

Daily sitting 24

Friday, May 10, 2019

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reduce greenhouse gases. (Petition 8)

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The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Ms. Shephard,

Bill 29, *An Act Respecting Research.*

By Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason, Q.C.,

Bill 30, *An Act Respecting Certain Responsibilities of the Integrity Commissioner and the Ombud.*

Bill 31, *Official Notices Publication Act.*

Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Enforcement of Money Judgments Act.*

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

Bill 33, *An Act Respecting the Public Health Information Solution.*

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Mr. D'Amours gave Notice of Motion 51 that on Thursday, May 16, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS a significant nursing shortage exists throughout the province;

WHEREAS projections show that, in the next 5 years, New Brunswick will lose upwards of 2,400 nurses due to retirements;

WHEREAS in each health region, nurses are on sick leave and stress leave due to overwork and stressful working environments as a result of the nursing shortage;

WHEREAS other jurisdictions are aggressively recruiting New Brunswick nurses;

WHEREAS hospitals have had to cancel services such as obstetrics due to the nursing shortage;

WHEREAS the government has failed to recognize that the nursing shortage has become a crisis;

WHEREAS there are several programs in the province that provide incentives for the recruitment and retention of family practitioners and medical specialists;

WHEREAS other jurisdictions have incentives to recruit and retain nurses;

WHEREAS the government should take action to address the nursing shortage by supporting nurse training, recruiting nurses from other jurisdictions, developing incentive programs for recruitment and retention, and supporting New Brunswick nurses through measures such as flexible work schedules and a safe and quality work environment;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House urge the government to work with the New Brunswick Nurses' Union, the Nurses Association of New Brunswick, RHAs, l'Université de Moncton, the University of New Brunswick, community colleges, and other stakeholders to develop a comprehensive strategy to train, recruit, retain, and support nurses.

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Ms. Conroy gave Notice of Motion 52 that on Thursday, May 16, 2019, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Austin:

WHEREAS New Brunswick needs to change the organ donor program to an automatic organ donation system, with the option given to opt out of the program;

WHEREAS Canada has very low organ donation rates as there are only 20.9 donors per one million people compared to Spain that has 43.4 donors per one million and the United States which has 31 donors per one million people;

WHEREAS in 2015, of the approximately 267,000 deaths occurring in Canada, only approximately 150,000 or 56% happened in a hospital; and of the 150,000 deaths that happened in a hospital, only about 5,000 or 3% fulfilled the criteria to be a potential organ donor; and of these 5,000 potential organ donors, only about 650 or 13% went on to be actual organ donors, which resulted in about 1,995 transplants;

WHEREAS the lives of eight people can be saved by one organ donor;

WHEREAS one tissue donor could benefit up to 75 individuals;

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WHEREAS introducing the automatic organ donation program will reduce the waiting list making sure all potential organ donors become an actual organ donor;

WHEREAS it is important and urgent to adopt an automatic organ donation program;

WHEREAS 20 people die each day waiting for a transplant in the US and, in Canada, one death every 1.25 days results from waiting for a transplant;

WHEREAS New Brunswick health care will save tens of millions of dollars a year with the automatic organ and tissue donation program;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government of New Brunswick to begin the process of changing the current organ donation program to an automatic organ donation system saving many lives and money in New Brunswick.

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Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and questioned whether, once the 80 hours allocated for the consideration of estimates have expired, the government intended to present supplementary estimates during the session and, if so, would they be considered in committee. Mr. Savoie advised the House that any supplementary estimates presented would be subject to consideration.

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And then, 10.50 a.m., the House adjourned.