

Wednesday, November 21, 2001.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The Honourable the Premier paid tribute to the memory of the late Hon. Jean-Maurice Simard, Progressive Conservative Member of the Legislative Assembly (1970-1985) and Member of the Senate of Canada (1985-2001), recently deceased.

Hon. Mr. Lord paid tribute to the memory of Eric Steeves, a former mayor of Hillsborough, and to Cyril Betts, father of Hon. Norman Betts, Minister of Business New Brunswick and MLA for Southwest Miramichi.

Mr. Richard joined with the Hon. Mr. Lord in this regard.

Mr. Speaker introduced the pages for the session: Returning from last session, Todd Tingley, Fredericton, will serve as Head Page.

The new Pages are Meghan Lebans, Moncton; Genna Evelyn, London, Ontario; Michael Holden, Ottawa, Ontario; Meaghan Howe, Quispamsis; Kimberly O'Regan, Grand Falls; Jarrette Bannister, Elgin; Daniel Bourque, Douglas; Elizabeth Ross, Fredericton; Janice Linton, Perth-Andover; Nicholas Ouellette, Hatfield Point; and Andy MacNeil, Durham Bridge.

Mr. Richard, Member for Shediac–Cap-Pelé, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of citizens who request that the Minister of Environment and Local Government intervene and stop the discharge of waste water in the Kouchibouguac River or the Northumberland Strait and insist on a waste water treatment system respectful of the environment and surrounding land. (Petition 1)

Pursuant to subsection 16(2) of the *Auditor General Act*, Mr. Speaker laid upon the table of the House the *Auditor's Report on the Accounts of the Auditor General of the Province of New Brunswick for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001*.

Hon. Mr. Mesheau laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *Fiscal Imbalance and Equalization, A New Brunswick Perspective, Fall 2001*.

Hon. Mr. Green laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *Report of the Judicial Remuneration Commission for 2001 and Response of the Government of New Brunswick to the Report of the 2001 Judicial Remuneration Commission*.

At the request of Mr. Richard, it was agreed by unanimous consent to extend the time allotted for Oral Questions.

The following Bills were introduced and read the first time:

By Hon. Mr. McFarlane,

Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act.*

Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act.*

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

Hon. Mr. Lord gave Notice of Motion 1 that on Wednesday, November 21, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

WHEREAS the events of September 11, 2001, in the United States of America have deeply affected the people of New Brunswick;

AND WHEREAS the people of New Brunswick share a close and historical relationship with the people of the United States;

AND WHEREAS the people of New Brunswick supported many citizens of the United States of America during the diversion of airlines to Moncton;

AND WHEREAS the people of New Brunswick have expressed both their condolences and support to the people of the United States of America through the signing of books of condolence and through charity drives in many New Brunswick communities;

AND WHEREAS Canada has joined the international coalition seeking to combat the threat of terrorism through both the military engagement in Afghanistan and by identifying and eliminating the networks and systems that support terrorism;

AND WHEREAS the people of New Brunswick have a proud history of tolerance and community spirit towards people of all nationalities, ethnic groups, and faith;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick formally express its support to the people of the United States of America as they deal with the aftermath of the events of September 11 and the continuing threats of terrorism; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick proudly expresses its support to the many Canadians serving their country in the military engagement and humanitarian actions in Afghanistan; and

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick express its support for a continued spirit of tolerance, understanding and community among and between the people of New Brunswick as we all deal with the aftermath of September 11.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to dispense the notice requirement of Standing Rule 65(1) and to consider Motion 1 during this day's sitting.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 2 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

WHEREAS the mandate of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations holds public hearings related to Crown Corporations;
AND WHEREAS NB Power is the largest Crown Corporation in New Brunswick;

AND WHEREAS the decisions NB Power must make regarding three major development projects are very important to the people of New Brunswick;

AND WHEREAS NB Power CEO James Hankinson has expressed his desire to appear before the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations prior to his retirement in January;

AND WHEREAS Mr. Hankinson possesses a wealth of experience from his five years as CEO of NB Power that would be beneficial in helping the members and the public to better understand the issues concerning the future of NB Power and the three development projects in question;

