

Wednesday, December 16, 2009.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Jamieson rose on a matter of personal privilege to address statements made about him by Ms. Blaney in the House the previous sitting day.

Mr. Urquhart, Member for York, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Upper Kingsclear, Kingsclear First Nation, Lake George, Fredericton, Lower Kingsclear, Mazerolle Settlement Road, Scotch Lake, New Market, Keswick Ridge and surrounding areas who oppose the sale of NB Power to Hydro-Québec. (Petition 75)

Mr. C. Landry, Member for Tracadie-Sheila, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Petit-Shippagan, Pointe-à-Bouleau, Alderwood, Tracadie-Sheila, Saint-Irénée, Losier Settlement, Pont-Landry, Allardville, Saumarez, Ste-Rose, Caraquet, Sainte-Marie—Saint-Raphaël, Coteau Road, Upper Sheila, Saumarez and surrounding areas who oppose the sale of NB Power to Hydro-Québec. (Petition 76)

Mr. D. Graham, Member for Carleton, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Hartland, South Esk, Fredericton, Miramichi, Campbellton and surrounding areas who oppose the sale of NB Power to Hydro-Québec. (Petition 77)

Mr. Holder, Member for Saint John Portland, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Miramichi, Sunny Corner, Aldouane, Maple Glen, Sevogle and surrounding areas who oppose the sale of NB Power to Hydro-Québec. (Petition 78)

Mr. Northrup, Member for Kings-East, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Miramichi, South Nelson, Millerton, Chatham Head, Red Bank, Beaverbrook and surrounding areas who oppose the sale of NB Power to Hydro-Québec. (Petition 79)

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time.

By Mr. Alward,

Bill 24, An Act to Amend the Human Rights Act

Bill 25, An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 44(4), Mr. Robichaud, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, December 17, 2009, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: second reading of Bill 25; resumption of the debate on the motion for second reading of Bill 23; and second reading of Bill 24.

Hon. Mr. Murphy, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 15, 16, 19, 20, 18, 17 and 21.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole with Ms. Robichaud in the chair.

At 12.30 o'clock p.m., the Chairperson left the chair, to resume again at 2 o'clock p.m.

2 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Ms. Robichaud in the chair.

At 3.22 o'clock p.m., the Chairperson declared a recess and left the chair.

3.36 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Ms. Robichaud in the chair.

And after some time, due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Fraser, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker and Ms. Robichaud, the Chairperson, after requesting that Mr. Deputy Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported:

That the Committee had directed that she report the following Bill as agreed to:

Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act.

And that the Committee had directed that she report the following Bills as amended:

Bill 15, An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act. Bill 20, An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act.

And that the Committee had directed that she report progress on the following Bill:

Bill 16, An Act to Amend the Elections Act.

And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, the Deputy 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.

Mr. Deputy Speaker delivered the following statement:

STATEMENT BY DEPUTY SPEAKER

Honourable Members,

At this time I would like to address a point of order that was raised by the Member for Madawaska-les-Lacs on Thursday last concerning comments made by the Government House Leader during the debate on second reading of Bill 23.

I advised that I would review the transcript and report back to the House if necessary.

During his comments, the Government House Leader made reference to the bull and steer terminology that we have heard in this House over the last few weeks. This specific reference, however, and the comparison made to the Leader of the Opposition, was unparliamentary.

I would therefore ask the Honourable Government House Leader to withdraw the remarks in question.

Hon. Mr. Murphy, the Government House Leader, withdrew the remarks in question.

And then, 5.55 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:

Response to Petitions 1, 27, 28, 29, 30,	
31, 32, 33, 34, 35	December 14, 2009
Response to Petitions 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26	December 15, 2009
Documents in response to Motion 11	December 11, 2009
Documents in response to Motion 14	December 14, 2009