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Daily Sitting 64

Thursday, June 15, 2000.

8.30 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

During Introduction of Guests and Congratulatory Messages, Mr. Bernard rose on a Point of Order claiming that Mrs. Mersereau was making a political statement, not a congratulatory message. Several Members spoke on the point of order.

Mr. Speaker advised that this item of business provides an opportunity for Members to introduce persons from their constituency who are present in the House or in the galleries as guests and allows Members to extend congratulations to persons, groups, associations or to express messages of congratulation to an event of importance for the Member or the Member's constituency.

Mr. Speaker reminded Members that there had been a transgression of the rules of the House and sought the cooperation of all Members in abiding with the rules and practices of the House.

With leave of the House, Mr. C. Thériault laid upon the table of the House the Congratulatory Statement delivered earlier in the House by Mrs. Mersereau.

Ms. Dubé, from the Select Committee on Health Care, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

June 15, 2000.

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

Mr. Speaker:

I have the pleasure to present herewith the First Report of the Select Committee on Health Care.

Your Committee was mandated to examine, inquire into, and report to the House with respect to the delivery of health care in New Brunswick and to consider such other matters referred to the Committee by the Minister of Health and Wellness.

This Report is a progress report of your Committee's deliberations on the matter of developing a wellness strategy to help New Brunswickers stay healthy longer, referred to your Committee by Hon. Dennis Furlong, Minister of Health and Wellness.

To date, your Committee has received several presentations related to health and wellness, has worked to define wellness, and has taken a first look at health and wellness related policies across government departments.

As part of the process to develop a wellness strategy, your Committee has completed an initial inventory of government programs that impact on health and wellness. This is included as Appendix "A" of the Report.

Your Committee looks forward to submitting a comprehensive wellness strategy document to the House during the next session.

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank the presenters who appeared before the Committee thus far, particularly Hon. Margaret Norrie McCain, Dr. Mark Tremblay and Hon. Dennis Furlong.

In addition, I wish to thank the numerous government officials that have been so cooperative in providing valuable information.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

Respectfully submitted,

Ordered that the report be received and the Committee continued.

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

June 15, 2000.

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

Mr. Speaker:

Your Select Committee on Health Care begs leave to submit this their First Report of the Session. Your Select Committee was appointed by Resolution of the House adopted July 6, 1999 and charged with examining, inquiring into, and reporting to the House with respect to the delivery of health care in New Brunswick and, to consider such other matters and materials referred to your Committee by the Minister of the former Department of Health and Community Services, now the Department of Health and Wellness.

At the request of the Minister, Hon. Dennis Furlong, the Committee undertook to review, as its first item of business, the issue of wellness and the matter of developing a wellness strategy for the province.

This Report is a progress report of your Committee's deliberations on developing a *Wellness Strategy* to help New Brunswickers to stay healthy longer. Your Committee looks forward to submitting a comprehensive *Wellness Strategy* document to the House during the next session.

A. WELLNESS STRATEGY: OUR WORKPLAN

The Committee has received several presentations related to health and wellness, worked to define wellness, and taken a first look at health and wellness related programs and policies across government departments.

To date, the Committee heard the following presentations:

- The Minister of Health and Wellness, the Honourable Dennis Furlong, provided an overview of the former Department of Health and Community Services and emphasized the need to focus more attention on wellness as opposed to illness;
- Dr. Mark Tremblay of the UNB Department of Kinesiology presented on wellness, the negative effects of our increasingly sedentary lifestyles, and emphasized the important link between physical activity and health and wellness, particularly for our children;
- Officials of the Department of Education (Anglophone and Franco-phone) provided an overview of department programs and policies related to health and wellness;
- Officials of the former Department of Municipalities (including the former Sport Recreation and Active Living Branch, now part of the Culture and Sport Secretariat) reported on their programs; and
- Hon. Margaret Norrie McCain, reported on her work with Dr. Fraser Mustard on early childhood development - the 1999 Ontario report *The Early Years Study: Final Report*.

The Committee has developed an inventory of programs, policies and initiatives that impact on health and wellness across all government departments. The inventory was developed with input from all government departments, following a request for information to all Deputy Ministers.

As next steps, the Committee plans to:

- Engage New Brunswickers in discussion about wellness, and identify community and workplace wellness programs, through a public consultation process to be held this fall. Details about the process will be advertised in late summer/early fall and posted on the Legislative Assembly web-site;
- Additional meetings with government departments instrumental to wellness; and
- Complete the *Wellness Strategy* document, and submit it to the Legislative Assembly.

