne, something that embodies the misogyny, intolerance, hate, bigotry and racism that we



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thought was withering away, relegated to the dumpster bin of history. We don't only see it in the United States. This has been spreading across the entire world. Europe, once seen as a bastion of progressive ideals, is fracturing at the seams. Fascist parties are on the rise everywhere.

U.S. GENERAL ELECTION

Gemma Finn: I had prepared a speech beforehand, but in light of current events, I did feel the need to change it slightly.

The world looks much more orange today, and that's not because there's a beautiful sunset on the horizon. The United States of America have voted for a president who has been publicly endorsed by the KKK, who has multiple accounts of sexual assault against his name and who chose a vice-president who advocates for gay conversion therapy. We are in a dark place.

Fortunately, all is not lost. I look around me today, and I see the passionate faces of a diverse collection of young people. I see everyone in this room as a future leader who will fight for justice, equality and democracy.

[1335]

We are the face of multiculturalism. We are the face of change. We are the ones who will ensure that democracy continues to thrive, and we are the ones who will educate and encourage more youth participation in politics.

Each one of us here understands the gravity of this situation, but I believe that if we continue to come together in this way, we will deliver a brighter and more hopeful tomorrow.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN AUSTRALIA

Hon. Mark Munnich: I rise today to present my statement to the House on the issues that are impacting on indigenous peoples back in my community. I would like to take this opportunity to share this statement with my fellow youth parliamentarians here today.

However, before I do, I first would like to take this opportunity to thank the Commonwealth Youth Parliament and the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory for selecting me and giving me this opportunity to represent my country and to voice the issues of young people within my community.

Although I stand proudly before this Youth Parliament as the Minister for Indigenous and Cultural Affairs, I also stand here as a proud indigenous man from the Yawuru and Gunggandji nations in Australia. Over the years, within a personal and professional capacity, I have experienced and witnessed a number of issues that

continue to impact on indigenous peoples within my community. I believe that as a country, with all due respect, we still have a lot of work to do.

The issues that I want to highlight briefly, just touch on and outline to the House, comprise the following: the status of indigenous health, which includes our physical, mental and spiritual well-being; the need to close the life expectancy gap between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians, where indigenous Australians are more likely to die 17 years earlier than non-indigenous people due to the lack of health services and access; ensuring that our children and our young people are gaining access to education, whether it be primary, secondary, tertiary or post-graduate; and the important need for our traditional languages, which are strong and thriving in our communities, to be recognized within the curriculum and also not westernized and mainstreamed.

Within our justice system, indigenous peoples are overly represented, and the approach is to lock them up rather than invest in early intervention, and preventative programs are not being heard. I highlight to the House today that within the Don Dale juvenile centre back home, 100 percent of indigenous youth were participants. I mentioned yesterday that indigenous young men are more likely to go to jail rather than to go to university. It's something that worries me.

I also want to touch on a bit of the climate change and the impact on land rights....

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Thank you, Member.

YOUTH AND WOMEN IN POLITICS

Elizabeth Kite: Thank you Mr. Speaker, fellow youth parliamentarians — Elizabeth from Tonga, if I haven't met you already.

This is Tonga's first time to attend the Commonwealth Youth Parliament. This is also my first time in a parliament and to be exposed to all its proceedings. At present, Tonga doesn't have a youth parliament and only has one female parliamentarian. I represent both the under-represented groups.

Over the past few days, it has been truly inspiring to witness firsthand such strong leadership with the youth, with you all, and the females — particularly with both party leaders being female. The standard has been set, and I'm happy and excited to be going home with the evidence and lessons to prove that the participation



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of youth and females in politics is not only necessary; it is a realistic goal. Thank you all.

SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMS

Arean Louis: We are a government for and by the people of Commonwealthland. In today's world, it is critical that we put the people first while considering future generations to come. While the opposition feels that the social care of our dedicated citizens should be left in the hands of already hard-working citizens striving to provide the utmost best for their own families, we the government firmly believe that we should not dance around the critical needs that should be met for our own people.

[1340]

It is imperative that we invest in our own people, providing stable and effective social welfare programs which include poverty reduction initiatives, ensuring that our very own are well taken care of, instead of throwing the responsibilities into the hands of citizens, whose natural initiatives would be to build and empower their very own families. Why should anyone wake up in fear of not being able to eat or to clothe their children, as they depend on the risky enterprises of high-class citizens whose options are to give or not give?

Can you look a child in the eye and deny him access to health and a brighter future because he was born into a class within a system that is not guaranteed to afford him a chance to one day become successful? I don't think so.

Members of Parliament, it is not about the government or the opposition at this point. It is about what is best for our people. Let's put aside all distractions and really cater to our hardworking citizens of this beautiful common land.

We were elected by the people, and we are here to deliver and take the beautiful common land to the next level.

COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PARLIAMENT CONFERENCE

Rebecca Cross: Hon. Members, I rise this afternoon to send greetings from CPA UK and specifically my hometown of Leicester, which is about an hour north of London, our current champions of the Premier League, against all pollsters predictions — a recurring trend.

I have spoken to many of you this week who wish to study or work in the law and have aspirations to practise. I am in my final stage of legal training as a barrister, which, although it requires lots of oral skills, is very different to the proceedings I've witnessed

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and participated in this week. There's no jeering, no banging or heckling allowed in court. However, I have found that the teamwork, problem-solving and presentation skills I am required to employ on a daily basis have been invaluable this week.

Something I particularly enjoyed in this Youth Parliament is the support and encouragement from my fellow delegates. I would like to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for that support. It has been my first trip to Canada, my first international flight, but I have enjoyed the camaraderie from all of you, and I hope that our paths may cross again.

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: *Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.*

It brings me great pleasure to be able to stand here today representing Aotearoa, New Zealand. I would like to acknowledge and extend my gratitude to the New Zealand Parliament for selecting me to be here today. It is a great honour and privilege to represent my country.

My history with the Commonwealth is fourfold. I am Indian by ethnicity, I grew up in Malaysia, I have spent most of my life in beautiful New Zealand, and I will be spending the next year and a half here in Canada. That is a lot of Commonwealth for one lifetime. I consider myself extremely privileged to have these ties to several Commonwealth jurisdictions, and this has undoubtedly shaped my identity and my outlook on the world.

I am acutely aware that democracy is a luxury that is not afforded to all. To me, it stands for equality, respect and non-discrimination. It stands for adherence to the rule of law, and it stands for justice.

As I look around the chamber today, I am heartened, encouraged and inspired by the incredible women and men around me who no doubt hold these values close. It gives me hope for the future of the Commonwealth and, indeed, the future of our world. There is still a long way to go and a lot more to be achieved, but with these young leaders paving the way, I have no doubt in my mind that the best is yet to come.

Ngā mihi.

[1345]

Davey Haughton: I am going to do something impromptu, given that I have been busy whipping my side of the party.

It is indeed an honour and a privilege to have been selected to represent Jamaica as the youth representative at this Commonwealth Youth Parliament, 2016.

Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to your attention and also to



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this noble House that in Jamaica for this month, we will be commemorating our annual Youth Month. For the entire duration of the month, the Ministry of Youth, Education and Information, which I am an employee of, will be commemorating the activities through the national youth parliament, national youth advisory council and other initiatives.

Being here, I have observed quite a bit of best practices that I'd love to take back home and have applied in our youth parliament going forward. Notably, what I've observed — and I must commend this Commonwealth Youth Parliament organizers for — is the opportunity to interact with actual Members of Parliament, the opportunity to be coached by them, the opportunity to be involved in the process in a very intimate way. In contrasting that with Jamaica, I've realized that that could be a best practice we could adopt, because our youth parliament is such that they're trained, but they do not necessarily receive the intimate mentorship from MPs. So I'll take that back.

There are a lot of best practices I could go further to mention, but I just want to thank you for the opportunity, and I say best wishes to all youth parliamentarians going forward.

Oral Questions

MINISTRY PORTFOLIOS AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIP WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Elsie Delpiano: My question is to the Premier. This government has been performing back flip after back flip over the past few days. On Monday, the government did not have a Minister of Youth, a Minister of Indigenous and Cultural Affairs, a Minister of Justice or a Minister of Aged Care. Yesterday the government appointed those ministers only after the opposition held them to account and took the lead.

Today we saw the Minister of Indigenous and Cultural Affairs announce a policy that even the Premier seemed surprised to hear. I want to know if it is the case that the Premier cannot even control her own party. And how does the government propose to continue the activity of the mining sector that this country so greatly depends upon when the Minister of Indigenous and Cultural Affairs indicated this morning that he now wishes to give away all this nation's natural resources to its First Peoples?

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: The government has committed to acknowledging indigenous peoples as full partners in this economy and this society. We have opened the doors for discussions with indigenous and First Nations peoples, and we

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look forward to discussing constructively with them how we can bring them back into the fold, back into the economy after being so badly neglected by the previous government.

We will consult, and we will work out what can be done to address past grievances moving forward, acknowledging that we represent not just the indigenous peoples but every citizen of Commonwealthland.

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): The member has a supplemental.

[1350]

Elise Delpiano: I would like a supplementary question. That's correct, Mr. Speaker.

I don't believe the Premier has answered the first part of my question, which was: has the Premier lost control of her own party following this morning's events?

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: No, I haven't.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIP WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN ALBERTA

Avery Roberge-Eadie: It has come to my immediate attention that indigenous constituents in my riding of Alberta have felt a disconnect with governments in the past. They feel as though their voices have not been heard. I acknowledge this is a very pressing matter. Alberta is comprised of Treaty 6, 7 and 8 land, which is home to many. Their voices need to be heard the same as Albertans.