AND WHEREAS providing the people of New Brunswick with a better understanding with the issues concerning NB Power and the three major development projects would be consistent with this government's pledge to be open and transparent;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the chair of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations to call Mr. Hankinson to appear before the committee prior to December 31, 2001.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 3 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Mersereau:

WHEREAS Noranda's decision to terminate mining activities in New Brunswick is sad news for Bathurst and the economy of all New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the government will have to do something about the loss of revenues and jobs that comes with Noranda's decision to close down;

WHEREAS the government will have to be very creative and put measures in place to revitalize and diversify the economy in areas depending on mining as a prime source of income;

WHEREAS Noranda has accumulated a vast bank of technical exploration data over the past 50 years;

WHEREAS, a few years ago, an Ontario mining company, Gold Corporation, allowed access to its files for other firms which wanted to use its data;

WHEREAS the government of Ontario recently bought information from mining companies in order to make it available to people in the exploration field;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Assembly urge the government to convince Noranda to freely, graciously and with great speed make its entire compiled database, both digital and hard copy, for Bathurst Camp, publicly available;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Noranda make its currently held claims readily available to bonafide companies under readily acceptable option terms.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 4 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

WHEREAS the Stan Cassidy Centre is the only facility in the province capable of providing tertiary, rehabilitation from spinal chord injury, very specialized, complex intervention requiring a highly skilled, interdisciplinary team of medical specialists, therapists and specialized equipment;

AND WHEREAS appropriate rehabilitation when provided in a timely fashion restores independence quickly, allows patients faster return to their families and communities;

AND WHEREAS rehabilitation services provided in a timely manner, reduce personal and provincial health care costs significantly;

AND WHEREAS for these rehabilitation services in New Brunswick, the wait times are the highest they have been in eight years, having doubled in the last year alone;

AND WHEREAS the Stan Cassidy Centre was built in the 1950s and is now grossly inadequate to meet rehabilitation needs of today;

AND WHEREAS relocation of the centre adjacent and attached to the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital would provide rehabilitation patients with more immediate and integrated access to acute medical care when required;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government to accept as a high priority the need to replace the Stan Cassidy Centre with a new, modern centre adjacent to the Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 5 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Mersereau:

WHEREAS in October 2000, the Minister of Training and Employment Development was presented with a petition signed by 65,000 people demanding that the province enact pay equity legislation that would guarantee pay equity in all economic sectors;

AND WHEREAS New Brunswick women earn about \$2.70 less per hour than their male counterparts;

AND WHEREAS in New Brunswick male 1996 university graduates earn an average of \$726 more per month than their female counterparts;

AND WHEREAS on October 13, 2000 the Premier made the following commitment: *The Minister of Training and Employment Development is looking at some improvements that can be brought to the act that could help greater equity in the workforce;*

AND WHEREAS there still exists parts of the public service that are not covered by the *Pay Equity Act*;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Legislature urge the government to bring forward amendments to the *Pay Equity Act* so that it applies to all parts of the Public Service;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Legislature urge the government to bring forward for open discussion by all New Brunswickers a white paper on pay equity in the private sector of the province before the next election.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 6 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

WHEREAS one of the five areas on which the government was supposed to focus after the June 7, 1999 election was creating new job opportunities;

AND WHEREAS these new job opportunities have yet to materialize;

AND WHEREAS this government is not economically proactive and New Brunswick is no longer one of the places where outside businesses choose to do business and set up;

AND WHEREAS this government simply took advantage of the favourable world economic situation of the past few years to blow its own trumpet as regards the economy;

AND WHEREAS the government blames the events of September 11 and unfavourable world economic conditions to explain its lack of vision and leadership as regards job creation;

AND WHEREAS the government's sectoral strategies for achieving greater economic development have yet to materialize;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislature condemn the government's poor record on economic development and job creation.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 7 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

WHEREAS this government has promised to bring forth their plans for NB Power by the end of the year;

AND WHEREAS deregulation in other energy markets has created serious hardship for consumers;

