

SEVENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**Opening of Meeting by Clerk**

Your Honour The Administrator, Mrs Kerr, Honourable Members of the Seventh Legislative Assembly, Ladies and Gentlemen good afternoon.

This meeting, the first of the Seventh Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island is convened pursuant to the following notice which appeared in the Norfolk Island, Government Gazette dated 29 April 1994.

"I, Alan Gardner Kerr, Administrator of Norfolk Island, under subsection 40(2) of the Norfolk Island Act 1979, do by this notice convene a meeting of the Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island. In the first meeting of the 7th Assembly, to be held at the Legislative Assembly Chambers, Kingston, on Wednesday 4 May 1994 at 3 pm. That notice was dated 28th day of April 1994 and signed A. G. Kerr, Administrator."

I invite all present to be upstanding, whilst the Reverend James Calvert, reads prayers.

Prayer

Almighty God King of Kings, and Lord of Lords we pray today for the Members of this the 7th Legislative Assembly, may they be quiet in spirit and clear in judgement. May they be able to understand the issues that face them, may they think often of the people of this Island on whose behalf they must speak and act. May they remember that only in keeping your law, is there goodness and happiness. Grant them patience, grant them courage, grant them foresight and great faith, in their anxieties be their security, in their opportunities be their inspiration. By their plans and their actions may Your kingdom come. Your will be done. In the name of Jesus Christ, Our Saviour, Amen.

Return to Writ

CLERK: Thank you Mr Calvert. Please be seated everyone. I have received a return to the writ for the election of the Legislative Assembly held on 27 April 1994.

By the endorsement on the writ it is certified that the following Members have been elected:

David Ernest Buffett
Michael William King
Nadia Cuthbertson
Geoffrey James Bennett
Monica Jean Anderson
Neville Charles Christian
Brian George Bates
Robert Eric Adams
Helen Victoria Sampson

and I lay the Return on the table of the House.

Swearing in of Members

CLERK: The Deputy Clerk will now approach each Member in turn so that

they may make and subscribe the oath or affirmation of allegiance and the oath or affirmation of office.

DEPUTY CLERK: David Ernest Buffett please take the Bible in your right hand and read and subscribe the oaths

MR BUFFETT: I, David Ernest Buffett, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Her Heirs and Successors according to law. So help me God.

I, David Ernest Buffett, do swear that I will render true and faithful service as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island. So help me God.

DEPUTY CLERK: Michael William King please take the Bible in your right hand and read and subscribe the oaths

MR KING: I, Michael William King, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Her Heirs and Successors according to law. So help me God.

I, Michael William King, do swear that I will render true and faithful service as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island. So help me God.

DEPUTY CLERK: Nadia Lozzi-Cuthbertson please read and subscribe the affirmations

MRS LOZZI-CUTHBERTSON: I, Nadia Lozzi-Cuthbertson, do solemnly and sincerely affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Her Heirs and Successors according to law.

I, Nadia Lozzi-Cuthbertson, do solemnly and sincerely promise and declare that I will render true and faithful service as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island

DEPUTY CLERK: Geoffrey James Bennett please take the Bible in your right hand and read and subscribe the oaths

MR BENNETT: I, Geoffrey James Bennett, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Her Heirs and Successors according to law. So help me God.

I, Geoffrey James Bennett, do swear that I will render true and faithful service as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island. So help me God.

DEPUTY CLERK: Monica Jean Anderson please take the Bible in your right hand and read and subscribe the oaths

MRS ANDERSON: I, Monica Jean Anderson, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Her Heirs and Successors according to law. So help me God.

I, Monica Jean Anderson, do swear that I will render true and faithful service as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island. So help me God.

DEPUTY CLERK: Neville Charles Christian please read and subscribe the

affirmation

MR CHRISTIAN: I, Neville Charles Christian, do solemnly and sincerely affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Her Heirs and Successors according to law.

I, Neville Charles Christian, do solemnly and sincerely promise and declare that I will render true and faithful service as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island

DEPUTY CLERK: Brian George Bates please take the Bible in your right hand and read and subscribe the oaths

MR BATES: I, Brian George Bates, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Her Heirs and Successors according to law. So help me God. I, Brian George Bates, do swear that I will render true and faithful service as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island. So help me God.

