

**NORFOLK ISLAND
FOURTEENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
WEDNESDAY 16 JULY 2014**

**NORF'K AILEN
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FORTIINTH LEJESLIETEW 'SEMBLE
WEDNESDAY 16 JULAI 2014**

- 1 The Legislative Assembly met at 10.01 am, and the Speaker, Hon David Buffett AM MLA, took the Chair and read Prayers
- 2 **LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR HON TIM SHERIDAN MLA**
Leave of absence was unanimously extended to Mr Sheridan
- 3 **QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (10.03-11.12 AM)**
Time for questions without notice having expired, on motion of Mr Buffett, time for questions without notice was extended by fifteen minutes (11.18 am)

Deputy Speaker took the chair at 10.42 am

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

64 Mrs Ward asked the Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism -

Is it a fact that the Norfolk Island Government has not taken advantage since October 2011 of its right to attend as an observer, high-level Australian Tourism meetings and if so; will the Chief Minister explain the failure to do so?

Speaker resumed chair at 11.13 am

65 Mrs Ward asked the Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism -

Does the Norfolk Island Government have in place a tourism development framework to assist the Island and tourism industry to grow its competitiveness and if it does; will the Chief Minister give an overview of the framework and a progress report?

66 Mrs Ward asked the Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism -

Given the Chief Minister's 4th of July comments on radio VL2NI will he confirm the following:

- 1) That \$1,000,000 has been allocated in the 2014-15 budget for infrastructure investment;
- 2) How the investment will stimulate the economy; and
- 3) When the community will see the initiative rolled out?

67 Mrs Ward asked the Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism -

Will the Chief Minister describe the action his Government has taken to further reduce barriers to tourism investment on the Island and will the Chief Minister describe the action his Government has taken to attract such investment to the Island?

68 Mrs Ward asked the Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism -

Will the Chief Minister outline the Norfolk Island Government's policy position in relation to skilled foreign labour entering the Island?

69 Mrs Ward asked the Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services -

Is it a fact that during the 2014-15 funding agreement negotiations the Norfolk Island Government rejected a proposal put forward by the Australian Government to remove all further barriers to Australians coming to the Island to live and if so; on whose advice was the Minister acting and what were the reasons given?

70 Mrs Ward asked the Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism -

Given that passports, Medicare and private health insurance are regularly listed as barriers to tourism on Norfolk Island and given that these items are beyond the control of the Norfolk Island Government; what is the Chief Minister doing on behalf of the community to pursue them with the Australian Government?

71 Mrs Ward asked the Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism -

Given that lack of certainty in relation to governance, taxation and social welfare, are commonly stated as barriers to investment on Norfolk Island; what action has the Chief Minister taken on behalf of the community to pursue these matters of continuing uncertainty with the Australian Government?

72 Mrs Ward asked the Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services –

What Hospital budget funds have been allocated to carry out further consultation in relation to assessing the health service needs of the community and when will the assessment process be complete?

73 Mrs Ward asked the Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services –

What percentage of the Hospital budget is allocated to preventative health programmes?

1) **Paper tabled:** Ms Adam: **Extract from *Norfolk Islander* dated 12 July 2014 on Women's Wellness Programme**

74 Mrs Ward asked the Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services –

Is it a fact that the draft funding agreement calls for an Aged Care Strategy to be developed and if so; is the Minister confident that the necessary skills to carry out this important work exist on island?

75 Mrs Ward asked the Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services –

Will the Minister inform the House what is stopping the Draft Nexus Health Report being finalized?

2) **Paper tabled:** Ms Adams – **Draft Health Services Plan – NEXUS Management Consulting**
Leave of the House granted to have paper printed into Hansard

Speaker resumed chair at 10.46 am

5 PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

The following papers were presented:

3) Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell – **Infrastructure and Business Development Reports – Government's response**

Ms Ward moved –

THAT the House take note of the paper

Debate ensued

Mr Nobbs moved –

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

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

4) Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell – **NIGTB Visitor Statistics for 2013-14 Financial Year**

5) Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams – **Healthcare (Amendment) Regulations 2014**

6) Minister for the Environment, Mr Ward - **Employment (Amendment) Regulations 2014**

7) Minister for the Environment, Mr Ward - **GST Quarterly Report for April to June 2014**

6 STATEMENTS OF AN OFFICIAL NATURE

The following statements were made –

1) Chief Minister and Minister for Tourism, Mr Snell – **Welcome to The Administrator, Hon Gary Hardgrave and Mrs Hardgrave**

2) Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams – **Baunti Beauties Island Dancers**

7 MESSAGES FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Message No. 16 – from the Administrator advising that on 27 June 2014 acting pursuant to section 21 of the *Norfolk Island Act 1979* he declared his assent to the following proposed law passed by the Legislative Assembly, the Appropriation Act 2014-2015 (Act No 8 of 2014)

NOTICES**8 PROTECTION OF MOVABLE CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT 1987**

Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services, Ms Adams pursuant to notice, moved

THAT in accordance with section 9 of the *Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1987*, this House recommends to the Minister that —

Janelle Blucher

be appointed as a member of the Norfolk Island Cultural Heritage Committee for the period of four years commencing 16 July 2014.

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

9 MOTION BY LEAVE**NORFOLK ISLAND HOSPITAL ACT 1985 – APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO ADVISORY BOARD**

Minister for Cultural Heritage and Community Services (Ms Adams) by leave, moved -

THAT this House, in accordance with section 12 of the *Norfolk Island Hospital Act 1985*, resolve that —

Barbara Joy Kelly

be appointed by the Minister as a member of the Norfolk Island Hospital Advisory Board for a term of 3 years commencing on the date of gazettal of this appointment.

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices

10 INTRODUCTION OF LAND RATING SYSTEM

Mr Nobbs, pursuant to notice, moved -

THAT this House resolve that any system of rating land on Norfolk Island must be applied to all land in Norfolk Island, irrespective of its classification, tenure (freehold or Crown Lease) or ownership.

Debate ensued

Mr Nobbs 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

11 LAND ADMINISTRATION FEES (AMENDMENT) BILL 2014**LAEN ADMINESTRIESHAN FII (CHIENJEN) BIL 2014**

Minister for the Environment, Mr Ward on behalf of the Minister for Finance, Mr Sheridan, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the application of registration fees under the *Land Administration Fees Act 1996* and moved –

THAT the Bill be agreed to in principle

8) **Paper tabled:** Mr Ward tabled the Explanatory Memorandum to the Bill

Debate ensued

Mr Ward 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

12 FIXING OF NEXT SITTING DAY

Mrs ward moved –

THAT the House at its rising adjourn until Wednesday 20 August 2014 at 10 am

Question put and agreed to on the voices

13 ADJOURNMENT

Mr Porter moved –

THAT the House do now adjourn

Debate ensued with Mr Nobbs; Ms Adams; Mr Ward; Ms Adams; Mrs Ward; Mr Nobbs and Mr Snell participating

Question put and agreed to on the voices

AND THEN the House at 1.03 pm adjourned until Wednesday 20 August 2014 at 10.00 am

Gaye Evans
Clerk to the Legislative Assembly

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present expect Mr Sheridan by leave