Your Committee anticipates that the *Wellness Strategy* will reflect what we hear from New Brunswickers about wellness, and will include recommendations identifying priority areas for action.

B. WHAT IS WELLNESS?

The Committee proposes the following definition of wellness:

"Wellness is a state of emotional, mental, physical, social and spiritual well-being, that enables people to reach and maintain their personal potential in their communities."

Wellness is about:

- The promotion of healthy lifestyles;
- The prevention of illness;
- Encouraging New Brunswickers of all ages to take responsibility for preserving their health and making healthy choices; and
- Providing services that assist individuals and communities to improve their health.

There is strong and growing evidence that many factors, in addition to health care, contribute to wellness. These factors are called the *determinants of health*, and they include:

- Income and social status
- Social support networks
- Education
- Employment and working conditions
- Physical environments
- Biology and genetic endowment
- Personal health practices and coping skills
- Healthy child development
- Health services
- Gender

Social capital, poverty, resiliency, and literacy are other complementary factors that have a strong influence on health and wellness.

Individuals, families, communities, government, and the private sector all have roles and responsibilities in helping New Brunswickers to stay healthy. More importantly, we need to work together to ensure that future generations of New Brunswickers enjoy the benefits of wellness.

Wellness is everyone's responsibility!

C. WHY WELLNESS?

Investing in the wellness of New Brunswickers will help to ensure a sustainable health care system, and will result in long term societal benefits, including:

- Better health,
- Improved quality of life, and
- Increased productivity.

Recent reports such as *Toward a Healthy Future: The Second Report of the Health of Canadians*, released by the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers of Health in September 1999, and *Health Care in Canada: A First Annual Report*, released by the Canadian Institute for Health Information in April of this year, provide statistics that help us to identify areas where New Brunswick is doing well and areas where we may need to take action.

In comparison with other provinces, New Brunswick fares well with long life expectancy, low infant mortality and low birth-weight rates, and low breast cancer and respiratory disease mortality rates. However, the number of teenagers who smoke (especially young females), the lung cancer mortality rate, and obesity are significant challenges.

The Committee will continue to examine the available evidence and will offer recommendations in the *Wellness Strategy* to identify areas where action is needed to ensure New Brunswickers realize the benefits of wellness in the years ahead.

D. WHAT IS GOVERNMENT DOING?

To some extent, all government departments contribute to wellness, through the delivery of health and wellness related programs, or through the impact of their policies and programs on New Brunswickers.

As part of the process to develop a Wellness Strategy, the Committee has completed an initial inventory of government programs that impact on health and wellness (Appendix A). This is a first step to ensure that all government departments will be 'aware' and 'conscious' of their impact on wellness, and to make sure they think about this when implementing or developing programs.

The inventory was developed with input from all government departments in response to a request to Deputy Ministers to provide information on health and wellness related programs, policies and initiatives, and to identify programs, policies and initiatives that impact on the determinants of health.

The Committee will continue to explore the *determinants of health*, and further build on and analyze the inventory in areas such as children and youth, seniors, workplaces, etc.

In light of the recent restructuring of government, the committee has identified the opportunity for all government departments to explore, identify and document their contribution to wellness in their corporate strategic planning processes.

CONCLUSION

The Committee plans to develop a Wellness *Strategy* to:

- Engage individuals, families, communities and the private sector in the challenge to achieve wellness;
- Ensure that all government departments develop policy with an awareness of their impact on wellness; and
- Ensure that government departments are accountable for their impact on the health and wellness of New Brunswickers.

Your Committee looks forward to engaging New Brunswickers in a discussion about wellness, and to submitting a final Wellness Strategy document, including recommendations, to the House during the next session.

Mr. McGraw, from the Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the Third Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

June 15, 2000.

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

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Private Bills begs leave to submit this, their Third Report of the session.

Your Committee on Private Bills met in the Legislative Council Chamber on June 13, and June 14, 2000, and had under consideration:

Bill 51, *An Act Respecting the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, N.B. & P.E.I. Division Inc.*

Which they recommend to the favourable consideration of the House with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

I move, seconded by Mr. Huntjens, that the report be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Louis-Philippe McGraw, MLA.
Chairman.

Mr. Speaker put the question on the motion of concurrence and it was resolved in the affirmative.

During Statements by Members, Hon. Mr. E. Robichaud rose on a Point of Order to complain that Mr. B. Thériault had used unparliamentary language in his Member's Statement when referring to the Hon. Mr. Mockler. Mr. B. Thériault rose and stated he would withdraw any comments if they had offended anyone.

Hon. Mr. E. Robichaud rose and complained that a withdrawal had to be unconditional.