To the Minister of Indigenous and Cultural Affairs: do you believe that the previous government did enough to maintain a healthy relationship with indigenous peoples?

Hon. Mark Munnich: I thank the hon. member for her question. I know that she is very proactive and passionate about building relationships with indigenous peoples in her constituency.

Firstly, I want to thank this cabinet and this government for including this portfolio, because the issues facing indigenous people are a dire need. They need to be addressed.

The previous government, whilst they were in office, had no portfolio for indigenous and cultural affairs. What a shame on you. They would not do anything to build and engage with the indigenous peoples of this land.

What this government had planned when we were elected was for the immediate decision to include a portfolio for Minister of Indigenous and Cultural Affairs. That's what we call getting the job done.



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To answer the hon. member's question, we, as a government, are looking to build and strengthen those relationships with indigenous peoples. I hope to work very closely with them to ensure that they are reflected within each of our portfolios and that their voices are heard within this Parliament.

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): The member has a supplemental.

Avery Roberge-Eadie: I would like to thank the hon. member for his straightforward answer. I look forward to working with him in the future to build relationships with indigenous peoples of Alberta.

I have no further questions.

ATTENDANCE OF HEALTH MINISTER AT PRESS CONFERENCE

Stefanie Panesar: My question without notice is directed to the Premier.

Premier, it has emerged since this morning's press conference, from which your Health Minister was notably absent, that he was, in fact, quite healthy — not ill as reported to the media by your manager of government business.

Premier, how can you justify your minister's deliberate absence from the press conference? Premier, will the minister be disciplined for his absence? And Premier, were you aware of the minister's intentions to dodge the press conference and endorsed the attempted cover-up of his absence? Or have you lost control and have no idea what your government is doing?

Hon. Jordan Kerr: I'd firstly like to address that question in saying that the Minister of Health was absent this morning due to his being unwell. It was made well clear at the press conference that he was unable to attend the particular press conference this evening because he was unwell and unable to attend that particular event.

However, he has made the effort to come here to question time this afternoon. Although he is still feeling a little under the weather, he has made his way here to be able to answer the questions and respond for his portfolio.

[1355]

Stefanie Panesar: Again, I'd like to reiterate the point that my question was directed to the Premier. I will repeat it once more.

Again: Premier, are you aware of what your minister's

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intentions are? Have you lost control of your government? Please answer me.

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: Absolutely. Thank you for the question.

I have full trust and confidence in my ministers. That is exactly why I appointed them. That is why I encourage them to speak to their portfolios when questions pertain to their portfolios. I have no doubt in my mind that they are capable individuals who can handle the pressure.

SENIORS CARE AND SENIORS ADVOCATE

Gemma Finn: Before I direct my question, I would just like to say that I think it's absolutely wonderful that the government is answering questions today, considering their outright objection to our requests yesterday. It really is encouraging to see them doing the job expected of them.

My question is for the Minister of Health and aging. I refer to an earlier question that I had. I'm keen to understand why the portfolio for aged care has been tacked sloppily onto the end of another incredibly incapacitated portfolio. Does the government not think that 20 percent of our population deserve their own ambassador for their cause?

Hon. Oliver Nacey: Before I address your question, I first want to apologize, personally, for my absence this morning. I woke up seeing red and feeling a little blue, and it really wasn't very good for me.

As for your question. It seems, from our analysis of Commonwealthland, that exactly what our aging population is focused on is palliative care and home care for themselves. Underneath our health care system and the plans that we intend to investigate through our public consultations, that is exactly a need for the Minister of Health and something that we can address perfectly well through our health care system.

You are correct. Twenty percent of our population, especially a population that is aging, should not be overlooked. We don't intend to overlook them.

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Do you have a supplement?

Gemma Finn: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

When is the government going to put a seniors advocate in their cabinet?



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Hon. Jordan Kerr: Unlike the opposition, we appreciate collaborating and working together with different portfolios — saving money. The opposition seems to think that we're throwing money out the door. They seem to think that money grows on trees.

Yet, isn't it interesting that they're coming up with portfolios left, right and centre. Isn't it interesting that they're questioning us about our financial expenditure when they're going and promoting almost every single person in their government? Isn't that quite interesting?

We appreciate that the people of Commonwealthland have elected us as their representatives. I understand that Madam Premier has worked extremely hard with this cabinet to ensure that we are effective, we are efficient and we are delivering the best possible outcomes for the people of this nation.

GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES AND WORK WITH OPPOSITION

Andriy Krugliak: As you know, the previous government, the UNI government, has left a huge mess for this new progressive government to deal with.

My question for the Minister of Economy and Business: what is he doing in order to address the issues that were left for him to deal with by the previous government?

Hon. Robert Winspear: I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight two fundamental problems that your government left us in your last term. Primarily, youth unemployment stands at 6 percent. In tandem to that, we have a severe overreliance upon our resource sector.

[1400]

We believe our economic policy, as well as our recent youth unemployment bill, can work in tandem to reduce both issues. First and foremost, a reformed tax structure that promotes a more equal distribution of wealth will give us the necessary funds to make up the shortfall to achieve our broad social policies. This, in turn, will give efficacy to our youth unemployment bill, as it will give businesses the necessary funds to train and acquire young people and give them the necessary skills to go on in their future and maintain employment.

Secondly, with our youth unemployment bill, it diverts attention away from the resource sector and gives young people the opportunity to go into different industries rather than the service industry, which, quite frankly, is unsustainable on current terms, although it is very vital to our economy. All raw resources

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are finite, and we believe in a future rather than in a short-term solution.

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Member, do you have a supplement? Please proceed.

Andriy Krugliak: My question to the same minister again: has the minister heard from the opposition any willingness to work with him to address the issues?

Interjections.

Hon. Robert Winspear: I feel as though the noise in the room prior to me speaking just now speaks for itself.

RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION AND GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

Anne Ogada: My question is to the same minister for economy, business and finance. You realize that the population of Commonwealthland is mostly concentrated in Centenary City, the southern interior and, mainly, the lower mainland areas. This has created rural-urban migration, leading to pressure of resources in these areas. What is your government doing to ensure that there's devolution of resources so that we don't end up with people living on the streets and even begging in those areas which are densely populated? There are some areas which can be improved. What programs do you have in place?

Hon. Robert Winspear: I thank you for your question. However, I question the attention that you've paid to our mandate. We've been elected on a strong public mandate to support high public sector investment and infrastructure programs. We believe that these infrastructure programs will be able to deliver the solutions to these problems of geographical differences, and it will create a more sustainable system going forward.

[End of question period.]

Motions Without Notice

EXTENSION OF QUESTION PERIOD TIME

Sky Losier: Hon. Speaker, I seek leave of the House to suspend the standing orders and extend question period for another ten minutes at this time for the opposition to hold the government to account.



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Leave not granted.

Interjections.

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Come to order, please. Order.

Leave has not been granted, so we will proceed with the order of business in the House.

Hon. Jordan Kerr: I move that we suspend the standing orders of the House so we can continue question time for ten more minutes.

[1405]

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Hon. Members, the question has been asked and has been decided by the House. So we will proceed to other business of the House.

Point of Order

Aaron McDonnell: Just a point of clarification that I may seek of you, if I can? May I seek a point of clarification?

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Please proceed.

Aaron McDonnell: During question time today, Mr. Speaker, on a number of occasions, the government Whip — who is not a member of the executive — was answering questions on behalf of other ministers. You haven't been given the call, I'm sorry, Mr. Whip.

Would you please make a ruling, Mr. Speaker, given that he is not a member of the executive, and the Premier did not make any indication at the beginning of question time that he would be answering questions on behalf of ministers. Can you make a call on that, please?

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Thank you for your point of order, Member.

I presume the Whip is a minister without portfolio. Perhaps he can advise the House.

Hon. Jordan Kerr: That's correct, Mr. Speaker. I am the manager of government business, the Whip, and I am also the Minister for Youth. If the opposition was able to take into account their portfolios opposite them, it would be much appreciated.



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Aaron McDonnell: The questions, if I recall correctly, were asked, actually, of the Health Minister and of the Premier, and they were answered by the Whip. Both of those ministers are actually present in the House.

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): The Chair understands that, but the government side has clarified that the Whip is a minister without portfolio. So it's clear that we accept that clarification.

Member, the Chair has ruled that the government has appointed the Whip as a minister without portfolio. The government side can appoint a minister. Thank you.

Hon. Jordan Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I just wish to make a point of clarification so the opposition is aware. Under the standing orders, any question can be answered by any cabinet minister, and as the manager of opposition business, any question can be deferred to me.

Motions Without Notice

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Hon. Jordan Kerr: I move that Sheridan Hawse be appointed the Chair of the Committee of the Whole.

Motion approved.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CHAIR, COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Davey Haughton: I move that Elizabeth Kite be appointed Deputy Chair of the Committee of the Whole.

Motion approved.

Orders of the Day

Hon. Jordan Kerr: Mr. Speaker, I call the committee stage of Bill 1, titled the Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act.

[1410]

Committee of the Whole House

BILL 1 — YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP AND INTERNSHIP ACT

The House in Committee of the Whole on Bill 1; Sheridan Hawse in the chair.

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The committee met at 2:13 p.m.

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole):

Members, I call the committee on Bill 1 to order. We shall proceed with consideration of the bill section by section.

Section 1 approved.

On section 2.