AND WHEREAS all New Brunswickers are shareholders in NB Power;

AND WHEREAS public consultation conducted by the Official Opposition has indicated overwhelmingly that New Brunswickers favour retaining control of NB Power as a publicly-owned utility;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge government to maintain NB Power as a publicly-owned utility.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 8 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Mersereau:

WHEREAS the northeastern part of the province has an economic development deficit compared to the rest of the province;

WHEREAS the unemployment rate, especially the seasonal unemployment rate, is very high in this area of the province;

WHEREAS young people from the northeastern part of the province leave to attend university and, more often than not, these young people do not return to the area due to a lack of job opportunities;

WHEREAS the Nova Scotia government has been very proactive in setting up, with federal government assistance, the Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation and the Pictou Regional Development Corporation;

WHEREAS both these economic development programs have proved their worth and several jobs have been created thanks to the commitment of the Nova Scotia government, which has innovated on these issues;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick government has no vision for northeastern economic development and injecting millions here and there is no way to bring about sustainable, diversified economic development;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the New Brunswick government cooperate with the federal government with a view to setting up an inclusive economic development program for the northeastern part of the province, similar to Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 9 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

WHEREAS the ceiling levels for transfer for coverage on costs of prescription drug from the provincial prescription drug program for seniors to the Blue Cross plan for seniors was established in 1992 to be \$17,198 for a single senior and \$26,955 for married seniors and has remained at that level;

AND WHEREAS inflation over the years reduces the purchasing power of seniors earnings;

AND WHEREAS the government has recognized this in its provincial income tax legislation with a provision to prevent "bracket creep";

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature ask the government to examine the feasibility of making an adjustment to this ceiling in the coming year to reflect the above index of inflation in the intervening years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature ask the government to consider adopting a policy that would automatically adjust the ceilings for provincial prescription drug program based on an appropriate index of inflation to prevent bracket creep from imposing hardship on seniors.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 10 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Haché:

WHEREAS auto insurance rates are escalating at an alarming rate;

AND WHEREAS seniors, who are often on fixed incomes, are being hurt by large increases in premiums;

AND WHEREAS other provinces have been able to bring stability to auto insurance rates;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature ask the government to issue a white paper for public discussion to explore alternatives that will result in lower auto insurance premiums, especially for seniors.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 11 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Mersereau:

WHEREAS New Brunswick is the only officially bilingual province in Canada;

WHEREAS the *Official Languages of New Brunswick Act* was adopted in 1969;

WHEREAS jurisprudence and amendments to the *Charter of Rights* have altered the language rights of all New Brunswickers;

WHEREAS a review of the *Official Languages of New Brunswick Act* is long overdue;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to review the *Official Languages Act* and present a white paper for discussion.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 12 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Kennedy:

WHEREAS the Select Committee on Education was appointed at the commencement of the First Session of the Fifty-fourth Legislative Assembly to address the many issues and concerns involving the education of the people of New Brunswick;

AND WHEREAS the Select Committee on Education recommended in their second report to this Legislature: *The activities of the District Education Council would also be subject to review by a legislative committee of government upon request;*

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature authorize the Select Committee on Education to review the activities of the District Education Councils by inviting representatives of each council to appear before the committee.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 13 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

WHEREAS all New Brunswickers should have access to emergency care when and where they need it;

AND WHEREAS New Brunswickers in communities such as Tracadie-Sheila, Sussex and Saint John have seen closures at their emergency rooms;

AND WHEREAS the provision of emergency care should be a top priority in health care;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Legislature urge the government to include in their master plan for hospitals a provision requiring emergency rooms to remain open and fully staffed at all times.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 14 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Haché:

WHEREAS clean drinking water is an issue of great importance to the people of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS nearly 300,000 New Brunswickers rely on designated municipal watersheds for their drinking water;

WHEREAS there are known impacts of clear-cutting activity on watersheds;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Legislature urge the government to implement a policy that would prohibit clear-cutting within watershed boundaries without an appropriate Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to determine where and how clear-cutting may be done safely.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 15 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Mersereau:

WHEREAS attracting new doctors to practice in New Brunswick is becoming increasingly competitive;

AND WHEREAS the Province of New Brunswick spends nearly \$25,000 per year for each medical school seat it purchases;

AND WHEREAS the Premier has admitted that there is no guarantee students in New Brunswick medical school seats will return to practice in the Province of New Brunswick;

AND WHEREAS every effort must be made to ensure that New Brunswickers reap the benefits of the medical seats purchased with their tax dollars;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Legislature urge the government to consider implementing a program to forgive a portion of student loan debt associated with medical school for each year a physician practices in the Province of New Brunswick.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 16 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. S. Graham:

WHEREAS the government has made a commitment to introduce nurse practitioners to the Province of New Brunswick;

AND WHEREAS competition for these highly-skilled health professionals exists across North America;

AND WHEREAS nurse practitioners are required to complete studies at the postgraduate level;

AND WHEREAS it is imperative that New Brunswick offer a climate that is attractive to nurse practitioners;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Legislature urge the government to consider implementing a program to forgive a portion of student loan debt associated with a nurse practitioner's postgraduate studies for each year the nurse practitioner works in the Province of New Brunswick.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 17 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Kennedy:

WHEREAS tobacco smoke kills over 40,000 people in Canada each year;

WHEREAS teen smoking in Canada increased after 1990 and has not declined since in concert with general population trends;

WHEREAS the Select Committee on Health Care report *Working Together for Wellness* set the objective: "to increase the number of children and youth who stay smokefree";

WHEREAS the Select Committee on Health Care report *Working Together for Wellness* set the further objective: "to increase the number of environments that are smoke-free (e.g., schools, workplaces, public places, etc.)";

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Legislature urge the government to implement a province-wide policy prohibiting smoking on school property.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 18 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

WHEREAS New Brunswick is a province with pronounced changes of season, each productive in its own right;

AND WHEREAS changing seasons bring with them a natural productivity on which enterprises have capitalized;

AND WHEREAS the types of work of the changing seasons are generally related to regenerating natural resources, which represents regenerating new money for New Brunswick;

AND WHEREAS without the important contribution of seasonal workers our provincial economy would stagnate and decline;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature endorse the value of seasonal work to the province of New Brunswick; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government to reconsider its recent policy change that rejects seasonal work and return to a policy that recognizes that seasonal and nonseasonal employment are both important to the economy of New Brunswick.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 19 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Haché:

WHEREAS postsecondary students and their families are making significant financial investments in their education;

WHEREAS government invests over \$160 million annually in New Brunswick's universities;

WHEREAS both students and government want to be assured that they are receiving the best possible education for their investment;

WHEREAS the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC) has implemented a policy of quality assurance with the objective "to ascertain the suitability of a programme given its objectives, structure, institutional appropriateness, resources, stated student outcomes and their relevance;"

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Legislature urge the government to develop with the MPHEC a program of incentives for postsecondary institutions that offer innovation and relevancy in programmes as measured by the MPHEC criteria.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 20 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Lee:

WHEREAS since 1,096 collisions have occurred and over 70 people have lost their lives on the Trans Canada highway between St. Leonard to Longs Creek;

AND WHEREAS a divided highway from St. Leonard to Longs Creek would reduce collisions and loss of life;

AND WHEREAS the province still has federal government money for highway construction which it has not yet spent;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government to consider matching federal funding to ensure that New Brunswick highways are safer for New Brunswickers as well as for those who come here on vacation or are simply passing through the province.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 21 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Haché:

WHEREAS New Brunswick universities will receive nearly \$168 million dollars in funding from the province in 2001-2002;

AND WHEREAS there does not exist any mechanism by which the universities are accountable to this Legislature for how this money is spent;

AND WHEREAS the Select Committee on Education was appointed at the commencement of the First Session of the Fifty-fourth Legislative Assembly to address the many issues and concerns involving the education of the people of New Brunswick;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Legislature authorize the Select Committee on Education to invite representatives of the province's universities to appear before the committee to review their spending and outline their plans and priorities.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 22 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

WHEREAS the government promised 'an all-party committee of the Legislature review key appointments for recommendation to Cabinet';

WHEREAS having a government dominated committee to approve government appointments is redundant and pointless;

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has established a committee which is empowered '*to review and report to the House its observations, opinions and recommendations on the operation of all agencies, boards and commissions to which the Lieutenant Governor in Council makes some or all of the appointments, and all corporations to which the Crown in right of Ontario is a majority shareholder*';

WHEREAS the membership of this committee in Ontario is divided equally between members of Opposition parties and the government party and the chair and vice-chair of this committee are members of the Official Opposition;

WHEREAS this Ontario committee has been functioning for a number of years and has helped to de-politicize the appointment process;

WHEREAS the mandate of New Brunswick's Select Committee to Review Appointments by Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council as stated by the Premier on July 6, 1999 was "to depoliticize the appointments process for agencies, boards, and commissions";

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislature adopt the Ontario model and redistribute the seats of the Select Committee to Review Appointments by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to create a balance between members of the government and the Opposition and that the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee be members of the Official Opposition so that this Committee can serve its intended role of depoliticizing appointments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this restructured Committee be authorized to review and report to the House its observations, opinions and recommendations on the operation of all agencies, boards and commissions.

Mr. Richard gave Notice of Motion 23 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Lee:

WHEREAS the contract between video lottery terminal owners and the government will expire on March 31, 2002;

AND WHEREAS video lottery terminal owners are simply intermediaries between the government and establishments where these machines are located;

AND WHEREAS these owners made a \$25.3 million profit in 2000 and a \$24.4 million profit in 1999;

AND WHEREAS these owners promised the public that an assistance fund for compulsive gamblers would be set up, a promise which tilted the balance in favour of maintaining video lottery machines in the May 14 referendum;

AND WHEREAS this assistance fund still has not materialized more than six months later and there is every indication that this fund is not on the verge on being created;

BE IT RESOLVED that the government not renew the contract with video lottery terminal owners and that they manage themselves through their partner Atlantic Loto and it use the extra profit generated to immediately establish an assistance fund for compulsive gamblers.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Green, it was agreed by unanimous consent to continue sitting through the noon recess.

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 24 that on Tuesday, November 27, 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 Finance copies of all correspondence, memos, reviews or any other document related to the 1998 "Agreement in Principle" from the government of New Brunswick, the Atlantic Lottery Corporation and the New Brunswick Coin Operators Association.

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 25 that on Tuesday, November 27, 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 Finance, a copy of the 1998 "Agreement in principle" between the government of New Brunswick and the New Brunswick Coin Machine Operators Association.

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 26 that on Tuesday, November 27, 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, copies of all correspondence, invoices, bills, memos, or any other document related to the printing and production of the rabies poster and pamphlet.

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 27 that on Tuesday, November 27, 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 Natural Resources copies of all correspondence between the Minister of Natural Resources or any official in his Department and the licensees under the *Crown Lands and Forests Act* for the period from June 7th, 1999 to date.

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 28 that on Tuesday, November 27, 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 Public Safety, copies of all correspondence, letters of request, memos, invoices or any other document, regarding the contract, or agreement for services, for the provision of communications advice from GCP-Strategic Communications relating to the erosion threat for homes in the Red Head area of Saint John.

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 29 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. S. Graham:

WHEREAS securing the future of New Brunswick's public forests is critical to the well being of our citizens and the province as a whole; and

WHEREAS the most powerful corporations operating in our province are demanding more power and sweeping changes to the management of our public forest lands; and

WHEREAS decisions about our public forests should be made through a public, transparent and democratic process, and

WHEREAS it has been over thirty years since there has been a full, public review of the future of our public forest lands;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT this legislative Assembly requests that the government of N.B. consider establishing a Select Committee on the Future of New Brunswick's Public Forests to hold public hearings into the management of our Crown lands and make any recommendations necessary to ensure a sustainable future for our public forests.

Ms. Dubé gave Notice of Motion 30 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Huntjens:

WHEREAS the horrific events of September 11, 2001, in New York and Washington have caused the governments of both Canada and the United States of America to assess security requirements in both countries;

WHEREAS Canada and the United States of America share a common border and enjoy the world's most important trading relationship;

WHEREAS this historic trading relationship is of mutual benefit to both countries;

WHEREAS continuation of a free and open border is of utmost importance to both Canada and the United States of America;

WHEREAS businesses and citizens have called for collective action from their governments to ensure that free and open trade across the border is protected and promoted;

WHEREAS New Brunswick supports enhanced collaboration and information sharing to address all aspects of the border, including security, immigration, trade, movement of people and infrastructure;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick recognize the need to preserve and expand upon the freedom of movement of goods and people engaged in legitimate trade and travel across the border between Canada and the United States of America; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick endorse the need to meet the security requirements of both Canada and the United States of America while building upon their historic trading relationship.

Mr. Alward gave Notice of Motion 31 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Laforest:

WHEREAS the Prime Minister of Canada has committed to twinning the TransCanada Highway between Windsor, Ontario and Halifax, Nova Scotia; and

WHEREAS it is a priority of the government of New Brunswick to invest in strategic infrastructure projects including the completion of a four-lane TransCanada Highway within its borders; and

WHEREAS the government of New Brunswick currently commits more than 100% of money it collects in gasoline and motive fuel taxes toward the construction, repair, maintenance and operation of roads in the province; and

WHEREAS the government of Canada currently commits only a small fraction of every dollar it collects in gasoline and motive fuel taxes in New Brunswick toward the construction of highways in the province;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick calls upon the government of Canada to increase their investment in strategic infrastructure in this province by allocating more funding toward the completion of a border-to-border, four-lane section of the TransCanada Highway within New Brunswick.

Mr. Malley gave Notice of Motion 32 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Moore:

WHEREAS reducing barriers to work is a priority of the government of New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS the government of New Brunswick has removed more than 15,000 low-income individuals and families from the provincial tax rolls by increasing the threshold before their income is taxed; and

WHEREAS increasing the threshold before low-income individuals and families are taxed upon their income has the effect of creating better incentives to work; and

WHEREAS the government of Canada still taxes the income of low-income individuals and families below the New Brunswick income tax threshold;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick calls upon the government of Canada to increase their basic personal amount, before which individuals and families are taxed upon their income, in order to provide further incentives to work.

Mr. Forbes gave Notice of Motion 33 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc:

WHEREAS innovation increases the productivity of our people so that they may leverage their efforts to accomplish more and thereby promote their personal development;

WHEREAS innovation increases the productivity of our businesses so that they may leverage their efforts to accomplish more and thereby promote greater production at lower cost;

WHEREAS innovation, facilitated by such initiatives as eNB increases the productivity of our province so that we may leverage our efforts to accomplish more and thereby enhance our standard of living;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly encourage the government of New Brunswick to pursue an innovation agenda as one of its key building blocks in growing our economy.

Mr. Dubé gave Notice of Motion 34 that on Tuesday, November 27, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Williams:

WHEREAS New Brunswick enjoys a privileged position within the Canadian federation and has a great deal to gain from establishing close ties with its neighbouring provinces and favoured partners;

WHEREAS, since it took office, this government has spared no efforts in order to develop better relationships with its provincial and federal counterparts;

WHEREAS this government's cooperation efforts have also reached beyond Canada's borders;

AND WHEREAS the Premier's recent missions to Québec, St. John's and New England have led to historic agreements being signed in the areas of health, the environment, energy and economic development;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly congratulate the government on its successes in the area of intergovernmental cooperation and encourage it to continue its work in order to promote New Brunswick in the national and international arenas.

Hon. Mr. Green announced that, as previously agreed by unanimous consent, it was the intention of the government that the House proceed with consideration of Motion 1.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 1, Hon. Mr. Lord, seconded by Mr. Richard, moved:

WHEREAS the events of September 11, 2001, in the United States of America have deeply affected the people of New Brunswick;

AND WHEREAS the people of New Brunswick share a close and historical relationship with the people of the United States;

AND WHEREAS the people of New Brunswick supported many citizens of the United States of America during the diversion of airlines to Moncton;

AND WHEREAS the people of New Brunswick have expressed both their condolences and support to the people of the United States of America through the signing of books of condolence and through charity drives in many New Brunswick communities;

AND WHEREAS Canada has joined the international coalition seeking to combat the threat of terrorism through both the military engagement in Afghanistan and by identifying and eliminating the networks and systems that support terrorism;

AND WHEREAS the people of New Brunswick have a proud history of tolerance and community spirit towards people of all nationalities, ethnic groups, and faith;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick formally express its support to the people of the United States of America as they deal with the aftermath of the events of September 11 and the continuing threats of terrorism; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick proudly expresses its support to the many Canadians serving their country in the military engagement and humanitarian actions in Afghanistan; and

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick express its support for a continued spirit of tolerance, understanding and community among and between the people of New Brunswick as we all deal with the aftermath of September 11.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bernard, the Deputy Speaker, took the Chair as Acting Speaker.

And the debate being ended and the question being put, Motion 1 was resolved in the affirmative.

And then, 1.17 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:

Annual Report of the Supervisor of Political Financing under the Political <i>Process</i> <i>Financing Act</i> (for the period April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000	June 6, 2001
Annual Report Municipal Statistics for New Brunswick 2001	July 14, 2001
Annual Report Service New Brunswick 2000-2001	October 3, 2001
Annual Report New Brunswick Investment Management Corporation 2000-2001	October 11, 2001
Annual Report Labour and Employment Board 2000-2001	October 23, 2001
Annual Report Department of Transportation	October 30, 2001
Annual Report Department of Health and Wellness 2000-2001	October 30, 2001
Annual Report Department of Public Safety 2000-2001	October 31, 2001
Annual Report Office of the Comptroller 2000-2001	October 31, 2001
Annual Report Department of Family and Community Services 2000-2001	October 31, 2001

Annual Report Department of Natural Resources and Energy 2000-2001	November 1, 2001
Annual Report Chief Coroner 2000-2001	November 1, 2001
Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons 2000-2001	November 2, 2001
Annual Report Department of Finance 2000-2001	November 2, 2001
Le Centre Communautaire Sainte-Anne 2000-2001	November 5, 2001
Other Reports	
Public Disclosure Statement filed pursuant to subsection 20(7) of the <i>Members' Conflict of Interest Act</i>	July 10, 2001
Report to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Investigation into allegations by Mr. Bernard Richard of a possible violation of the <i>Members' Conflict of Interest Act</i> by Hon. Jeannot Volpé	September 28, 2001
Annual Report Region 5 Hospital Corporation	October 10, 2001
Annual Report Region 4 Hospital Corporation	October 12, 2001
Annual Report Atlantic Lottery Corporation 2000-2001	October 23, 2001
Public Disclosure Statements filed pursuant to subsection 20(7) of the <i>Members' Conflict of Interest Act</i>	October 25, 2001
Annual Report New Brunswick Highway Corporation	October 31, 2001
Annual Report Region 1 Hospital Corporation (Beauséjour)	November 5, 2001
Annual Report Region 3 Hospital Corporation and Financial Statements for year ended March 31, 2001	November 6, 2001
Public Accounts for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2001 - Volume 1- Financial Statements	November 6, 2001
Annual Report Region 1 Hospital Corporation (South-East)	November 12, 2001
Annual Report Region 6 Hospital Corporation (Nor'East Health Network) and Financial Statements	November 16, 2001

**Documents filed in response to Notices of Motions
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Documents requested in Notice of Motion 88	June 5, 2001
Documents requested in Notice of Motion 45	June 7, 2001
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Responses to Petitions filed

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Third Session of the Fifty-fourth Legislature

Petition No. 14 by Mr. Haché presented May 24, 2001

June 5, 2001

Petition No. 15 by Mr. Haché presented May 24, 2001

July 24, 2001

Petition No. 16 by Mr. Laforest on behalf of Mr. Cyr
presented May 31, 2001

June 12, 2001