

Daily sitting 10

Wednesday, December 11, 2019
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Harvey, Member for Carleton-Victoria, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to complete renovations to Bath Community School. (Petition 9)

Mr. Crossman, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

December 11, 2019

To The Honourable
The Legislative Assembly of
The Province of New Brunswick

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Economic Policy begs leave to submit this, their first report.

Your Committee met on December 10 and had under consideration:

Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act*;
Bill 6, *Enduring Powers of Attorney Act*;
Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Property Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Gary Crossman, M.L.A.
Chair

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.

Ms. Harris gave Notice of Motion 26 that on Thursday, December 19, 2019, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on September 13, 2007;

WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples “establishes a universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world and it elaborates on existing human rights standards and fundamental freedoms as they apply to the specific situation of indigenous peoples”;

WHEREAS Canada officially adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in May 2016, reaffirming its commitment to promoting and protecting the rights of Indigenous people at home and abroad;

WHEREAS, by adopting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Government of New Brunswick will recognize its commitment to improve its relationships with Indigenous peoples by providing a framework for the province to align itself with standards and protections outlined in the United Nations declaration;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Ms. Harris gave Notice of Motion 27 that on Thursday, December 19, 2019, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Horsman:

WHEREAS the Auditor General in her recent report to the Legislative Assembly expressed concern that vulnerable children in group homes are at risk;

WHEREAS the specific concerns identified by the Auditor General indicated that the failure to adequately manage the placement and care of these children may increase the risks of suicide, addictions, long term mental health challenges and homelessness;

WHEREAS the Auditor General pointed out that the decline in available foster homes may result in younger children being placed in group homes including children as young as 4 years of age;

WHEREAS the Auditor General has made a series of recommendations to improve standards and procedures related to group home placements, monitoring and care;

WHEREAS the Auditor General urged Members of the Legislative Assembly to hold follow-up hearings on this pressing and serious issue;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to refer this matter to a legislative committee where it can hold public hearings, invite submissions, listen to stakeholders and subject matter experts, and make recommendations to government as to how to best improve the system for dealing with children at risk and children in care.

Mr. D'Amours gave Notice of Motion 28 that on Thursday, December 19, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS the threat to human health posed by vaping is becoming more apparent each day with reports of severe respiratory illnesses associated with vaping;

WHEREAS vaping is an industry that targets young people with products like flavoured e-cigarettes and juices, and there are virtually no restrictions on advertising or retailing;

WHEREAS there are very real concerns about the lack of regulation in relation to this industry;

WHEREAS the medical profession is raising serious concerns about the dangers associated with vaping;

WHEREAS Health Canada has also issued warnings on the potential risks associated with vaping;

WHEREAS in the past, the provincial government has brought in measures to impose restrictions related to tobacco smoking, including measures designed to reduce the number of young smokers;

WHEREAS other provincial jurisdictions are aware of the health risk posed by vaping and taking steps to address it;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to bring forth legislation and regulations to deal with this significant health threat including banning e-cigarettes that contain a prescribed flavouring agent and any flavoured juice made for use with e-cigarettes, cutting the nicotine content in flavour pods, and strengthening the regulations related to displays and advertising materials related to vaping.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, December 12, 2019, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 3, 4 and 16.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to take into consideration the estimates of the Departments of Transportation and Infrastructure, Health, and Education and Early Childhood Development; following which Bills 19, 20, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15 and 16 would be called for second reading until no later than 3.30 p.m.; at which time the House would adjourn.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. C. Chiasson in the chair.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and requested a copy of the Minister's remarks.

At 11.32 a.m. the Committee recessed. At 11.39 a.m. the Committee resumed.

Mr. Savoie advised the Committee that the Minister's remarks were in point form and in one official language. As such, copies would not be provided. Mr. Chair ruled that while it was not a requirement to provide copies, it was a long-standing courtesy, and encouraged government to do so in the future.

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 had under consideration the matters referred to them, had made some progress therein, and asked leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.2, 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.

At 12 o'clock p.m. the House recessed. At 1 o'clock p.m. the House resumed.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act*, be now read a second time.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 19 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 20, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 20 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 20, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 8 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 10 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 11, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*, a debate arose thereon.

Hon. Mr. Holder rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. C. Chiasson should refrain from attributing certain remarks to Hon. Mr. Cardy. Mr. Speaker cautioned Members against quoting private conversations with their fellow Members, as it was likely to cause disorder in the House.

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

And then, 3.30 p.m., the House adjourned.

The following document, having been deposited with the Clerk of the House, was deemed laid upon the table of the House pursuant to Standing Rule 39:

Annual Report 2018-2019

Department of Social Development

December 10, 2019