Rebecca Cross: Madam Chair, I move opposition amendments to section 2 of the bill, "Interpretation," as printed and circulated in my name:

[SECTION 2.1(d), "youth" means an individual between the ages of 16 and 25" to be replaced with "29."]

On the amendment.

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole):

Would the member like to explain her motion?

[1415]

Rebecca Cross: We are gathered as Commonwealth youth parliamentarians with the upper age limit of 29. Why should the legislation be capped at 25?

Amendment approved.

On section 2 as amended.

Honeylynn Lisson: Chair, can you just briefly describe to people how the process will work? Like, if people propose the amendment, then can we just stand to debate it? Is that correct?

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole): Yes.

Would members like a brief recess to explain how Committee of the Whole will be functioning?

The committee recessed from 2:17 p.m. to 2:22 p.m.

[Sheridan Hawse in the chair.]

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole):

The matter before committee right now is section 2 of Bill 1.

Rea Vanterpool: I move that section 2 of Bill 1 intituled Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act be amended as outlined in the proposed amendment to the bill circulated in my name.

On the amendment.

Rea Vanterpool: I believe that this amendment provides important definitions that will enhance the interpretation of this act.

Sky Losier: I'd just like to seek a few clarifications from either the member proposing the amendment or the minister, or perhaps both. My interpretation of section (e) and section (f) of this amendment is that this amendment would preclude this bill from allowing youth to gain employment in sectors such as finance, law, politics. Is my understanding and interpretation of that right, seeing as vocational work and service industry work generally tends to narrow out a whole giant scope of job sectors?

Rea Vanterpool: I believe that internship, which covers service industry, would include things such as law, health, etc. Lawyers provide a service.

Sky Losier: I would strongly disagree with that statement, and I would caution the House against imposing such sanctions on the bill.

My interpretation and the general interpretation that I understand for a work placement in a service industry organization is something in the restaurant industry, the catering industry, the retail industry. That is, from my understanding, the generalization of a service industry organization. A political organization, an NGO, generally isn't classified as a service industry organization in the terms of an internship work placement.

[1425]

Hon. Farah Hussain: I would ask if the opposition member has alternative wording that he'd like to put forward.

Sky Losier: I actually.... Can I call a point of order on the Chair?

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole): Yes.

Point of Order

Sky Losier: Section 8 of the standing orders prohibits members from referring to hon. youth parliamentarians by the singular or their first name, as you just did. I would ask the Chair to withdraw her remarks and apologize profusely for the insult that has been bestowed upon me.

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole): Well, I was just advised by the Deputy Clerk that actually, in my presiding role, I can refer to you as Sky.



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Debate Continued

Hon. Robert Winspear: I'd respectfully like to add that the ordinary interpretation of service can include more complex services. What about financial services, legal services? They're still service industries. It's just different. It's still caught under the same umbrella.

Sky Losier: I could, perhaps, agree that that could be correct, but if that is the case, then why does that need to be defined in this act? Then this is just creating meaningless red tape and a meaningless line in legislation. If a service industry could be both financial services, legal services, non-governmental services, restaurant services, why do we need this in this act, then?

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole): I'd just advise you to remain sitting while another member has the floor. When they finish speaking, you can stand.

Hon. Robert Winspear: May I remind the House that we are defining "internship." We're not defining the word "service." We're using "service" as the definition for "internship," which we think does include — you know, be it restaurant services, financial services or legal services.

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: I'd like to repeat the question. Would the hon. opposition member please put forward an alternative definition that is more suitable to the opposition?

Sky Losier: I'm suggesting that there is no need for sections (e) and (f). I do support sections (g) and (h) of this amendment, but I am suggesting that we don't need to define where these work placements can happen if they can happen anywhere. It's meaningless red tape.

Hon. Farah Hussain: I think I would like to put forward that I don't think that a couple of lines in a piece of legislation are red tape. And also, that we thought it best to include those definitions to make clear that this bill is not just for traditional industries but also includes new, emerging industries in Commonwealthland, thus giving our young people a choice.

Sky Losier: I'm not sure exactly how this Commonwealth Youth Parliament would conduct this part of the proceedings, but I move to amend the amendment by striking sections (e) and (f) — as I have told everyone verbally right now.

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Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole):
Are you moving an amendment to strike the section from the amendment?

Sky Losier: Yes. I'm moving a subamendment to strike sections (e) and (f).

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole):
We are amending the amendment, to strike paragraphs (e) and (f).
Speaking to the subamendment.

On the subamendment.

[1430]

Christine Ndiritu: Striking (e) and (f) will, in my view, be unprocedural because these terms appear extensively in this bill. They appear in the title of this bill. We really need to define these titles. My proposal is that we provide alternative explanations for the two terms. But striking them out, really, is totally unprocedural.

Hon. Farah Hussain: I would like to agree with the hon. member. This is actually the title of the bill. I think that it needs a definition and that we should keep these two definitions.

