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Daily Sitting 27

Wednesday, March 28, 2001.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The Honourable the Premier acknowledged the contribution to New Brunswick politics of Camille Thériault, Liberal Member of the Legislative Assembly for Kent South (1987-2001) and Premier of New Brunswick (1997-1999). Mr. Richard joined with the Premier in this regard.

Mr. Richard paid tribute to the memory of the late Charles McElman, a Member of the Senate of Canada (1966-1990) and to that of Horace Smith, Progressive Conservative Member of the Legislature (1970-1987).

Mr. Forbes paid tribute to the memory of Edwin G. Allen, Progressive Conservative (1978-1987) and Confederation of Regions Member (1991-1995), recently deceased.

Mr. Richard laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by citizens of Grande-Digue, Cap-Pelé, Grand-Barachois and Shediac who wish to keep their schools in District 01. (Petition 5)

Mr. Graham laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by citizens of the Mundleville area who urge that a two-lane bridge be built within the year. (Petition 6)

Hon. Mr. Green rose on a point of order and submitted that pursuant to Standing Rule 36 a Member may only make a brief statement when presenting a petition and that no debate is allowed.

Mr. Richard also spoke on the point of order.

Mr. Speaker noted that in presenting a petition according to Standing Rule 36(1), a Member may make a brief statement naming the parties from whom it comes, the number of signatures attached to it, and the material allegations it contains.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the Member in presenting his petition was, from his remarks, beginning to enter into a debate.

Mr. McGraw from the Standing Committee on Private Bills presented the third report of the Committee which was read and is as follows:

March 28, 2001

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 on March 20, 2001, in the Legislative Council Chamber and had under consideration:

Bill 17, *An Act Respecting the Canadian Information Processing Society of New Brunswick*,

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

Your Committee also had under consideration:

and reports that they have made certain progress therein.

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.

Mr. Louis-Philippe McGraw, M.L.A.
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker reminded Members that the period for statements by Members is limited to ten minutes, that individuals statements should be limited to one minute, and he requested that all Members respect these rules.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Furlong,
Bill 31, *An Act to Amend the Marriage Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Sherwood,
Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Elevators and Lifts Act*.

Order that the said Bills be read a second time at the next sitting.

Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 48 that on Tuesday, April 3, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

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 documents from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture, including but not limited to memos, letters, correspondence, electronic mail, minutes of meetings, reports regarding Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) prevention efforts in New Brunswick.

Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 49 that on Tuesday, April 3, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

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 all documentation, correspondence, memorandums, reports, electronic mail relating to or concerning the existing workload or caseload faced by social workers providing services to children and/or their families without limiting the generality of the foregoing, anything relating to the need for additional resources and/or FTEs and anything relating to the recommendations made in the "Children Come First" report for an additional 177 FTEs in front line social work resources and anything relating to the resulting increase in supervisors and administrative support staff that would be necessary.

Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 50 that on Tuesday, April 3, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

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 documents, including but not limited to memos, letters, correspondence, electronic mail, minutes of meetings, reports since June 21, 1999, between the Province of New Brunswick and other provincial jurisdictions, between the Province of New Brunswick and the Government of Canada and between the Province of New Brunswick and the United States regarding negotiations of a softwood lumber deal between Canada and the United States to take effect upon the conclusion of the current agreement expiring on March 31, 2001.

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 51 that on Tuesday, April 3, 2001, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. S. Graham.

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House from the Minister of Family and Community Services, any risk assessments, reports, analyses, reviews, studies, or any other documents used to determine that an increase of twenty social workers would ensure that children at risk in New Brunswick would be protected and have access to needed services.

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 52 that on Tuesday, April 3, 2001, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. S. Graham.

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House from the Minister of Family and Community Services, the number of social workers currently on stress leave, sick leave, or short or long-term disability.

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 53 that on Tuesday, April 3, 2001, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. S. Graham.

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House from the Minister of Family and Community Services, a breakdown by region of the number of vacant positions for social workers (all services).

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 54 that on Tuesday, April 3, 2001, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. S. Graham.

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House from the Minister of Health and Wellness or the Minister of Family and Community Services, a copy of the report: "A Voice for Our Children: A Child/Youth Advocate For New Brunswick", prepared by the Interdepartmental Child Advocate Committee.

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 55 that on Tuesday, April 3, 2001, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. S. Graham.

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House by the Minister of Health and Wellness copies of all letters, electronic mail, memos, directives or any other correspondence related to the cost of and payment for the Public Health Risk Assessment of the Irving Oil Refinery Upgrade done by Cantox Environment Inc. during the period from December 1, 1999 to date.

Mr. J. Betts gave Notice of Motion 56 that on Thursday, April 5, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. MacDonald.

WHEREAS the Government has successfully adopted measures to improve the work-life balance of New Brunswick families; and

WHEREAS improvements were brought to the *Employment Standards Act* in which the government allowed natural or adoptive parents to benefit extended Child Care Leave, which combined to Maternity Leave totals up to 52 weeks; and

WHEREAS workers in New Brunswick can now benefit from increased job protection with sick leave, family responsibility leave, court leave as well as from improved vacation and bereavement leaves; and

WHEREAS the Government was able to increase the minimum wage to \$5.75 since taking office, and is committed to increasing it to \$5.90 per hour by July 1, 2001;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House commend the efforts and actions of the government for improving working conditions of New Brunswickers by adopting a series of "Family friendly" measures.

And then, 12.03 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report Department of the Environment 1999-2000 - March 20, 2001
Annual Report Department of Municipalities and Housing 1999-2000 - March 20, 2001
The New Brunswick Economy 2001 - March 27, 2001
Budget 2001-2002 - March 27, 2001
Budget Highlights 2001-2002 - March 27, 2001