DEPUTY CLERK: Robert Eric Adams please read and subscribe the affirmation

MR ADAMS: I, Robert Eric Adams, do solemnly and sincerely affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Her Heirs and Successors according to law.

I, Robert Eric Adams, do solemnly and sincerely promise and declare that I will render true and faithful service as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island

DEPUTY CLERK: Helen Victoria Sampson please take the Bible in your right hand and read and subscribe the oaths

MRS SAMPSON: I, Helen Victoria Sampson, do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, Her Heirs and Successors according to law. So help me God. I, Helen Victoria Sampson, do swear that I will render true and faithful service as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island. So help me God.

The Administrator signs the attestation form

CLERK: I will now ask His Honour the Administrator to sign the form attesting to the making and subscribing of the required oaths and affirmations by Members of the Seventh Legislative Assembly.

Election of President

CLERK: Honourable Members the next business is the election of a President of the Assembly. Are there any nominations please?

MR KING: I would move that David Ernest Buffett be elected President and do now take the Chair.

CLERK: Mr Buffett do you accept nomination

MR BUFFETT: I accept nomination

CLERK: Are there any further proposals Honourable Members? Time for proposals has expired. I declare that David Ernest Buffett has been elected as President and I would ask Mr Buffett to now take the Chair

MR PRESIDENT: Honourable Members thank you kindly for the expression of confidence that you have made towards me in allowing me to take the Chair as President of this the Norfolk Island Legislative Assembly. The next business is the election of a Deputy President and I seek nominations?

MRS SAMPSON: Mr President, I move that Monica Jean Anderson be elected to be Deputy President.

MR PRESIDENT: Mrs Anderson do you accept nomination?

MRS ANDERSON: I accept nomination.

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you Mrs Anderson. Are there any further proposals? Time for proposals has expired. I therefore declare that Monica Jean Anderson has been elected Deputy President of the Norfolk Island Legislative Assembly. And Mrs Anderson I convey warm congratulations to you upon that election.

Administrator's Speech

MR PRESIDENT: I will invite His Honour the Administrator to deliver an address at this the formal opening of the Seventh Legislative Assembly.

HIS HONOUR THE ADMINISTRATOR: Thank you Mr President. Mr President, Madam Deputy President, Honourable Members, Madam Clerk, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. My wife Judy and I congratulate Honourable Members on your election to the Seventh Legislative Assembly of Norfolk Island. We also congratulate you Mr President, and your Madam Deputy President on your elections to office. We are pleased and honoured to be with you all on the occasion of the Seventh Assembly's inaugural meeting.

The Minister for the Environment, Sport and Territories, Senator the Honourable John Faulkner and the Parliamentary Secretary for Territories, the Honourable Warren Snowdon, MP, have asked me to convey to you their congratulations on your election and their best wishes for a successful and productive Assembly. The Minister is keen to make an early visit to Norfolk Island to meet the Norfolk Island community and to discuss with you, your plans and priorities.

The Parliamentary Secretary is looking forward to early discussions with the incoming Norfolk Island Government, on matters raised during the life of the previous Norfolk Island Government. He is eager to progress these matters and to co-operate in every way to negotiate mutually satisfactory outcomes. Both the Minister and the Parliamentary Secretary are certain that the excellent co-operation which marked the relationships between the Federal Government and the Norfolk Island Government in the Sixth and in previous Assemblies will continue in the life time of the Seventh Assembly.

The Secretary of the Department of Environment, Sport and Territories, Mr Stuart Hamilton, has also asked me to extend to you, his congratulations on your election and his best wishes for the Assembly work ahead.