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole):
Considering the subamendment, shall the subamendment pass?

Subamendment negatived.

Amendment approved.

Section 2 as amended approved.

On section 3.

Elise Delpiano: Madam Chair, I move the opposition amendments to section 3 of this bill, as printed and circulated in my name.

On the amendment.

Elise Delpiano: The opposition wishes to amend section 3 to ensure that the minister is held accountable and has a set target in legislation to ensure that there is a minimum and maximum target of youth unemployment reduction that the government of the day must adhere to, being a reduction of 1 to 3 percent of youth unemployment.



It is important to have this amendment to ensure that the minister does not just choose a 0.2 percent reduction in youth unemployment and that there is clear transparency in the bill for all to see, to ensure that the people of Commonwealthland know what the government of the day is acting upon.

Nicholas Hawkes: Can I just clarify? The amendment hasn't actually been circulated to the government's benches.

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole):

Please distribute the document now. The Table requires that the amendment be moved before it is circulated. I'm going to just read out the amendment for you, if you could all please pay attention now.

The proposed amendment to the bill, moved by the hon. Leader of the Opposition in Committee of the Whole, is to amend as follows:

[SECTION 3, by *adding the underlined text as shown:*

Targets for reduction and rates of youth unemployment.

The minister, in consultation with the relevant authority, shall set annual targets for the following: (a) the reduction in the percentage of youths who are unemployed to 1 to 3 percent of youths, (b) the number of apprenticeships that are made to be made available for use, (c) the number of internships that are to be made available for youths, and (d) the number of entrepreneurship incubators that are to be made available for the youths.]

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole):

Considering this amendment, shall the amendment pass?

Hon. Jordan Kerr: Madame Chair, the government requests leave for a recess of five minutes to review the proposed amendments by the opposition.

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole):

The House will stand recessed for five minutes.

The committee recessed from 2:35 p.m. to 2:47 p.m.

[Sheridan Hawse in the chair.]

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole):

We are resuming debate on section 3 with the proposed amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition.

Amendment negated.

Sections 3 and 4 approved.

Davey Haughton: We are proposing a new section to be added, but it's being photocopied now. So we're asking to just forgo in order that the hon. government may have copies so that they may be fully informed.

Sheridan Hawse (Chair of the Committee of the Whole):
All right. We're taking another brief recess.

The committee recessed from 2:49 p.m. to 2:54 p.m.

[Elizabeth Kite in the chair.]

Elizabeth Kite (Deputy Chair of the Committee of the Whole): The matter before the committee is the new section 4.1.
[1455]

Davey Haughton: I move, in Committee of the Whole, to add a section.

[SECTION 4.1: Appointment of an Oversight Board

(1) The minister shall establish an oversight board as an extragovernmental body on the advice of the government and opposition, with assent of the Lieutenant-Governor.

(2) The board shall have the following composition:
a member of the governing party as Chair,
a member of the opposition party as Deputy Chair,
a member of the private sector organization,
a representative of civil society groups,
a youth representative of the National Territories Student Association,
a youth representative of the National Secondary Student Association,
a youth representative of the National Youth Council, and
any other members as may be necessary from stakeholder/relevant expert groups.

(3) The minister shall establish a Commonwealthland apprenticeship oversight board. The board shall be responsible for the good governance of the apprenticeship and internship fund, which shall include the following responsibilities:

advise the minister on setting and meeting annual targets and the deployment of information services to be provided;
the oversight of the youth apprenticeship fund and the internship initiative grant and the youth entrepreneurship incubation fund;
oversight over the selection process of participants, both youth and employer;
advising the minister on the deployment of information services to be provided by annual reporting to the public on the state of progress of the programs;
to monitor and evaluate apprenticeship and internship programs; and
appointment of a secretariat of experts to provide oversight of the apprenticeship and internship program, including but not limited to selection process of participants and employer preparation, monetary and evaluation reports in accordance with regulations.]



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On the amendment.

Christine Ndiritu: I'll propose amendments to this entire amendment.

One, on the first section, I don't understand why the opposition really wants the name "opposition" to land on this amendment. Why can't we call it "Youth Parliament"? It doesn't matter whether you're in government or you're in opposition. If this bill passes, it's a bill by parliament — not a bill by government, not a bill by opposition. So my proposal is that that statement be amended. Part of it reads: "Extragovernmental body on the advice of the Youth Parliament with assent of the Lieutenant-Governor."

Two, there is something called "regulations." The essence of regulations is to bring a bill into force. Once this bill is assented to, the government will bring on board regulations, and that is where all this other material will go to.

Elizabeth Kite (Deputy Chair of the Committee of the Whole): Are you moving a subamendment?

Christine Ndiritu: Yes, Madam Chair.

On the subamendment.

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: I would like to elaborate on what my colleague has proposed, just to clarify the wording that we are proposing for the subamendment.

