



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW BRUNSWICK First Session, 59th Legislative Assembly

ORDER AND NOTICE PAPER – Sitting No. 6
Wednesday, October 31, 2018

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Prayers
Introduction of Guests
Statements by Members
Oral Questions (30 minutes)
Tabling of Documents
Statements by Ministers
Presentations of Petitions
Answers to Petitions and Written Questions
Presentations of Committee Reports
Introduction of Bills
Notices of Motions
Notice of Opposition Members' Business
Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House
Deferred Recorded Divisions
Orders of the Day

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS

Resuming the adjourned debate on the subamendment to the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

Debate interrupted due to expiration of time.

Debate to resume on Wednesday, October 31, 2018.

GOVERNMENT BILLS FOR SECOND READING

Bills Ordered for Second Reading

Bill 2, An Act to Amend the Proceedings Against the Crown Act – Hon. Mr. Melanson

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

CONCLUDED

Motion 1 by Hon. Ms. Harris. Carried October 24, 2018.

Motion 2 by Hon. Ms. Harris. Carried October 24, 2018.

Motion 3 by Hon. Ms. Harris. Carried October 24, 2018.

Motion 8 by Hon. Ms. Harris. Carried October 26, 2018.

Motion 9 by Hon. Ms. Harris. Carried October 26, 2018.

GOVERNMENT PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Motion 4 by Mr. G. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. K. Chiasson to propose the following resolution on Tuesday, October 30, 2018:

THAT the Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy be directed to develop a new, more open and transparent budget process in which departmental budget submissions will be reviewed by committee and public meetings will be undertaken;

THAT the Standing Committee on Economic Policy be directed to review resource royalty rates to ensure that they better protect the balance between economic growth and getting value from our resources while protecting private woodlot owners, and that any discussion paper on that topic tabled in the House or filed with the Office of the Clerk by a Minister of the Crown stand referred to the committee;

THAT the Standing Committee on Social Policy be directed to review the billing number system while protecting rural health care and enabling the hiring of more doctors, and that any discussion paper on that topic tabled in the House or filed with the Office of the Clerk by a Minister of the Crown stand referred to the committee;

THAT the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations be directed to consult experts, the paramedic association, paramedic union, and other stakeholders to complete a public review of the ambulance system with particular focus on paramedic shortages, and that any discussion paper on that topic tabled in the House or filed with the Office of the Clerk by a Minister of the Crown stand referred to the committee, and that the committee prepare a report by no later than December 15, 2018 on its review;

THAT the Standing Committee on Law Amendments be directed to consider a phased-in ban of the use of herbicides, such as glyphosate, with the scope of the ban to be based on objective evidence; and that any discussion paper on that topic tabled in the House or filed with the Office of the Clerk by a Minister of the Crown stand referred to the committee;

THAT the Standing Committee on Law Amendments be directed to review and make recommendations relating to municipal governance, and modernizing the municipal taxation system including examining the possibility of reducing or eliminating the so-called double tax, and of eliminating industrial assessment exemptions including machinery and equipment; and

that any discussion paper on that topic tabled in the House or filed with the Office of the Clerk by a Minister of the Crown stand referred to the committee;

THAT any discussion paper on private sector pay equity tabled in the House or filed with the Office of the Clerk by a Minister of the Crown stand referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments, and that the committee be directed to prepare a report recommending the form of legislation for private sector pay equity;

THAT any discussion paper on minimum wage increases tabled in the House or filed with the Office of the Clerk by a Minister of the Crown stand referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, and that the committee be directed to prepare a report recommending a rate for minimum wage increases effective April 1, 2020, April 1, 2021, and April 1, 2022;

THAT the Standing Committee on Law Amendments be directed to review and make recommendations on a potential question or questions relating to proportional representation, preferential balloting and the voting age that could be posed to New Brunswickers at the 2020 municipal elections as well as potential amendments to the *Referendum Act* to ensure a fair process; and that any discussion paper on that topic tabled in the House or filed with the Office of the Clerk by a Minister of the Crown stand referred to the committee;

THAT the Standing Committee on Economic Policy be directed to study and make recommendations on whether the form and amount of financial assistance to industry to help attract investment and create jobs is appropriate; and that any discussion paper on that topic tabled in the House or filed with the Office of the Clerk by a Minister of the Crown stand referred to the committee;

THAT notwithstanding the powers and mandates of certain standing committees as defined in the Standing Rules or in the First Report of the Standing Committee on Procedure adopted by the House on March 10, 2015, that any committee directed to prepare a report under this motion, in addition to the powers and mandates traditionally conferred upon the said committee, shall have, as required during the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly to carry out the responsibilities assigned by this motion, the following additional powers:

- to meet during sittings of the House and during the recess after prorogation until the following session;
- to adjourn from place to place as may be convenient;
- to retain such personnel and expertise as may be required to assist the committee;
- to hold such public consultations as it deems necessary;

THAT any committee directed to prepare a report under this motion may, during a period when the Legislative Assembly is adjourned or prorogued, release a report by depositing a copy with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, and, upon the resumption of the sittings of the House, the Chair shall present the report to the Legislative Assembly.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Debatable Motions

Motion 5 by Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. K. Arseneau to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 1, 2018:

WHEREAS the World Health Organization deemed glyphosate “probably carcinogenic to humans” in 2015;

WHEREAS there is increasing scientific evidence of the risk glyphosate poses to the health of our forest ecosystems and wildlife;

WHEREAS I and the member for Restigouche West tabled one of the largest petitions in the history of the Legislative Assembly with over 34,000 signatures asking for the spraying to end;

WHEREAS \$2.5 million tax dollars were used to pay for spraying glyphosate on Crown lands in 2017;

WHEREAS Agent Orange was approved by the provincial government to spray over forest plantations and under power lines right up until it was banned by the federal government, and replaced with glyphosate;

WHEREAS Québec has banned the use of glyphosate for forestry operations;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to ban the spraying of glyphosate and other herbicides over our forests and under our powerlines.