Mr President the Sixth Legislative Assembly achieved much in its two years of

operation. It built on the work of its predecessors and you and Honourable Members will continue that work in this Seventh Assembly. Important measures dealing with immigration, health, law and the administration of justice, the public service and the tourist industry where among legislation dealt with by the Sixth Assembly, as well during the time span of the Sixth Assembly, refurbishment occurred at the hospital and plans were progressed for a new airport terminal building and a new police station. Among other things the lighterage review was presented for consideration and a waste disposal study was commenced. Continuing development of these matters and others, together with matters of your own initiation and the 1994/1995 budget will ensure a busy work load for you from day 1 of your proceedings.

Legislatures and Governments are often criticised, but there's is not an easy task.

The Norfolk Island community has placed its trust in you in electing you to be members of this Assembly. All the issues you will deal with, will relate to the good fortune and wellbeing of Norfolk Island's community, its economy and its environment. These issues demand the most careful attention. And I believe that the Norfolk Island community is confident that you will give them that degree of attention in your Assembly work.

Mr President, I repeat the view that I expressed at the opening of the Sixth Legislative Assembly, that the Administrator and Members of the Legislative Assembly are servants of the public of Norfolk Island. And that it is our deep responsibility to account for, and discharge that service. At that time I also indicated my intentions, and I have made it my aim at every opportunity since, to further relationships between the Federal and Norfolk Island Governments, and at all times to work with the Legislative Assembly, the Norfolk Island Government and the community for the betterment of Norfolk Island.

In my work as Administrator, I will continue vigorously to pursue that aim, with the Seventh Legislative Assembly and with the Government which is formed from its Members.

Mr President and Honourable Members Judy and I give you our best wishes for the success of your work in the Seventh Legislative Assembly. Thank you.

Mr President's Reply

Thank you Your Honour. Your Honour and Mrs Kerr, Honourable Members, distinguished guests who are in the Chamber this afternoon, thank you Your Honour for your warm wishes to Members upon the commencement of this the Seventh Legislative Assembly.

Thank you for conveying congratulatory messages from the Minister from the Environment, Sport and Territories, Senator Faulkner, the Parliamentary Secretary for Territories, the Honourable Warren Snowdon and the Head of the Department of Sports and Territories, Mr Stuart Hamilton. We all here would be grateful if you would offer them our appreciation of their best wishes.

We Members are continuing the task, within Norfolk Island's own legislature, of representing the community of this place. Conducting the Island's affairs, through our own efforts with the executive members exercising their roles, the statutory officers, statutory establishments and the public service pursuing their tasks, all in support of laws and of policies made or endorsed by this legislature. It is a daunting task, especially but not exclusively as it appears so for members, who may be new entrants to this forum. However, Your Honour, we all pledge ourselves in accordance with the oaths or affirmations made this afternoon to pursue and to

preserve the interests of this island and its community and to do so with initiative, understanding and compassion where appropriate and, to pick up a word that you used earlier, and with vigour.

Previous Assemblies have made their contribution, this Assembly is committed to proving its worth. Your Honour the part in the office of Administrator of this Island is important and is valued, and I on behalf of Members acknowledge with appreciation your participation and that of Mrs Kerr.

Thank you Your Honour for being present this afternoon for formally receiving our attestations and speaking encouragingly to us, at this the opening of the Seventh Legislative Assembly.

Suspension of Sitting

MR PRESIDENT: Honourable Members and guests this afternoon, we will adjourn for a minute or so, two minutes the formal words say, so that we might allow His Honour the Administrator and Mrs Kerr and others to withdraw from the Chamber, and then we might return and continue the balance of the business. I'd asked that Members and guests all join me in standing while His Honour and Mrs Kerr, depart, I would invite you to remain in the Chamber for the remainder of the proceedings.

Resumption of Sitting

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you Honourable Members and guests. We resume now Honourable Members and I firstly call upon Condolences.

Condolences

MR PRESIDENT: Honourable Members I firstly call upon Condolences

MRS SAMPSON: Mr President, it is with regret that this House records the death of Jack Orpin, who passed away at the Norfolk Island Hospital on Tuesday, 29th March. Jack had lived on Norfolk for some 34 years and soon after arriving he founded and coached the "Reds" football team. He built the "Reds" clubroom on his own property in Ferny Lane. During the last fourteen years Jack had the traumatic experience of having both legs amputated and was restricted to a motorised wheel chair. Despite this, he never lost his smile and always had a greeting to passers-by in the hospital grounds where he lived in one of the Mawson Units. Jack leaves three children - two living in Australia and one in New Zealand. Jarvis, who was born on Norfolk, came over recently to visit his father. Jack will be sadly missed by his many mates on Norfolk and to these his friends, to Jenny Holland and to the families in Australia and New Zealand this House extends its deepest sympathy.

