

**NORFOLK ISLAND
FOURTEENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
WEDNESDAY 8/15/22 MAY 2013**

**NORF'K AILEN
DIISEM MENETS LARNEN WATHING HAEPN
INAA
FORTIINTH LEJESLIETEW 'SEMBLE
WEDNESDAY 8/15/22 MIEH 2013**

1 The Legislative Assembly met at 10.04 am, the Speaker, Hon David Buffett AM MLA, took the Chair and read Prayers

2 **QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (10.05 AM)**

DEPUTY SPEAKER took the Chair at 10.25 am
SPEAKER resumed Chair at 10.38 am

3 **ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**
Responses were provided to:

1 **Mrs Ward to ask the Chief Minister**

Would the Chief Minister table the Chief Executive Officer of Administrations' due diligence relating to Redemptech, reports dated February 27 and March 25, 2013 and any other associated documents?

2 **Mrs Ward to ask the Minister for Finance**

In relation to the development of a replacement revenue stream for the island, would the Minister tell the House of any Policy which has been formulated and give a progress report on any work done to date?

3 **Mrs Ward to ask the Chief Minister**

Is it a fact that an Administration employee pay claim has been lodged with Remuneration Tribunal and if so would the Chief Minister inform the House of the potential financial impact on the budget should the claim be successful?

4 **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

The following papers were presented:

- 1) Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell – **Exposure Draft of Public Service Bill 2013 and Explanatory Memorandum**
- 2) Minister for Finance, Mr Sheridan – **Customs Approved Exemptions**

SPEAKER FORESHADOWED SUSPENSION OF SITTING TO FOLLOWING WEEK, 15TH MAY

5 **STATEMENTS**

The following statements were made –

- 1) Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams – **Norfolk Island Central School Second Term**

Mrs Ward moved –

THAT the Statement be noted

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

- 2) Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams – **Working Group on Social Welfare and Health Care comparisons**

NOTICES

- 6 **MUSEUM TRUST ACT 1987 - APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE MUSEUM TRUST**
Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams pursuant to notice, moved -

THAT this House resolve for the purposes of subsections 5(1) and (2) of the *Museum Trust Act 1987* that the Minister appoint the following as members of the Norfolk Island Museum Trust—

**Albert Fletcher Buffett;
Jeanette Elizabeth Calder;
Peter Russell Horrocks;
Ronald Coane Nobbs; and
Jodie Therese Williams;**

for the period 9 May 2013 to 8 May 2015.

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices – Mr Nobbs abstained

- 7 **NORFOLK ISLAND GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU ACT 1980 - APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER OF THE NORFOLK ISLAND GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU ADVISORY BOARD AND APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MEMBER**

Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell pursuant to notice, moved —

THAT this House in accordance with sections 4 and 6 of the *Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau Act 1980* resolve that the Minister with responsibility for the Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau Advisory Board appoint —

Sandra Jane Pettitt

to be a member of the Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau Advisory Board for the term of two years commencing 9 May 2013;

and appoint —

Barry David Hyatt

to be a delegate member of the Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau Advisory Board for the appointed member and to act as the member if the member is absent or unable to discharge official duties, during the term that the member is appointed to the Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau Advisory Board.

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

- 8 **MOTION BY LEAVE - PUBLIC SECTOR REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL ACT 1992 - APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC SECTOR REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL**

Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell, sought leave to move foreshadowed motion

Question – **THAT leave be granted** – put and agreed on the voices

Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell, moved -

THAT in accordance with subsection 5(2) of the *Public Sector Remuneration Tribunal Act 1992* this House resolve to recommend to the Administrator that he appoint —

Hon Kevin Edmund Lindgren AM, QC

to be the Public Sector Remuneration Tribunal.

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

9 MOTION BY LEAVE - PREFERRED MODEL OF SELF GOVERNANCE AND TAXATION FOR NORFOLK ISLAND

Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell, sought leave to move foreshadowed motion

Question – **THAT leave be granted** – put and agreed on the voices

Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell, moved -

THAT this House reaffirms the motion dated 11th July 2012 proposed and agreed by the 13th Legislative Assembly which stated – THAT consequent upon the following examinations, studies and other measures undertaken in accordance with the Roadmap and respective inter-governmental agreements:-

- a) the Deloitte Access Economics *Wellbeing Report –Norfolk Island* dated 27th April 2011
- b) the Commonwealth Grants Commission *Update of the Financial Capacity of Norfolk Island 2011*, dated 2nd December 2011
- c) the Australian Continuous Improvement Group *Norfolk Island Public Service Review*
- d) the ACIL-Tasman *Norfolk Island Economic Development Report*
- e) the *Revenue Measure Options for the Norfolk Island Government* discussion paper
- f) the *Policies to Promote Competition and Investment in Norfolk Island* policy paper
- g) the *Norfolk Island Government’s Preferred Model for Territory Self Governance*

And having regard to their respective outcomes, this House resolves to;

- a) Endorse the Norfolk Island Government’s commitment to participation in the Australian taxation and social security systems to deliver a net benefit to its community and to express a preference for the earliest introduction of those systems, and
- b) Affirms the inclusion of the island into the Australian GST and transfer payment system
- c) Reaffirm a preferred model for future self-governance as set out in the motion of the Legislative Assembly dated 3rd August 2011, and
- d) Commit to return core functions of Government through staged divestment of commercial enterprises using the *Competition Principles Agreement 1995* as a policy framework
- e) Prepare and commit to an itemised timetable for the reduction and/or removal of barriers to investment and competition, reflecting a reasonable and balanced approach to individual areas, and
- f) Commit to supporting amendments to the *Norfolk Island Act 1979* necessary to achieve the outcomes set out in this motion.

