



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

ORDER AND NOTICE PAPER – Sitting No. 5
Tuesday, November 27, 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 amendment 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 Tuesday, November 27, 2018.

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

CONCLUDED

Motion 1 by Mr. Savoie. Carried November 21, 2018.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Debatable Motions

Motion 2 by Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. K. Arseneau to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 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 3 by Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Coon to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

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

WHEREAS there were 7,500 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 transfer the management of Ambulance New Brunswick to Horizon and Vitalité health authorities;

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 4 by Mr. K. Arseneau, seconded by Ms. Mitton to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 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 New Brunswick Commission on Legislative Democracy, established in 2003 by PC Premier Bernard Lord, designed and recommended a Mixed-Member Proportional Representation system for New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the 2017 Commission on Electoral Reform recommended that the government 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;

WHEREAS when more than 2 parties are present, the current First Past the Post electoral system can lead to unrepresentative outcomes;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to ask a Committee of the Legislature to: review the recommendation of the 2003 Commission on Legislative Democracy to establish a system of Mixed-Member Proportional Representation; invite the public to appear before the Committee to provide their views on Mixed-Member Proportional Representation; and recommend a public process to determine whether to implement Mixed-Member Proportional Representation that will be completed before the next election.

Motion 5 by Ms. Landry, seconded by Mr. Harvey to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

WHEREAS the federal and provincial governments signed the Canada-New Brunswick Early Learning and Child Care Agreement on August 30, 2017, allowing New Brunswick access to \$30 million in federal funding to make child care more affordable;

WHEREAS affordable child care solves many challenges such as retaining and repatriating young professionals, growing the population through affordability of starting and growing families, growing the labour force by making it possible for both parents to work, and breaking the cycle of poverty by allowing people to leave income assistance for work without facing massive child care bills;

WHEREAS through that Canada-New Brunswick Agreement, New Brunswick has created programs that assist child care operators through one-time quality improvement grants, annual quality grants, increased wages for early childhood educators, and infant operator grants;

WHEREAS through that Canada-New Brunswick Agreement, New Brunswickers now benefit from free child care and subsidized child care in large regions of the province;

WHEREAS the planned completion of the rollout of this program has been budgeted and planned for the northeast of the province in January 2019 and the capital region in February 2019, fulfilling the commitment to parents to have the program available provincewide by March 2019;

WHEREAS families in the regions of the province expecting these important services should not have their access to these important programs delayed;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to continue the implementation of these child care programs on the planned schedule.

Motion 6 by Mr. G. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Melanson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

WHEREAS the now-Premier said on May 29, 2012, when commenting on the New Brunswick Tuition Rebate program, that “we do not know whether the program actually brings people back into the province or encourages them to return.”;

WHEREAS the evidence showed that New Brunswick Tuition Rebate was not effective in its policy goal of keeping more young people in New Brunswick through the reports of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission which showed that retention rates of graduates did not improve over the course of the programs existence;

WHEREAS the Free Tuition program and the Tuition Relief for the Middle Class program helped 7,744 students alone in the most recent academic year;

WHEREAS both the Free Tuition program and the Tuition Relief for the Middle Class program have become leaders in the standard of excellence for post-secondary funding as outlined in the Higher Education Strategy Associates Targeted Free Tuition: A Global Analysis;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to maintain the Free Tuition and Tuition Relief for the Middle Class programs.

Motion 7 by Mr. D’Amours, seconded by Mr. McKee to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

WHEREAS the paramedics’ union has identified wages as the primary cause for the current paramedic shortage;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to immediately begin talks with the paramedics’ union to increase wages for paramedics.

Motion 8 by Mr. C. Chiasson, seconded by Ms. Thériault to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

WHEREAS the now-Premier said on December 10, 2015, “I do not deny that we have too many hospitals. I realize we can be much better if we consolidate”;

WHEREAS the now-health minister said on December 12, 2012, “We have to look at the critical mass. We have to look at the needs. There is not a Costco in Perth-Andover either, because there would not be enough critical mass to sustain the place. Those are the things we have to look at. There is enough critical mass to provide a hospital. It will be a hospital. (...) Maybe that is the wrong word, but is there enough business to sustain the operation? If not, we cannot pay people \$400 000 to sit around when there is only enough work for one day a week. If you do not understand that, I cannot explain it any better. It is pretty basic arithmetic where I come from”;

WHEREAS the Premier said on November 21, 2018, “We will look at all aspects of what we are planning, what has been planned, what is working, and what is not working, because we must”;

WHEREAS rural hospitals provide important access to health care;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to maintain the existing level of services in all of New Brunswick’s regional and rural hospitals.

Motion 9 by Mr. LePage, seconded by Ms. Harris to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

WHEREAS hours of care for nursing home residents is as high as 3.8 hours in Alberta and 3.25 hours in Nova Scotia, but is only 3.1 hours in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS a pilot project completed in 2010 and 2011 showed evidence that there would be benefits from increased hours of care;

WHEREAS there is currently a shortage of nursing home professionals which would make an immediate increase to the hours of care impractical to implement;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to immediately develop and launch, in partnership with stakeholders, a recruitment and retention strategy for nursing home workers, including nurses, licensed practical nurses and resident attendants;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House urge the government to increase the level of care to 3.5 hours per nursing home resident as soon as practicable.

Motion 10 by Ms. Harris, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

WHEREAS New Brunswick students carry an average student debt of \$35,200 and are charged prime +2.5% on the provincial portion of their loans;

WHEREAS all other Atlantic provinces have eliminated interest on provincial student loans;

WHEREAS the previous government budgeted for the elimination of interest on provincial student loans;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to implement the planned elimination of interest on provincial student loans.

PETITIONS

Petition 1: Mr. Northrup, November 23, 2018.

REPORTS/DOCUMENTS

Filed in the Clerk’s Office

Annual Report 2017-2018, Vehicle Management Agency

(Filed November 23, 2018)

Donald J. Forestell
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly