

Daily sitting 18

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

*10 o'clock a.m.*

Prayers.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Flemming, Q.C.,

Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Midwifery Act.*

By Mr. Austin,

Bill 18, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act.*

Ms. Rogers gave Notice of Motion 41 that on Thursday, April 4, 2019, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Bourque:

WHEREAS the provincial government has joined a lawsuit against the federal carbon tax;

WHEREAS the government has introduced Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products Pricing Act* which will result in higher fuel prices for consumers;

WHEREAS to offset the costs associated with the federal carbon tax, the federal government brought forward the Carbon Action Incentive which could provide up to \$256 for a New Brunswick family of four;

WHEREAS the provincial government will receive upwards of \$9 million in HST as a result of increased fuel prices;

WHEREAS unlike the federal government, the province has not announced plans to provide New Brunswickers with a rebate or similar incentive despite the tax windfall it will receive;

WHEREAS when the previous government raised the HST, it provided the most generous HST rebate in the country leaving lower income families better off and middle-income families unaffected by the HST increase;

WHEREAS an HST rebate program is currently in place which would reduce the administrative costs of providing this additional tax relief;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to redirect all monies raised from HST on the

fuel price increase it has provided for under Bill 11 into refunds for New Brunswickers who will be facing higher fuel costs.

Mr. Melanson gave Notice of Motion 42 that on Thursday, April 4, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Bourque:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House a list of all contracts for professional services, consulting, or similar services awarded since December 18, 2018, by applying an exemption under the *Procurement Act*, and copies of all personal service contracts entered into by the Office of the Premier and/or the Executive Council Office since November 9, 2018.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, March 28, 2019, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 31, 36 and 6.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the Budget until 2 p.m.; at which time the House would resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 11 and 12; following which the House would consider Motion 34; following which the House would consider an adjournment motion; following which the House would resume the adjourned debate on the Budget.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that the government was not scheduling sufficient time to debate the Budget. Mr. Savoie spoke on the point of order. Mr. Speaker advised that the Standing Rules allocated a maximum of six days of debate on the Budget and did not address the amount of debate required each day. Accordingly, Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken as he did not have the discretion to determine whether the amount of debate was sufficient.

Mr. Speaker requested that Hon. Mr. Wetmore withdraw the term "lazy" in reference to the Opposition, which he did.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed with Mr. C. Chiasson, the Deputy Speaker, in the chair.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 23),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

And after some further time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the time allotted for consideration of the adjourned debate on the Budget had expired.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole with Ms. LeBlanc in the chair.

And after some time, during consideration of Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products Pricing Act*, Mr. Harvey moved an amendment to section 3.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

At 2.29 p.m. the Committee recessed. At 3.30 p.m. the Committee resumed.

And after some time, Mr. C. Chiasson took the chair.

At 4.23 p.m. the Committee recessed. At 4.39 p.m. the Committee resumed.

And after some time, during consideration of Bill 11, Mr. Coon moved a sub-amendment to the amendment to section 3.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, the sub-amendment was defeated on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 20

Mr. Arseneault  
Mr. Melanson  
Mr. Landry  
Ms. Rogers  
Mr. Harvey  
Ms. Harris  
Mr. Kenny

Mr. Coon  
Ms. Mitton  
Mr. Bourque  
Ms. Landry  
Ms. Thériault  
Mr. LePage  
Ms. LeBlanc

Mr. Arseneau  
Mr. LeBlanc  
Mr. K. Chiasson  
Mr. Lowe  
Mr. McKee  
Mr. D'Amours

## NAYS - 23

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Carr
Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason	Hon. Mr. Urquhart
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Gauvin	Hon. Mr. Oliver
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Stewart	Mr. Northrup
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Fitch
Mr. Austin	Mr. DeSaulniers	Mr. Fairgrieve
Ms. Conroy	Hon. Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Crossman
Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	

And the question being put on the amendment, it was defeated on the following recorded division after leave was granted to dispense with the ten-minute time allotted for the ringing of the bells:

## YEAS - 17

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Kenny	Mr. LeBlanc
Mr. Melanson	Mr. Bourque	Mr. K. Chiasson
Mr. Landry	Ms. Landry	Mr. Lowe
Ms. Rogers	Ms. Thériault	Mr. McKee
Mr. Harvey	Mr. LePage	Mr. D'Amours
Ms. Harris	Ms. LeBlanc	

## NAYS - 23

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Carr
Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason	Hon. Mr. Urquhart
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Gauvin	Hon. Mr. Oliver
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Stewart	Mr. Northrup
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Fitch
Mr. Austin	Mr. DeSaulniers	Mr. Fairgrieve
Ms. Conroy	Hon. Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Crossman
Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. C. Chiasson, the Chair, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported:

That the Committee had directed that he report the following Bills as agreed to:

Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products Pricing Act.*

Bill 12, *An Act Respecting the Surcharge Payable under the Victims Services Act.*

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And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. Speaker put the question on the motion deemed to be before the House, that the report be concurred in, and it was resolved in the affirmative.

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Pursuant to Notice of Motion 34, Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Holder:

THAT in addition to the existing sitting hours prescribed in Standing Rule 29(1) and by Special Orders of the House adopted November 21, 2018, and March 20, 2019, the House may sit on Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

THAT this Special Order shall come into effect on Thursday, March 28, 2019, and shall remain in effect during the remainder of the Second Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

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And then, 6 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.