Mr. Speaker advised the House that the period for Statements by Members was not to be used by Members to launch personal attacks on one another. The Speaker noted that there had been a number of transgressions of the rules in the past and that he would be enforcing the rules more strictly.

Mr. Speaker requested that Mr. B. Thériault indicate whether he was prepared to withdraw certain remarks unconditionally, which he did.

Mr. Speaker called Mrs. Fowlie to order and reminded the Member that in making a Member's Statement, a Member must not launch a personal attack against another Member.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Green, seconded by Hon. Mr. Lord:

Resolved, THAT when the House adjourns, it stand adjourned until Friday, June 16, 2000, at 11 o'clock a.m.

Hon. Mr. Green announced that it was the intention of government that Private Bill 51 be read a second time today and further that the House would resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Advisory Council on the Status of Women, the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission, the Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat, the Department of the Environment and Local Government, and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture, as well as the Supplementary Estimates.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 34 , *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act.*
Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Trustees Act.*
Bill 44, *An Act to Amend the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Act.*
Bill 45, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Loans Act.*
Bill 46, *An Act to Amend the Lotteries Act.*
Bill 47, *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act.*
Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the Teachers' Pension Act.*
Bill 49, *Loan Act 2000.*
Bill 50, *An Act to Amend the Police Act.*
Bill 52, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act.*
Bill 53, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The following Private Bill was read a second time:

Bill 51, *An Act Respecting the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, N.B. & P.E.I. Division Inc.*

Pursuant to Standing Rule 121, Mr. Speaker ordered Private Bill 51 for third reading forthwith.

The following Private Bill was read a third time:

Bill 51, *An Act Respecting the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, N.B. & P.E.I. Division Inc.*

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with the order of Private Members' Motions for this day's sitting.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. Bernard in the Chair.

After some time, Mr. Holder took the Chair

And after some further time, Mr. Bernard resumed the chair.

And after some further time, it then being 12.30 o'clock p.m., the Chairman left the Chair to resume again at 2 o'clock p.m.

2 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Mr. Bernard in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. J. Betts took the chair.

After some further time, Mr. Ashfield took the chair.

After some time, the Chairman declared it to be 6 o'clock p.m., and left the chair to resume again at 7 o'clock p.m.

7 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Mr. Ashfield in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Ashfield, the Chairman, after requesting that Mr. Speaker, revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee had had under consideration the matters referred to them and had passed all remaining items.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. Allaby, the Acting Speaker, then 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.

The following are the items reported:

MAIN ESTIMATES 2000-2001

ORDINARY ACCOUNT

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$3,615,000 to defray the expenses of the Ordinary Account program allocations of the Executive Council Office for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2001.

MARITIME PROVINCES HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$164,449,000 to defray the expenses of the Ordinary Account program allocations of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2001.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$45,259,000 to defray the expenses of the Ordinary Account program allocations of the Department of Environment and Local Government for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2001.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$19,258,000 to defray the expenses of the Ordinary Account program allocations of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2001.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Voted, Supply in the following amount to defray the expenses of the following program:

Advisory Council on the Status of Women 427,000

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$3,800,000 to defray the expenses of the Capital Account program allocations of the Department of Environment and Local Government for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2001.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$300,000 to defray the expenses of the Capital Account program allocations of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2001.

LOANS AND ADVANCES

Voted, Supply in the following amount and to defray the expenses of the following programs:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES

AND AQUACULTURE

N.B. Crop Insurance Commission 1,600,000

WORKING CAPITAL - MAXIMUM BALANCES

2000-2001

WORKING CAPITAL ADVANCES

Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture 950,000

PETTY CASH ADVANCES

Other (small departments) 15,000

INVENTORIES

Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture 5,825,000

SUPPLEMENT AND AMENDMENT TO

MAIN ESTIMATES 2000 - 2001

ORDINARY ACCOUNT

Voted, supply in the following amounts to defray the expenses of the following program:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES
AND AQUACULTURE

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$14,900,000 to defray the expenses of the Ordinary Account program allocations of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2001.

The said items were concurred in by the House.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Betts, Mr. Speaker reverted to the Order of Introduction of Bills.

The following Bill was introduced and read the first time:

By Hon. Mr. Betts,

Bill 56, Appropriations Act 2000-2001.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bill 56, *Appropriations Act 2000-2001* be read a second time forthwith.

Accordingly, Bill 56, *Appropriations Act 2000-2001*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

By unanimous consent, it was agreed that Bill 56 be deemed to have received consideration in Committee of the Whole House and that it be ordered for third reading at the next sitting.

And then, 10.13 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Documents requested in Notice of Motion 142 - June 15, 2000