

Daily sitting 4 Friday, November 22, 2019
9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Cardy, Member for Fredericton West-Hanwell, laid upon the table of the House a petition in support of Bill 39, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*, introduced during the previous session. (Petition 5)

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reduce greenhouse gases. (Petition 6)

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*.
Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Securities Act*.
Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Cardy,
Bill 11, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*.

By Hon. Mr. Flemming, Q.C.,
Bill 12, *An Act Respecting the Management of Prescriptions and Recovery Authority*.

By Hon. Mr. Holder,
Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act*.

With leave of the House, Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Holder: (Motion 7)

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick enacted the *Official Languages Act*;

WHEREAS subsection 43(2) of that Act provides that an Official Languages Commissioner be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on recommendation of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the acting term of Michel A. Carrier will expire on July 23, 2020;

WHEREAS a selection committee was established under subsections 43(2.1) and 43(2.2) of the Act for the purpose of identifying persons as potential candidates to be appointed Official Languages Commissioner;

WHEREAS the selection committee developed a roster of qualified candidates and submitted the list of names of qualified candidates to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council under subsection 43(2.3) of the Act;

WHEREAS the selection committee has determined that Shirley MacLean possesses the proper qualifications and experience to successfully discharge the duties of Official Languages Commissioner;

WHEREAS the Premier consulted with the Leader of the Opposition and the leaders of the other political parties under subsection 43(2.4) of the Act;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council that Shirley MacLean be appointed Official Languages Commissioner for a term of seven years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House express its appreciation and gratitude to Michel A. Carrier for his professional and dedicated service to the Legislature and the people of New Brunswick.

And the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

With leave of the House, Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Holder: (Motion 8)

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick enacted the *Integrity Commissioner Act*;

WHEREAS subsection 2(2) of that Act provides that an Integrity Commissioner be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on recommendation of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the acting term of Charles Murray will expire on January 1, 2020;

WHEREAS a selection committee was established under subsections 2(3) and 2(4) of the Act for the purpose of identifying persons as potential candidates to be appointed Integrity Commissioner;

WHEREAS the selection committee developed a roster of qualified candidates and submitted the list of names of qualified candidates to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council under subsection 2(5) of the Act;

WHEREAS the selection committee has determined that Charles Murray possesses the proper qualifications and experience to successfully discharge the duties of Integrity Commissioner;

WHEREAS the Premier consulted with the Leader of the Opposition and the leaders of the other political parties under subsection 2(6) of the Act;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council that Charles Murray be appointed Integrity Commissioner for a term of seven years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House express its appreciation and gratitude to Charles Murray for his professional and dedicated service to the Legislature and the people of New Brunswick.

And the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 9 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House copies of the daily schedule of Premier Blaine Higgs for each day since November 8, 2018.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 10 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House all email correspondence between Premier Blaine Higgs and any member of the premier's office staff, the executive council office staff, Robert Youden, John Mallory, Yennah Hurley, and/or John Logan since November 8, 2018.

Mr. D'Amours gave Notice of Motion 11 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. C. Chiasson:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House all

correspondence, documentation, briefing notes, etc., in whatever form, produced in support of the development of the nursing recruitment strategy.

Ms. LeBlanc gave Notice of Motion 12 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS there is an increasing need for mental health services in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS persons with mental illness and other health issues are amongst the most vulnerable populations;

WHEREAS there is a need to ensure that the rights of persons with mental health issues are protected;

WHEREAS it is important to also ensure that those requiring long-term care have appropriate care and treatment;

WHEREAS public education on mental health should be enhanced to create awareness on mental health issues and reduce the stigma associated with mental illness;

WHEREAS the province does not have an independent mental health advocate, ombud, or similar position to provide information and support for those with mental health needs or those acting on their behalf;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House urge the government to create the position of a mental health advocate, with the status of legislative officer, as an impartial and independent voice for persons with mental health issues and caregivers of family members acting on their behalf.

Mr. Austin gave Notice of Motion 13 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. DeSaulniers:

WHEREAS the former government deemed that taxes charged on the sale of used vehicles would be based on their *Blue Book* value;

WHEREAS prior to this the used vehicle sale tax was determined through a written appraisal from a motor vehicle dealership or from an individual seller;

WHEREAS this has placed an increased financial burden on residents in the Province of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers rely on used vehicles for their mode of transportation;

WHEREAS the cost of new motor vehicles is often out of reach for everyday New Brunswickers;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to revert to the former method of sale taxation on used vehicles.

Ms. Conroy gave Notice of Motion 14 that on Thursday, November 28, 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; and those 650 donors 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;

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 pass the 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 healthcare 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.

Mr. DeSaulniers gave Notice of Motion 15 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Austin:

WHEREAS Hailie and Trent Michaud died in a motor vehicle accident in 2013 from injuries sustained while they were in properly installed car seats which met provincial regulations;

WHEREAS current regulations dictate rear-facing car seats are required for all children up to age 1 and 10 kg;

WHEREAS raising the minimum age requirement for rear-facing car seats to 2 years and 10 kg will provide greater safety protection;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to increase child age requirements in provincial car seat regulations.

Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Tuesday, November 26, 2019, Bills 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 would be called for second reading.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Crossman:

THAT the following Address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to offer the humble thanks of this House to Her Honour for the gracious speech which she has been pleased to make to the Legislative Assembly, namely:

Fredericton, N.B.
November 19, 2019.

To Her Honour,
The Honourable Brenda Murphy,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick.

May It Please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

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

It was agreed by unanimous consent to continue sitting past the hour of daily adjournment to allow Mr. Arseneau to complete his speech.

And then, 2.04 p.m., the House adjourned.