What we suggest is to say in inserted subsection (1): "The minister shall establish an oversight board as an extragovernmental body on the advice of an expert panel" — the expert panel could be a Youth Parliament — "with the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor, which will be responsible for the good governance of the apprenticeship and internship fund. The board shall be established by regulations."

Just for clarity, we then propose to strike out the additions from subsection (2) onwards.

Monique Thomas: I would just like to make an amendment to the Premier's subamendment which she made, on the stance that the proposed....

Elizabeth Kite (Deputy Chair of the Committee of the Whole): We have to deal with one subamendment at a time. Are you further amending the subamendment?

Monique Thomas: No. I would like to go back to that of the opposition.

Elizabeth Kite (Deputy Chair of the Committee of the Whole): We'll deal with the subamendment first, and then we'll go back to the amendment.

Sky Losier: I want to speak to the subamendment, but also, perhaps, I could just make a clarification for the member down the way. I believe the member down the way was saying that she is opposed to the subamendment and wishes to return to the original amendment. If that is the case, I would like to give her the floor back to continue her statements — if that's what she was trying to say and not actually trying to propose a new amendment. But I could be misinterpreting this.

Monique Thomas: Yes, that is exactly what I was trying to say — what he said — on the stance that the governing party has recommended a regulation for this section to be included in the regulation. However, a regulation can be amended at any time by the minister. If it is in the act, then if this section would be amended, it would have to come back into parliament for that amendment to be made.

Jabari Lynch: I am grateful for some of the dialogue that we have had, the opposition and the government, before the House or in our private time. It is very important that we look at this piece of amendment as an opportunity, and more so for the government — an opportunity for them to show forth a symbol of integrity by creating this extragovernmental body.

Furthermore, we are not asking for much by attempting to garner members from all aspects of our society to constitute this extragovernmental body. It is very important. This extragovernmental body, this oversight board, is so important that we must deal with it, all the regulations, because this board will govern the regulations.

Sheldon Paul: In the response to the member opposite's statement, I think it's important to just attempt to justify some of this particular example right here. I can't speak from British Columbia necessarily, but in my home province of Ontario, the established standard is that in such boards like this that govern a very particular section of education and employment, this is generally not something that would directly be taken from parliament, but it would be delegated from parliament in and of itself to an extra board.



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I mean, from my own personal experience, I simply wish to testify that it does work very well in Ontario. I just wish to push that out to the members opposite. I just wish to point out that it's a very good point that they're bringing up, but the members opposite fail to recognize that this is, in fact, another bureaucratic measure. This could very well lead to extra bureaucracy. If we were to delegate this particular task to a non-partisan extraparliamentary board, it would work much better.

Elise Delpiano: While the opposition understands the point of regulations and the role they play in lawmaking, I think that the opposition is providing the government, respectfully, quite a lot of.... We're doing this in good faith.

For starters, if section 2 were to pass as an amendment, (a) says that the member of the governing party would, in fact, be chair of the board as opposed to the opposition being chair of the board. We have put ourselves below yourselves as deputy chair of the board in good faith to ensure that both sides have input to the board.

[1505]

This is so important to ensure that oversight does occur, and the whole point of this amendment is to ensure that oversight actually does occur and not everything rests at the minister's discretion, which is the issue at hand at the moment, and regulations would just further that.

Hon. Farah Hussain: I'd like to thank the opposition for their amendment. That is why, even though we have the numbers in this House, we are not completely disregarding the work that they've put into putting forward this amendment.

On this side of the House, we believe that it should be experts — people who work in the field, people from business — who decide how we move forward. On the particular....

Interjection.

Hon. Farah Hussain: Would you like to speak?

Interjections.

Hon. Farah Hussain: So we on this side believe that it should be experts who advise the minister on ensuring that the right level of consultation is done, to ensure that this fund and initiative is successful. It's not the job of politicians to decide who to place on a certain board. It's not the job of politicians to chair that board.

That is why we would really appreciate if the opposition could

see our point of view and would appreciate if they could vote in favour of us on our subamendment to their amendment. We do recognize the work that they've put in to putting this idea forward.

Davey Haughton: While I appreciate the feedback given by the hon. House member — in particular, from the government Deputy Leader — we must note that a board is responsible for governance. Let me withdraw that. The government should also note that the board would be responsible for appointing a secretariat with the technical skills and expertise that will deal with the oversight of the administration of the internship and apprenticeship program.

Therefore, the process now would have a check and balance, so to speak, for want of a better expression. While the board is dealing with governance, the secretariat will be dealing with the technical part of it — such as monitoring, evaluation, the preparation of the reports for the board and the minister — while the board deals with the general policy governance of the internship and apprenticeship program.

Henceforth, we're asking and.... We're reiterating that we do agree on this. Because if we were to allow this to go to a regulation, then what we are doing is defeating the process by allowing the minister, at his discretion, at any time, really, to amend and to have sway on the whole process. That, therefore, would be politicizing the process, which you have mentioned we would not want to involve in the process.

Boards deal with governance. The secretariat is the expert that will deal with the technical administration of the program. That is all I have to add.

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: Thank you to the member of the opposition for your points. We have noted them, and we do see value in the proposal you've put forward, which is why, as my Deputy Leader has said, we are not rejecting it outright. What we are saying is that we think that a much better place to do this would be through regulations, because it gives us the time and the scrutiny to determine who would be best placed to be on the panel.

I would also like to remind the opposition that, yes, while the regulations will be made by the minister — who I would remind the hon. member, is female — it would therefore be at her discretion.

Regulations don't entirely escape the scrutiny of parliament. They do still go through the House process. They are still introduced into the House, and they are subject to disallowance. Therefore, it's not entirely a discretion that can be wielded with no checks and balances whatsoever.



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[1510]

Jabari Lynch: Your government was voted on and came in on a liberal party ticket. The philosophy of your party is to not be conservative, as we are, but to be liberal.

Of course, we see your point of view. But in terms of your point of view, in terms of a liberal ticket, is it not fitting, in terms of your philosophy, to have an extragovernmental body to see these things through?

Hon. Ashvini Savanthrapadian: As I mentioned, we are not rejecting the establishment of a body outright. In fact, we are accepting that we should establish one, and we agree that there are a lot of good points in the proposal that should be considered when we establish one.

All we are contending is that the power to establish the body is done through a regulation which would still follow a consultative process, that would still have checks and balances, and it would give us the time to really consider who is best placed to sit on that panel. That would be open to opposition members and government members and experts in the field, youth representatives, social workers — anybody who has a legitimate interest in ensuring that this panel creates the oversight that this bill and this framework really deserves.

Davey Haughton: While we recognize that, we still want to know that the act will basically embody the principle, which is outlined here, and the regulation would therefore deal with the operationalization of the process.

Therefore, in order to preserve the principle and in order to secure the principle, it will be better to have it passed in an act and have the operationalization of the internship program enacted in a regulation.

Aaron McDonnell: I move that, with the government's recommendation, the question be put.

[1515]

Subamendment approved on the following division:

YEAS — 25

NAYS — 16

Amendment approved.

Section 4.1 as amended approved.

Section 5 approved.

Sheldon Paul: I wish to make an amendment to section 6. Are we on section 6?

Elizabeth Kite (Deputy Chair of the Committee of the Whole): We haven't got to section 6 yet.

Sheldon Paul: Excuse me. My apologies.

Jabari Lynch: I rise to make an amendment.

It's a new thing.

I'm sure that no disagreement can be found in this particular piece of legislation, where we see the minister.... We're talking about the creation of a Commonwealth entrepreneurship incubation program.

[SECTION 5.1 Commonwealth Entrepreneurship Incubation Program

(1) The minister shall establish an entrepreneurship incubation fund as a youth entrepreneurship grant program for the youth entrepreneurs.

(2) To be eligible for participation under the Commonwealth entrepreneurship incubation program, an employer is required to

(a) demonstrate a commitment to employ and mentor the participant for a minimum of 12 months or the time it takes to complete the incubation program, whichever is greater, and

(b) provide the minimum employee standards in accordance with the national employee standards.]

Elizabeth Kite (Deputy Chair of the Committee of the Whole): Noting the hour, we shall put the question on the amendment.

[1520]

Amendment negated on the following division:

YEAS — 19

NAYS — 24

Sections 6 to 12 inclusive approved.

Title approved.

Hon. Kareina Mohammed: I move that the committee rise and report the bill complete with amendment.



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Motion approved.

The committee rose at 3:22 p.m.

The House resumed; Richard Lee in the chair.

Reporting of Bills

BILL 1 — YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP AND INTERNSHIP ACT

Bill 1, Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act, reported complete with amendment.

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): When shall the bill be considered as reported?

Hon. Kareina Mohammed: Now.

Leave granted.

Third Reading of Bills

BILL 1 — YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP AND INTERNSHIP ACT

Bill 1, Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act, read a third time and passed.

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): Hon. youth parliamentarians, I am advised that the Administrator is in the precinct. Please remain in your seats.

[1525]

Her Honour the Administrator requested to attend the House, was admitted to the chamber and took her place in the chair.

Royal Assent to Bills

Clerk Assistant:

Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act

In Her Majesty's name, Her Honour the Administrator doth assent to this act.

Her Honour the Administrator retired from the chamber.

[Richard Lee in the chair.]

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Hon. Jordan Kerr moved adjournment of the House.

Motion approved.

Richard Lee (Deputy Speaker of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament): The House stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

The House adjourned at 3:28 p.m.



EIGHTH COMMONWEALTH
YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Wednesday, November 9, 2016

Victoria, British Columbia

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