

**NORFOLK ISLAND
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
NINTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
16 AUGUST 2000**

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NAINTH LEJESLIETEW 'SEMBLE
16 ORGAS 2000**

- 1** The Legislative Assembly met at 10.01 am. The Speaker (Hon D.E. Buffett MLA) took the Chair and read the Prayer
- 2** **21st ANNIVERSARY OF INAUGURATION OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – STATEMENT BY SPEAKER**
The Speaker recorded that August 2000 marks the 21st anniversary of the inauguration of the Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island
- 3** **QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**
- 4** **ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**
An answer was provided by Mr Cook to Question on Notice No. 9
- 5** **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**
- 1) Mr Nobbs (Chief Minister) –
 - a) tabled the Financial Indicators for July 2000 and moved – That the House take note of the Paper
Debate ensued
Question put and agreed to on the voices
 - b) tabled detail of approved exemptions from payment of customs duty and moved – That the House take note of the Paper
Debate ensued
Question put and agreed to on the voices
 - 2) Gardner (Minister for Health and Environment) tabled –
 - a) the Report from the Chairman of the Norfolk Island Gaming Authority relating to activities of the Authority from 1 January to 30 June 2000 and moved – That the House take note of the Paper
Debate ensued
Question put and agreed to on the voices
 - b) Copy of the Licences granted to Australian Online Casino Ltd to Conduct Interactive Home Gaming and to act as a Bookmaker and moved – That the House take note of the Paper
Debate ensued
Question put and agreed to on the voices
 - 3) Mr Smith (Minister for Tourism and Commerce) tabled –
 - a) Inbound Passenger Statistics for July 2000 and moved – That the House take note of the Paper
Debate ensued
Question put and agreed to on the voices

- b) A press release from Fastbook Pacific Holidays advising that the business had been taken off the market for at least the next five years and moved – That the House take note of the paper
Debate ensued
Question put and agreed to on the voices
- c) Tourist Accommodation statistics pertaining to the current tourist accommodation numbers together with detail of conditional registrations valid until 31 July 2000 and moved – That the House take note of the Paper
Debate ensued
Question put and agreed to on the voices
- d) Proposed Tourist Accommodation Amendment Regulations 2000 and moved – That the House take note of the Paper
Debate ensued
Question put and agreed to on the voices

6 STATEMENTS

1) Mr Nobbs (Chief Minister) –

- a) Reported on the engineering flight tests carried out last week by Flight West Airlines and Honeywell on the newly installed airborne equipment which is to be used in conjunction with the Satellite Landing System to operate at the Norfolk Island airport;
 - b) Reported on the visit by Mr Graham Donaldson to the Australian Bureau of Statistics to discuss a review of the Norfolk Island Retail Price Index;
 - c) Gave an update on developments with the Offshore Finance Centre Project;
 - d) Provided a response to a question asked by Mr Brown at the April 2000 sitting in respect of income derived by the Administration from sale of palm seeds picked on Administration properties;
 - e) Responded to a question asked at the last sitting by Mr Walker in respect of the activities of the Electricity Undertaking staff in respect of Captain Cook Voyage 51 last July
 - f) Responded to a question asked at the last sitting by Mr Walker in respect of “cashing in” of accumulated recreational leave by Members of the Public Service
- 2) Mr Smith (Minister for Tourism and Commerce) gave a detailed brief on the current Education System on Norfolk Island and the excellent achievements in recent times by students at the Norfolk Island Central School, not only academically, but also in the areas of sport, technology, the environment and in community involvement

7 MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Speaker reported **Message No. 10** from the Deputy Administrator advising that on 25 July 2000 he declared his assent to the Cascade Cliff Loan Amendment Act 2000 and the Fees and Charges (Validation) Act 2000 and that he reserved for the Governor-General's pleasure the Subdivision (Moratorium) Bill 2000

8 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LEGISLATION

Mr Brown, pursuant to notice, moved –

THAT this House requests the responsible Executive Member to introduce a Bill, as quickly as possible, to provide for a Freedom of Information Act with minimal exceptions

