
Daily sitting 38 Thursday, June 10, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Mr. K. Chiasson, Member for Tracadie-Sheila, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore bridge functions in Haut-Rivière-du-Portage and Rivière-du-Portage. (Petition 16)

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

June 10, 2021

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 thirteenth report.

Your Committee met on June 9 and had under consideration:

Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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.

Hon. Mr. Holder, Acting Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that, with leave, Bills 35 and 63 be ordered for third reading; following which, with leave, Opposition Members' Business would be considered from 1 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bills 35 and 63 be ordered for third reading forthwith.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Opposition Members' Business be considered from 1 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 36, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act.*

Bill 42, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act.*

Bill 43, *An Act Respecting the Executive Council Act and the Legislative Assembly Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 35 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 27

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Austin
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus	Ms. Conroy

NAYS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Arseneau

Accordingly, Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Holder moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 79)

WHEREAS the government provides public funds to support New Brunswick's independently operated universities;

WHEREAS representatives of these publicly funded universities have agreed to appear before a committee of the House to answer questions related to how these funds are administered and related issues;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the House appoint a Select Committee on Public Universities to be charged with the responsibility of inviting representatives of New Brunswick's publicly funded universities and the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission to appear before the committee to discuss and provide insight into university administration, programming, performance measurement, accountability and transparency;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said committee be composed of Mr. Hogan, Ms. Bockus, Ms. S. Wilson, Mr. Cullins, Mr. Ames, Hon. Mr. Savoie, Mr. C. Chiasson, Mr. Legacy, Ms. Thériault, Mr. Coon and Ms. Conroy.

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

Hon. Mr. Holder moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns on Friday, June 11, 2021, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, November 2, 2021, provided always that if it appears to the satisfaction of Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the Government, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment, Mr. Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied and in such notice shall state a time at which the House shall meet, and thereupon the House shall meet at the time so stated and shall transact its business as if it has been duly adjourned to that time, and

THAT in the event of Mr. Speaker being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, either of the Deputy Speakers shall act in his stead for the purpose of this order.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the motion, it was resolved in the affirmative.

At 11.49 a.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 76, Mr. McKee moved, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS the former President of Alcool NB Liquor and Cannabis NB resigned his position in December 2020 to return to the private sector;

WHEREAS over 5 months have elapsed since he left;

WHEREAS we recently learned that the Chair of the ANBL Board, who is a well-known Conservative political operative, having supported the Premier's leadership bid and served as an official agent, has decided that the new president shall not be hired with the assistance of an independent professional executive search firm;

WHEREAS, for such a significant role in managing a \$500 million a year corporation, it is crucial to ensure that the most qualified candidate is selected, and it is irresponsible to not engage a third party professional search firm with human resource expertise;

WHEREAS the Chair of ANBL has a reputation for exceeding his authority as Board Chair, interfering in the day-to-day operations of the corporation;

WHEREAS there is growing concern that the Board Chair does not want an independent firm engaged because he wants to control the outcome of the hiring process;

WHEREAS there is additional concern that the process proposed by the Board Chair could be subject to political interference;

WHEREAS there is a need to maintain public confidence in the selection process and establish the credibility of the chosen candidate;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure the candidate selection process for the President of ANBL and Cannabis NB is independent and impartial, and that a third-party search firm be engaged to conduct the search, interview candidates and submit its hiring recommendations.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Ms. S. Wilson, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Hon. Mr. Steeves, seconded by Hon. Mr. Fitch, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 76 be amended by striking out the third, fifth, sixth and seventh whereas clauses.

Madam Deputy Speaker put the question on the proposed amendment and a debate ensued.

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 76 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS the former President of Alcool NB Liquor and Cannabis NB resigned his position in December 2020 to return to the private sector;

WHEREAS over 5 months have elapsed since he left;

WHEREAS, for such a significant role in managing a \$500 million a year corporation, it is crucial to ensure that the most qualified candidate is selected, and it is irresponsible to not engage a third party professional search firm with human resource expertise;

WHEREAS there is a need to maintain public confidence in the selection process and establish the credibility of the chosen candidate;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure the candidate selection process for the President of ANBL and Cannabis NB is independent and impartial, and that a third-party search firm be engaged to conduct the search, interview candidates and submit its hiring recommendations.

And the question being put, Motion 76 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

Debate resumed on Motion 73, moved by Mr. D'Amours, seconded by Mr. Arseneault, on Thursday, June 3, 2021.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 73 was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 19

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Austin	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	
Mr. Coon	Ms. Conroy	

NAYS - 24

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Elections Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the time allocated for Opposition Members' Business had expired.

And then, 4.30 p.m., the House adjourned.