Mr President, this House also records with regret the death of John Joseph Tingay, father of Mudgi Guile of Brancker House, who passed away on Norfolk Island on Thursday, 14th April. Joe, as he was always called, was born in London some 76 years ago and was very proud of his Cockney heritage. He was a retired auctioneer and valuer and an expert in Channel Island silver. Joe first visited Norfolk after supporting the Guernsey-Channel Islands at the Brisbane Commonwealth Games in 1982. He became a regular visitor after that. Joe had a family of three girls and two boys - one son coming over recently from Melbourne to visit his dad. His two other daughters and son live in England. To Mudgi, Peter and to Joe's family in Australia and England, this House extends its sincere sympathy.

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you Mrs Sampson. As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Honourable Members and guests I would ask that we all stand for a period of silence. Thank you Honourable Members. We now move to papers and in accordance with section 41 of the Interpretation Ordinance 1979, I lay on the table of the House, the Tourist Accommodation Amendment Regulations 1994, and that I now do.

MR KING: Mr President, thank you. I also have a little housekeeping. On the 14 April 1994 as the Executive Member with responsible for tourism, I made a direction to the Norfolk Island Government Tourist Bureau. Under section 15 of the Tourist Bureau Act the executive member is required to table any direction at the first meeting of the Assembly after the direction is given. Accordingly as I was at the time the Executive Member with responsibility for tourism I now table the direction for the information of Members.

Messages from the Office of the Administrator

MR PRESIDENT: Honourable Members I have received two messages from the Offices of the Administrator and I will now read them.

Message No 67.

On the 17 March 1994, pursuant to subsection 21(2) of the Norfolk Island Act 1979, I declared my assent to the Fuel Levy Amendment Act 1994, which is Act No 3 of 1994. Dated this 18 day of March 1994. Alan Kerr, Administrator.

Message No 68.

On the 22 March 1994, pursuant to section 21 of the Norfolk Island Act 1979, I declared my assent to the Employment Amendment Act 1993 which is Act No 4 of 1994, the Norfolk Island Hospital Enterprise Accounting Validation Act 1994, Act No 5 of 1994, the Tourist Accommodation Ownership Amendment Act 1994, Act No 6 of 1994, the Tourist Accommodation Amendment Act 1994, Act No 7 of 1994, the Customs Rate of Duty Amendment Act 1994, Act No 8 of 1994, and the Departure Fee Amendment Act 1994, Act No 9 of 1994. Dated 22 March 1994. Alan Kerr, Administrator.

MR PRESIDENT: Just by way of explanation, especially to guests who are here this afternoon, we probably at an opening session would not normally go through some of those administrative procedures, that might not have been totally clear to all people who are attending this afternoon, but some of them have a time frame attached to them, and for their validity it is important that they be tabled in the House as soon as practical and so we have endeavoured to do this at our first sitting, all be it a formal one. But the more substantive matters of the day are those relating to executive offices's to which we will now move. We need to firstly Honourable Members determine the number of executive officers and their respective designations.

MR KING: Mr President I move that under section 12 of the Norfolk Island Act 1979, (a) all previous resolutions by revoked; (b) there be four executives officers, (c) these officers have the following designations -

- . Minister for Tourism and Works
- . Minister for Finance
- . Minister for Health and Education
- . Minister for the Environment

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you Mr King. Any debate in respect of that proposal

Honourable Members? No debate, then I put the question to the House

QUESTION PUT
AGREED

Appointment to Executive Offices

MR PRESIDENT: The next item of business Honourable Members is to propose Members to fill each executive office. And I firstly call for nominations for the position of Minister for Tourism and Works.