Debate ensued

Mr Brown, by leave, moved the following amendment:

THAT the words “,having appropriate regard to government’s existing legislative programme,” be added after the words “as quickly as possible”

Question – That the amendment be agreed to – put and agreed to on the voices

Question – That the motion as amended be agreed to – put and agreed to on the voices

9 FEASIBILITY OF AN OMBUDSMAN FOR NORFOLK ISLAND

Mr Brown, by leave, moved –

THAT this House requests the responsible Executive Member to prepare and table, at the earliest possible date, a White Paper setting out the benefits, disadvantages and likely costs in the event that legislation is passed to provide for an Ombudsman in Norfolk Island

Debate ensued

Question put and agreed to on the voices, Mr McCoy dissenting

10 REVISION OF TELECOM RENTAL AND SERVICE CHARGES (NEW SERVICES)

Mr Nobbs (Chief Minister), by leave, moved –

**That Telecom rental and services charges be revised as per the following Schedule:
Schedule**

Service	Existing Charge	Revised Charge
Line Charges		
Silent (CLI Restricted)	New Service	\$60.00 per annum
Plant & Equipment Hire		
Australian GSM mobile hire phones	New Service	\$5.00 per day + \$200.00 deposit
Sub Facilities		
CLI extension restriction (silent no.)	New service	\$60.00 per annum
CLI receive enable	New service	\$60.00 per annum
Internet		
<u>Web page hosting</u> – Private – 5 meg Business – 5 meg	New service New service	Free \$20.00 per month
Removal/relocation		
Non-intact (minimum)	\$30.00	\$50.00
Intact	\$20.00	\$30.00

Debate ensued
Question put
The House voted –

AYES, 7
Mr Buffett
Mr Nobbs
Mr Cook
Mr Gardner
Mr Walker
Mr Smith
Mr Brown

Motion agreed to

NOES, 2
Mr Bates
Mr McCoy

11 “DEAD RAT LANE”

Debate resumed (Mr Walker) on the question – That the motion be agreed to
 Debate adjourned (Mr Walker) and the resumption of debate made an Order of the Day
 for a subsequent day of sitting

12 IMMIGRATION ACT 1980 – PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Debate resumed (Mr Brown) on the question – That the motion be agreed to

The Deputy Speaker took the Chair at 1.10 pm

Mr Buffett, by leave, moved the following amendment:

That the words “to urgently introduce a bill to amend the Immigration Act 1980 as follows:” and substitute the words “to take into account the following views in his present immigration review, namely –“ and add at the end of the motion the following words “and the above review be encouraged to be speedily delivered and that he report progress at each sitting”

Debate ensued

Speaker took the Chair at 1.25 pm**Acting Deputy Speaker Bates took the Chair at 1.30 pm**

Question – That the amendment be agreed to – put and agreed to on the voices

Question – That the motion as amended be agreed to – put

The House voted –

AYES, 5

Mr Buffett

Mr Bates

Mr Gardner

Mr Smith

Mr Brown

NOES, 4

Mr Nobbs

Mr Cook

Mr McCoy

Mr Walker

Motion as amended agreed to

13 IMMIGRATION AMENDMENT BILL 2000

Debate resumed (Mr Cook) on the question – That the Bill be agreed to in principle
 Debate adjourned (Mr Cook) and the resumption of debate made an Order of the Day for
 a subsequent day of sitting

14 FIXING OF NEXT SITTING DAY

Mr Gardner (Minister for Health and Environment) moved –

THAT the House at its rising adjourn until Wednesday 13 September 2000

Question put and agreed to on the voices

15 ADJOURNMENT

Mr McCoy moved –

THAT the House do now adjourn

Question put and agreed to on the voices

AND THEN the House at 1.40 pm adjourned until Wednesday 13 September 2000 at 10 am

Robin-Eleanor Adams
Clerk to the Legislative Assembly

Members Present: All Members were present