Debate ensued

PAPER TABLED: Minister Adams tabled the JSC Submission

DEPUTY SPEAKER took the Chair at 12.28 pm

SPEAKER resumed Chair at 12.37 pm

Mr Nobbs moved an amendment –

THAT all words after “that” be deleted and the following inserted in their place. “This House reaffirms it’s appreciation of the financial assistance subsequently provided following the original agreement reached in the Memorandum of Understanding dated

25 November 2010 between the Commonwealth of Australia and the Government of Norfolk Island wherein the Norfolk Island Government as stated in the Memorandum of Understanding and I quote “agreed in broad terms to participate in the Australian Taxation and Social Security system on the basis that there will be net benefit for Norfolk Island and it’s community and there is appropriate consideration of local circumstances. Thus as a consequence of the Memorandum it is requested that the Commonwealth and Norfolk Island Governments provide urgently to the community of Norfolk Island an assessment as to the impact, both positive and negative of that part of the Memorandum of Understanding which refers to a net benefit for the Norfolk Island and its community and there is appropriate consideration of the local circumstances”.

Debate ensued

Question – **THAT the amendment be agreed to** - put and negatived on the voices

Question – **THAT the motion be agreed to** - put and agreed to on the voices – Mr Nobbs abstaining

10 **MOTION BY LEAVE - PREFERRED MODEL OF SELF GOVERNANCE AND TAXATION FOR NORFOLK ISLAND**

Mr Nobbs sought leave to move motion

Question – **THAT leave be granted** – put and agreed on the voices

Mr Nobbs moved -

THAT this House resolves–

1. That the Norfolk Island Government seeks to establish a positive partnership with the Commonwealth Government and the Norfolk Island community in a spirit of co-operation and willingness to find joint solutions to the community’s needs to result in a sustainable future for Norfolk Island; and

2. That agreed structural reform and implementation of the Island’s governance arrangements and financial management framework results in a net benefit for Norfolk Island and its community having due regard to local circumstances to ensure Norfolk Island residents are not displaced;

Debate ensued

Question – **THAT the motion be agreed to** - put and agreed to on the voices

11 **SUSPENSION OF DEBATE ON 8TH MAY TO RESUME ON 15ND MAY 2013**

12 **RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON 15TH MAY FROM 8 MAY 2013**

13 **PUBLIC SERVICE BILL 2013**

Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell, sought the concurrence of the House to suspend the Sitting to the following week, to allow amendments to be made to the Public Service Bill 2013, prior to presentation

14 **STATEMENTS**

The following statements were made –

- 3) Speaker Buffett – **Proposed visit by her Excellency the Governor-General of Australia - 13th to 15th October 2013**
- 4) Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell - **\$4.4m from Australian to enable the Norfolk Island Government to compile a 2013-14 Budget**
- 5) Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams – **Immigration (Amendment No.2) Bill 2012**
- 6) Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams – **Australian Leadership Awards Fellowship**

7) Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams – **Sustainable Islands Project**

15 SUSPENSION OF DEBATE ON 15TH MAY TO RESUME ON 22ND MAY 2013

16 RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON 22ND MAY FROM 15TH MAY 2013

17 PUBLIC SERVICE BILL 2013

Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell, pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to regulate the administration of the public service of Norfolk Island, to repeal the *Public Sector Management Act 2000* and for related purposes and moved –

THAT the Bill be agreed to in principle

Paper: Mr Snell tabled the explanatory memorandum

Debate ensued

Mr Snell moved –

THAT debate be adjourned and the resumption of debate made an Order of the Day for a subsequent day of sitting

Question put and agreed to on the voices

18 STATEMENTS

The following statements were made –

8) Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams – **Immigration (Amendment No.2) Act 2012**

Mrs Ward moved –

THAT the Statement be noted

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

19 FIXING OF NEXT SITTING DAY

Mrs Ward moved –

THAT the House at its rising adjourn until Wednesday 29 May 2013 at 10 am

Question put and agreed to on the voices

20 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Porter moved –

THAT the House do now adjourn

Debate ensued with Mr Snell participating

Question put and agreed to on the voices

AND THEN the House at 11.50 am adjourned until Wednesday 29 May 2013 at 10 am

Gaye Evans

Clerk to the Legislative Assembly

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present