

Nos. 1 and 2

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Eighth Commonwealth Youth Parliament

Monday, November 7, 2016

ONE-THIRTY O'CLOCK P.M.

Prayers by Ms. *Hawse*.

This being the first day of the eighth Commonwealth Youth Parliament for the dispatch of business, the Youth Parliamentarians took their seats.

The Honourable RICK HANSEN, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, was pleased to deliver the following gracious speech:

Honourable Members of the eighth Commonwealth Youth Parliament:

Honourable Members of the Eighth Commonwealth Youth Parliament, it is a pleasure to welcome you to this Legislative Assembly, where you will conduct your business over the coming days. I congratulate you on your recent election and wish you well in your new parliamentary responsibilities. You have come together to consider important matters, guided by the principles of democracy, good governance and equality for all.

There are 65 new Members of the Legislative Assembly as a result of the recent election, and with this change, with your enthusiasm and with your ideas, increased opportunities and prosperity will come to this country.

Your government's agenda is clear and focused. We will put the interests of families and youth at the centre of the work that we do in this Legislative Assembly. Our priorities will be growing and diversifying the economy, creating jobs, protecting the environment, increasing accessibility to post-secondary education and ensuring a sustainable health care system.

A sustainable health care system. Health care is consuming an ever-increasing portion of the budget. Moving forward, we will face growing pressure on our health care system as our population ages. Many people in this country are concerned about the sustainability of health care for themselves and their families.

Your government is committed to renewing and reforming health care to ensure sustainable, high-quality, accessible care for our generation and future generations to come.

The path to this goal begins with engaging the people of this country in the decisions that will shape this change. In the coming months, your government will launch a public consultation on the sustainability of our health care system.

Enhanced post-secondary education. We know that 70 percent of all new jobs in the global economy will require post-secondary education and training. Your government believes that all people of this country, particularly youth, should have a real and fair chance to succeed. In order to support our youth and all people of this country in the global economy, it is time to take the next step towards extending the frontier of accessible public education.

Your government will act to increase accessibility to post-secondary education and ensure that every qualified student who wants to pursue post-secondary education has the opportunity to do so. Our youth are the single best investment we can make in the future. This investment will provide a stronger economy and a greater capacity to sustain our system of health care, preserve our environment and strengthen our role in the global environment.

A strong economy. Within the borders of our country, one can find natural resources and economic potential that would be the envy of any sovereign state on this planet. We have successful sectors where products are reaching markets around the world.

Your government will continue to strengthen trade ties in growing international markets, like China and India, because in a global economy, international trade is essential to creating jobs at home.

This country's historic strength in the resource sectors has allowed us to have sustained success in the mining, forestry and energy sectors. Your government will build on this strength by providing supports for these industries.

To ensure our economy remains strong, we must also diversify. This country is blessed with amazing human resources, hard-working people who strive for innovation and excellence. These attributes become ever more important as this country's economy transitions and expands, particularly in the service industries, including science and technology, tourism and recreation, and retail trade. A growing economy is the key to our future. It means opportunities for everyone and increased revenue to pay for public services.

Environmental protection. Environmental protection and a strong economy go hand in hand. These are not incompatible goals. This country is a land of great natural beauty. It is a source of pride for its people. Your government is committed to ensuring that this land remains preserved for future generations.

Pollution, climate change and our continued dependence on fossil fuels are real challenges that we must face. Your government is committed to finding solutions to the environmental problems facing our country and our planet. This country is currently not on track to meet legislated targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. For the sake of future generations, this must change. Your government will take immediate action to ensure that we meet our international environment, climate change and energy obligations.

Collaborative relationships. Your government is committed to working with aboriginal people, acknowledging that they are full partners in our country's economy and society while preserving and building on their own unique heritages and communities. Your government will continue to build and maintain relationships with aboriginal people, relationships that are based on recognition of rights, respect, cooperation and partnership.

Your government will partner with aboriginal communities to close the social-economic gap between aboriginal people and non-aboriginal people of this country in order to support cultural traditions and, of course, provide all of our citizens with real opportunities to participate in economic growth and prosperity.

Strengthening youth employment. Your government will take steps to address challenges faced by youth in today's job market. We will harness public sector resources and partner with the private sector to create opportunities for youth in our job market.

In the coming days, your government will introduce legislation to improve youth employment opportunities. Your government will set clear annual targets for education and training and a reduction in rates of youth unemployment.

We will create the jobs fund, a grant program that will incentivize employers in the private sector to take on new youth apprentices. We will also introduce the internship initiative, a grant program that will incentivize employers in a broad range of disciplines to take on new youth interns. Your government recognizes that some youth face additional barriers to employment. Apprenticeship and internship placements through these new programs will be targeted at these youth.

The measures that I have outlined here today are immediate actions to implement the vision your government has for this country.

Hon. Members, you have been tasked over the next four days to take on the challenge of leading this country. I trust that you will represent the interests of your constituents and discharge your accountabilities transparently, honestly and with integrity.

And I would like to personally ask you to help Canada prepare for its 150th birthday in 2017. Our constitution and Charter of Rights and Freedoms state that people with disabilities are included as equals in our society. In this ambitious agenda that I have outlined, in all areas of priority concerns for you to address, please ensure that the close to four million people with disabilities in our country don't get left behind.

Think about how barriers can be identified and removed and that we leave Canada a nation-building birthday present that continues annually for decades to come, continuing to build the Canada we want — an accessible and inclusive Canada. Never give up on that dream.

Speaker and hon. Members, I wish you well, and I now leave you to your important deliberations. May your work and actions be guided by wisdom and our shared commitment to parliamentary democracy.

Madame Speaker reported that, in order to prevent mistakes, she had obtained a copy of His Honour's Speech.

The House proceeded to "Orders of the Day."

Mr. *Krugliak* moved –

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Eighth Commonwealth Youth Parliament in Session assembled, beg leave to thank Your Honour for the gracious Speech which Your Honour has addressed to us at the opening of the present Session.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Ms. *Roberge-Eadie*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 2.01 p.m.

Monday, November 7, 2016

THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

Order called for "Introductions by Youth Parliamentarians'."

The Hon. *K. Mohammed* (Minister of Social Development) presented to the Speaker a Message from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, which read as follows:

RICK HANSEN
Lieutenant Governor

The Lieutenant Governor transmits herewith Bill (No. 1) intituled *Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act* and recommends the same to the Commonwealth Youth Parliament.

Government House,
November 7, 2016.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Bill *Ordered* to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading at the next sitting after today.

Order called for “Youth Parliamentarians’ Statements.”

Order called for “Oral Questions by Youth Parliamentarians.”

The House proceeded to “Orders of the Day.”

Pursuant to Order, the House resumed the adjourned debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament.

The debate continued.

On the motion of Mr. *Krugliak*, the debate was adjourned to the next sitting of the House.

And then the House adjourned at 4.28 p.m.

HON. LINDA REID, *Speaker*

NOTICE OF BILLS
Tuesday, November 8

Mr. *Paul* to introduce a Bill intituled *Commonwealth Renaming Act*.

Mr. *Tordiff* to introduce a Bill intituled *Devolution of Health Care Services Act*.

Ms. *Hawes* to introduce a Bill intituled *National Identity Act*.

PROGRESS OF BILLS

GOVERNMENT BILLS

(Listing printed for convenience only)

Bill No.	Title	Member	First Reading	Second Reading	Com- mittee	Report	Amended	Third Reading	Royal Assent
1	Youth Apprenticeship and Internship Act	Hon. K. Mohammed	Nov. 7						