MR BATES: Mr President I move that Michael William King be chosen to be the Minister for Tourism and Works and that the Administrator be advised accordingly.

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you Mr Bates. Mr King do you accept nomination?

MR KING: Thank you Mr President.

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you Mr King. No further proposals? If there are no further proposals Honourable Members I put the question that Mr King be the Minister for Tourism and Works.

QUESTION PUT
AGREED

The ayes have thank you. Mr King is nominated to His Honour the Administrator to be the Minister for Tourism and Works.

MR PRESIDENT: We move to nominations for the position of Minister for Finance.

MRS SAMPSON: Thank you Mr President. I move that Geoffrey James Bennett be chosen to be the Minister for Finance and that the Administrator be advised accordingly.

MR PRESIDENT: Mr Bennett do you accept nomination?

MR BENNETT: I accept nomination.

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you Mr Bennett. Are there any further proposals? There being no further proposals I put the motion that it be agreed

QUESTION PUT
AGREED

The ayes have it. And Mr Bennett is nominated for the position of Minister for Finance. Congratulations to you Mr Bennett. I now call for nominations for the position of Minister for Health and Education.

MRS ANDERSON: thank you Mr President. I move that Nadia Cuthbertson be chosen to be the Minister for Health and Education and that the Administrator be advised accordingly.

MR PRESIDENT: Mrs Cuthbertson do you accept nomination?

MRS CUTHBERTSON: I do Mr President.

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you Mrs Cuthbertson. Are there any further proposals? There being no further proposals I put the question

QUESTION PUT
AGREED

The ayes have it. And Mrs Cuthbertson is nominated for the position of Minister for Health and Education, congratulations to your Mrs Cuthbertson. The fourth ministry is Minister for the Environment and I now call for nominations for that position.

MR ADAMS: thank you Mr President. I move that Neville Charles Christian be chosen to be Minister for the Environment and that the Administrator be advised accordingly.

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you Mr Adams. Mr Christian do you accept nomination?

MR CHRISTIAN: I accept nomination Mr President.

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you Mr Christian. Are there any further proposals? There being no further proposals I put the motion to the House.

QUESTION PUT
AGREED

The ayes have it. And Mr Christian is nominated for the position of Minister for the Environment. Mr Christian congratulations to you. We have concluded Honourable Members the setting of the number of executive officers, the designations in respect of them, and the proposals to the Administrator for appointment to those particular officers. Before we move away from that to the setting of our next sitting day, are there any contributions that any Members may wish to make in respect of those matters that we have just touched upon.

MR BATES: Thank you Mr President. In proposing Mr King as Minister for Tourism and Works I will just briefly point out that his responsibilities will include co-ordination of government business, liaison with the Administrator and the Commonwealth and he will be the leader of the Government of Norfolk Island.

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you. Are there any further contributions? thank you Honourable Members.

Fixing of Next Sitting Day

MR PRESIDENT: We move to the fixing of the next sitting day.

MR CHRISTIAN: Thank you Mr President. I move that the House at its rising adjourn until Wednesday 18 May 1994 at 10.00 am

MR PRESIDENT: Thank you. Wednesday 18 May, the third Wednesday of the month which has been a normal pattern today. And debate? Then I put that question to the House.

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

The ayes have it. Thank you that date is set.

Adjournment

MR PRESIDENT: We now move to the adjournment.

MRS CUTHBERTSON: Thank you Mr President. I move that the House be adjourned

MR PRESIDENT: The question is that the House do now adjourn. Is there any participation in the adjournment debate? We are therefore about to conclude this part of the proceedings Honourable Members and Ladies and Gentlemen who are our guests this afternoon. May I say on behalf of the Members here, to our guests, thank you for joining us, in the formal proceedings to inaugurate the Seventh Legislative Assembly. We all have made a commitment to do the best we are able for Norfolk Island in this the Seventh Assembly. And we value you present at the commencement of the time that we have to do that. We will now consider the motion of adjournment. The question is that this House adjourns?

QUESTION PUT

AGREED

The ayes have it. Therefore Honourable Members this House stands adjourned until Wednesday 18 May 1994 at 10.00 am

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