Motion 6 by Mr. K. Arseneau, seconded by Ms. Mitton to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 1, 2018:

WHEREAS the 2018 New Brunswick General Election produced a minority government where the proportion of Members elected to the Legislative Assembly does not reflect the proportion of votes received by each party in the election;

WHEREAS Fair Vote Canada found that Legislatures using proportional representation are more stable, as there is no incentive for calling a quick election in order to gain a majority government;

WHEREAS the 2017 Commission on Electoral Reform recommended that the government move to a Preferential Ballot voting system and consider some form of proportional representation;

WHEREAS a recent poll determined that more than half of New Brunswickers say that the number of votes is more important than the number of seats in determining who will govern New Brunswick;

WHEREAS over ninety countries currently use proportional representation, including 85% of countries in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to launch a public inquiry into how to best adopt proportional representation in New Brunswick so that the composition of the Legislative Assembly reflects the number of votes cast.

Motion 7 by Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Coon to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 1, 2018:

WHEREAS there was no evaluation of Medavie's previous contract to provide ambulance services;

WHEREAS many paramedics are overworked, resulting in stress-related leaves of absence;

WHEREAS there is an ongoing shortage of 150 paramedics in New Brunswick with an additional 125 to 150 out on long term leave at any given time;

WHEREAS paramedics logged 216,000 hours of overtime, at a cost of \$8 million, in 2017;

WHEREAS there were 7500 instances of ambulances being pulled off the road in 2017, a 55% increase over 2016;

WHEREAS there have been three deaths in northern New Brunswick, including two in Saint-Quentin, since August 2016 when ambulances have taken more than 20 minutes to arrive on scene;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to launch a public inquiry into ambulance services in New Brunswick;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to immediately ensure that the number of ambulances per community is based on a community needs assessment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to immediately ensure that the deployment of ambulances be community-based not provincial in terms of territorial coverage.

Motion 10 by Mr. Flemming, seconded by Mr. Northrup to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 1, 2018:

WHEREAS New Brunswick has the longest healthcare wait times in Canada;

WHEREAS we have currently an outdated billing number system that has resulted in 50,000 New Brunswickers going without a family doctor;

WHEREAS we recognize the need to take a proactive approach to reducing healthcare wait times that is inclusive of family doctors, specialists, pharmacists, nurse practitioners and paramedics;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Assembly urge the government to take immediate action to reduce healthcare wait times and increase the number of specialists and nurse practitioners in our healthcare system;

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that this Assembly urge the government to phase out the billing number concept as it exists today and remove restrictions on the number of doctors that can practice in our province;

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that this Assembly urge the government to develop standards to allow pharmacists to prescribe certain medications and increase their authority to refill prescriptions.

Motion 11 by Mr. Wetmore, seconded by Mr. Holland to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 1, 2018:

WHEREAS we recognize the importance of New Brunswick's forestry industry and the responsibility of government to ensure private woodlots and Crown lands are managed effectively;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Assembly urge the government to review and validate the recommendations, and implement said recommendations as determined necessary to do so, made in Volume II of the 2015 Auditor General's Report to ensure fairness and achieve the best value from our Crown land reserves in partnership with all stakeholders to ensure best practices are being followed;

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that this Assembly urge the government to work with our federal counterparts and relevant stakeholders to stand up for private woodlot owners and industry in the ongoing dispute with the United States regarding softwood lumber tariffs.

Motion 12 by Ms. Anderson-Mason, seconded by Ms. M. Wilson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 1, 2018:

WHEREAS the decision to reduce the number of sittings days over the past four years has led to a substantive change in the number of legislative sittings during evening hours;

WHEREAS all MLAs, regardless of gender or community, deserve the ability to participate in legislative debates during normal working hours where practical to do so, enabling them to participate in community events and spend more time with family;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Assembly urge the government to establish working hours for the Legislature that are predictable and friendly for members with families and those who live in rural communities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Assembly urge the government to act in a spirit of cooperation with all parties and schedule an appropriate amount of sitting days to effectively conduct the business of government.

PETITIONS

Petition 1: Mr. Coon, October 24, 2018.

Petition 2: Mr. Coon, October 24, 2018.

Petition 3: Mr. Coon, October 30, 2018.

REPORTS/DOCUMENTS

Tabled in the House

Independent auditor's report for the Office of the Auditor General of New Brunswick for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2018

(Tabled by Hon. Mr. Guitard October 30, 2018)

Filed in the Clerk's Office

Mapping the Future: Five-year review of the *Credit Unions Act*, Financial and Consumer Services Commission, October 2018

(Filed October 29, 2018)

Donald J. Forestell
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly