

JOURNALS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE
PROVINCE
OF
NEW BRUNSWICK

From the 19th day of November to the 29th day of November, 2019

From the 10th day of December to the 20th day of December, 2019

From the 10th day of March to the 17th day of March, 2020

The 17th day of April, 2020

From the 26th day of May to the 28th day of May, 2020

From the 9th day of June to the 18th day of June, 2020

Being the

Third Session of the Fifty-Ninth Legislative Assembly



Fredericton, N.B.

2019-2020

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
Third Session of the Fifty-Ninth Legislative Assembly
Speaker: the Honourable Daniel Guitard

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Bathurst West-Beresford	Brian Kenny	Beresford
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Donald Forestell, Clerk	Shayne Davies, Deputy Clerk
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**THIRD SESSION OF THE FIFTY-NINTH
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2019-2020**

**THE HONOURABLE BRENDA MURPHY,
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR**

Fredericton, N.B.
Tuesday, November 19, 2019

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS I have proclaimed that the second session of the fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of this Province be prorogued on the nineteenth day of November, 2019 at 11:00 in the forenoon;

AND WHEREAS I have thought fit to call the third session of the fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of this Province into session, I hereby issue a Proclamation that the same be called to meet on the nineteenth day of November, 2019 at 1:00 in the afternoon.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal
of the Province at Fredericton this 17th
day of October, in the year of our Lord
Two Thousand and Nineteen, and in the
sixty-eighth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

BY COMMAND OF THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

Andrea Anderson-Mason, Q.C.
Attorney General.

Brenda L. Murphy.
Lieutenant-Governor.

This being the day appointed for the opening of the Third Session of the Fifty-Ninth Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick for the dispatch of business pursuant to the proclamation hereinbefore annexed, and the Members being present:

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was announced and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne and was pleased to open the session with the following speech from the Throne:

Opening Remarks

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly, invited guests, and most importantly the people of New Brunswick, welcome to the third session of the 59th Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick.

We recognize and respect that New Brunswick comprises part of the traditional territories of the Wolastoqey, Mi'gmaw, and Peskotomuhkati peoples.

This session will build on the positive momentum gained through the work done during the second session. Over the past year, the government created a solid foundation, one the members are proud of. However, they know there is more work required. Tough decisions will have to be made if we want to create a New Brunswick in which we can all be proud.

An important element of this coming session will continue to be collaboration. Since taking office, the government has stressed that we must work together if we want to make lasting improvements, ones that will benefit New Brunswickers not just today but for generations to come.

Congratulations / Recognition

A number of New Brunswickers have had noteworthy achievements since our last session of the legislature.

Ten New Brunswickers were named to the Order of New Brunswick, including Patricia Bernard, Héliodore Côté, Michel Doucet, Léo Johnson, Lois Scott, Robyn Tingley, Abraham Beverley Walker, James “Jim” Wilson, Claire Wilt and John Wood.

W. Dale Dauphinee, Georges Henri Goguen, Jean-Claude Savoie, and Camille Thériault were invested as Members of the Order of Canada. Lyse Doucet, Ann McCain Evans, Roxanne Fairweather, Walter J. Learning, Bennett McCarty and Francis Pang were appointed Members of the Order of Canada.

Many talented and caring New Brunswickers have been recognized this past year for their impressive contributions and achievements.

Paul M. McDonnell of Fredericton received the New Brunswick Human Rights Award for his work creating intervention training programs to assist children with autism.

Students from École Abbey-Landry in Memramcook received the Youth Human Rights Award for their project, *L'espoir d'avenir*, promoting the rights of children.

The winners of the 2019 Disability Awareness Week Awards were Christine Duguay of Cap-Pelé and Kanza Hashmat of Fredericton. In addition, Amond McKenna of Fredericton was the recipient of the annual Randy Dickinson Scholarship.

New Brunswickers Karen Garnett and Doreen Sirois were among the recipients of the Council of the Federation's Literacy Awards.

Fifteen teachers and three early childhood educators from the anglophone and francophone sectors received the Minister's Excellence in Education Award in recognition of their exceptional work. They were: Tania Roy, Éric Chiasson, Stéphanie Raymond, Hélène Savoie-Chouinard, Linda Harris Soucy, Michelle Dupuis, Steven Haché, Tina Brasseur, Ginger Carson, Sheila Morgan, Alice Sewell, Lesley Stewart, Angela Young, Jonathan Godbout, Venessa Poirier-LeBlanc, Susan Boyle, Shane Kelbaugh, and Paul Kelly.

Colleen Sullivan of Glen Falls Elementary School in Saint John was honoured as one of Canada's Outstanding Principals by the Learning Partnership. She was one of 30 individuals across the country to receive this award.

Scott MacAfee, co-ordinator of the community inclusion networks at the Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation, was appointed chairperson of the National Advisory Council on Poverty.

Four New Brunswickers were appointed to the Order of Military Merit for their service to our country. They were: Captain Guy Michel Bériau, Chief Warrant Officer Joseph Roger Dominic Lapointe, Sergeant Caroline Marie Linteau, and Master Warrant Officer Jerome Patrick MacMullin.

New Brunswick athletes have had some notable highlights in recent months.

Six New Brunswick athletes were part of Team Canada at the Pan-Am Games in Lima, Peru. Geneviève Lalonde brought home a gold medal and Kate Campbell won a silver medal. We were also proud to have three New Brunswick athletes compete in the Parapan American Games in Lima this year.

Six new members were inducted into the New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame: Michel Côté, Franklin Henderson, Patricia Nolan-Edwards, Anne Orser, Allain Roy and Hermel Volpé.

New Brunswickers were among the 39 athletes who represented Canada at the 2019 United States of America Warrior Games that were held in Tampa Bay, Florida in June.

Jesse Canney from Durham Bridge was named the male athlete of the year by Special Olympics Canada.

New Brunswick's tourism and cultural sectors continue to thrive and grow.

The sixth edition of the Congrès mondial acadien was hosted by Southeast New Brunswick as well as Prince Edward Island this summer. This international gathering strengthens the ties that unite all Acadian communities and was an excellent opportunity for New Brunswick to demonstrate its support of this vibrant culture.

I would like to recognize that Brian Gallant, the former premier and Leader of the Liberal Party, has resigned his seat since our last session. We wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

This year also marked a milestone anniversary for New Brunswick's *Official Languages Act*. Fifty years ago, our province became the first and only officially bilingual province in Canada. Each of our official linguistic communities contributes to our province's development, our diversity and our openness to the world. Our bilingualism is a unique and integral part of New Brunswick, and something we should all be proud of.

Condolences

We also pause to remember those we have lost in the past year.

We remember Her Honour, the Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau, ONB, former Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. Her Honour was a passionate advocate for this province and its people throughout her career, and during her time as lieutenant-governor, she championed literacy, mental health issues and the need for a new sense of pride for the place we call home.

We pay tribute to former Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Greg Thompson. Mr. Thompson was a businessman, teacher and financial planner who had a passion for serving the public and representing his community. He served in both federal and provincial politics over the course of his impressive career.

This year, we lost Erminie Cohen, a former New Brunswick senator and Saint John community leader. We remember her as a passionate member of the Jewish community and a life-long social justice advocate.

We remember Fredericton hockey legend and community leader Danny Grant. As a former Stanley Cup champion and member of the New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame, he was an inspiration both on and off the ice.

We lost Robert Pichette this year, a former director of cultural affairs for New Brunswick as well as an historian, author, and champion of the French language and Acadian culture. He will be remembered for his many contributions to New Brunswick – most notably, the design of our provincial flag.

We honour David L. Myles, who had a lifelong passion for the local history of buildings, and provided invaluable technical assistance, advice and supervision for the restoration and maintenance of a number of important provincially owned buildings, including the Legislative Assembly, Legislative Library and Government House.

We pay tribute to Jeffrey Spalding, the former chief curator of the Beaverbrook Art Gallery. He was a prominent artist, curator, museum director and educator who will be remembered for his many contributions to the Canadian art world.

We remember Michael Nicholas, the son of former Lieutenant-Governor Graydon Nicholas. Michael was a proud member of the Wolastoqiyik who was passionate about his life's work in archaeology.

We lost Jacqueline “Jackie” Webster, a pioneering journalist and member of the Order of New Brunswick. She will be remembered for her wit, intelligence and impact on the social and cultural life in our province.

We pay tribute to family matriarch Jean Irving. She will be remembered for her philanthropy, charitable works, and dedication to improving the lives of young people across New Brunswick.

We also honour former Fredericton City Councillor David Wilson. He contributed greatly to Fredericton through his dedication to numerous causes and committees, including the Miramichi Salmon Association, the United Way and the Chalmers Regional Hospital Foundation.

Introduction

This is a crucial time for New Brunswick. It has become increasingly clear that the status quo is no longer an option. There are many challenges facing our province. If we are to overcome them, we must face those issues head on, work together, and find made-in-New Brunswick solutions that truly work.

Currently, New Brunswick is one of the most indebted, most rapidly aging and least literate provinces in Canada. Approximately 25 per cent of our children live in poverty and close to 34 per cent of New Brunswick households have incomes so low that they cannot pay taxes.

In a world that is changing at an impressive rate, our future graduates will be responsible for ensuring our democratic values and the well-being of our communities.

Your government understands the challenges we face as a province and has developed a roadmap to ensure we are on the right path to a better future. They began by laying a solid foundation and establishing measurements to not only stay on track, but to make sure there is rigour behind the decisions being made on behalf of New Brunswickers.

It won't be easy, and it won't be quick, but with hard work, positive change is possible. In fact, this province has already shown what is possible through the steps taken and progress made over the past year.

Making Progress

The financial results are an example of how the government's hard work is paying off.

Second-quarter results for the 2019-20 fiscal year show a projected surplus of \$88.1 million compared to the budgeted surplus of \$23.1 million.

The net debt is projected to decrease by \$232.7 million from budget. This includes an improvement of \$146.0 million due to 2018-19 year-end results and an \$86.7 million improvement in 2019-20.

By ending the 2018-19 fiscal year with a surplus and reduced debt, the government saved the province from a downgrade in its credit rating.

The government also introduced a new way of reporting financial results, one that shows quarterly actual financial results as well as year-end projected results. By doing this, they delivered on a commitment made to New Brunswickers in the 2019-20 budget.

To help those pursuing post-secondary education in the province, the government reviewed the bursary program, reinstated the tuition tax credit and extended the bursary program to include private institutions.

The government established a protocol to link minimum wage to the consumer price index, allowing both employers and employees to be better prepared for increases when they occur.

The government implemented changes to WorksafeNB to prevent continuing increases in Worksafe premiums.

The government was able to save jobs through an agreement to buy its supply of road salt from the Nutrien mine in Sussex. This decision ensured the continued operation of the mine, supported 50 mining jobs and generated economic spinoffs for the region.

The government has restored the integrity and independence of the Office of Public Health, as recommended by public health experts across Canada.

The government abolished the physician billing number system, to allow for better mobility of physicians already working in the province and to help with the recruitment of new physicians to the province.

The government has reviewed the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development website to allow easy public access to literacy, math and science scores.

The government implemented the tourism accommodation levy which enables local governments to create bylaws to put in place a tourism levy on guests of hotels and other accommodation providers. In turn, that revenue will be used for tourism promotion and development at the local level.

In July, the government launched a nursing resource strategy focused on the recruitment, retention, promotion of the nursing profession, and on enhancing nursing education, employment and work-life balance.

The Department of Social Development is improving the long-term care system for our province's seniors. They are improving access to home support services through initiatives like Nursing Home Without Walls, and they are assisting more seniors in accessing the appropriate level of residential care either through special care homes or nursing homes.

As well, the department continues to focus on social assistance reform to ensure the removal of barriers to employment. Work will also continue on improving New Brunswick's child protection system, including public consultation on child welfare legislation.

As of July 1, 2019, New Brunswick's population reached a record high of 776,827. The addition of 5,906 people marks the largest single-year growth for the province in the last 30 years.

In August, the government released *New Beginnings: A Population Growth Strategy for New Brunswick 2019-2024*. This action plan has ambitious immigration goals which provide a roadmap for economic growth and renewed prosperity in the province.

Conserving natural areas is an important part of the overall approach to meeting forest and land management objectives, including adapting to climate change, protecting biodiversity, protecting wetlands and watersheds, and protecting species at risk. That is why the government has pledged to more than double New Brunswick's protected and conserved land and freshwater from 4.6 per cent to 10 per cent.

This positive momentum isn't just happening within government. Across the province, New Brunswickers are also taking steps to make New Brunswick better for everyone.

For example, members of the orthopedic care team at the Saint John Regional Hospital designed and implemented a two-hour class to engage patients and make them part of their own health-care team. This class helps patients and their families understand the role they play prior to undergoing spinal fusion surgery. This low-cost class has been effective in managing patients' expectations, increasing their satisfaction after surgery, reducing reported back pain and reducing their visits to the emergency department by approximately 50 per cent in the 12 weeks following their surgery.

In Fredericton, an electrician has co-founded a company that can help people generate electricity. MJM Solar Solutions installs renewable energy systems, such as solar panels. All the energy generated is consumed by the house. If there's any left, it goes back onto the local grid where it is stored for future use.

The owners of McGuire Chocolate moved from Calgary to St. Andrews to open their business, in part because of low real estate prices and the town's proximity to the American border. They have plans to expand their retail distribution across Canada and then into the states.

And Fredericton-based Upfront Cosmetics, which offers a line of shampoo and conditioner bars free of sulfates, parabens and synthetic fragrances, is making strides in building its global brand.

These are just a few examples of good news stories happening across our province.

Though good things are happening, this is just the beginning. More must be done. Each and every New Brunswicker has the ability to make a positive impact on our province. And now, more than ever, it is important that all of us find a way to do so.

We must continue to act if we want to create more success stories.

Government Priorities

The government has a plan to continue to build on the progress that has been made, to keep our forward momentum going.

The government is focused on six priorities:

- Dependable Public Health Care;
- World-Class Education;
- Energized Private Sector;
- Vibrant and Sustainable Communities;
- Affordable and Responsive Government; and
- High-Performing Organization.

In this session, concrete action will be taken in each of these priority areas. Concrete action that the public will see, as each of these priorities have measurable goals and the results will be made public to ensure transparency and that the government is staying on track.

Dependable Public Health Care

New Brunswickers must have access to dependable public health care. Currently, we face a number of challenges in health care, including a lack of human resources and inefficient use of resources.

The government has a plan and is taking steps to tackle these issues, and others facing the health-care system.

For example, the government is developing an initiative to enhance the emergency departments in Fredericton, Saint John and Moncton. This will improve care for patients with urgent but not life-threatening conditions and reduce emergency department wait times for all patients.

The government also plans to open nurse practitioner clinics in Moncton, Saint John and Fredericton. This will enable more residents to have access to primary care.

A physician resource strategy is in the works and will build upon the elimination of the physician billing number system and make it easier for doctors to set up practice in the province.

Recognizing that it is crucial to improve mental health services, the government is working with subject-matter experts from across the province on steps that can be taken in the short- and medium-term so people know that they are not alone. There are no easy answers, but the government is focused on finding real solutions to support New Brunswickers and their families.

Health risks associated with vaping, especially for young people, is a rising concern. Government will work with health specialists and advocates to develop a strategy to combat youth vaping in New Brunswick.

As well, the government will introduce amendments to the *Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act* and the *Prescription Drug Payment Act* as part of its goal to find ways to deliver high-quality health care in a fiscally responsible manner.

Another important element of dependable public health care is senior care.

The government will propose amendments to the *Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act* to better protect residents, workers and taxpayers.

World-Class Education

New Brunswick's education system must go above and beyond in order for our children and youth to thrive.

In the spirit of working together, in October the New Brunswick Education Summit was held in Fredericton. This summit offered an opportunity for parents, teachers, educators and students to provide input on *Succeeding at Home: A green paper on education in New Brunswick*.

Following consultation, the government will continue to work with educators, parents and students to reimagine the education system; a system that will empower teachers, increase student resiliency and create safer classrooms, ensuring a high-quality education for young New Brunswickers.

Having a personalized approach for learning and offering our children and youth experiential opportunities will open their horizons to opportunities they may not know are available and within their reach. Through these experiences and winning classroom practices, students will gain knowledge of themselves, discover their passions, and explore potential career paths while developing their communication, collaboration and critical thinking skills, entrepreneurial spirit, creativity and innovative thinking.

New Brunswick youth will continue to have access to learning opportunities that will improve their comprehension of math, literacy and science in new and better ways. These foundational skills will allow youth to continue to thrive long after they graduate. Furthermore, the government is working to identify potential developmental risks as early as possible, and work with families to improve the outcomes of all children, better preparing them for a life of learning.

To help ensure that New Brunswick students are engaged and challenged, the government will continue to examine replacing early year grades with flexible learning environments with the goal to provide students with the skills they need to be life-long learners.

As a bilingual province, we want to give every child the opportunity to learn both French and English. Everyone should have the opportunity to be able to become conversationally bilingual, and it should be fun. The government is exploring new educational approaches to allow more children than ever to learn both official languages. Introducing languages in the early years and offering opportunities to every child will allow our young people to better compete in our bilingual province's ever-changing job market.

Also, the department is engaging in discussions with First Nations in New Brunswick in order to renew the Enhanced First Nation Education Programs and Services Agreement.

To ensure the health and safety of students, immunization requirements will be enforced in the public school and early learning and child care systems in the province.

The government will introduce amendments to the *Education Act* to further empower and engage educators to innovate in the classroom.

Providing young New Brunswickers with a world-class education will position them for success.

Energized Private Sector

If we want to grow New Brunswick's economy, we need an energized private sector. The role of government is to help create an environment where companies can thrive. This will enable existing companies to grow and will attract new ones.

To do that, we must increase our labour force. This will require effort on two fronts. The first is to ensure that young people are receiving the education they need for the jobs that will be available. The second is immigration.

The government will work with post-secondary institutions in New Brunswick to better prepare students for current and future labour needs, as well as ensure the education system is doing its part.

On the immigration front, the government's new Population Growth Strategy focuses on three targets to help build a skilled workforce to meet our future labour market needs.

One is increasing our immigration target over time and welcoming up to 7,500 newcomers annually by 2024. This will bring New Brunswick's annual immigration intake to about one per cent of the provincial population. To put this in perspective, New Brunswick welcomed approximately 4,600 newcomers in 2018.

The government will also continue working toward the targets laid out in the 2014-2017 New Brunswick Francophone Immigration Action Plan to have a two per cent annual increase in French-speaking newcomers. Their goal is to reach 33 per cent by 2024.

As a province, we must also focus on creating the right environment so that newcomers want to stay. The province has a great record for attracting people, but we need to do a better job of keeping them here. The government's goal is to reach a one-year retention rate of 85 per cent by 2024.

In addition to increasing the labour force, we must also remove barriers for businesses.

Currently, New Brunswick does not have a competitive regulatory framework. Complying with rules and regulations is cumbersome and time-consuming when we compare ourselves to other jurisdictions.

Each year the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, which represents about 5,000 New Brunswick companies, rates governments across the country with a Red Tape Report Card. New Brunswick has failed to improve over the past number of years and has hovered around a grade of C-.

Every minute a business in New Brunswick spends complying with rules and regulations, is a minute lost in growing their business and helping build a stronger economy. Every dollar spent complying with rules and regulations is a dollar not spent on machinery, equipment and hiring more New Brunswickers.

The government is committed to reducing, in absolute terms, the amount of time and effort that it takes for businesses to comply with rules and regulations imposed by government departments and agencies.

Departments and agencies will focus more time and effort on determining how to lighten their impact on businesses.

In the spirit of reducing red tape and to better align with other Canadian provinces, the government will introduce amendments to the *Days of Rest Act* to remove existing prohibitions with respect to engaging in real estate activities on Sundays.

Following a review, the government will establish a new mandate for Opportunities New Brunswick to help companies to grow, increase exports, increase new investments, and increase competitiveness.

Service New Brunswick, in partnership with Opportunities New Brunswick and the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, will lead the New Brunswick First Procurement Strategy. This strategy will set the direction to increase the success of New Brunswick companies to be awarded government contracts.

The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure will continue its work with other jurisdictions to standardize procedures and make it easier for New Brunswick companies to bid on Crown projects in other Atlantic provinces.

The department will also pursue regulatory amendments that will improve productivity in the trucking industry and support New Brunswick's economic competitiveness.

It is important that New Brunswick develop its natural resources in a responsible manner. Our land is covered in forests, and the forest sector is a vital industry in this province. We need to make sure the sector remains viable and operates in a sustainable manner. We must strive for a balance between employment and economic benefits and protecting and preserving our environment.

To this end the government will:

- increase conservation efforts while ensuring we encourage the growth of the forest sector and its economic benefits;
- ensure meaningful consultation with First Nations on forest management on Crown lands;
- improve transparency and information sharing about our forests and forest sector;
- increase forest management participation in the private woodlot sector;
- ensure the operation of a competitive and fair primary timber products market;
- help protect and conserve our freshwater, forests and other wild spaces for future generations; and
- develop a broadly-supported forest management plan for Crown lands.

New Brunswick's agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries sectors are significant contributors to the province's economy and accounted for 17 per cent of total exports in 2018.

The government will continue to support efforts to increase production and the availability of products, diversify markets and build on previous successes in export sales in the agri-food and seafood sectors, including sales of wild blueberries and oysters.

New Brunswick's aquaculture sector supports many rural, coastal and Aboriginal communities. As part of the government's commitment to expand the blue economy, there is an opportunity to expand and diversify our aquaculture sector in a sustainable and responsible manner.

The government will introduce a modernized *Aquaculture Act* that will provide for an outcome-based approach that strengthens its regulation-making authority and enhances enforcement capabilities. These changes will further enhance environmental protection, drive innovation and improved operating practices, better align with legislation across the Atlantic provinces, and result in a reduction of the cost of doing business for the aquaculture sectors.

The government will amend the *Seafood Processing Act* and update regulations to provide the processing sector with the flexibility to utilize current industry standards for certification and audit programs and ensure that stakeholders are prepared to quickly respond to new market opportunities in a highly competitive seafood sector.

The government will also explore options to capitalize upon the opportunity to further develop the industrial hemp sector in New Brunswick.

Your government believes its role should be to regulate and enforce the regulations to protect the health and wellbeing of New Brunswick citizens. The government will be amending the *New Brunswick Liquor Corporation Act* to allow a single private operator to undertake the operation, distribution and sale of recreational cannabis in the province.

Tourism is an important economic driver for our province and to grow this sector for the benefit of all New Brunswickers, the government is re-focusing its tourism strategy to ensure we are ready for visitors here at home.

Visitors are looking for world-class experiences when they come to New Brunswick and we all play a role when it comes to being great hosts. The Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture will develop an Ambassador Program to encourage New Brunswickers, businesses and communities to play a role in creating positive experiences for visitors.

The department will increase New Brunswickers' awareness of the many tourism experiences available in the province through a 'Staycation' campaign. This will encourage people to explore New Brunswick, so they can better 'sell' what we have to visitors.

The government will focus on building sustainable physical and cultural infrastructure in cities and small communities.

The tourism industry is important to New Brunswick's success and the government will work with the industry to develop strategic partnerships, develop new experiences, and provide training in key areas so they can meet the expectations of our visitors. Investments are being made in key infrastructure to meet modern standards and expectations.

While the department is refocusing resources within the province to build up our tourism offering, they will also be strategic in our key external markets to maintain our existing market share.

In accordance with legislative amendments made in the spring, WorkSafe New Brunswick has reviewed the *Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission and Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal Act* and the government will address their recommendations in the coming session.

Taking these steps will help to positively impact the economic future of our province.

Vibrant and Sustainable Communities

If we want vibrant and sustainable communities, we must work together to create them.

New Brunswick has 341 local government entities including municipalities, local service districts, rural communities and a regional municipality, with a provincial population of approximately 776,800. The province has a local government system that is fragmented with limited capacity. In addition, more than 30 per cent of the population has no formal local representation.

Local government representatives have identified many challenges including the ability to raise additional revenue, the cost of delivering services, and the disparity in the collection of taxes to pay for services in incorporated versus unincorporated areas. In addition, members of the regional service commissions would like to see legislative amendments to support the addition of services and, more specifically, the types of regional services that may be provided by the commissions.

The government will work with local governments and local service districts on priority municipal reform areas including: property tax reform, regional service commission improvements and making it more attractive for communities to come together.

Working with local governments to help with regionalization is important, because local governments understand the challenges they face.

Your government has worked with the City of Saint John to put in place a very ambitious action plan. This comprehensive plan addresses long-standing issues that local governments across New Brunswick are experiencing. The lessons learned through working with Saint John will help to inform decisions in other communities.

During this session, the government will amend the *Greater Saint John Regional Facilities Commission Act* to ensure the communities that benefit from the five regional facilities pay the associated capital and operating costs.

Building resilient communities and ensuring a healthy natural environment are critical components of vibrant and sustainable communities. Your government accepts that climate change is real and influenced by human activity and is committed to being part of the solution to this global challenge.

New Brunswick will do as much as it can to combat climate change. Implementing New Brunswick's Climate Change Action Plan will help to ensure that the necessary actions are taken to build resilience in our communities along with infrastructure. It will also support economic growth and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The government will continue to support local governments as they create adaptation plans and put those plans into motion to help protect their communities from the effects of climate change.

Promoting the use of our natural infrastructure, including our forests, wetlands, salt marshes, and floodplains, is an important tool to buffer against the impact of climate change and help mitigate localized flooding.

To that end, the government will bring a new watercourse and wetlands map into effect on January 1, 2020. The government has already begun educating stakeholders on this change.

Last spring, significant flooding affected communities throughout the province. Damage to private infrastructure, such as homes, and public infrastructure, such as roads, was substantial.

Your government is examining how future risks can be mitigated and will develop and release a long-term plan to better address the impact of flooding and shoreline erosion.

New Brunswick has successfully reduced its carbon emissions by 28 per cent since 2005 and is on track to meet its share of the national target of bringing emissions 30 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030.

In June, the government released its plan to reduce industrial greenhouse gas emissions entitled *Holding Large Emitters Accountable: New Brunswick's Output-Based Pricing System*. This pricing system will cover roughly half of all greenhouse gas emissions in the province and requires large emitters to reduce their emissions intensity by 10 per cent by 2030.

This session, your government intends to introduce amendments to the *Climate Change Act* to allow for the regulation of greenhouse gas emissions from New Brunswick's large emitters.

Your government is working to establish a carbon pricing system and will introduce legislation seeking to achieve fairness for New Brunswickers in relation to our neighbours in the Atlantic Provinces.

As well, your government has initiated an independent review of the 30-year-old Solid Waste Management Service Model. The goal is to identify areas to reduce waste through recycling and other programs. This review will identify what is working well and what could be improved so that we can better adapt to global trends, enhance future solid-waste management programs and protect the province's natural environment.

The government will continue to work with Recycle NB and stakeholders to develop an extended producer responsibility program for packaging and printed paper, as well as glass containers. This will benefit our environment and our communities, as it will lead to more recycling of a wider range of items.

Communities are about people and how we interact with one another. Truly, New Brunswickers are what make our province unique.

In response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action, the government is forming an All Nations and Parties Working Group on Truth and Reconciliation. This group will keep government accountable and give departments a greater understanding of the priorities of First Nations.

In partnership with the Premier's Council on Disabilities, your government will engage New Brunswickers on developing an *Accessibility Act* to assist those living with disabilities.

To support New Brunswickers when they are at their most vulnerable, the government will amend the *Residential Tenancies Act* to allow victims of domestic violence to terminate their lease agreement early if there is a threat to their safety or to that of a child.

The government has been working with the New Brunswick SPCA and animal protection advocates to modernize and improve regulations to better protect dogs and other animals. Updated regulations will be introduced in the coming months. This is a big step forward and one that has been long awaited by animal protection advocates.

We can create vibrant and sustainable communities across New Brunswick. By doing so, we will create a more resilient province, one all of us are proud to call home.

Affordable and Responsive Government

Since taking office, the government has been clear about the importance of getting good value for money.

The financial challenges our province faces, if not addressed, will have a negative impact for all New Brunswickers.

These challenges affect all departments and threaten the government's ability to provide high-quality services for all New Brunswickers.

In light of these challenges, the government is reviewing programs and services to ensure they provide demonstratable value for taxpayers.

The government will develop a tax reform roadmap that will include a review of all major taxation programs. The information collected through this process will help to inform the budget process.

The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure will continue to develop and implement evidence-based tools to improve its operational efficiencies and maximize value for money.

As well, the department will encourage and make it easier for private sector contractors to provide innovative, creative and cost-effective solutions to address infrastructure requirements.

It is a matter of prioritizing needs over wants to ensure that essential services that New Brunswickers depend upon will be available in the future.

High-Performing Organization

The New Brunswick public service has an important role to play in developing and achieving the government's vision for the future of our province.

It is key that the needs of New Brunswickers drive all aspects of the work done by the public service, including the services offered and the programs delivered. There must be rigour behind the formation of the government's top priorities to ensure that it is delivering on its commitments.

To make sure that happens, the public service will become a more performance-driven organization, where results are measured and shared.

The government will identify top performers and potential leaders within the public service and work with them to ensure they have the opportunity to reach their full potential. It is important to develop the skills and talent of the people who work every day to help move New Brunswick forward. The government will also ensure that succession plans are in place for critical positions within the public service. It is important that an organization the size of the public service is able to operate smoothly and efficiently.

To build a stronger relationship between government and labour groups, and to encourage collaboration on addressing issues affecting New Brunswick's labour force and economy, a government-labour steering committee will be re-established. This committee, which will include more labour representatives than before, will focus on specific labour issues, with representatives from industry being invited to participate as needed to provide a balance of interests and perspectives.

Legislative officers play an important role in providing an independent voice for New Brunswickers, so it is important that the most qualified candidates are found for these positions.

The government will appoint a new official languages commissioner and a new integrity commissioner during this session.

On the advice of the former integrity commissioner, the government will amend the *Conflict of Interest Act* and the *Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. This will change the mandates of both the ombud and the integrity commissioner and will result in more openness and transparency.

Conclusion

It is exciting to see what has been accomplished in our province over the past year, as well as the plans being made by the government to continue this positive progression.

Momentum is building and people across New Brunswick are stepping up, because they want to be part of the change.

The tough decisions the government is making today will lead to a better tomorrow for New Brunswick.

We can already see how the steps that the government is taking are helping to create a solid foundation for future generations.

Your government has said from the beginning that they cannot do this alone.

You have an opportunity to help determine the future of this province.

Your government wants to work with the people of this province and all parties as they continue to make headway. We are stronger together – we have shown that time and again.

Just imagine what is possible if we join forces, if we continue to share our successes and find ways to overcome the challenges we face.

The future is ours to create.

Her Honour then retired from the Chamber.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Ordered that the Hon. Blaine Higgs, Premier, have leave to introduce a Bill entitled *An Act to Perpetuate a Certain Ancient Right*. (Bill 1)

He accordingly presented the Bill to the House and the same was received and read the first time.

Mr. Speaker then informed the House that in order to prevent mistakes he had obtained a copy of Her Honour's speech, which he offered to read. (Reading dispensed.)

On motion of Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Crossman,

RESOLVED, that the speech of Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be forthwith taken into consideration.

Mr. Savoie, a Member for the electoral district of Saint John East, proposed an Address to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in answer to the speech, which he read in his place, and being seconded by Mr. Crossman, a Member for the electoral district of Hampton, it was handed to the Chair where it was again read and is as follows:

Fredericton, N.B.
November 19, 2019.

To Her Honour,
The Honourable Brenda Murphy,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick.

May It Please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

And a debate arising thereon, after some time, it was on motion of Mr. Landry, the Leader of the Opposition and the Member for the electoral district of Bathurst East-Nepisiguit-Saint-Isidore, adjourned over.

And then, 2.33 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 2

Wednesday, November 20, 2019
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker, at the request of Mr. Savoie, reverted to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House.

With leave of the House, Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Mr. Northrup: (Motion 1)

THAT notwithstanding Standing Rule 30, statements of condolence and statements of congratulation shall form part of the ordinary daily routine of business in the House and shall be called by the Speaker following Introduction of Guests;

THAT the time allocated for “Statements of Condolence and Congratulation” shall be limited to a maximum of twelve minutes and each statement shall be limited to a maximum of sixty seconds;

THAT statements of condolence shall take precedence over statements of congratulation and Members shall be recognized as follows: the Government first, followed by the Official Opposition and then other recognized parties in order of the size of their membership, until each recognized party has had an opportunity to make three statements;

THAT this Special Order shall remain in effect during the remainder of the 59th Legislative Assembly.

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

It was agreed by unanimous consent to allow the Honourable the Premier and other Members to make lengthy Statements of Condolence.

The Honourable the Premier offered condolences to the family of the late Greg Thompson, P.C., Progressive Conservative MLA for Saint Croix (2018-2019) and Member of Parliament for Carleton—Charlotte (1988-1993) and New Brunswick Southwest (1997-2011).

Mr. Speaker offered condolences to the family of the late Jocelyne Roy Vienneau, New Brunswick’s 31st Lieutenant-Governor.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to extend the time allotted for Oral Questions by fifteen minutes.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to continue sitting through the noon recess.

At 11.50 a.m. the House recessed. At 11.57 a.m. the House resumed.

Ms. Landry, Member for Madawaska Les Lacs-Edmundston, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to dissolve the committee and abandon the study on the consolidation of the Saint-Joseph-de-Madawaska, Saint-Jacques and Saint Basile Local Service Districts. (Petition 1)

Mr. Harvey, Member for Carleton-Victoria, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to chipseal Enterprise Road. (Petition 2)

Ms. Thériault, Member for Caraquet, laid upon the table of the House a petition in opposition to the Naveco wind farm project in the Local Service Districts of d'Anse-Bleue and Dugas. (Petition 3)

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition in support of a ban on the spraying of glyphosate in Crown forest management. (Petition 4)

Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason, from the Standing Committee on Law Amendments, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

November 20, 2019

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 Standing Committee on Law Amendments for the session.

The report is the result of your Committee's deliberations on Bill 39, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*.

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank those individuals and organizations who appeared before the Committee or provided written submissions. In addition, I would like to express my appreciation to the members of the Committee for their contribution in carrying out our mandate.

Your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.:) Hon. Andrea Anderson-Mason, Q.C., MLA
Chair of the Standing Committee on Law Amendments

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Law Amendments begs leave to submit their First Report of the session.

On June 7, 2019, Bill 39, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*, was introduced in the Legislative Assembly by the Honourable Dominic Cardy, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development. The purpose of Bill 39 is to remove non-medical exemptions from the mandatory immunization requirements for public school and licensed early learning and child care admissions. The Bill requires students attending public schools and children in licensed early learning and child care facilities to provide either proof of immunization or a medical exemption on a form signed by a medical professional. On June 11, 2019, by resolution of the House, consideration of the subject matter of Bill 39 was referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

On July 9, 2019, the Committee met and determined that members of the public and interested stakeholders should be invited to provide input and advice to the Committee with respect to the issues raised by Bill 39. Public hearings were held in the Legislative Council Chamber for Bill 39 on August 27, 28 and 29.

The Committee heard from 30 presenters, including the Education and Early Childhood Development Minister, the Chief Medical Officer of Health, and the Child, Youth and Seniors' Advocate, on the issues surrounding Bill 39. The Committee also received approximately 265 written submissions, mainly in the form of emails, from individuals and organizations in New Brunswick and across North America.

On October 18, 2019, the Committee met with officials from the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Health. Following the meeting, the Committee forwarded questions to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development for response. The Committee met again on November 13, 2019, to consider the input received during the consultation process and to formulate a Committee report with recommendations to the

House. The Committee wishes to express its appreciation to the presenters who appeared at the public hearings and to those individuals and organizations who provided written submissions.

The Committee wishes to note that Bill 39 has since died on the Order and Notice Paper as the Second Session of the 59th Legislative Assembly was prorogued on November 19, 2019. Nonetheless, the mandate of the Committee to review the subject matter of the Bill remains in effect.

The following is a summary of the input received on the issues raised by Bill 39, with a recommendation to the House.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

The Honorable Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development was the first presenter at the public hearings on Bill 39. He explained the genesis of the Bill and advised the Committee that its purpose is to make immunization mandatory for children attending the public education system, in order to protect immune-compromised children and citizens at large. He submitted that the removal of the non-medical exemptions to vaccination does not deny the right of parents to choose what they believe is best for their children.

The Minister presented his concerns, in the wake of the Saint John measles outbreak, about the increasing influence of the anti-vaccination movement and about the need to maintain high vaccination rates. He advised that the school system has thus far failed to adequately track vaccination records for children attending the public education system, as required under the *Education Act*, an issue that came to light during the outbreak, and that increased the need for a discussion and action on the matter.

In reference to a study conducted in Ontario, he informed the Committee that education programs targeting vaccine hesitant parents have been inconclusive, further reinforcing the need for mandatory vaccination as the only measure capable of protecting children. On the question of the constitutionality of the measures advanced by Bill 39, the Minister acknowledged that, if passed, the Bill would most likely be challenged in court, the outcome of which is uncertain.

The Minister detailed a proposed schedule of implementation for the Bill. A new electronic system tracking vaccines would be launched in 2020, allowing for a better picture of the vaccination needs in the province. Schools and healthcare professionals could refer to the system to target

parents who may have simply forgotten the vaccination schedule of their children or have limited access to vaccination. The Bill would then come into force in 2021 to allow healthcare professionals to be adequately prepared. If parents refused to vaccinate their children accordingly, they would then need to provide a medical exemption or provide an alternative to the public school system, such as enrolling their children in a private school or home schooling.

According to the Minister, mandatory vaccination is becoming a response to the rise of the anti-vaccination movement. Maine and California have both opted for similar measures in the United States and the issue has been raised in other Canadian provinces (British Columbia, Ontario and Manitoba), although New Brunswick would be the first Canadian jurisdiction to pass such a law.

New Brunswick Medical Society

A representative of the New Brunswick Medical Society spoke on behalf of physicians in the province. He argued for the need to address vaccine hesitant parents through dialogue to provide answers to their concerns and to stress the importance of vaccination programs. He advised the Committee that the health advancements as a result of vaccination programs are the most monumental seen in Canada and that the World Health Organization has named vaccine hesitancy as one of the biggest threats to public health.

His presentation raised concerns on the ethical considerations of removing non-medical exemptions and on the possible negative consequences of the Bill that could penalize certain individuals. As a result of these considerations, the New Brunswick Medical Society recommended: that sufficient resources be allocated to support the proper distribution of vaccines, to support parents and students in the school system, and to support the Immunization Record Database to enable more accurate and up-to-date information for patients and healthcare providers; that the efforts to increase rates of vaccination be reinforced; and that a province-wide educational and awareness campaign on the benefits of vaccination be launched. In addition, with respect to the safety of vaccines, he informed the Committee about the abundance of scientific research related to vaccination, demonstrating their benefits and efficiency.

Chief Medical Officer of Health

The Chief Medical Officer of Health for the Province of New Brunswick explained that part of her mandate consists of educating the public on the value of vaccination; implementing the new vaccine registry; responding

to and controlling disease outbreaks; supporting public health partners to deliver the immunization program; and providing the science and evidence to help inform government legislation. As such, she advocates for the promotion of immunization and for keeping vaccination rates high.

The Chief Medical Officer gave the opinion that the Public Health Information Solution introduced by the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development is a significant step forward in helping schools and healthcare professionals access up-to-date information about vaccination records. She further noted the importance of maintaining a dialogue with vaccine hesitant parents in order to improve their confidence and support them in getting their children vaccinated. She also informed the Committee on the effectiveness of vaccines, immunization being one of the most important ways to promote health, and of the significant risks associated with vaccine preventable diseases when compared to the lesser risk of a serious adverse reaction to a vaccine.

Child, Youth and Seniors' Advocate

The Child, Youth and Seniors' Advocate presented the results of the Child Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) Advisory Opinion conducted in relation to Bill 39. The CRIA allows lawmakers to ensure legislative changes advance children's rights and best interests, and that negative impacts of proposed changes are identified and minimized to the greatest extent possible.

Following a thorough contextual analysis that included an overview of the situation in different jurisdictions, the Advocate advised that the need to improve New Brunswick and Canada's immunization rates is an important and pressing substantive policy objective. The existing legislative scheme has proven inadequate to meet national and global public health goals in relation to disease prevention. He further indicated that the recent outbreak of measles is a small indication of a much larger public health challenge, where New Brunswick's performance to date has been lacking.

The Committee was advised by the Advocate that other jurisdictions have adopted a legislative scheme similar to the one proposed in Bill 39, and where such laws have been adopted, they have helped improve immunization rates.

Regarding possible constitutional challenges to Bill 39, the Advocate gave the opinion that a *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* section 2 argument that the Bill violates an individual's freedom of conscience and religion would be difficult to establish but, if proven, the infringement would be held justifiable under a section 1 of the *Charter* analysis.

Similarly, he gave the opinion that a section 7 argument that the Bill violates an individual's right to life, liberty and security of the person would likely be rejected, but any infringement found by the courts would also be saved by section 1.

The Advocate recommended moving forward with the proposed Bill, but to also include it within a broader array of legislative and administrative measures that will help advance the legislative intent. These measures are in the areas of public education in relation to vaccine efficacy, improved coordination of vaccine delivery, the establishment of a provincial vaccine registry, better monitoring and reporting of provincial immunization and gap reduction efforts, and the consideration of creating a provincial vaccine adverse effects registry and a compensation mechanism.

New Brunswick Pharmacists' Association

Representatives of the New Brunswick Pharmacists' Association were in favour of Bill 39. Their input focused on the importance of vaccination in order to protect those most vulnerable, immune-compromised individuals. They submitted that vaccines have been proven safe and effective and explained how vaccination works and the process for vaccine approval in Canada.

Vaccine Choice Canada

A representative of Vaccine Choice Canada spoke about the loss of his son, believed to be related to vaccine injury, and about the mandate of his organization, which is to defend the ethical principle of informed consent. His presentation highlighted five main arguments that explained his opposition to Bill 39: vaccine products do not undergo the same level of safety testing as other medical products; vaccine products are not evaluated against a neutral placebo; the pre-license testing period is too short to evaluate the long-term safety of vaccine products; the safety of the vaccine program has not been established; and the legal immunity for vaccine manufacturers puts society at risk.

Documentation supporting these arguments and produced by Vaccine Choice Canada were provided to the Committee and were used by other presenters throughout the hearings.

A presenter from the legal profession representing Vaccine Choice Canada provided a legal analysis in opposition to Bill 39, arguing that if enacted it would force individuals to make a choice between vaccination and public education. In addition, according to his analysis, Bill 39 infringes the constitutional rights of citizens as protected by sections 2 and 7 of the *Charter*.

Other Presenters

A former educator suggested that it may have been more appropriate for the public consultation process to precede the development of the legislation. He also stressed the importance of placing the focus on the needs of the child and making a concerted effort to accommodate whenever possible. He suggested alternatives to the legislation should be explored, including consideration of a judicial review of the proposed Bill.

The other presenters who appeared at the public hearings were not in favour of Bill 39. Two presenters, from the medical profession, voiced their opposition to the Bill, based on their experience in the practice of medicine in the United States. One objected to the idea that the law is necessary, arguing that the diseases for which vaccines are made are not increasing, that most vaccines do not prevent the spread of diseases and that the complete vaccine schedule which the Bill would require, has, in his opinion, not proven to be safe. The other presenter emphasized the conflicts of interests between the medical profession, elected officials and pharmaceutical companies. She argued that adverse events related to vaccines are withheld from physicians and the public and had reservations on the current vaccine schedule administered to children.

Some presenters questioned the science behind vaccines and argued there are links between vaccines and numerous diseases and adverse effects. They questioned the possible financial links and conflicts of interests between the American public health agencies and the vaccine manufacturers. In addition, they questioned the safety of the substances found in vaccines and their potentially negative impact on the health of children.

The remainder of the presentations at the public hearings consisted of individuals who presented their personal points of view on Bill 39, often based on their children's reaction to vaccination. Two presenters who were parents discussed the health complications of their son, which started following his infant vaccines.

Some presenters stated they were in favour of vaccination before witnessing their children experience certain reactions following the administration of vaccines, prompting them to start researching the issue and refusing further vaccination for their children.

The parents of children believed to have suffered from vaccine-related injury expressed the lack of consideration they felt in the healthcare system when attempting to find answers and solutions for their children's declining health. They submitted they were not properly informed of the risks associated with vaccines, felt pressured to continue with the vaccine

schedule despite the reactions they witnessed, and noted that the healthcare professionals administering the vaccines did not take the adverse reactions experienced seriously, as they were not forwarded to the registry of adverse effects.

They also argued that in light of these responses from the healthcare professionals, their children would probably not qualify for a medical exemption to mandatory vaccination and would thus have to be vaccinated in order to attend the public school system.

Doubtful about the safety and efficiency of vaccines, one presenter who was a parent explained that, in his opinion, vaccination is not a necessity to have healthy children and questioned the capacity of vaccines to prevent the spread of diseases.

Another main argument raised by the presenters in opposition to Bill 39 was that, if passed, the Bill would infringe on their rights, specifically the right to a public education for their children, and the right for parents to make decisions in the best interests of their children. Some presenters were not against vaccination, but rather were pro-choice, meaning they wanted the government to respect their individual rights to make informed decisions on the medical treatments provided to their children. They expressed the difficulty of having a constructive dialogue on the topic of vaccination without feeling bullied because of their perspective on the issue, and welcomed the openness demonstrated by the public consultation process.

Numerous presenters expressed their suspicions toward vaccine manufacturers and public health agencies, drawing for instance on documented examples of conflicts of interests in the United States. Some distributed articles highlighting certain risks associated with vaccines, the adverse events following immunization report from the Public Health Agency of Canada, and vaccine inserts detailing their possible adverse reactions and risks. This line of argument raised the question of the absence of a compensation plan for vaccine-related injuries and its necessity.

Several presenters in opposition to Bill 39 stated they would relocate to another province in the event that the Bill came into force, as they would not want their children to be vaccinated against their will and they could not afford to home school their children. They pleaded for government not to compromise a child's access to the public school system and, instead, look for alternatives that include a dialogue with vaccine hesitant parents.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

The Committee received approximately 265 written submissions, mainly in the form of emails, in the days preceding and following the public hearings, mostly from New Brunswickers, but also from other Canadian jurisdictions and from citizens of the United States. The majority of the written submissions reflected an individual opinion from a personal perspective, reinforced at times by references, and were not submitted on behalf of organizations or professional associations.

Submissions Opposed to Bill 39

The vast majority of the submissions were opposed to Bill 39. Three main themes emerged as the main concerns expressed in the written submissions. These are: the infringement of civil rights and individual freedom, the health implications of vaccines, and the suspicions about the pharmaceutical industry.

The following summary attempts to retrace the main ideas expressed under each theme.

1. Infringement of Civil Rights and Individual Freedom

As one of the main concerns expressed in the written submissions, numerous individuals perceived Bill 39 as an infringement of their rights.

A number of citizens believed the Bill infringes the *Charter* and constitutes a violation of their constitutional rights. Since they viewed vaccination as posing potential risks and as an invasive procedure, they asserted their right to informed consent, security of the person, and the right to choose. Additionally, they refuted the idea of a crisis following the measles outbreak in Saint John to justify what they understood as an infringement of their rights. It was argued that in order for a patient's consent to be regarded as informed, the patient must provide consent freely and without any coercion or deception. Another submission argued that fear-driven legislation to impose invasive medical procedures upon citizens without their desire or consent will create divisiveness and ultimately goes against our fundamental rights.

One argument raised in numerous submissions was the right of parents to determine what is best for their children, a matter in which the government should not, in their opinion, intervene. Some claimed that removing the non-medical exemptions to immunization for school children would infringe on the right to public education, as guaranteed by law, and undermine the diversity and inclusiveness of the education system. Also, according to this perspective, the Bill would result in an increased burden of responsibilities for school principals and personnel in applying the legislation.

One submission highlighted the concerns of the francophone community and the fear that if the Bill was to pass, francophone children would be at a disadvantage as French language private schools either do not exist in the province or are limited in number compared to their English counterparts.

A few individuals made the argument that vaccination conflicts with their personal beliefs, as they perceive the manufacturing and ingredients of vaccines as unethical and contrary to their faith. For that reason, they perceived the Bill as an infringement of an individual's freedom of conscience and religion.

Some of the submissions raised concerns about the perceived increase in government authority and power over an individual's body through mandatory vaccination and warned of its potential negative consequences.

2. Health Implications of Vaccines

The clear majority of the arguments contained in the written submissions sent in by the general public concerned the health implications of vaccines. Often accompanied by excerpts from anti-vaccination groups' webpages or by links to various websites and videos, the viewpoints expressed are varied but still presented similarities in their position.

Inadequate vaccination testing was one of the most common arguments found in the submissions, often referring to the "lack of double blinded placebo trials", to the "lack of evidence in the safety of the current combined childhood schedule of vaccinations", or to the "carcinogenic or mutagenic effects of vaccination". In relation to this argument, many proposed "mixed scientific results" on vaccination, the lack of transparency on the reporting of vaccine-related injuries that occur, and the lack of attention paid to the side effects.

Numerous accounts of perceived vaccine-related injuries and diseases were discussed in the submissions, most related to brain damage, autism, ADHD, and chronic illnesses. Another argument was that there are "more health problems today due to vaccines" and that "these diseases are more dangerous than those vaccines attempt to prevent". Personal stories of relatives and acquaintances believed to suffer from vaccine-related injuries were common to reinforce this argument, just as accounts of the healthy conditions of unvaccinated children or individuals were also told to emphasize the perceived dangers of vaccines.

Some of the opinions formulated against immunization brought forward the idea that vaccines destroy the immune system, advancing in some cases the thought that "having measles actually creates a stronger immune

system and protects against certain types of cancers” or that “vaccination weakens the body’s ability to respond to new viruses”. Many believed that unvaccinated children do not pose a threat in the transmission of diseases, no more than those vaccinated, and that vaccines have failed to achieve herd immunity.

3. Suspicious about the Pharmaceutical Industry

Several arguments presented in the written submissions expressed overall suspicions about pharmaceutical companies, justifying the position against mandatory vaccinations.

Drawing on the health-related concerns of vaccines, some argued that “sacrifices were made for the financial gains of the pharmaceutical companies”, claiming that the “vaccine studies were always conducted by vaccine manufacturers” and that pharmaceutical companies would unjustly “benefit from the sale of vaccines and the drugs needed to treat their side effects”.

According to this view, the push for mandatory vaccination is the result of the efforts of pharmaceutical companies that have a hidden agenda and have enrolled governments, regulatory bodies such as the American Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the media by providing them with financial incentives.

The lack of accountability of pharmaceutical companies in the event of vaccine-related injuries, their “legal immunity” and the existence of a vaccine court in the United States fed the suspicions expressed against the industry.

Submissions in Support of Bill 39

Among the few submissions received supporting Bill 39, the main arguments put forward by their authors raised the concern about the influence of the anti-vaccination movement and its potentially detrimental effect on the health of the population and the need to support evidence-based decision-making.

While the vast majority of written submissions were opposed to the Bill, one submission in support was particularly noteworthy. A senior scientist at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, who was unable to attend the public hearings, provided the Committee with a written submission explaining his view on mandatory vaccination, presenting a nuanced position on the issue.

Drawing on scientific literature, the doctor discussed the many benefits that immunization programs have brought to the world and emphasized the need for governments to pursue their goals of maintaining high vaccination rates to protect individuals, as reductions in vaccine coverage result in outbreaks that affect both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals.

He presented his thoughts on both the positive and negative impacts of mandatory immunization policies. By looking at the examples of jurisdictions that removed exemptions to mandatory vaccination, he pointed to the benefits of increased immunization rates. On the other side, it was submitted that imposing a medical procedure can lead to parents withdrawing their children from the public health system, which would have a negative impact on public health.

The doctor acknowledged that given the evidence for these policies and the re-emergence of vaccine-preventable diseases, the benefits to the public may outweigh the infringements on a parent's right to choose. However, in order to proceed with removing non-medical exemptions, he argued for the need to consider whether all other less restrictive measures have been attempted and whether the policies, if adopted, will be effective. In addition, he argued in favor of the creation of a vaccine injury compensation program that would apply a principle of reciprocity, providing compensation in the rare event that a child was harmed by immunization.

The submission advised that the "removal of exemptions could be justified given the current public health climate and the evidence for benefit despite levels of uncertainty" and concluded by suggesting the following initiatives: constructive engagement should be conducted with potentially receptive vaccine hesitant communities; an effective immunization registry should be established; the opportunity to partner with Quebec on its vaccine compensation program should be discussed; sensitivity must be demonstrated to parents whose views may not align with the government since failure to do so could result in a spread of anti-vaccine sentiment; and the removal of exemptions policy should be periodically revisited, as mandating that such a policy may only be a temporary measure in the current environment of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks may improve public acceptance of the policy.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee strongly supports immunization programs and is in agreement that there is a need to maintain high vaccination rates and accurate, current and complete immunization records. The Committee also wishes to report the concerns raised by those who appeared at the public hearings or provided written submissions. Accordingly, the Committee makes the following recommendation:

THAT the Legislative Assembly consider the issues and concerns outlined in this report during its consideration of any proposed legislation similar to Bill 39, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*, to remove non-medical exemptions from the mandatory immunization requirements for children attending the public education system.

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. Ms. Anderson-Mason, from the Standing Committee on Law Amendments, presented the Second Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

November 20, 2019

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

Mr. Speaker:

I have the pleasure to present herewith the Second Report of the Standing Committee on Law Amendments for the session.

The report is the result of your Committee's deliberations on Motion 31 with respect to property assessment and taxation exemptions or benefits applicable to heavy industry.

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank those individuals and organizations who appeared before the Committee or provided written submissions. In addition, I would like to express my appreciation to the members of the Committee for their contribution in carrying out our mandate.

Your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.:) Hon. Andrea Anderson-Mason, Q.C., MLA
Chair of the Standing Committee on Law Amendments

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Law Amendments begs leave to submit their Second Report of the session.

On March 28, 2019, Motion 31, introduced by Gerry Lowe, Member for Saint John Harbour, was debated and passed by the House. The purpose of Motion 31 is to direct the Standing Committee on Law Amendments to hear from experts and stakeholders and report back to the House with recommendations on whether to reduce or eliminate any property assessment or property taxation exemptions or benefits that apply to heavy industry.

On July 9, 2019, the Committee met and determined that members of the public and interested stakeholders should be invited to provide input and advice to the Committee with respect to the issues raised by Motion 31. Public hearings were held in the Legislative Council Chamber for Motion 31 on September 4 and 5.

During the public hearings, the Committee heard from 20 presenters, including officials from various government departments and representatives of independent businesses, large industrial corporations, manufacturers and exporters, appraisers, business councils, various chambers of commerce, and other interested stakeholders. The Committee also received a total of 20 written submissions.

The Committee met again on November 13, 2019, to consider the input received during the consultation process and to formulate a Committee report with recommendations to the House. The Committee wishes to express its appreciation to the presenters who appeared at the public hearings and to those individuals and organizations who provided written submissions.

The following is a summary of the input received on the issues raised by Motion 31, with recommendations to the House.

MOTION 31

Motion 31 states as follows:

WHEREAS heavy industry benefits from a number of tax exemptions in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS public institutions such as hospitals have much higher assessments than many significant industrial properties;

WHEREAS the City of Saint John commissioned reports entitled “Municipal Property Tax Issues in The City of Saint John” and “City of Saint John Fair Taxation Report” that raise concerns with these exemptions;

WHEREAS Bill 10 was introduced in the fourth session of the 58th Legislature and Bill 9 in the current session of the 59th Legislature to address these issues;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House direct the Standing Committee on Law Amendments to undertake a study, including hearing from experts and stakeholders, and report back to the House with recommendations on whether to reduce or eliminate any property assessment or property taxation exemptions or benefits that apply to heavy industry;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House direct the Standing Committee on Law Amendments to report back to the House with its recommendations within 120 calendar days of the adoption of this motion;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee may, during a period when the Legislative Assembly is adjourned or prorogued, release a report by depositing a copy with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, and, upon the resumption of the sittings of the House, the Chair shall present the report to the Legislative Assembly.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Government Officials

Officials from the Department of Finance and Treasury Board, Department of Environment and Local Government, and Service New Brunswick opened the public hearings of the Committee with a joint presentation explaining the existing property tax system in New Brunswick and the issues raised by Motion 31. They reviewed the history of property tax in the province and detailed the assessment process of different classes of property, explaining that heavy industrial property is assessed at real and true value and that the profitability of a company is not taken into consideration when evaluating lands and buildings.

The officials acknowledged the importance of the revenues associated with property tax, estimated at \$530 million, distributed between the two levels of governments, provincial and local. On the question of taxation of machinery and equipment, they submitted that, in general, machinery and equipment are not assessed or taxed in Canada and that the jurisdictions that do assess and tax such property, apply tax rates much lower than the combined provincial and local rates used in New Brunswick.

On the particular issues raised by Motion 31, the officials indicated that: any changes to the non-residential property classification would impact resources and systems and alter the uniform treatment of businesses in New Brunswick; any potential sharing of provincial property tax related to heavy industrial properties would represent a transfer of tax room from the province to local governments; any changes would have potential implications to the community funding and equalization grant and other elements; if machinery and equipment are to be assessed, it would require a significant investment by Service New Brunswick in terms of resources, training and systems; and taxing machinery and equipment would be burdensome for capital-intensive industries and create disincentive for investment, productivity and growth.

In conclusion, the officials submitted that the current system helps ensure the competitiveness of infrastructure, which is important to economic activity and development, and reiterated government's commitment for comprehensive municipal tax reform that would look into the issues raised by Motion 31 within a broader framework of analysis.

Cities of New Brunswick Association

Representatives of the Cities of New Brunswick Association offered their perspective on property tax and municipal reform. They explained that the provincial municipalities that they represent have experienced continued economic growth over the last two decades, despite receiving only 8% of the taxes paid by New Brunswickers, the balance going to the provincial and federal governments, and that exemptions to large industries translate into higher taxes for residents.

While the costs of services have significantly increased, they argued that residents of neighboring unincorporated areas benefit from the services offered by municipalities without paying their fair share of taxes. The association offered the following recommendations to the Committee and indicated their willingness to work in a collaborative manner in designing and implementing the reforms: the government should undertake a full review of the property tax system and the municipal funding system and include all stakeholders in the process; the government should distribute all property tax levied to municipalities, as is the case in other Canadian jurisdictions; a fair share approach should be adopted to ensure all New Brunswickers pay a fair share for the services and resources they use; and apartment buildings should no longer be subjected to double taxation.

Business Associations, Chambers of Commerce and Other Stakeholders

Throughout the hearings, representatives of several business associations, chambers of commerce and other stakeholders presented their perspectives on Motion 31. All were opposed to the taxation of machinery and equipment and the removal of the exemptions on heavy industry. Instead, they recommended greater government support in favour of business competitiveness in New Brunswick and a broad review and reform of the tax regime in place.

The representatives pointed out the difficult environment for small businesses in New Brunswick, already coping with recent additional financial constraints, such as the increase in land transfer tax, the increase in workers' compensation rates, and the introduction of a carbon tax. As a result, they argued that businesses already pay their fair share of taxes. Additionally, they argued that if machinery and equipment are taxed, it would negatively impact capital investment and increase the tax burden of small and medium businesses, dependent on heavy industry.

The representatives illustrated the numerous difficulties local businesses are already facing, such as an uncompetitive environment, a decreasing labour pool and an overly aggressive regulatory agenda. According to the representatives, taxing machinery and equipment would provide additional reasons not to invest in New Brunswick, which would have a domino effect on the rest of the economy and on job creation. They believed taxing machinery and equipment is a short-sighted solution to fixing the difficult financial situation of certain municipalities and suggested a better option would be comprehensive tax reform, looking at the total tax burden on businesses. They urged that government should undertake significant measures to encourage investment and create a more competitive business environment.

Industry

Sharing similar arguments as those advanced by the business associations, chambers of commerce and other stakeholders, representatives of a few large New Brunswick-based companies expressed their views on Motion 31 during the Committee hearings. All of these presenters emphasized the risks associated with Motion 31 and its perceived intent to increase taxation of heavy industry, which would affect their competitiveness.

The industry representatives argued that the discussion should not be limited to what municipalities receive from the current property tax system, but instead should look at what the industry pays in its entirety, in terms of taxes and through regulations. They highlighted the increased

costs to comply with new environmental regulations, their investments in local communities and their role as local job creators.

They advised the Committee of the difficulties in conducting fair interprovincial comparisons on taxation, as taxes may serve different purposes in each jurisdiction, and that higher assessment rates may be associated with lower tax rates. The representatives reiterated the importance of looking at the entire picture before adopting new measures. They also reminded the Committee of their limited use of municipal infrastructure. Providing the example that although heavy industry may cause greater damage to the roads, the industry generally does not benefit from other municipal services such as garbage collection.

The City of Saint John

Representatives of the City of Saint John, including the Mayor and City Manager, appeared before the Committee. They assured the Committee that Saint John is pro-business and acknowledged that the city benefits from the economic contributions of heavy industry. Their presentation included taxation and assessment comparisons between heavy industry in certain other Canadian jurisdictions and in Saint John. The representatives noted the distinct differences and argued that it did not make sense that the property of heavy industry in the city was assessed at a lower value than similar industrial property in other jurisdictions and, accordingly, less property tax was paid than in other jurisdictions.

The representatives further submitted that the city does not receive an equitable distribution of tax revenue from heavy industry and requested that the provincial share of property tax on heavy industry be redistributed to municipalities. They also supported the government's commitment to undertake comprehensive municipal tax reform to achieve fair and equitable tax policy.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

The Committee received 20 written submissions on Motion 31 in the days preceding and following the public hearings, mostly from concerned New Brunswickers. The submissions reflected an individual opinion, reinforced at times by references, and were not submitted on behalf of organizations or professional associations with the exception of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation and the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council.

Submissions in Support of Motion 31

The vast majority of the submissions expressed views in favour of the perceived intent of Motion 31, that being the eventual taxation of heavy industry machinery and equipment. Two main themes emerge as the primary concerns. These are: the perceived unfairness of the current property tax regime and the need to focus on climate action and environmental protection.

1. Unfairness of the Current Property Tax Regime

A reoccurring argument found in the written submissions was that heavy industry does not pay its fair share of taxes. It was argued that taxes paid by residents disproportionately subsidize industry's use of infrastructure, even though industry causes most of the damage to provincial and municipal roads. It was submitted that it is unjust that public institutions, such as hospitals, have a higher assessment than industrial properties and end up paying more property taxes.

Some residents highlighted the current difficult economic situation experienced by the City of Saint John and noted that the tax exemptions to heavy industry cost the province a significant amount in lost revenue, leaving residents to believe that the province is managed for the benefit of some and not for others. It was suggested that the current tax system leaves residents and small business in Saint John carrying a disproportionate portion of the financial obligations required to operate the city. Many recommended that the government undertake comprehensive reform of the provincial property tax system.

A few submissions specifically questioned whether a certain large conglomerate in Saint John was using the current tax system and its exemptions to avoid paying its fair share of taxes, while most of its revenues were perceived to not be accounted for in the province and thus not subject to provincial taxation.

One submission was of the opinion that Service New Brunswick arbitrarily sets assessments resulting in favoritism, discrimination, discrepancies from property to property, and unfairness to many taxpayers. To such a degree that the authors filed a constitutional challenge to the law governing the property tax assessment system. They also called for complete reform of the property tax regime.

2. Climate Action and Environmental Protection

A few submissions suggested a better public policy would be to eliminate tax exemptions and subsidies to highly profitable companies, such as those involved in the fossil fuel industry, and instead show leadership on climate action and environmental protection and dedicate resources to those endeavors.

Submissions Opposed to Motion 31

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation submitted that increasing taxes on New Brunswick job creators to generate more revenue would have the opposite effect by driving business, investment and people out of the province. Instead, it was argued that government should focus on policies making the province a more welcoming place to live and start a business, and to make the province a more competitive environment relative to other jurisdictions in Canada and the United States. It was suggested that provincial business property taxes are substantial barriers to new business investment and it was recommended that government should consider the impact on business competitiveness when examining further taxation increases to business owners.

The Atlantic Provinces Economic Council submitted that while removing the exemptions that limit the application of property tax to machinery and equipment could help the City of Saint John address its fiscal challenges, it would negatively impact the economy of the city and the province as a whole. Meaning, it would increase operating costs, reduce profit margins, and increase the cost of investment, thus reducing the rate of return on investments. This would lead to lower investment in machinery and equipment, ultimately slowing productivity growth and weakening the international competitiveness of producers. Lower investment would lead to lower economic activity, fewer jobs and the possibility of relocation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee understands that the intent of Motion 31 was to initiate a public discussion on whether to reduce or eliminate any property assessment or property taxation exemptions or benefits that apply to heavy industry. Based on the input received, the Committee wishes to make the following recommendations:

1. THAT the government consider the issues and concerns outlined in this report.
2. THAT the government consider a review of taxation with a view of modernizing and improving the current property tax system.

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.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Carr,

Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Greater Saint John Regional Facilities Commission Act.*

Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Days of Rest Act.*

By Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason, Q.C.,

Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act.*

By Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason, Q.C.,

Bill 6, *Enduring Powers of Attorney Act.*

By Mr. Coon,

Bill 7, *An Act to Amend the Crown Lands and Forests Act.*

Mr. LePage gave Notice of Motion 2 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Harris:

WHEREAS nursing home residents are among our most vulnerable citizens;

WHEREAS the shortage of nursing home workers is negatively impacting the quality of life and quality of care for nursing home residents;

WHEREAS the ongoing labour dispute is negatively impacting the recruitment and retention of nursing home workers;

WHEREAS two levels of court have ruled against the government and found nursing home workers have the right to strike despite the *Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act*;

WHEREAS further appeals are unlikely to succeed and certain to cost taxpayers significant sums of money;

WHEREAS the court has given the government the opportunity to amend the *Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act* before January 2020, when a stay on the right to strike will expire;

WHEREAS, despite the Premier's threats, no election outcome can overturn the court's ruling that nursing home workers have a right to strike;

WHEREAS a strike by nursing home workers would negatively impact nursing home residents and their families;

WHEREAS, this past session, the Legislative Assembly passed a motion in support of unaltered binding arbitration;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to bring forward amendments to the *Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act* to provide for meaningful binding arbitration to resolve this labour dispute in lieu of strike action.

Ms. Rogers gave Notice of Motion 3 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS the herbicide glyphosate is used by the forest industry, NB Power, and the agricultural sector for vegetation control;

WHEREAS despite findings by Health Canada and New Brunswick's Chief Medical Officer indicating that glyphosate does not pose a cancer risk to humans at current exposure rates, concerns about the spraying of glyphosate remain;

WHEREAS, prior to taking any decision related to changes to the application of glyphosate in New Brunswick, it is important to hear from stakeholders including the forest and agricultural sectors, subject matter experts, and the general public;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to refer the issue of glyphosate spraying to a legislative committee in order to hold public hearings, engage stakeholders, invite submissions, and make recommendations to government within six months.

Mr. D'Amours gave Notice of Motion 4 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc:

WHEREAS nurse practitioners (NPs) are registered nurses with advanced education and training that prepare them for a broad scope of practice and maximum functionality within the health care system;

WHEREAS there are more than 7,400 licensed NPs in Canada, and over 130 in New Brunswick providing primary, acute and specialty care to patients of all ages and walks of life;

WHEREAS NPs diagnose, treat and prescribe medications and other treatments to patients through a caring, patient-centered, holistic model of care;

WHEREAS New Brunswick citizens have great trust in the high-quality care NPs provide, with over 3 million nationwide receiving care from a NP;

WHEREAS decades of research demonstrate the high quality of care provided by NPs;

WHEREAS New Brunswick continues to work towards ensuring that all NPs are practicing at full scope and barriers to NP care delivery are addressed and removed;

WHEREAS better utilization of NPs will continue to evolve through modernization of legislation and improved system policies that aim to create a more accessible, efficient, cost-effective and higher-quality health care system;

WHEREAS governmental and policy entities recognize the benefits of having NPs practicing at maximum scope within the health care system and vote to support changes to legislation that allow NPs to practice to their full capacity;

WHEREAS New Brunswick is proud to recognize and honour the service of NPs in our province;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to declare the week of November 8 to 14, 2020 and, thereafter, every second week of November as National Nurse Practitioner Week in the province of New Brunswick in recognition of the numerous contributions that NPs have made over the past half century and will continue to make to the health and well-being of Canadians.

Mr. C. Chiasson gave Notice of Motion 5 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. D'Amours:

WHEREAS the 10-year education plans were developed with stakeholders from across the province including two representatives of the Progressive Conservative Party;

WHEREAS the 10-year education plans are only in their fourth year of implementation;

WHEREAS the current government promised to continue the implementation of the 10-year education plans and bring stability to the education system;

WHEREAS the current government's green paper on education proposes radical and untested reforms which would completely destabilize the education system;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to abandon the green paper on education and instead focus on improving the education system by continuing to implement the 10-year education plans.

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 6 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc:

WHEREAS the Progressive Conservative Party received only 31.89% of the vote in the 2018 election;

WHEREAS the current government relies on the support of the People's Alliance, which received only 12.58% of the vote in the 2018 election;

WHEREAS 54.68% of New Brunswickers voted for parties in the 2018 election that do not support the current government;

WHEREAS 68.11% of New Brunswick voted against the platform of the Progressive Conservative Party in the 2018 election;

WHEREAS the current government lacks the moral authority to implement major reforms that were not debated in the last provincial election;

WHEREAS the current government recognized its lack of moral authority when it promised in its first throne speech to "invite all party leaders to offer input into legislation and regulations", "share the ability to make decisions", and "build broad coalitions in this house";

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to refer to legislative committees any major reforms for study and recommendations by all parties and feedback from the general public and outside experts.

And then, 1.05 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 3

Thursday, November 21, 2019

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The Order of the Day being read that the House proceed to take into further consideration the proposed Address in answer to Her Honour's speech at the opening of the session,

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Crossman:

THAT the following Address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to offer the humble thanks of this House to Her Honour for the gracious speech which she has been pleased to make to the Legislative Assembly, namely:

Fredericton, N.B.
November 19, 2019.

To Her Honour,
The Honourable Brenda Murphy,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick.

May It Please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

And the debate continuing,

On motion of Mr. Coon, the further consideration thereof was adjourned over.

And then, 10.38 a.m., the House adjourned.

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

Under the provisions of the *Fees Act*, proposed
fee change for the registration and renewal
of registration of a new category
of video lottery sites

November 19, 2019

Daily sitting 4

Friday, November 22, 2019

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Cardy, Member for Fredericton West-Hanwell, laid upon the table of the House a petition in support of Bill 39, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*, introduced during the previous session. (Petition 5)

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reduce greenhouse gases. (Petition 6)

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*.

Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Securities Act*.

Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Cardy,

Bill 11, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*.

By Hon. Mr. Flemming, Q.C.,

Bill 12, *An Act Respecting the Management of Prescriptions and Recovery Authority*.

By Hon. Mr. Holder,

Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act*.

With leave of the House, Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Holder: (Motion 7)

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick enacted the *Official Languages Act*;

WHEREAS subsection 43(2) of that Act provides that an Official Languages Commissioner be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on recommendation of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the acting term of Michel A. Carrier will expire on July 23, 2020;

WHEREAS a selection committee was established under subsections 43(2.1) and 43(2.2) of the Act for the purpose of identifying persons as potential candidates to be appointed Official Languages Commissioner;

WHEREAS the selection committee developed a roster of qualified candidates and submitted the list of names of qualified candidates to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council under subsection 43(2.3) of the Act;

WHEREAS the selection committee has determined that Shirley MacLean possesses the proper qualifications and experience to successfully discharge the duties of Official Languages Commissioner;

WHEREAS the Premier consulted with the Leader of the Opposition and the leaders of the other political parties under subsection 43(2.4) of the Act;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council that Shirley MacLean be appointed Official Languages Commissioner for a term of seven years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House express its appreciation and gratitude to Michel A. Carrier for his professional and dedicated service to the Legislature and the people of New Brunswick.

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

With leave of the House, Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Holder: (Motion 8)

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick enacted the *Integrity Commissioner Act*;

WHEREAS subsection 2(2) of that Act provides that an Integrity Commissioner be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on recommendation of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the acting term of Charles Murray will expire on January 1, 2020;

WHEREAS a selection committee was established under subsections 2(3) and 2(4) of the Act for the purpose of identifying persons as potential candidates to be appointed Integrity Commissioner;

WHEREAS the selection committee developed a roster of qualified candidates and submitted the list of names of qualified candidates to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council under subsection 2(5) of the Act;

WHEREAS the selection committee has determined that Charles Murray possesses the proper qualifications and experience to successfully discharge the duties of Integrity Commissioner;

WHEREAS the Premier consulted with the Leader of the Opposition and the leaders of the other political parties under subsection 2(6) of the Act;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council that Charles Murray be appointed Integrity Commissioner for a term of seven years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House express its appreciation and gratitude to Charles Murray for his professional and dedicated service to the Legislature and the people of New Brunswick.

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

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 9 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc:

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 the daily schedule of Premier Blaine Higgs for each day since November 8, 2018.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 10 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc:

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 email correspondence between Premier Blaine Higgs and any member of the premier's office staff, the executive council office staff, Robert Youden, John Mallory, Yennah Hurley, and/or John Logan since November 8, 2018.

Mr. D'Amours gave Notice of Motion 11 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. C. Chiasson:

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

correspondence, documentation, briefing notes, etc., in whatever form, produced in support of the development of the nursing recruitment strategy.

Ms. LeBlanc gave Notice of Motion 12 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS there is an increasing need for mental health services in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS persons with mental illness and other health issues are amongst the most vulnerable populations;

WHEREAS there is a need to ensure that the rights of persons with mental health issues are protected;

WHEREAS it is important to also ensure that those requiring long-term care have appropriate care and treatment;

WHEREAS public education on mental health should be enhanced to create awareness on mental health issues and reduce the stigma associated with mental illness;

WHEREAS the province does not have an independent mental health advocate, ombud, or similar position to provide information and support for those with mental health needs or those acting on their behalf;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House urge the government to create the position of a mental health advocate, with the status of legislative officer, as an impartial and independent voice for persons with mental health issues and caregivers of family members acting on their behalf.

Mr. Austin gave Notice of Motion 13 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. DeSaulniers:

WHEREAS the former government deemed that taxes charged on the sale of used vehicles would be based on their *Blue Book* value;

WHEREAS prior to this the used vehicle sale tax was determined through a written appraisal from a motor vehicle dealership or from an individual seller;

WHEREAS this has placed an increased financial burden on residents in the Province of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers rely on used vehicles for their mode of transportation;

WHEREAS the cost of new motor vehicles is often out of reach for everyday New Brunswickers;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to revert to the former method of sale taxation on used vehicles.

Ms. Conroy gave Notice of Motion 14 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Austin:

WHEREAS New Brunswick needs to change the organ donor program to an automatic organ donation system, with the option given to opt out of the program;

WHEREAS Canada has very low organ donation rates as there are only 20.9 donors per one million people compared to Spain that has 43.4 donors per one million and the United States which has 31 donors per one million people;

WHEREAS in 2015, of the approximately 267,000 deaths occurring in Canada, only approximately 150,000 or 56% happened in a hospital; and of the 150,000 deaths that happened in a hospital, only about 5,000 or 3% fulfilled the criteria to be a potential organ donor; and of these 5,000 potential organ donors, only about 650 or 13% went on to be actual organ donors; and those 650 donors resulted in about 1,995 transplants;

WHEREAS the lives of eight people can be saved by one organ donor;

WHEREAS one tissue donor could benefit up to 75 individuals;

WHEREAS introducing the automatic organ donation program will reduce the waiting list making sure all potential organ donors become an actual organ donor;

WHEREAS it is important and urgent to pass the automatic organ donation program;

WHEREAS 20 people die each day waiting for a transplant in the US and in Canada one death every 1.25 days results from waiting for a transplant;

WHEREAS New Brunswick healthcare will save tens of millions of dollars a year with the automatic organ and tissue donation program;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to begin the process of changing the current organ donation program to an automatic organ donation system saving many lives and money in New Brunswick.

Mr. DeSaulniers gave Notice of Motion 15 that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Austin:

WHEREAS Hailie and Trent Michaud died in a motor vehicle accident in 2013 from injuries sustained while they were in properly installed car seats which met provincial regulations;

WHEREAS current regulations dictate rear-facing car seats are required for all children up to age 1 and 10 kg;

WHEREAS raising the minimum age requirement for rear-facing car seats to 2 years and 10 kg will provide greater safety protection;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to increase child age requirements in provincial car seat regulations.

Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Tuesday, November 26, 2019, Bills 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 would be called for second reading.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Crossman:

THAT the following Address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to offer the humble thanks of this House to Her Honour for the gracious speech which she has been pleased to make to the Legislative Assembly, namely:

Fredericton, N.B.
November 19, 2019.

To Her Honour,
The Honourable Brenda Murphy,
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May It Please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to continue sitting past the hour of daily adjournment to allow Mr. Arseneau to complete his speech.

And then, 2.04 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 5

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

The Honourable the Premier welcomed to the House Her Excellency Anne Kari H. Ovind, Norway's Ambassador to Canada.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Urquhart,

Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act.*

Bill 15, *An Act Respecting the Enhancement of Off-Road Vehicle Safety.*

Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act.*

By Hon. Ms. Shephard,

Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Carr,

Bill 18, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Holland,

Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act.*

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 16 that on Thursday, December 5, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS it is in the interest of the general public that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick sit for a reasonable period of time in order to fully address the business of the province and provide opportunity for debate of bills and motions;

WHEREAS it is in the interest of improved democracy that the opposition have sufficient time and opportunity to raise and debate concerns expressed by interested stakeholders and members of the general public;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure that, for the duration of the 59th Legislative Assembly, except when prorogued or otherwise ordered by resolution of the House, within the confines of Standing Rules 29(1) and 32, the House will sit from the second Tuesday in January to the final Friday in February, from the third Tuesday in March to the second Friday in June, and from the first Tuesday in November to the second Friday in December.

Mr. Harvey gave Notice of Motion 17 that on Thursday, December 5, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LePage:

WHEREAS the government has made a series of cuts to services like tourism, road maintenance and tuition assistance without any evidence-based rationale for these cuts;

WHEREAS these sorts of cuts will have a negative impact on the government's bottom line because of reduced economic activity, increased long-term costs, and outmigration caused by these cuts;

WHEREAS the previous government's Strategic Program Review made evidence-based budget reductions that succeeded in attaining a surplus in the 2017–2018 and 2018–2019 fiscal years without the negative impacts likely to result from the current government's cuts;

WHEREAS the Premier indicated he was undertaking a review of government services, yet has failed to table a report of the results of that review;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to reverse cuts that harm the provincial economy, allow assets to deteriorate and shrink the provincial work force, and instead focus on the continued implementation of the Strategic Program Review.

Mr. Austin gave Notice of Motion 18 that on Thursday, December 5, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Conroy:

WHEREAS New Brunswick is facing rising healthcare costs, poor outcomes, long wait times for medical services, and inappropriate healthcare delivery, due to an overloaded system and aging population;

WHEREAS there is an urgent need to act proactively to reduce healthcare wait times;

WHEREAS a variety of healthcare associations, including chiropractors and optometrists, have indicated a willingness to take an expanded role to ease the back log and to improve wait times;

WHEREAS these organizations have stated that billing for these services will remain with third party insurance companies and/or direct patient billing;

WHEREAS this will not place an added financial burden on the provincial Medicare system;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to take immediate action to reduce healthcare wait times by increasing the role of chiropractors and optometrists in our healthcare system;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to develop standards which would allow these healthcare providers an increased role within the provincial healthcare system.

Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Wednesday, November 27, 2019, Bills 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 would be called for second reading.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Crossman:

THAT the following Address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to offer the humble thanks of this House to Her Honour for the gracious speech which she has been pleased to make to the Legislative Assembly, namely:

Fredericton, N.B.
November 19, 2019.

To Her Honour,
The Honourable Brenda Murphy,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick.

May It Please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

And then, 6 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 6

Wednesday, November 27, 2019
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker interrupted Oral Questions and reminded Ms. Harris not to refer to Members by name, even when quoting from a media article.

Hon. Mr. Urquhart, Member for Carleton-York, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to upgrade Tweedside Road. (Petition 7)

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Ms. S. Wilson,

Bill 20, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act.*

Bill 22, *Unclaimed Property Act.*

By Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason, Q.C.,

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Property Act.*

By Mr. D'Amours,

Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Prescription Drug Payment Act.*

Bill 25, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act.*

Hon. Mr. Steeves gave Notice of Motion 19 that on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT this House approves in general the capital budgetary policy of the government.

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 20 that on Thursday, December 12, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. K. Chiasson:

WHEREAS Proudly New Brunswick operating as New Brunswick Proud undertook questionable activities to influence the outcome of the 2018 provincial election including spam-like text messages and robocalls;

WHEREAS New Brunswick Proud undertook similar questionable activities to influence the outcome of the 2019 federal election in New Brunswick including the infamous "Hi, I'm Pam" text message campaign;

WHEREAS documents filed by Elections New Brunswick show that the organization is funded by conservative oriented organizations outside the province;

WHEREAS a New Brunswick Progressive Conservative riding association president said under oath in a court proceeding that he worked for New Brunswick Proud;

WHEREAS according to a media story of September 24, 2019, the Facebook page of this employee listed him as the recruiting director for the New Brunswick Young Progressive Conservatives and his social media feeds included photos with prominent New Brunswick Progressive Conservatives including the Premier;

WHEREAS the same media story referenced that “in 2018, Aaron Sophocleous of Moncton, who had campaigned for the Progressive Conservatives in the provincial election, was also listed as a director of Proudly NB in federal incorporation documents”;

WHEREAS according to information filed with Elections New Brunswick by NB Proud, there were two large donations to NB Proud through Saint John Law firms, one in care of Nic Ouellette, former Executive Assistant to Premier Higgs and the other from Lawson Creamer, a law firm in which former PC leadership candidate Mel Norton is a partner;

WHEREAS these affiliations represent troubling links between New Brunswick Proud and the Progressive Conservative Party despite denials by the Premier that the New Brunswick Progressive Conservative Party has ties to the organization;

WHEREAS in the interests of protecting democracy, there is a need to control third party advertising funded by outside interests that attempts to influence provincial election outcomes;

WHEREAS the Premier has publicly admitted that third party advertising rules should be tightened up stating “I think we’re seeing third parties become more active for their own vested interests and that is not a democratic help at all.”;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to have Bill 40 from the second session of this Assembly reviewed by the Office of the Attorney General, improved if necessary, and re-introduced as priority government legislation.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 12, 4 and 6.

Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, Bills 21, 22 and 23 would be called for second reading.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 4, 5, 6, 9 and 12 be called for second reading; following which the House would resume the adjourned debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 4 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 5 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 6, *Enduring Powers of Attorney Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 6 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 6, *Enduring Powers of Attorney Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Securities Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 9 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Securities Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 12, *An Act Respecting the Management of Prescriptions and Recovery Authority*, a debate arose thereon.

At 12 o'clock p.m. the House recessed. At 1.20 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 12 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 12, *An Act Respecting the Management of Prescriptions and Recovery Authority*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Crossman:

THAT the following Address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to offer the humble thanks of this House to Her Honour for the gracious speech which she has been pleased to make to the Legislative Assembly, namely:

Fredericton, N.B.
November 19, 2019.

To Her Honour,
The Honourable Brenda Murphy,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick.

May It Please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

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

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

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

And then, 6 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 7

Thursday, November 28, 2019

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that it was unparliamentary for Mr. C. Chiasson to refer to Hon. Mr. Cardy as a “bully”. Mr. Speaker reminded Members that it was not appropriate for Members to attack the integrity, honesty or character of their fellow Members.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Holder,

Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act.*Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Wetmore,

Bill 28, *Aquaculture Act.*Bill 29, *An Act to Amend the Seafood Processing Act.*

Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, Bills 20, 26, 27, 28 and 29 would be called for second reading.

With leave of the House, Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 21)

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers be amended by adding Hon. Ms. S. Wilson.

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

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 21, 22 and 23 be called for second reading; following which the House would resume the adjourned debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 21 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 22, *Unclaimed Property Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 22 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 22, *Unclaimed Property Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Property Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 23 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Property Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

At 12 o'clock p.m. the House recessed. At 1 o'clock p.m. the House resumed.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Crossman:

THAT the following Address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to offer the humble thanks of this House to Her Honour for the gracious speech which she has been pleased to make to the Legislative Assembly, namely:

Fredericton, N.B.
November 19, 2019.

To Her Honour,
The Honourable Brenda Murphy,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick.

May It Please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your

Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

And after some time, Mr. C. Chiasson, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And the debate continuing, after some time it was on motion of Mr. Savoie, on behalf of the Honourable the Premier, adjourned over.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 12, Ms. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS there is an increasing need for mental health services in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS persons with mental illness and other health issues are amongst the most vulnerable populations;

WHEREAS there is a need to ensure that the rights of persons with mental health issues are protected;

WHEREAS it is important to also ensure that those requiring long-term care have appropriate care and treatment;

WHEREAS public education on mental health should be enhanced to create awareness on mental health issues and reduce the stigma associated with mental illness;

WHEREAS the province does not have an independent mental health advocate, ombud, or similar position to provide information and support for those with mental health needs or those acting on their behalf;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House urge the government to create the position of a mental health advocate, with the status of legislative officer, as an impartial and independent voice for persons with mental health issues and caregivers of family members acting on their behalf.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Hon. Ms. Shephard, seconded by Mr. Savoie, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 12 be amended by striking out the resolution clause and substituting the following:

“BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to focus appropriate resources towards mental health issues and recognize the challenges faced by individuals and their families.”

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

And after some time, Mr. McKee, seconded by Ms. Thériault, moved a sub-amendment:

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to Motion 12 be amended by adding after “towards” the following: “the position of a mental health advocate and other”.

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on the proposed sub-amendment and a debate ensued.

At 3.25 p.m. the House recessed. At 3.37 p.m. the House resumed.

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

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

Mr. Speaker put the question on the amendment as amended and it was adopted.

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 12 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS there is an increasing need for mental health services in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS persons with mental illness and other health issues are amongst the most vulnerable populations;

WHEREAS there is a need to ensure that the rights of persons with mental health issues are protected;

WHEREAS it is important to also ensure that those requiring long-term care have appropriate care and treatment;

WHEREAS public education on mental health should be enhanced to create awareness on mental health issues and reduce the stigma associated with mental illness;

WHEREAS the province does not have an independent mental health advocate, ombud, or similar position to provide information and support for those with mental health needs or those acting on their behalf;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to focus appropriate resources towards the position of a mental health advocate and other mental health issues and recognize the challenges faced by individuals and their families.

And the question being put, Motion 12 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 4, Mr. D'Amours moved, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc:

WHEREAS nurse practitioners (NPs) are registered nurses with advanced education and training that prepare them for a broad scope of practice and maximum functionality within the health care system;

WHEREAS there are more than 7,400 licensed NPs in Canada, and over 130 in New Brunswick providing primary, acute and specialty care to patients of all ages and walks of life;

WHEREAS NPs diagnose, treat and prescribe medications and other treatments to patients through a caring, patient-centered, holistic model of care;

WHEREAS New Brunswick citizens have great trust in the high-quality care NPs provide, with over 3 million nationwide receiving care from a NP;

WHEREAS decades of research demonstrate the high quality of care provided by NPs;

WHEREAS New Brunswick continues to work towards ensuring that all NPs are practicing at full scope and barriers to NP care delivery are addressed and removed;

WHEREAS better utilization of NPs will continue to evolve through modernization of legislation and improved system policies that aim to create a more accessible, efficient, cost-effective and higher-quality health care system;

WHEREAS governmental and policy entities recognize the benefits of having NPs practicing at maximum scope within the health care system and vote to support changes to legislation that allow NPs to practice to their full capacity;

WHEREAS New Brunswick is proud to recognize and honour the service of NPs in our province;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to declare the week of November 8 to 14, 2020 and, thereafter, every second week of November as National Nurse Practitioner Week in the province of New Brunswick in recognition of the numerous contributions that NPs have made over the past half century and will continue to make to the health and well-being of Canadians.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

And then, 6 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 8

Friday, November 29, 2019

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The Order of the Day being read that the House proceed to take into further consideration the proposed Address in answer to Her Honour's speech at the opening of the session,

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Crossman:

THAT the following Address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to offer the humble thanks of this House to Her Honour for the gracious speech which she has been pleased to make to the Legislative Assembly, namely:

Fredericton, N.B.
November 19, 2019.

To Her Honour,
The Honourable Brenda Murphy,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick.

May It Please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

And the debate continuing,

And the debate being ended and the question being put thereon, it was agreed to without amendment on the following recorded division after leave was granted to dispense with the ten-minute time allotted for the ringing of the bells:

YEAS - 24

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Carr
Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason	Hon. Mr. Holland
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Gauvin	Hon. Mr. Urquhart
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Stewart	Hon. Mr. Oliver
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Northrup
Mr. Austin	Mr. DeSaulniers	Mr. Fitch
Ms. Conroy	Hon. Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Fairgrieve
Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Crossman

NAYS - 22

Mr. Arseneault	Ms. Mitton	Mr. LeBlanc
Mr. Melanson	Mr. Bourque	Mr. K. Chiasson
Mr. Landry	Ms. Landry	Mr. Horsman
Ms. Rogers	Ms. Thériault	Mr. Lowe
Mr. Harvey	Mr. LePage	Mr. McKee
Ms. Harris	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. D'Amours
Mr. Kenny	Ms. LeBlanc	
Mr. Coon	Mr. Arseneau	

On motion of the Honourable the Premier, seconded by Hon. Mr. Steeves,

RESOLVED, that the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne be engrossed, signed by Mr. Speaker, and presented to Her Honour by a Committee of the House.

Ordered that the Honourable the Premier, Mr. Savoie and Mr. Crossman be the Committee to Wait upon Her Honour with the Address and present the same.

On motion of Mr. Savoie, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, December 10, 2019.

And then, 10.05 a.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2018-2019

Department of Public Safety

November 28, 2019

Daily sitting 9

Tuesday, December 10, 2019

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to provide accessibility to publicly funded abortion services in appropriate settings. (Petition 8)

Mr. Fairgrieve requested leave of the House to move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Northrup: (Motion 22)

THAT in addition to the existing sitting hours prescribed in Standing Rule 29(1) and by Special Order of the House adopted November 21, 2018, the House may sit on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m;

THAT this Special Order shall come into effect on Wednesday, December 11, 2019, and shall remain in effect until Friday, December 20, 2019.

Leave to dispense with notice of Motion 22 was denied. Accordingly, notice was given for Friday, December 13, 2019.

Mr. D'Amours gave Notice of Motion 23 that on Thursday, December 19, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS the New Brunswick health authorities reported over 1,600 violent incidents in the 2018-19 fiscal year;

WHEREAS health authority tracking shows there are 4.5 violent incidents in New Brunswick hospitals each day;

WHEREAS there is at least one violent incident each day at New Brunswick hospitals that requires the presence of police;

WHEREAS health authority statistics show there were over 2,000 "Code Whites", or responses to violent persons, last year;

WHEREAS research shows that New Brunswick's health authorities have combined violence rates per employee far higher than the Nova Scotia Health Authority, despite the fact that Nova Scotia has thousands more employees;

WHEREAS more than half of security guard positions in New Brunswick were vacant as of early 2019;

WHEREAS the CEO of Horizon Health, Karen McGrath, has testified that security guards are not peace officers, but rather “diplomats” who are not allowed to lay hands on violent persons in hospitals;

WHEREAS WorksafeNB data shows that accepted workplace violence claims for employees of hospitals and nursing homes are more than triple those of employees in correctional facilities;

WHEREAS WorksafeNB data shows that accepted mental health and PTSD claims among nurses make up nearly 1/3 (28%) of all mental health and PTSD claims in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS Horizon Health Board Chair John McGarry has said publicly that data from Horizon Health indicates that violence levels are “out of control”;

WHEREAS there is a need for the health authorities to conduct annual violence reviews as provided for under occupational health and safety legislation;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government and its health authorities to complete the annual workplace violence risk assessments required by the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and to provide the health authorities with sufficient funding to complete the assessments and implement the recommendations that emerge from them.

Mr. D’Amours gave Notice of Motion 24 that on Thursday, December 19, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. C. Chiasson:

WHEREAS the province of New Brunswick is facing a shortage of nurses that will have an impact on its ability to provide quality health services throughout New Brunswick;

WHEREAS, as a result of the nursing shortage, there have been several instances whereby health services have had to be suspended or hospital beds closed, including in Saint John, Campbellton, Bathurst, and Perth-Andover;

WHEREAS the crisis will only deepen with a growing number of nurses nearing retirement age;

WHEREAS, as reported in a media article dated June 21, 2019, the Nurses Association of New Brunswick says it expects a shortage of 5,000 nurses in the next five years;

WHEREAS the health authorities told a legislative committee that there was a shortage of 520 nurses per year;

WHEREAS New Brunswick graduates about 320 nurses a year and yet, even if all the students graduated and stayed in the province, there would still be a shortage of 200 nurses per year;

WHEREAS according to the provincial nursing resource strategy, approximately 30% of nursing students will not graduate from their training program;

WHEREAS many New Brunswick nursing graduates are leaving the province as they cannot find full-time positions in New Brunswick, given that the province is not providing the health authorities with sufficient funding to hire them;

WHEREAS other jurisdictions are actively recruiting New Brunswick nursing graduates;

WHEREAS the provincial government cut \$8.7 million in funding that supported 95 additional nurse training seats, including clinical training, at the University of New Brunswick and the University of Moncton;

WHEREAS, in a joint press release, the universities stated that “the cuts will hurt the ability of universities to deliver clinical training and build their programs”;

WHEREAS UNB is turning away hundreds of applicants to its nursing program each year as it is underfunded by approximately \$14,000 per nursing student position;

WHEREAS these applicants are pursuing nursing training in other provinces;

WHEREAS the Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour subsequently ignored a proposal from UNB for doubling the number of nursing seats;

WHEREAS the expanded nurse bridging program announcement by the Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour in November 2019 will only fund the training of a maximum of 49 nursing positions which will train existing LPNs to become registered nurses and does not actually result in any net new nurses;

WHEREAS the training monies provided of \$500,000 per year are far short of the \$8.7 million that was cut from existing nursing training;

WHEREAS this proposal by the provincial government for nurse training is woefully inadequate to address the nursing shortage crisis;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to commit to funding sufficient additional nursing seats at New Brunswick universities—taking into account known costs and student attrition rates—to allow for the potential annual graduation of the 130 additional registered nurses called for in the government’s own estimates;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House urge the government to commit to implementing funding for those seats for the beginning of the 2020-21 academic year and for a period of no less than 10 years.

Mr. Austin gave Notice of Motion 25 that on Thursday, December 19, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. DeSaulniers:

WHEREAS the International Agency for Research on Cancer has toughened their stance that glyphosate is a probable carcinogen in 2018;

WHEREAS there are over 50 peer-reviewed, published and independent worldwide research papers that assert glyphosate is toxic and linked to non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma;

WHEREAS these research papers also show conclusively that glyphosate also causes DNA damage, liver and kidney damage, is an endocrine disruptor, and the cause of numerous other health concerns;

WHEREAS the conflict between industry science and independent science suggests this is the ideal case for implementing the precautionary principle in the best interest of public health and the health of fish and wildlife species;

WHEREAS three court cases in the US have resulted in payouts to plaintiffs in the order of \$200 million where juries have found glyphosate caused cancer and that the company has attempted to cover up the risks;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to prohibit the spraying of glyphosate-based herbicides on Crown land.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House take into consideration Motion 19 and, with leave, Motion 22; following which Bills 26, 27, 19, 20 and 17 would be called for second reading until no later than 4.30 p.m.; at which time the House would adjourn.

Hon. Mr. Steeves, Minister of Finance and Treasury Board, delivered to Mr. Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and the said Message was read by Mr. Speaker, all the Members standing, and is as follows:

Fredericton, New Brunswick.
December 10, 2019.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmits the *Capital Estimates* for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021, required for the services of the province, not otherwise provided for, and in accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, recommends these estimates to the House.

(Sgd.:) Brenda Murphy.
Lieutenant-Governor.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 19, Hon. Mr. Steeves moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT this House approves in general the capital budgetary policy of the government.

And the question being put, Hon. Mr. Steeves proceeded to deliver the 2020-2021 capital budget speech.

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

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to be granted to Her Majesty forthwith.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. C. Chiasson in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. C. Chiasson, the Chair, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee proceeding in the matter under consideration, had passed the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Supply be granted to Her Majesty.

And he was directed to ask leave to sit again.

Mr. C. Chiasson moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT the House does concur with the Committee of Supply in its report and agrees in its resolution that Supply be granted to Her Majesty.

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

Mr. Savoie, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House, moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT consideration of estimates in Committee of Supply be added to the Orders of the Day until such time as they are dispatched.

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

Mr. Savoie requested unanimous consent to consider Motion 22, and unanimous consent was denied.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 26 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 27 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of adjournment had arrived.

And then, 4.30 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:

Report on Performance 2018-2019, Auditor General of New Brunswick	November 29, 2019
Annual Report 2018-2019 Department of Transportation and Infrastructure	December 3, 2019
Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume II, Performance Audit, 2019	December 3, 2019
Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume III, Financial Audit, 2019	December 3, 2019
Annual Report 2018-2019 Service New Brunswick	December 4, 2019
Pursuant to the <i>Private Occupational Training Act</i> , the audited financial statements of the Training Completions Fund for the 2018-2019 fiscal year	December 5, 2019
Air Quality Monitoring Results, 2017, Department of Environment and Local Government	December 6, 2019
Annual Report 2018-2019 Department of Aboriginal Affairs	December 6, 2019
Annual Report 2018-2019 Labour and Employment Board	December 6, 2019
Response to Petitions 2, 5	December 5, 2019
Response to Petitions 1, 3, 4, 6	December 6, 2019

Daily sitting 10

Wednesday, December 11, 2019
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Harvey, Member for Carleton-Victoria, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to complete renovations to Bath Community School. (Petition 9)

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

December 11, 2019

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 first report.

Your Committee met on December 10 and had under consideration:

Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act*;
Bill 6, *Enduring Powers of Attorney Act*;
Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Property Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Gary Crossman, 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.

Ms. Harris gave Notice of Motion 26 that on Thursday, December 19, 2019, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on September 13, 2007;

WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples “establishes a universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world and it elaborates on existing human rights standards and fundamental freedoms as they apply to the specific situation of indigenous peoples”;

WHEREAS Canada officially adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in May 2016, reaffirming its commitment to promoting and protecting the rights of Indigenous people at home and abroad;

WHEREAS, by adopting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Government of New Brunswick will recognize its commitment to improve its relationships with Indigenous peoples by providing a framework for the province to align itself with standards and protections outlined in the United Nations declaration;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Ms. Harris gave Notice of Motion 27 that on Thursday, December 19, 2019, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Horsman:

WHEREAS the Auditor General in her recent report to the Legislative Assembly expressed concern that vulnerable children in group homes are at risk;

WHEREAS the specific concerns identified by the Auditor General indicated that the failure to adequately manage the placement and care of these children may increase the risks of suicide, addictions, long term mental health challenges and homelessness;

WHEREAS the Auditor General pointed out that the decline in available foster homes may result in younger children being placed in group homes including children as young as 4 years of age;

WHEREAS the Auditor General has made a series of recommendations to improve standards and procedures related to group home placements, monitoring and care;

WHEREAS the Auditor General urged Members of the Legislative Assembly to hold follow-up hearings on this pressing and serious issue;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to refer this matter to a legislative committee where it can hold public hearings, invite submissions, listen to stakeholders and subject matter experts, and make recommendations to government as to how to best improve the system for dealing with children at risk and children in care.

Mr. D'Amours gave Notice of Motion 28 that on Thursday, December 19, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS the threat to human health posed by vaping is becoming more apparent each day with reports of severe respiratory illnesses associated with vaping;

WHEREAS vaping is an industry that targets young people with products like flavoured e-cigarettes and juices, and there are virtually no restrictions on advertising or retailing;

WHEREAS there are very real concerns about the lack of regulation in relation to this industry;

WHEREAS the medical profession is raising serious concerns about the dangers associated with vaping;

WHEREAS Health Canada has also issued warnings on the potential risks associated with vaping;

WHEREAS in the past, the provincial government has brought in measures to impose restrictions related to tobacco smoking, including measures designed to reduce the number of young smokers;

WHEREAS other provincial jurisdictions are aware of the health risk posed by vaping and taking steps to address it;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to bring forth legislation and regulations to deal with this significant health threat including banning e-cigarettes that contain a prescribed flavouring agent and any flavoured juice made for use with e-cigarettes, cutting the nicotine content in flavour pods, and strengthening the regulations related to displays and advertising materials related to vaping.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, December 12, 2019, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 3, 4 and 16.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to take into consideration the estimates of the Departments of Transportation and Infrastructure, Health, and Education and Early Childhood Development; following which Bills 19, 20, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15 and 16 would be called for second reading until no later than 3.30 p.m.; at which time the House would adjourn.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. C. Chiasson in the chair.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and requested a copy of the Minister's remarks.

At 11.32 a.m. the Committee recessed. At 11.39 a.m. the Committee resumed.

Mr. Savoie advised the Committee that the Minister's remarks were in point form and in one official language. As such, copies would not be provided. Mr. Chair ruled that while it was not a requirement to provide copies, it was a long-standing courtesy, and encouraged government to do so in the future.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. C. Chiasson, the Chair, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee had had under consideration the matters referred to them, had made some progress therein, and asked leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.2, 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.

At 12 o'clock p.m. the House recessed. At 1 o'clock p.m. the House resumed.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act*, be now read a second time.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 19 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 20, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 20 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 20, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 8 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 10 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 11, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*, a debate arose thereon.

Hon. Mr. Holder rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. C. Chiasson should refrain from attributing certain remarks to Hon. Mr. Cardy. Mr. Speaker cautioned Members against quoting private conversations with their fellow Members, as it was likely to cause disorder in the House.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of adjournment had arrived.

And then, 3.30 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2018-2019

Department of Social Development

December 10, 2019

Daily sitting 11

Thursday, December 12, 2019

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

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

December 12, 2019

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 second report.

Your Committee met on December 11 and had under consideration:

Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*;
Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Securities Act*;
Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd.): Gary Crossman, 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.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 30, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bills 28, 29 and 11 be called for second reading; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act*.

Bill 6, *Enduring Powers of Attorney Act*.

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Property Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 28, *Aquaculture Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 28 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 28, *Aquaculture Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 29, *An Act to Amend the Seafood Processing Act*, a debate arose thereon.

At 12 o'clock p.m. the House recessed. At 1 o'clock p.m. the House resumed with Ms. LeBlanc, the Deputy Speaker, in the chair.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 29 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 29, *An Act to Amend the Seafood Processing Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

Madam Deputy Speaker, at the request of Mr. Savoie, reverted to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House.

Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Friday, December 13, 2019, Bill 30 would be called for second reading.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 11, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*, be now read a second time.

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

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

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 3, Ms. Rogers moved, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS the herbicide glyphosate is used by the forest industry, NB Power, and the agricultural sector for vegetation control;

WHEREAS despite findings by Health Canada and New Brunswick's Chief Medical Officer indicating that glyphosate does not pose a cancer risk to humans at current exposure rates, concerns about the spraying of glyphosate remain;

WHEREAS, prior to taking any decision related to changes to the application of glyphosate in New Brunswick, it is important to hear from stakeholders including the forest and agricultural sectors, subject matter experts, and the general public;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to refer the issue of glyphosate spraying to a legislative committee in order to hold public hearings, engage stakeholders, invite submissions, and make recommendations to government within six months.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. Arseneau, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 3 be amended by striking out the resolution clause and substituting the following:

“BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to ban the spraying of glyphosate and other herbicides over our Crown forests and under our powerlines.”

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

At 3.10 p.m. the House recessed. At 3.17 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, the amendment was defeated on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 6

Mr. Coon
Ms. Mitton

Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Austin

Ms. Conroy
Mr. DeSaulniers

NAYS - 40

Hon. Mr. Holder
Mr. Savoie
Hon. Mr. Higgs
Hon. Mr. Steeves
Hon. Ms. Shephard
Hon. Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Flemming
Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Gauvin
Hon. Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Cardy
Hon. Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Carr

Hon. Mr. Holland
Hon. Mr. Urquhart
Hon. Mr. Oliver
Mr. Northrup
Mr. Fitch
Mr. Fairgrieve
Mr. Crossman
Mr. Arseneault
Mr. Melanson
Mr. Landry
Ms. Rogers
Mr. Harvey
Ms. Harris
Mr. Kenny

Mr. Bourque
Ms. Landry
Ms. Thériault
Mr. LePage
Mr. C. Chiasson
Ms. LeBlanc
Mr. LeBlanc
Mr. K. Chiasson
Mr. Horsman
Mr. Lowe
Mr. McKee
Mr. D'Amours

Debate resumed on Motion 3.

And after some time, Hon. Mr. Holland, seconded by Hon. Mr. Carr, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 3 be amended:

In the first whereas clause by striking out “the herbicide glyphosate is” and substituting “herbicides and pesticides are”;

By striking out the resolution clause and substituting the following:

“BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House support the creation of a legislative committee dedicated to climate change and environmental stewardship.”

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

At 4.06 p.m. the House recessed. At 4.25 p.m. the House resumed.

And after some time, Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Bourque, moved a sub-amendment:

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to Motion 3 be amended:

By striking out “By striking out the resolution clause and substituting the following” and substituting “By adding after the resolution clause the following”;

By striking out “THEREFORE” and substituting “FURTHER”.

Mr. Speaker put the question on the proposed sub-amendment and a debate ensued.

At 4.43 p.m. the House recessed. At 4.47 p.m. the House resumed.

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

Mr. Speaker put the question on the amendment as amended and it was adopted.

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 3 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS herbicides and pesticides are used by the forest industry, NB Power, and the agricultural sector for vegetation control;

WHEREAS despite findings by Health Canada and New Brunswick’s Chief Medical Officer indicating that glyphosate does not pose a cancer risk to humans at current exposure rates, concerns about the spraying of glyphosate remain;

WHEREAS, prior to taking any decision related to changes to the application of glyphosate in New Brunswick, it is important to hear from stakeholders including the forest and agricultural sectors, subject matter experts, and the general public;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to refer the issue of glyphosate spraying to a legislative committee in order to hold public hearings, engage stakeholders, invite submissions, and make recommendations to government within six months.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House support the creation of a legislative committee dedicated to climate change and environmental stewardship.

And the question being put, Motion 3 as amended was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 43

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Carr	Ms. Mitton
Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Bourque
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Urquhart	Ms. Landry
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Oliver	Mr. LePage
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Mr. Northrup	Mr. C. Chiasson
Mr. Austin	Mr. Fairgrieve	Ms. LeBlanc
Ms. Conroy	Mr. Crossman	Mr. Arseneau
Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc
Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason	Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson
Hon. Mr. Gauvin	Mr. Landry	Mr. Horsman
Hon. Mr. Stewart	Ms. Rogers	Mr. Lowe
Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Harvey	Mr. McKee
Mr. DeSaulniers	Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours
Hon. Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Kenny	
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Coon	

Debate resumed on Motion 4, moved by Mr. D'Amours, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc, on Thursday, November 28, 2019.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 4 was resolved in the affirmative.

And then, 5.50 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Response to Petition 7

December 11, 2019

Daily sitting 12

Friday, December 13, 2019

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker congratulated Sandra Colborne, Hansard Editor, on her retirement from the Legislative Assembly after 32 years of service.

With unanimous consent, Mr. Arseneau laid upon the table of the House an article entitled: *Without Favour: The Concentration of Ownership in New Brunswick's Print Media Industry*, Toby D. Couture, *Canadian Journal of Communication*.

Hon. Mr. Holder, Acting Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that the House take into consideration Motion 22; following which Bill 17 would be called for second reading.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*.

Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Securities Act*.

Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 22, Mr. Fairgrieve moved, seconded by Mr. Northrup:

THAT in addition to the existing sitting hours prescribed in Standing Rule 29(1) and by Special Order of the House adopted November 21, 2018, the House may sit on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.;

THAT this Special Order shall come into effect on Wednesday, December 11, 2019, and shall remain in effect until Friday, December 20, 2019.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that Motion 22 may be out of order. He argued that it should have been a government motion and not one moved by a private Member, since it required the expenditure of funds, which was beyond the authority of a private Member's motion. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken. He advised the House that there were many precedents of private Members' motions mandating night sittings, as it allowed the House to limit debate on such motions with limited scope.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 22 was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 26

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Gauvin	Hon. Mr. Oliver
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Stewart	Mr. Northrup
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Fitch
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Mr. DeSaulniers	Mr. Fairgrieve
Mr. Austin	Hon. Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Crossman
Ms. Conroy	Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Coon
Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Hon. Mr. Carr	Ms. Mitton
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Arseneau
Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason	Hon. Mr. Urquhart	

NAYS - 19

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Bourque	Mr. K. Chiasson
Mr. Melanson	Ms. Landry	Mr. Horsman
Mr. Landry	Ms. Thériault	Mr. Lowe
Ms. Rogers	Mr. LePage	Mr. McKee
Mr. Harvey	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. D'Amours
Ms. Harris	Ms. LeBlanc	
Mr. Kenny	Mr. LeBlanc	

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

And then, 2 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2018-2019
Treasury Board

December 12, 2019

Daily sitting 13

Tuesday, December 17, 2019

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that the use of the term “underhanded” in reference to a Member was unparliamentary. Mr. Speaker cautioned Members against personal attacks.

Following Oral Questions, Ms. Mitton rose on a point of order and submitted that the Premier accused Mr. Coon of telling “half truths”. The Premier withdrew the remark.

Mr. Harvey, Member for Carleton-Victoria, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to complete renovations to Bath Community School. (Petition 10)

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to increase social assistance to a living standard. (Petition 11)

Mr. Arseneau, Member for Kent North, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to have a nurse practitioner at the Baie-Sainte-Anne Medical Clinic. (Petition 12)

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Coon,

Bill 31, *An Act to Amend the Family Income Security Act*.

Mr. Savoie gave Notice of Motion 29 that on Friday, December 20, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Hon. Mr. Holder:

WHEREAS the following public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, were listed in the 2019 Annual Report, *Statute Repeal Act*, laid before the Legislative Assembly on March 19, 2019, as public Acts or provisions of public Acts that are to come into force by proclamation, that were assented to nine years or more before December 31, 2018, and that have not come into force on or before that date:

1. *Pension Benefits Act*, S.N.B. 1987, c.P-5.1:
 - section 2
2. *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act*, S.N.B. 2001, c.29:
 - sections 1 and 5 and paragraph 2(b)
3. *An Act to Amend the Clean Environment Act*. S.N.B. 2009, c.40
4. *Petroleum Act*, S.N.B. 2007, c.P-8.03

WHEREAS, as a result of being listed in the Annual Report, these public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, will be repealed on December 31, 2019, pursuant to section 2 of the *Statute Repeal Act*, unless the Legislative Assembly adopts a resolution that these Acts or provisions not be repealed;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that these public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, listed in this resolution, not be repealed.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 17, 18, 16 and 13 be called for second reading.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act*, be now read a second time.

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

Hon. Mr. Holder rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Harvey accused the Premier of being a “bully”. Madam Deputy Speaker cautioned Members against personal attacks.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 17 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

And then, 5.55 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:

Under the provisions of the <i>Fees Act</i> , proposed fee change for new and increased fees related to the products and services provided by the Plant Propagation Centre, Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries	December 13, 2019
Annual Report 2017-2018	
New Brunswick Forest Products Commission	December 16, 2019

Daily sitting 14

Wednesday, December 18, 2019
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. LeBlanc welcomed to the House Mr. Victor Boudreau, former Liberal MLA for Shediac-Cap-Pelé (2004-2014) and Shediac-Beaubassin-Cap-Pelé (2014-2018).

Hon. Mr. Gauvin laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *Annual Report 2018-2019, New Brunswick Arts Board*.

Mr. C. Chiasson, Member for Victoria-La Vallée, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to sign an agricultural Recovery Framework Agreement with the federal government and Potatoes NB. (Petition 13)

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

December 18, 2019

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 third report.

Your Committee met on December 17 and had under consideration:

Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act*;
Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*;
Bill 28, *Aquaculture Act*;
Bill 29, *An Act to Amend the Seafood Processing Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Gary Crossman, 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. Cardy, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Steeves, gave Notice of Motion 30 that on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, December 19, 2019, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 24, 27 and 6.

And then, 11.20 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 15

Thursday, December 19, 2019

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Melanson used unparliamentary language when he asked the Premier to “come clean”. Mr. Melanson withdrew the remark.

Mr. Landry, Member for Bathurst East-Nepisiguit-Saint-Isidore, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to ensure that couples may live together in the same nursing facility despite different levels of care needs. (Petition 14)

Mr. Harvey, Member for Carleton-Victoria, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to complete renovations to Bath Community School. (Petition 15)

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

December 19, 2019

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 fourth report.

Your Committee met on December 18 and had under consideration:

Bill 20, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Gary Crossman, 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.

Mr. Melanson, from the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

December 19, 2019

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

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Public Accounts begs leave to submit this, their first report.

The report outlines the Committee's activities since it last reported on March 26, 2019.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Roger Melanson, M.L.A.
Chair

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

Committee Activities

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts held a joint session with the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations to receive and review the following:

June 11 and 13, 2019

Office of the Auditor General of New Brunswick

Under review: Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick 2019, Volume I – Performance Audit.

Volume I presented performance audit reports completed during 2019 on Medicare cards, outsourcing of highway maintenance and construction work, and the collection and forgiveness of overdue property taxes. The volume also reported the results of a special review on a funding arrangement for the City of Saint John.

Special Examination

On July 2, the Committee held an organizational meeting in regard to Chapter 5 of the *Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick 2019, Volume I – Performance Audit*, concerning the Government of New Brunswick's funding arrangement for the City of Saint John.

The following Motion was carried during the meeting:

THAT the Committee send a letter to the Clerk of the Executive Council asking that he table with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly as soon as possible copies of:

- *The draft report of the working committee of senior officials on the Saint John new deal as it existed at the change of government on or about November 9, 2018;*
- *The current draft of the working committee of senior officials on the Saint John new deal;*
- *The funding agreement between the Province and the City of Saint John;*

THAT the Committee perform the above, as long as it does not violate the terms of the agreement.

On July 12, the Clerk of the Executive Council responded to the motion and provided the Committee with the following documents:

- 1) The current draft of the working committee of senior officials on the Saint John new deal, Sustaining Saint John a Three-Part Plan;
- 2) The funding agreement between the Province and the City of Saint John.

Meetings were held on August 6 and 7 to call witnesses for a special examination into the New Saint John Deal.

The Committee heard from: Donald Darling, Mayor of Saint John; Judy Wagner, former Clerk of the Executive Council, current Deputy Minister of Policy and Legislative Affairs and Secretary to Cabinet; Brian Gallant, Q.C., former Premier of New Brunswick, Member of the Legislative Assembly for Shediac Bay-Dieppe; Jack Keir, former working group member and employee of the Office of the Premier; Lee-Bell Smith, former Deputy Attorney General; Cheryl Hansen, Deputy Minister, Department of Finance and Treasury Board; Patricia MacKenzie, Deputy Secretary to Cabinet; Jordan O'Brien, former Chief of Staff, Office of the Premier; Jacques Pinet, former Chief Executive Officer, Jobs Board

Secretariat, former President of the Regional Development Corporation; Ann Marie Wood-Seems, Vice President, Regional Development Corporation; Kelli Simmonds, Deputy Minister, Department of Environment and Local Government; Kim MacPherson, Auditor General of New Brunswick.

The Committee also heard from the Joint Working Committee. From the Province of New Brunswick Members, the Committee heard from: Joel Dickinson, former Co-Chair of Joint Working Committee, current Assistant Deputy Minister and Deputy Chief Operating Officer; Elizabeth Hayward, current Secretary to the Working Committee, current Senior Advisor to the Deputy Minister for Policy and Legislative Affairs. From the City of Saint John Members, the Committee heard from: Neil Jacobsen, former Co-Chair of Joint Working Committee and Acting City Manager, current Deputy City Manager; Jeff Trail, former Co-Chair of Joint Working Committee and Saint John City Manager; Kevin Fudge, Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer.

The following motion was carried prior to the conclusion of the August 7 meeting:

WHEREAS as a result of testimony before the Public Accounts Committee on the Saint John deal in relation to the documents provided by the Executive Council Office to the Auditor General there is confusion over which documents were provided;

WHEREAS to ensure that the Public Accounts Committee has all the necessary information to undertake its deliberations;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Public Accounts Committee ask the Executive Council Office to table all the documents provided to the Auditor General related to her request for documentation related to the Agreement between the Province of New Brunswick and the City of Saint John for the period from June 1, 2017 until June 30, 2019.

On August 28, the Clerk of the Executive Council responded to the request, stating in a letter that the documents provided to the Auditor General for the time period in question included:

- 1) the Cabinet minute - protected under section 17 of the *Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*;
- 2) the Memorandum to Executive Council (MEC) and Agreement - protected under section 17 of the *Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*;
- 3) email exchanges between the AG staff and ECO staff; and
- 4) letter dated Sept 13, 2018.

The Executive Council Office further noted that the Auditor General had advised that items 3 and 4 were not releasable as they were deemed “working papers” pursuant to section 15.2 of the *Auditor General Act* which states “working papers of an audit of the Auditor General shall not be laid before the Legislative Assembly or any committee of the Legislative Assembly.”

Further Committee Activities

The Committee held meetings on October 9 and 10 and November 7. The following departments appeared and answered questions concerning the years under review and Auditor General recommendations:

October 9, 2019

Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries

Years under review: 2016-2017, 2017-2018.

Department of Transportation and Infrastructure

Years under review: 2016-2017, 2017-2018.

October 10, 2019

Office of the Attorney General

Years under review: 2016-2017, 2017-2018.

Department of Environment and Local Government

Years under review: 2016-2017, 2017-2018.

November 7, 2019

Department of Energy and Resource Development

Years under review: 2016-2017, 2017-2018.

The Committee held a joint session with the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations to receive and review the following:

December 3, 2019

Office of the Auditor General of New Brunswick

Under review: Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick 2019, Volume II - Performance Audit and Volume III - Financial Audit.

Volume II presented performance audit reports completed during 2019 on university funding, group homes and specialized placements. It also presented follow-up work on prior year recommendations, which focused on two financial assistance case studies (blueberries and naval centre).

Volume III focused on New Brunswick’s year-end financial results and matters arising from the annual financial audit of the provincial government and Crown agencies, including understanding key financial audit issues and

observations on the state of New Brunswick's financial condition. Information was also provided on: tax expenditures, contaminated sites, accounts receivable, local government debt, property assessments, financial commitments and opportunities to improve transparency.

Rotation

Historically, individual Members had the ability to question entities without limit on the length or number of questions or comments. The Committee undertakes a full schedule with multiple entities appearing in one day, and Members had voiced discontent with the unpredictability of the current practice.

The Committee tested different rotations which allocated questions and blocks of time to the various caucuses and Members. This was met with positive feedback. The Chair requested that a monitor projecting a clock, using the same system found in the Legislative Assembly Chamber, be added for the convenience of Members. The current rotation is ten minutes per Member, rotating between the Official Opposition, Government, Green, and Peoples Alliance Caucuses, until questions have been exhausted.

Orientation

Auditor General Kim MacPherson held an orientation session on October 2 and 3 with the Canadian Audit and Accountability Foundation (CAAF) to discuss the principles of an effective Public Accounts Committee. The session, which was open to all Members and the support staff of the various caucuses, covered such topics as parliamentary oversight, cross-party collaboration, and effective hearings.

At the conclusion of the orientation, the attendees were asked to rank the important next steps for the Committee. The CAAF summarized these responses as follows:

1. Planning
 - a) Creating a steering committee to take the lead on planning.
 - b) Setting the committee schedule for several months at a time.
 - c) Meeting preparation (including focused agenda, pre-hearing meetings to clarify meeting purpose and line of questioning, and briefing with the Auditor General).
 - d) Communicating the focus of meetings with the departments.
2. Working collaboratively. Several participants suggested the committee could start with mixing up the caucus seating arrangement during meetings.

3. Ensuring hearings are useful by reading Auditor General reports in advance, focusing on good questions and getting clear answers.
4. Improving follow-up, including the use of reports with committee recommendations and action plans.
5. Combining the Public Accounts Committee and the Crown Corporations Committee.
6. Getting additional research support for the committee.

Throughout the discussion, there was widespread support for:

1. The creation of a subcommittee for the purposes of planning meeting dates and identifying topics of study.
2. Increasing cross-party collaboration. One suggestion to reach this goal was to change the seating arrangement so Members no longer sit exclusively with their caucuses.
3. Merging the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations.
4. Support, in principle, for the creation of a Legislative Internship Program.

To begin addressing some of the steps discussed during the session, the Committee carried the following two motions on October 10:

Motion 1:

THAT pursuant to Standing Rule 98, a subcommittee be appointed and be composed of the Committee Chair, the Vice-Chair, and a Committee Member from each remaining caucus;

THAT the subcommittee Members may:

- *represent their respective caucus in reviewing issues related to scheduling, agenda preparation and potential matters of Committee procedure;*
- *work collaboratively in moving the Committee forward with recommendations and action items proposed during the October 2-3, 2019 orientation session;*
- *utilize the Office of the Auditor General in these undertakings where necessary.*

THAT the subcommittee may meet informally and;

THAT substitutions be permitted on the subcommittee.

Motion 2:

WHEREAS the Standing Committee on Public Accounts would like to express its sincere appreciation to the Office of the Auditor General for its hard work hosting a two-day orientation session held on October 2 and 3, 2019 in conjunction with the Canadian Audit and Accountability Foundation;

WHEREAS the Committee may consider the implementation of some of the good practices found across Canada; including:

- Focusing on the administration of a program or policy, and not the merits of a program, and*
- Committee Members changing the historically partisan culture of the Public Accounts Committee to promote non-partisanship;*

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Committee affirms its willingness to work collaboratively to improve its functioning, moving forward;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee offers its support to the Auditor General in her request to have the mandate of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations merged into the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Moving Forward

Historically, the Committee has held a number of meetings when the House is not in session, typically in the fall and winter. The established precedent is to have all departments appear annually to examine their latest annual reports.

Following the orientation session, the Committee has signaled an interest in changing the established procedure based on some good practices suggested by the CAAF. Ultimately, the Committee wishes to put on the record that it is interested in changing and adopting new practices in order to use its time more effectively.

Ordered that the report be received, and leave granted.

Mr. Fairgrieve, from the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

December 19, 2019

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

Mr. Speaker:

I present herewith the First Report of the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers for the Third Session of the 59th Legislature.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 92, all Standing Rules and practices of the House, together with any matter referred by the Speaker, stand permanently referred to the Committee.

Further to its permanent order of reference, the Committee held a meeting on December 18, 2019, to review the Standing Rules and practices of the Legislative Assembly and its committees.

The Committee's Report contains recommendations for amendments to the Standing Rules in order to dissolve the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations and merge its mandate with the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, and to create a new Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship.

And your Committee asks leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Stewart Fairgrieve, M.L.A.
Chair

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

Your Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers begs leave to submit this, their First Report of the session.

Further to its permanent order of reference, your Committee held a meeting on December 18, 2019, to review the Standing Rules with the consideration of merging the mandate of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations with the mandate of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts. The Committee also considered the creation of a new Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship.

Merging the separate mandates into a single oversight body that is the Public Accounts Committee is supported by the Auditor General, who outlined a number of reasons for doing so, of which included:

- A sole Public Accounts Committee would have more ability to hold relevant entities (departments and Crown corporations) and senior officials and senior corporate executives to account;
- Interrelationships of government departments and Crown corporations have become more complex with a number of Crown corporations performing functions that in the past were considered mainstream government programs;
- Most Canadian jurisdictions have a single Public Accounts Committee and not a separate Crown Corporations Committee.

The Public Accounts Committee held orientation sessions open to all Members and relevant staff on October 2 and 3, 2019, which was hosted by the Office of the Auditor General in conjunction with the Canadian Audit and Accountability Foundation. Based on recommendations brought forward by the Auditor General and discussions during these sessions, the Public Accounts Committee subsequently carried a motion on October 10, 2019, in support of merging the two committees.

The Committee agrees with the Public Accounts Committee and recommends amendments to the Standing Rules in order to dissolve the Crown Corporations Committee and merge its mandate with the Public Accounts Committee.

On December 12, 2019, the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS herbicides and pesticides are used by the forest industry, NB Power, and the agricultural sector for vegetation control;

WHEREAS despite findings by Health Canada and New Brunswick's Chief Medical Officer indicating that glyphosate does not pose a cancer risk to humans at current exposure rates, concerns about the spraying of glyphosate remain;

WHEREAS, prior to taking any decision related to changes to the application of glyphosate in New Brunswick, it is important to hear from stakeholders including the forest and agricultural sectors, subject matter experts, and the general public;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to refer the issue of glyphosate spraying to a legislative committee in order to hold public hearings, engage stakeholders, invite submissions, and make recommendations to government within six months.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House support the creation of a legislative committee dedicated to climate change and environmental stewardship.

The above resolution was considered by the Committee and the Committee recommends that a Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship be added to the list of Committees under the Standing Rules.

Amendments to the Standing Rules

Your Committee therefore recommends for adoption the following amendments to the Standing Rules:

- 1 Standing Rule 89 is repealed and the following is substituted:

89 The Standing Committees shall be appointed on motion at the commencement of each House and shall be:

- (a) the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship;
- (b) the Standing Committee on Economic Policy;
- (c) the Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy;
- (d) the Standing Committee on Law Amendments;
- (e) the Legislative Administration Committee;
- (f) the Standing Committee on Private Bills;
- (g) the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers;
- (h) the Standing Committee on Public Accounts;
- (i) the Standing Committee on Social Policy.

- 2 Standing Rule 90 is repealed.

- 3 Standing Rule 93 is repealed and the following is substituted:

93 All reports to the House of the Auditor General, all Public Accounts, and all annual reports of government departments, provincial agencies, boards and commissions stand permanently referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

Ms. Rogers gave Notice of Motion 31 that on Thursday, January 9, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Bourque:

WHEREAS the Trudeau Government announced a commitment to plant two billion trees over the next 10 years to help fight climate change and reach zero net emissions by 2050 as part of a \$3 billion effort to deploy natural climate solutions;

WHEREAS planting trees is an excellent way to combat climate change as trees absorb greenhouse gas emissions from burning fossil fuels which are driving global warming;

WHEREAS this initiative will help Canada meet its commitment to the Paris accord;

WHEREAS in addition to the benefits associated with fighting climate change, planting trees reduces the impact of deforestation, prevents soil erosion, enhances coastal protection, increases land fertility, supports wildlife habitat and mitigates against flooding;

WHEREAS this tree planting program also provides an opportunity to increase our forest biodiversity;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick should take advantage of this initiative to fight climate change here in our province;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to work in cooperation with the federal government to get its fair share and develop a program whereby individuals and organizations can apply to plant trees respecting the principle of biodiversity, throughout urban and rural New Brunswick.

With leave of the House, Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Mr. Melanson: (Motion 32)

THAT the recommendations contained in the First Report of the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers be concurred in by the House.

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

With leave of the House, Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Holder: (Motion 33)

THAT, pursuant to Standing Rule 89, the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship be appointed for the duration of the 59th Legislative Assembly and that the membership of the said Committee be as follows:

Mr. Fitch, Hon. Mr. Carr, Hon. Mr. Holland, Hon. Mr. Wetmore, Ms. Rogers, Mr. Harvey, Mr. C. Chiasson, Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Arseneau, and Mr. DeSaulniers.

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

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bills 18 and 16 be called for second reading; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act*.

Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*.

Bill 28, *Aquaculture Act*.

Bill 29, *An Act to Amend the Seafood Processing Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 18, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 18 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 18, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 16 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

At 11.45 a.m. the House recessed. At 2.39 p.m. the House resumed.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 24, Mr. D'Amours moved, seconded by Mr. C. Chiasson:

WHEREAS the province of New Brunswick is facing a shortage of nurses that will have an impact on its ability to provide quality health services throughout New Brunswick;

WHEREAS, as a result of the nursing shortage, there have been several instances whereby health services have had to be suspended or hospital beds closed, including in Saint John, Campbellton, Bathurst, and Perth-Andover;

WHEREAS the crisis will only deepen with a growing number of nurses nearing retirement age;

WHEREAS, as reported in a media article dated June 21, 2019, the Nurses Association of New Brunswick says it expects a shortage of 5,000 nurses in the next five years;

WHEREAS the health authorities told a legislative committee that there was a shortage of 520 nurses per year;

WHEREAS New Brunswick graduates about 320 nurses a year and yet, even if all the students graduated and stayed in the province, there would still be a shortage of 200 nurses per year;

WHEREAS according to the provincial nursing resource strategy, approximately 30% of nursing students will not graduate from their training program;

WHEREAS many New Brunswick nursing graduates are leaving the province as they cannot find full-time positions in New Brunswick, given that the province is not providing the health authorities with sufficient funding to hire them;

WHEREAS other jurisdictions are actively recruiting New Brunswick nursing graduates;

WHEREAS the provincial government cut \$8.7 million in funding that supported 95 additional nurse training seats, including clinical training, at the University of New Brunswick and the University of Moncton;

WHEREAS, in a joint press release, the universities stated that “the cuts will hurt the ability of universities to deliver clinical training and build their programs”;

WHEREAS UNB is turning away hundreds of applicants to its nursing program each year as it is underfunded by approximately \$14,000 per nursing student position;

WHEREAS these applicants are pursuing nursing training in other provinces;

WHEREAS the Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour subsequently ignored a proposal from UNB for doubling the number of nursing seats;

WHEREAS the expanded nurse bridging program announcement by the Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour in November 2019 will only fund the training of a maximum of 49 nursing positions which will train existing LPNs to become registered nurses and does not actually result in any net new nurses;

WHEREAS the training monies provided of \$500,000 per year are far short of the \$8.7 million that was cut from existing nursing training;

WHEREAS this proposal by the provincial government for nurse training is woefully inadequate to address the nursing shortage crisis;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to commit to funding sufficient additional nursing seats at New Brunswick universities—taking into account known costs and student attrition rates—to allow for the potential annual graduation of the 130 additional registered nurses called for in the government’s own estimates;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House urge the government to commit to implementing funding for those seats for the beginning of the 2020-21 academic year and for a period of no less than 10 years.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Hon. Mr. Holder, seconded by Hon. Mr. Flemming, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 24 be amended:

By striking out the eighth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth whereas clauses;

By striking out the first resolution clause and substituting the following:

“BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to continue its efforts to enhance the availability of nursing seats at New Brunswick post-secondary institutions to allow for the potential annual graduation of the 130 additional registered nurses called for in government’s own estimates.”

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

And after some time, Mr. C. Chiasson, seconded by Mr. LePage, moved a sub-amendment:

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to Motion 24 be amended by striking out the second paragraph and proposed substitution of the first resolution clause.

Mr. Speaker put the question on the proposed sub-amendment and a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, the sub-amendment was defeated.

Mr. Speaker put the question on the amendment and it was adopted.

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 24 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS the province of New Brunswick is facing a shortage of nurses that will have an impact on its ability to provide quality health services throughout New Brunswick;

WHEREAS, as a result of the nursing shortage, there have been several instances whereby health services have had to be suspended or hospital beds closed, including in Saint John, Campbellton, Bathurst, and Perth-Andover;

WHEREAS the crisis will only deepen with a growing number of nurses nearing retirement age;

WHEREAS, as reported in a media article dated June 21, 2019, the Nurses Association of New Brunswick says it expects a shortage of 5,000 nurses in the next five years;

WHEREAS the health authorities told a legislative committee that there was a shortage of 520 nurses per year;

WHEREAS New Brunswick graduates about 320 nurses a year and yet, even if all the students graduated and stayed in the province, there would still be a shortage of 200 nurses per year;

WHEREAS according to the provincial nursing resource strategy, approximately 30% of nursing students will not graduate from their training program;

WHEREAS other jurisdictions are actively recruiting New Brunswick nursing graduates;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to continue its efforts to enhance the availability of nursing seats at New Brunswick post-secondary institutions to allow for the potential annual graduation of the 130 additional registered nurses called for in government's own estimates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House urge the government to commit to implementing funding for those seats for the beginning of the 2020-21 academic year and for a period of no less than 10 years.

And the question being put, Motion 24 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 27, Ms. Harris moved, seconded by Mr. Horsman:

WHEREAS the Auditor General in her recent report to the Legislative Assembly expressed concern that vulnerable children in group homes are at risk;

WHEREAS the specific concerns identified by the Auditor General indicated that the failure to adequately manage the placement and care of these children may increase the risks of suicide, addictions, long term mental health challenges and homelessness;

WHEREAS the Auditor General pointed out that the decline in available foster homes may result in younger children being placed in group homes including children as young as 4 years of age;

WHEREAS the Auditor General has made a series of recommendations to improve standards and procedures related to group home placements, monitoring and care;

WHEREAS the Auditor General urged Members of the Legislative Assembly to hold follow-up hearings on this pressing and serious issue;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to refer this matter to a legislative committee where it can hold public hearings, invite submissions, listen to stakeholders and subject matter experts, and make recommendations to government as to how to best improve the system for dealing with children at risk and children in care.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And after some further time, Hon. Ms. Shephard, seconded by Ms. Conroy, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 27 be amended by striking out the resolution clause and substituting the following:

“BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to table a plan by March 31, 2020, including reference to those who were consulted, based on the recommendations by the Auditor General;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this plan be referred to the Standing Committee on Social Policy for consideration.”

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

And after some time, Mr. Coon, seconded by Ms. Mitton, moved a sub-amendment:

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to Motion 27 be amended by adding after “for consideration” the following: “, and that it be allowed to call for persons, papers and documents during its consideration of this plan”.

Madam Deputy Speaker put the question on the proposed sub-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 sub-amendment was adopted.

Mr. Speaker put the question on the amendment as amended and it was adopted.

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 27 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS the Auditor General in her recent report to the Legislative Assembly expressed concern that vulnerable children in group homes are at risk;

WHEREAS the specific concerns identified by the Auditor General indicated that the failure to adequately manage the placement and care of these children may increase the risks of suicide, addictions, long term mental health challenges and homelessness;

WHEREAS the Auditor General pointed out that the decline in available foster homes may result in younger children being placed in group homes including children as young as 4 years of age;

WHEREAS the Auditor General has made a series of recommendations to improve standards and procedures related to group home placements, monitoring and care;

WHEREAS the Auditor General urged Members of the Legislative Assembly to hold follow-up hearings on this pressing and serious issue;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to table a plan by March 31, 2020, including reference to those who were consulted, based on the recommendations by the Auditor General;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this plan be referred to the Standing Committee on Social Policy for consideration, and that it be allowed to call for persons, papers and documents during its consideration of this plan.

And the question being put, Motion 27 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

And then, 5.53 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2018-2019
New Brunswick Arts Board

December 18, 2019

Daily sitting 16

Friday, December 20, 2019

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to delay the delivery of certain Members' Statements until after Oral Questions.

Mr. Speaker interrupted Oral Questions and advised the visitors in the gallery that they were not permitted to participate in the debate.

Mr. Speaker interrupted the proceedings and requested that Ms. Harris withdraw the term "untrue" in relation to the Minister's Statement of Hon. Ms. Shephard, which she did.

Mr. Harvey, Member for Carleton-Victoria, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to sign an AgriRecovery Framework Agreement with the federal government and Potatoes New Brunswick. (Petition 16)

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to improve the banks on Johnston Point Road. (Petition 17)

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

December 20, 2019

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 fifth report.

Your Committee met on December 19 and had under consideration:

Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*;
Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Gary Crossman, 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.

Mr. Horsman gave Notice of Motion 34 that on Thursday, January 9, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS an internal government study conducted in 2015 proposed that government could save money by refurbishing Fredericton's Centennial Building and relocating government departments from expensive leased properties;

WHEREAS it was estimated that there was a potential to save \$2.5 million per year over 40 years by relocating this office space;

WHEREAS the previous Liberal government accepted the recommendation to refurbish the Centennial Building;

WHEREAS the Fredericton Justice Building is outdated, inadequate and has significant security issues, the government decided that a new Justice Complex would be provided for within the renovated property;

WHEREAS the proposed Justice Complex would have housed the Provincial Court, Court of Queen's Bench and the Court of Appeal, plus additional justice services;

WHEREAS the \$76-million renovation cost would have been recouped in 30 years as a result of the savings;

WHEREAS the Higgs government cancelled the renovation to the Centennial Building in Fredericton which was well underway;

WHEREAS, in addition to the loss of the significant savings for taxpayers represented by the consolidation of office space, the government incurred huge costs associated with the cancellation of the awarded tender upwards of \$13 million;

WHEREAS there may be additional costs associated with the cancellation that have yet to be revealed;

WHEREAS the government announced it sold the Centennial Building to a private developer;

WHEREAS concerns have been raised about the financial impact of decisions made by the Higgs government in relation to the Centennial Building;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Office of the Auditor General to undertake a financial review of the decision to cancel the renovation to the Centennial Building including the full cost implications to taxpayers and report back to the Legislative Assembly with its findings.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 35 that on Thursday, January 9, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS the Higgs government cancelled the Free Tuition and Tuition Relief for the Middle-Class programs introduced by the previous government, which provided access to post-secondary education to many New Brunswick students who could not otherwise afford to attend a post-secondary institution;

WHEREAS the Higgs government also cancelled the Debt Reduction for Timely Completion Benefit, which provided significant student debt relief to many students;

WHEREAS the Higgs government announced changes to the Tuition Bursary Program that would see many students receive less funding, as the funding cap was reduced from \$10,000 to \$3,000;

WHEREAS the Higgs government announced a tuition tax credit program, but did not provide enhanced debt relief;

WHEREAS universities, students, and student organizations like the New Brunswick Student Alliance condemned the cancellation of these programs, concerned that the new programs would leave students with less access, less financial assistance, and more student debt;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to bring forth a program that provides non-repayable grants to students based on financial need and to create a new debt relief program that will provide significant debt relief for students.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 36 that on Thursday, January 9, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Harris:

WHEREAS, as a result of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada was established to facilitate reconciliation among former students, their families, their communities and all Canadians;

WHEREAS the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released its final report in December 2015 including 94 recommendations or “calls to action”;

WHEREAS Prime Minister Justin Trudeau accepted the final report on behalf of Canada;

WHEREAS recommendation 57, entitled Professional Development and Training for Public Servants, calls upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations;

WHEREAS KAIROS, an organization of faith and conscience working for justice and human rights to promote reconciliation through education and understanding rights, has worked with Indigenous elders, knowledge keepers and educators to develop a program that fosters truth, understanding, respect and reconciliation among Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to mandate a KAIROS Blanket Exercise or similar training program to all employees of the departments of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour and Aboriginal Affairs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to provide funding in the amount of \$1.5 million to create a “Reconciliation Through Post-Secondary Education Fund” to support reconciliation initiatives and programming at post-secondary institutions across the province.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bill 13 be called for second reading; following which the House would consider Motion 29; following which Royal Assent would take place.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bills 8 and 10 be ordered for third reading.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*.

Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, at 12.10 p.m., during a recorded division, Mr. Speaker recessed the House due to a disruption in the gallery. At 12.17 p.m., the House resumed.

The question being put that Bill 17 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 24

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Carr
Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason	Hon. Mr. Holland
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Gauvin	Hon. Mr. Urquhart
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Stewart	Hon. Mr. Oliver
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Northrup
Mr. Austin	Mr. DeSaulniers	Mr. Fitch
Ms. Conroy	Hon. Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Fairgrieve
Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Crossman

NAYS - 22

Mr. Arseneault	Ms. Mitton	Mr. LeBlanc
Mr. Melanson	Mr. Bourque	Mr. K. Chiasson
Mr. Landry	Ms. Landry	Mr. Horsman
Ms. Rogers	Ms. Thériault	Mr. Lowe
Mr. Harvey	Mr. LePage	Mr. McKee
Ms. Harris	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. D'Amours
Mr. Kenny	Ms. LeBlanc	
Mr. Coon	Mr. Arseneau	

Accordingly, Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 20, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 20 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 20, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Hon. Mr. Holder, seconded by Mr. Savoie, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for second reading be amended by deleting all the words after the word “that” and substituting the following:

Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act*, be not now read a second time but that the order for second reading be discharged and the subject matter of the Bill referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

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

At 12.25 p.m. the House recessed. At 1.28 p.m. the House resumed.

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

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 29, Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Holder:

WHEREAS the following public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, were listed in the 2019 Annual Report, *Statute Repeal Act*, laid before the Legislative Assembly on March 19, 2019, as public Acts or provisions of public Acts that are to come into force by proclamation, that were assented to nine years or more before December 31, 2018, and that have not come into force on or before that date:

1. *Pension Benefits Act*, S.N.B. 1987, c.P-5.1:
 - section 2

-
2. *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act*, S.N.B. 2001, c.29:
 - sections 1 and 5 and paragraph 2(b)
 3. *An Act to Amend the Clean Environment Act*. S.N.B. 2009, c.40
 4. *Petroleum Act*, S.N.B. 2007, c.P-8.03

WHEREAS, as a result of being listed in the Annual Report, these public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, will be repealed on December 31, 2019, pursuant to section 2 of the *Statute Repeal Act*, unless the Legislative Assembly adopts a resolution that these Acts or provisions not be repealed;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that these public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, listed in this resolution, not be repealed.

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

On motion of Mr. Savoie, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 10, 2020, 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.

Her Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, was announced, and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker addressed Her Honour as follows:

May It Please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick has passed several Bills at the present sittings of the Legislature to which, in the name and on behalf of the said Legislative Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Deputy Clerk then read the titles of the Bills as follows:

Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act.*

Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act.*

Bill 6, *Enduring Powers of Attorney Act.*

Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act.*

Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Securities Act.*

Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation Act.*

Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act.*

Bill 20, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act.*

Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act.*

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Property Act.*

Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act.*

Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act.*

Bill 28, *Aquaculture Act.*

Bill 29, *An Act to Amend the Seafood Processing Act.*

Her Honour signified Her Assent as follows:

It is the Queen's wish. La reine le veut.

To these Bills, Her Honour's assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

In Her Majesty's name, Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor assents to these Bills, enacting the same and ordering them to be enrolled.

Her Honour then retired and Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

And then, 2.10 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 17

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Steeves, Minister of Finance and Treasury Board, delivered to Mr. Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and the said Message was read by Mr. Speaker, all the Members standing, and is as follows:

Fredericton, New Brunswick.
March 10, 2020.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmits the *Main Estimates* for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021, which include the estimates of the sums required for the services of the Province, not otherwise provided for, for the year ending March 31, 2021, and in accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, recommends these Estimates to the House.

(Sgd. :) Brenda L. Murphy.
Lieutenant-Governor.

Hon. Mr. Steeves laid upon the table of the House documents entitled *2020-2021 Economic Outlook*; and *2020-2021 Budget, Creating a Culture of Action*.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Steeves, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

RESOLVED, that the portion of the Speech of Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, which refers to the Public Accounts, Estimates and Expenditures be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 30, Hon. Mr. Steeves moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

And the question being put, Hon. Mr. Steeves proceeded to deliver the Budget Speech.

On motion of Mr. Melanson, the further consideration thereof was adjourned over.

Mr. Speaker, at the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, reverted to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Savoie, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

RESOLVED, that consideration of the motion on the budgetary policy of the government be resumed on Thursday next and then be added to the Orders of the Day until such time as it is dispatched.

And then, 2.03 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 Reports

2018-2019 Department of Energy and Resource Development	January 6, 2020
2018-2019 Department of Environment and Local Government	January 6, 2020
2018-2019 Department of Finance	January 6, 2020
2018-2019 Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries	January 10, 2020
2018-2019 New Brunswick Power Corporation	January 14, 2020
2018-2019 Department of Health	January 21, 2020
2018-2019 Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture	January 21, 2020
2017-2018 New Brunswick Lotteries and Gaming Corporation	January 27, 2020
2018-2019 New Brunswick Forest Products Commission	January 29, 2020
2020 Annual Report on Fees, Department of Finance and Treasury Board	January 31, 2020
2018-2019 New Brunswick Farm Products Commission	February 6, 2020
2018-2019 Extra-Mural/Ambulance New Brunswick	February 10, 2020
2018-2019 Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour	February 19, 2020
2018-2019 Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	February 25, 2020
2019 New Brunswick Insurance Board	March 2, 2020
2018-2019 New Brunswick Human Rights Commission	March 6, 2020

Others

Members' Public Disclosure Statements 2018	December 19, 2019
Under the provisions of the <i>Fees Act</i> , information regarding a proposed royalty for gypsum under the <i>Mining Act</i>	December 19, 2019
Public Accounts for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2019, Volume 2, Supplementary Information	December 20, 2019
Unaudited Supplementary Employee Lists, Payments to Medical Practitioners List, and Supplier Lists, 2018-2019	December 20, 2019
Under the provisions of the <i>Fees Act</i> , information regarding proposed fee changes for Hopewell Rocks, Le Village Historique Acadien and campsites at provincial parks	January 9, 2020

Petitions

Response to Petition 11	January 6, 2020
Response to Petition 13	January 9, 2020
Response to Petitions 9, 10, 12, 15	January 13, 2020
Response to Petition 16	January 15, 2020
Response to Petition 14	January 20, 2020
Response to Petition 17	January 21, 2020
Response to Petition 8	February 3, 2020

Daily sitting 18

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The Honourable the Premier delivered to Mr. Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and the said Message was read by Mr. Speaker, all the Members standing, and is as follows:

Fredericton, New Brunswick.
February 6, 2020.

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

I thank you for your Address and beg to assure you that I entertain the fullest confidence that in all your deliberations you will be guided by a most earnest desire to promote the happiness and prosperity of the people of this province.

(Sgd. :) Brenda L. Murphy.
Lieutenant-Governor.

Mr. Arseneault requested the unanimous consent of the House to extend Oral Questions by 15 minutes, and unanimous consent was denied.

Mr. Northrup, Member for Sussex-Fundy-St. Martins, laid upon the table of the House a petition in opposition to the nightly closures of certain hospital emergency rooms including the Sussex Health Center. (Petition 18)

Mr. C. Chiasson, Member for Victoria-La Vallée, laid upon the table of the House a petition in opposition to the nightly closure of the emergency department at the Grand Falls General Hospital. (Petition 19)

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reverse its decision to make certain changes to the Sackville Memorial Hospital. (Petition 20)

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

March 11, 2020

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 sixth report.

Your Committee met on January 21 and 22 and had under consideration:

Bill 12, *An Act Respecting the Management of Prescriptions and Recovery Authority*;
Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*;
Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act*;
Bill 22, *Unclaimed Property Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 18, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd.): Gary Crossman, 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.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*.
By Hon. Mr. Urquhart,
Bill 33, *An Act Respecting Security for the Legislative Assembly*.
Bill 34, *Building Code Administration Act*.
By Ms. Mitton,
Bill 35, *Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Protection Act*.

At 12 o'clock p.m. the House recessed. At 1 o'clock p.m. the House resumed.

Ms. Mitton gave Notice of Motion 37 that on Thursday, March 19, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneau:

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 briefing notes, correspondence, and draft and final plans, including plans for future phases, related to the government's healthcare reform announcement that was made on February 11, 2020, including the minutes of the meetings and motions adopted where the Board of Governors of Horizon and Vitalité approved the plan.

Ms. Mitton gave Notice of Motion 38 that on Thursday, March 19, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneau:

WHEREAS there is broad agreement that healthcare reform is needed;

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers are unable to access their healthcare provider in a timely manner;

WHEREAS New Brunswickers need timely access to primary care providers and other healthcare professionals, which could improve chronic illnesses management and prevent some ER visits and hospital admissions;

WHEREAS on February 11, 2020, the Department of Health, Horizon and Vitalité announced they were closing the emergency rooms of six rural hospitals between midnight and 8:00 a.m. without consulting local healthcare professionals or citizens;

WHEREAS it was also announced that all of the acute care beds would be eliminated from these six hospitals;

WHEREAS Horizon announced the closure of the day surgery unit at the Sackville Memorial Hospital without consulting local healthcare professionals or citizens;

WHEREAS successful healthcare reform will depend on the participation and support from all political parties and the public;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to refer the matter of healthcare reform to a legislative committee where it can hold public hearings, invite submissions, listen to stakeholders and subject matter experts and make recommendations to government for improving the healthcare system and its services by September 2020.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 39 that on Thursday, March 19, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneau:

WHEREAS a single recipient on transitional assistance receives \$537 a month with no increase since 2010;

WHEREAS the Common Front for Social Justice found that the minimum monthly cost of living in Moncton is \$1300 a month for a single person;

WHEREAS a single recipient on the extended benefit program receives \$576 a month with no increase since 2014;

WHEREAS the Common Front for Social Justice found that the minimum monthly cost of living for a single mobility impaired person in Moncton is \$1,400;

WHEREAS a family of four on transitional assistance receives \$995 a month with no increase since 2014;

WHEREAS the Human Development Council found that a monthly income of \$5,500 is needed for a family of four in Saint John to meet their needs;

WHEREAS subject to specific exemptions, the government currently does not allow individuals on social assistance to share accommodations;

WHEREAS the government currently forces seniors on social assistance to collect their Canada Pension Plans at age 60, resulting in a reduced pension;

WHEREAS child support payments, disability pensions and survivor benefits are clawed back from social assistance recipients;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to conduct a comprehensive review of social assistance legislation, regulations, and policy in New Brunswick and report back to the Legislature by June 1, 2020;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to immediately increase social assistance rates by 16.51% for single individuals on transitional assistance and 8.27% for other recipients to account for the loss of purchasing power since they were last raised;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to pursue a basic income guarantee pilot project in New Brunswick with the participation of the federal government.

Mr. Arseneau gave Notice of Motion 40 that on Thursday, March 19, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Coon:

WHEREAS food should be considered a basic human right and not an exchangeable commodity;

WHEREAS New Brunswick only produces 3% of the food that New Brunswickers eat;

WHEREAS in the case of a road closure or any other natural disaster, New Brunswick would only have enough food to last for 72 hours;

WHEREAS it would be in the interests of our farmers, fishers and harvesters that people buy New Brunswick products;

WHEREAS no department has the mandate of ensuring that New Brunswickers have access to high quality, locally produced food;

WHEREAS Ontario and Quebec have a department with a mandate for food;

WHEREAS at the Public Accounts Committee, no department was able to say who works on food sovereignty in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries should have the mandate to ensure other departments consider New Brunswick food sovereignty and food security;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to change the name of the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries to the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture, Food and Fisheries.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Friday, March 13, 2020, Bills 32, 33 and 34 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 3, 14, 15, 30 and 11 be called for second reading.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Days of Rest Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 3 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Days of Rest Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 14 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 15, *An Act Respecting the Enhancement of Off-Road Vehicle Safety*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 15 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 15, *An Act Respecting the Enhancement of Off-Road Vehicle Safety*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 30, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 30 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 30, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 11, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*, be now read a second time.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 11 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 11, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

And then, 2.04 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Under the provisions of the *Fees Act*, information
regarding the reduction of fees under the
Hunting Regulation and the General Angling
Regulation under the *Fish and Wildlife Act* March 10, 2020

Daily sitting 19

Thursday, March 12, 2020

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 30),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Melanson used unparliamentary language when he stated the Premier “deliberately deceived the House”. Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken and requested that Mr. Melanson withdraw the phrase, which he did.

And after some time, on motion of Mr. Coon, the further consideration thereof was adjourned over.

And then, 11 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 20

Friday, March 13, 2020

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. C. Chiasson, Member for Victoria-La Vallée, laid upon the table of the House a petition in opposition to the nightly closure of the emergency department at the Grand Falls General Hospital. (Petition 21)

Mr. D'Amours gave Notice of Motion 41 that on Thursday, March 19, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. C. Chiasson:

WHEREAS many parents will their personal residences to their children or a family member;

WHEREAS following the death of the parents, a residence that is no longer owner-occupied is subject to double taxation;

WHEREAS the inheriting children or family member may wish to sell the residence, but it may take a considerable period of time to find a buyer;

WHEREAS under the circumstances, double taxation represents an undue hardship for those attempting to sell a residence they have inherited;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that, in the event a residence is willed to a child or family member who is not occupying, leasing or renting the property, the Legislative Assembly urge the government to remove the double taxation on the residence for a period of two years from the date of the death of the testator.

Ms. Rogers gave Notice of Motion 42 that on Thursday, March 19, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS crystal meth is a dangerous and highly addictive drug;

WHEREAS users of crystal meth suffer significant loss of control over emotions and engage in erratic and dangerous behaviors;

WHEREAS crystal meth use can lead to many serious health issues including organ and tissue damage, respiratory issues and death;

WHEREAS the use of crystal meth in New Brunswick is increasing;

WHEREAS the health authorities, community health centres, addiction counsellors and health professionals are sounding an alarm that addiction to methamphetamines in New Brunswick is reaching a crisis state;

WHEREAS the health networks are developing awareness campaigns to educate the public on this serious issue;

WHEREAS there is a need for a comprehensive multi-departmental strategy to deal with this significant health issue;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to urgently adopt a comprehensive multi-departmental strategy to tackle the issue of crystal meth.

Ms. Rogers gave Notice of Motion 43 that on Thursday, March 19, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc:

WHEREAS there is an ongoing need for additional low-income housing in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the Conservative government has not made significant progress in addressing the low-income housing shortage;

WHEREAS successive governments have committed to incrementally address the issue of double taxation related to properties such as apartment buildings;

WHEREAS it may be desirable to accelerate the timeline for addressing double taxation while incentivizing additional low-income housing;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government to accelerate the timeline for removing double taxation on apartment buildings in return for a certain number of units dedicated to low-income housing.

Ms. Landry gave Notice of Motion 44 that on Thursday, March 19, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS there is a need to ensure the province's infrastructure including roads and bridges does not fall into an unsafe state of disrepair;

WHEREAS there is a need to follow an asset management policy that provides for a rational plan to remediate and improve infrastructure based on professional evaluation as opposed to political considerations;

WHEREAS several other provinces like Nova Scotia have adopted 10-year plans that outline year by year the projects that will be undertaken year by year;

WHEREAS having a 10-year asset management plan will provide predictability for the construction industry and the public;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government to adopt a 10-year public infrastructure plan.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bill 32 be called for second reading; following which the House would resume the adjourned debate on the Budget.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 12, *An Act Respecting the Management of Prescriptions and Recovery Authority*.

Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*.

Bill 18, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act*.

Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act*.

Bill 22, *Unclaimed Property Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 32 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 30),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

At 12 p.m., with unanimous consent, the House recessed. At 2.04 p.m. the House resumed.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to conclude the debate on Motion 30 and put the question forthwith.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 30 was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division after leave was granted to dispense with the ten-minute time allotted for the ringing of the bells:

YEAS - 24

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason	Hon. Mr. Holland
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Urquhart
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Stewart	Hon. Mr. Oliver
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Northrup
Mr. Austin	Mr. DeSaulniers	Mr. Fairgrieve
Ms. Conroy	Hon. Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Crossman
Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Coon

Mr. Speaker, at the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, reverted to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to be granted to Her Majesty forthwith.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. C. Chiasson in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. C. Chiasson, the Chair, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee proceeding in the matter under consideration, had passed the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Supply be granted to Her Majesty.

And he was directed to ask leave to sit again.

Mr. C. Chiasson moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT the House does concur with the Committee of Supply in its report and agrees in its resolution that Supply be granted to Her Majesty.

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

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to discharge the order referring the Capital Estimates 2020-2021 to the Committee of Supply and to refer said estimates back to the Legislative Assembly forthwith.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent that the Main Estimates 2020-2021 not be referred to the Committee of Supply; that the totals to be voted in the Main Estimates 2020-2021 and the Capital Estimates 2020-2021 be adopted by the Legislative Assembly forthwith; and that, in the interest of transparency and accountability, the subject matter of the Main Estimates 2020-2021 and the Capital Estimates 2020-2021 be considered by the Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy.

The estimates adopted by the House are as follows:

MAIN ESTIMATES, 2020-2021

ORDINARY ACCOUNT		(\$)
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES		
Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries		40,178,000
Less amounts authorized by law		47,000
Total		40,131,000
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT		
Corporate and Other Education Services		58,456,000
School Districts		1,168,503,000
Early Childhood Development		124,340,000
Less amounts authorized by law		47,000
Total		1,351,252,000
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT		
Corporate Services and Community Funding		2,131,000
Local Government		144,283,000
Authorizations and Compliance		6,825,000
Environmental Science and Protection		4,546,000
Policy, Climate Change, First Nations and Public Engagement		2,671,000
Assessment and Planning Appeal Board		316,000
Less amounts authorized by law		47,000
Total		160,725,000

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE

Office of the Clerk, Chief Operating Officer and Head of the Public Service and Executive Council Secretariat ...	4,491,000
Corporate Communications	5,990,000
Office of the Lieutenant-Governor	449,000
Women's Equality Branch.....	3,134,000
Total	14,064,000

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND TREASURY BOARD

Budget and Financial Management	839,000
Corporate Services	4,336,000
Fiscal Policy.....	1,524,000
Office of the Chief Human Resources Officer.....	4,282,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer.....	6,595,000
Office of the Comptroller.....	3,051,000
Revenue Administration	5,427,000
Treasury	1,531,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	27,538,000

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Aboriginal Affairs.....	4,948,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	4,901,000

Commissions Paid to Collectors of Pari-Mutuel Taxes....	455,000
Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)	18,327,000
Equal Employment Opportunity Program	688,000

Intergovernmental Affairs.....	8,160,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	8,113,000

Investment in Climate Change Initiatives	36,000,000
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Legislated Pension Plans, Benefit Accruals, Subsidies, and Supplementary Allowances	141,473,000
Less amounts authorized by law	173,000
Total	141,300,000

Natural Gas Distribution Program	9,000,000
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Pension and Employee Benefits Plan	344,802,000
Less amounts authorized by law	2,000
Total	344,800,000

Provision for Losses.....	14,200,000
Revenue Sharing Agreements with First Nations.....	53,600,000
Service New Brunswick.....	174,103,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	174,056,000
Supplementary Funding Provision.....	174,920,000
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Corporate and Other Health Services	173,273,000
Medicare	699,624,000
Drug Programs.....	227,855,000
Part III Health Services.....	1,814,251,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	2,914,956,000
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL	
Administration	1,143,000
Attorney General.....	20,302,000
Justice Services	25,859,000
Legal Aid	10,358,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	57,615,000
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY	
Members' Allowances, Committees and Operations.....	9,137,000
Less amounts authorized by law	4,272,000
Total	4,865,000
Office of the Legislative Assembly	3,740,000
Office of the Auditor General	3,322,000
Offices of Leaders and Members of Registered	
Political Parties.....	2,184,000
Less amounts authorized by law	90,000
Total	2,094,000
Elections New Brunswick.....	9,110,000
Less amounts authorized by law	668,000
Total	8,442,000
Office of the Ombud	1,487,000
Office of the Child, Youth and Senior Advocate.....	1,290,000
Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages.....	718,000
Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance	493,000
Office of the Integrity Commissioner	320,000

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Administration	8,161,000
Natural Resources	79,860,000
Energy and Mines	5,402,000
Land Management	3,666,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	97,042,000

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

Administration	1,492,000
Less amounts authorized by law	67,000
Total	1,425,000

OPPORTUNITIES NEW BRUNSWICK

Administration and Business Development Services	13,624,000
Financial Assistance	25,000,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	38,577,000

OTHER AGENCIES

Consolidated Entities	411,742,000
Less amounts authorized by law	411,742,000
Total	0

Council of Atlantic Premiers	642,000
Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation	2,819,000
Labour and Employment Board.....	647,000
New Brunswick Police Commission	668,000
New Brunswick Women's Council	461,000
Premier's Council on Disabilities	298,000

DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION,
TRAINING AND LABOUR

Labour and Strategic Services	9,975,000
NB Public Libraries	15,539,000
Post-Secondary Affairs	460,946,000
Adult Learning	10,554,000
Employment Development	13,910,000
Canada-New Brunswick Workforce	
Development Agreement.....	18,945,000
Labour Market Development.....	102,189,000
Population Growth.....	9,977,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	641,988,000

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Corporate Services	7,571,000
Community Safety Division	51,881,000
Law Enforcement and Inspections Division	126,591,000
Security and Emergencies Division	43,199,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	229,195,000

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Development Projects and Operations	65,465,000
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SERVICE OF THE PUBLIC DEBT

Service of the Public Debt	631,000,000
Less amounts authorized by law	624,800,000
Total	6,200,000

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Corporate and Other Services	9,887,000
Seniors and Long Term Care	746,378,000
Child Welfare and Youth Services	144,166,000
Income Security	235,301,000
Housing Services	97,598,000
Other Benefits	55,783,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	1,289,066,000

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, HERITAGE AND CULTURE

Administration	2,703,000
Parks and Attractions	12,996,000
Sport and Recreation	6,541,000
Culture, Heritage and Archaeology	20,321,000
Tourism	11,825,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Total	54,339,000

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Administration	14,702,000
Policy and Legislative Affairs	1,190,000
Maintenance	74,687,000
Winter Maintenance	68,894,000
Bridge and Highway Construction	3,025,000
Buildings Group	136,096,000
New Brunswick Highway Corporation	22,752,000
Less amounts authorized by law	22,136,000
Total	299,210,000

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES

Capital Equipment	100,000
Strategic Infrastructure	200,000
Total	300,000

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Public Schools – Capital Equipment.....	400,000
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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local Service Districts	1,000,000
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Public Hospitals – Capital Equipment	24,000,000
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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Mine Reclamation.....	1,150,000
Musquash Watershed Infrastructure – Capital Improvements	3,628,000
Sentier NB Trail Infrastructure	750,000
Total	5,528,000

DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION,
TRAINING AND LABOUR

Deferred Maintenance Program	2,000,000
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REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Canada-New Brunswick Integrated Bilateral Agreement	10,000,000
Canada-New Brunswick New Building Canada Fund- Small Communities Fund	2,500,000
Strategic Infrastructure Initiative	27,500,000
Total	40,000,000

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Nursing Home Services - Capital Improvements	9,000,000
Nursing Home Services - Capital Maintenance.....	3,000,000
Total	12,000,000

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, HERITAGE AND CULTURE

Capital Improvements	5,575,000
Strategic Infrastructure	4,545,000
Total	10,120,000

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Bridges	44,380,000
Highways	137,590,000
Municipal Designated Highway Program	10,000,000
Federal-Provincial Cost-Shared Program	87,315,000
Vehicle Management Agency	15,000,000
Public Works and Infrastructure	209,549,000
Less amounts authorized by law	36,036,000
Total	467,798,000

LOANS AND ADVANCES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	
New Brunswick Agricultural Insurance Commission	1,600,000
Loan Programs	9,500,000
Total	11,100,000

OPPORTUNITIES NEW BRUNSWICK	
Financial Assistance to Industry	50,000,000

DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Student Loan Advances	69,900,000

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	
Financial assistance under the Northern New Brunswick Economic Development and Innovation Fund Loan Program	4,000,000
Financial assistance under the Miramichi Regional Economic Development and Innovation Fund Loan Program	1,000,000
Total	5,000,000

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Housing	3,224,000

Mr. Speaker, at the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, reverted to Introduction of Bills.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
 Bill 36, *Appropriations Act 2020-2021*.

Mr. Speaker announced that pursuant to Standing Rule 42.3(1), Bill 36 was ordered for second and third reading forthwith.

The following Bill was read a second time:

Bill 36, *Appropriations Act 2020-2021*.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 36, *Appropriations Act 2020-2021*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to discharge the order referring Bills 30 and 32 to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy and to proceed to third reading of said Bills forthwith.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 30, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*.

Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Honourable the Premier addressed the House and expressed his appreciation to the Members for their cooperation in expediting the business of the House due to the evolving situation with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

And then, 2.22 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 21

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

2.32 p.m.

Prayers.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Holder, it was agreed by unanimous consent to allow all Members the option to speak from a seat other than their own.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Holder, it was agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with Routine Proceedings, except for Introduction of Bills, and proceed to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
Bill 37, *Loan Act 2020*.

By Hon. Mr. Carr,
Bill 38, *An Act Respecting Elections in 2020*.

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
Bill 39, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Holder, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, April 7, 2020, provided always that if it appears to the satisfaction of Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the Government and Opposition House Leaders, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment or that the adjournment should continue beyond Tuesday, April 7, 2020, Mr. Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied and in such notice may 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, or in such notice may state that the adjournment shall continue until further notice is given by the Speaker, 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.

Hon. Mr. Holder, Acting Government House Leader, announced that, with unanimous consent, it was the intention of government that Bills 34, 37 and 38 be called for second and third reading forthwith and that the bills not be referred to a committee of the House; following which Royal Assent would take place.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bills 34, 37 and 38 be called for second and third reading forthwith, and that the bills not be referred to a committee of the House.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 34, *Building Code Administration Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 34 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 34, *Building Code Administration Act*, was read a second time.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 37, *Loan Act 2020*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 37 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 37, *Loan Act 2020*, was read a second time.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 38, *An Act Respecting Elections in 2020*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 38 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 38, *An Act Respecting Elections in 2020*, was read a second time.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 34, *Building Code Administration Act*.

Bill 37, *Loan Act 2020*.

Bill 38, *An Act Respecting Elections in 2020*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

Her Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, was announced, and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker addressed Her Honour as follows:

May It Please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick has passed several Bills at the present sittings of the Legislature to which, in the name and on behalf of the said Legislative Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Clerk Assistant then read the titles of the Bills as follows:

Bill 12, *An Act Respecting the Management of Prescriptions and Recovery Authority.*

Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act.*

Bill 18, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act.*

Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act.*

Bill 22, *Unclaimed Property Act.*

Bill 30, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act.*

Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act.*

Bill 34, *Building Code Administration Act.*

Bill 37, *Loan Act 2020.*

Bill 38, *An Act Respecting Elections in 2020.*

Her Honour signified Her Assent as follows:

It is the Queen's wish. La reine le veut.

To these Bills, Her Honour's assent was announced by the Deputy Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

In Her Majesty's name, Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor assents to these Bills, enacting the same and ordering them to be enrolled.

Mr. Speaker then addressed Her Honour as follows:

May It Please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly having devoted itself with unremitting diligence to the consideration of the several subjects referred to in the speech Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to deliver at the opening of the session, and to other matters of interest to the people of the province, humbly begs to present for your Honour's acceptance a Bill intituled *Appropriations Act 2020-2021*. (Bill 36)

Her Honour replied:

It is the Queen's wish. La reine le veut.

To this Bill, Her Honour's assent was announced by the Deputy Clerk in the following words:

Her Honour thanks Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, accepts their benevolence and assents to this Bill.

Her Honour then retired and Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. Speaker addressed the House to thank the Members for their collaboration in response to the evolving situation with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

And then, 3.03 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2020, *Statute Repeal Act*, Justice
and Office of the Attorney General

March 12, 2020

Daily sitting 22

Friday, April 17, 2020

11 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to allow all Members the option to speak from a seat other than their own.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with Routine Proceedings, except for Presentations of Petitions and Introduction of Bills, and proceed to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House.

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to provide year-round ferry service to the Canadian mainland from Campobello Island. (Petition 22)

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Holder,

Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Urquhart,

Bill 41, *An Act to Amend the Emergency Measures Act.*

On motion of Hon. Mr. Savoie, seconded by Hon. Mr. Holder:

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, May 5, 2020, provided always that if it appears to the satisfaction of Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the Government and Opposition House Leaders, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment or that the adjournment should continue beyond Tuesday, May 5, 2020, Mr. Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied and in such notice may 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, or in such notice may state that the adjournment shall continue until further notice is given by the Speaker, 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.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that, with unanimous consent, it was the intention of government that Bills 40 and 41 be called for second and third reading forthwith and that the

bills not be referred to a committee of the House; following which Royal Assent would take place.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bills 40 and 41 be called for second and third reading forthwith, and that the bills not be referred to a committee of the House.

The following Bills were read a second time:

Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*.

Bill 41, *An Act to Amend the Emergency Measures Act*.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*.

Bill 41, *An Act to Amend the Emergency Measures Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

Her Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, was announced, and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker addressed Her Honour as follows:

May It Please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick has passed several Bills at the present sittings of the Legislature to which, in the name and on behalf of the said Legislative Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Deputy Clerk then read the titles of the Bills as follows:

Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*.

Bill 41, *An Act to Amend the Emergency Measures Act*.

Her Honour signified Her Assent as follows:

It is the Queen's wish. La reine le veut.

To these Bills, Her Honour's assent was announced by the Deputy Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

In Her Majesty's name, Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor assents to these Bills, enacting the same and ordering them to be enrolled.

Her Honour then retired and Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Hon. Mr. Savoie addressed the House to thank the Members for their collaboration in response to the situation with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Mr. Speaker joined in this regard.

And then, 11.25 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 23

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to limit the number of seats on the Chamber floor to 28, in order to allow for physical distancing, and to designate these seats as follows: 12 to the government caucus; 11 to the Official Opposition caucus; 2 to the Green caucus; 2 to the People's Alliance caucus; and 1 to the independent Member.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to allow the 28 Members seated on the Chamber floor the option to speak from a seat other than their own.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to allow the remaining 18 Members to be seated in the Chamber gallery in designated seats, in order to allow for physical distancing, where they can participate in debates using the microphones provided, participate in voice votes and recorded divisions, and avail themselves of all the rights and privileges afforded to Members of the Legislative Assembly, while also observing the rules of debate and decorum and the conventions of the House.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to allow for the use of electronic documents in the Chamber, including but not limited to bills, notices of motions, and amendments thereto, in order to limit the use and distribution of paper documents as much as possible, and that Members be permitted to use electronic devices on the floor and in the gallery of the Chamber, as long as the devices are silent in nature and do not cause a disruption in the House or interfere with the decorum or conventions of the House.

Mr. Landry offered condolences to the family of the late Roland Haché, former Liberal MLA for Nigadoo-Chaleur (1999-2014). Mr. Speaker joined in this regard.

At 1.29 p.m. the House recessed due to technical difficulties with the sound and interpretation system. At 1.33 p.m. the House resumed.

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to provide accessibility to publicly funded abortion services in appropriate settings. (Petition 23)

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Mr. Arseneault: (Motion 45)

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Economic Policy be amended by substituting Ms. Thériault for Ms. Rogers.

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

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 46)

THAT unless otherwise provided by Standing Rule or Special Order of the House, the Legislative Assembly adopt the following sessional calendar for the remainder of the Third Session of the 59th Legislature:

Tuesday, May 26 to Thursday, May 28, 2020;
Tuesday, June 2 to Thursday, June 4, 2020;
Tuesday, June 9 to Thursday, June 11, 2020;
Tuesday, June 16 to Thursday, June 18, 2020;

THAT notwithstanding the Special Order of the House adopted November 21, 2018, the Assembly no longer sit on Fridays for the duration of this sessional calendar;

THAT the sitting day commence at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays;

THAT the sitting days on Wednesday, May 27, and Thursday, May 28, commence at 10 a.m. and continue without a noon recess;

THAT the sitting days for the remainder of the Wednesdays and Thursdays commence at 12 noon;

THAT Opposition Members' Business on May 28, June 4 and June 11 be 2 hours and 30 minutes in duration;

THAT Opposition Members' Business on June 18 be 1 hour and 30 minutes in duration;

THAT each sitting day be no longer than 4 hours in duration;

THAT when the Assembly adjourns on Thursday, June 18, 2020, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, September 15, 2020;

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 had 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, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 47 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

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 correspondence between the Canadian Red Cross and any of the following: the Office of the Premier; the Executive Council Office; the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; and the Department of Finance and Treasury Board, since February 1, 2020.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 48 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House any information on any contracts entered into concerning the New Brunswick Workers Emergency Income Benefit.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 49 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House any correspondence concerning the budget and application deadlines for the New Brunswick Workers Emergency Income Benefit among any of the following: the Office of the Premier; the Executive Council Office; the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; and the Department of Finance and Treasury Board, since February 1, 2020.

Mr. LeBlanc gave Notice of Motion 50 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Thériault:

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 correspondence concerning the #ExploreNB and #NBalways tourism campaigns from any of the following: the Office of the Premier; the Executive Council Office; the Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture; and Service New Brunswick, since January 1, 2020.

Mr. LeBlanc gave Notice of Motion 51 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Thériault:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House any information on any contracts entered into concerning the #ExploreNB and #NBalways tourism campaigns, including graphic design, brand development, website development, audio/visual production, and any other components relating to these campaigns.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 52 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

WHEREAS a 2018 study by Université de Moncton economist Pierre-Marcel Desjardins found that a 5 percent increase in New Brunswickers buying local products would result in over 9000 jobs, add \$881 million to New Brunswick's GDP, and generate \$1.14 billion in revenue for the provincial government and \$2 billion in additional sales annually after five years;

WHEREAS the Centre of Local Prosperity's 2018 report "Import Replacement: Local Prosperity for Atlantic Canada" found that, in New Brunswick, a 10 percent shift away from imports and towards local production would result in 14,502 new jobs, \$907 million in labour income, \$1.8 billion in value-added production and \$84 million in indirect businesses taxes in our province;

WHEREAS the public entities such as provincial and municipal government offices, schools, universities, hospitals and nursing homes could kickstart this 10 percent shift through a New Brunswick-first procurement policy;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to determine which government goods and services could be procured locally;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to commit to ensuring at least 10 percent of the goods and services it procures in the fiscal year 2020-2021 be sourced locally.

And then, 3.18 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:

Legislative Activities 2018	April 29, 2020
Annual Report 2019, Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance	May 6, 2020
Annual Report 2017 Supervisor of Political Financing	May 19, 2020
Annual Report 2017-2018 New Brunswick Child, Youth and Seniors' Advocate	May 21, 2020

Daily sitting 24

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

At 10.15 a.m. the House recessed due to technical difficulties with the sound and interpretation system. At 10.22 a.m. the House resumed.

Ms. Landry, Member for Madawaska Les Lacs-Edmundston, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of Les Oeuvres de l'Hôtel-Dieu Saint-Joseph, urging the government to financially compensate nursing home workers during the pandemic. (Petition 24)

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

May 27, 2020

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 seventh report.

Your Committee met on May 26 and had under consideration:

Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Days of Rest Act*;
Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*;
Bill 15, *An Act Respecting the Enhancement of Off-Road Vehicle Safety*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Gary Crossman, 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.

Mr. D'Amours gave Notice of Motion 53 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee:

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 correspondence between the Department of Health and the New Brunswick Medical Society from March 6, 2020, through March 15, 2020.

Mr. C. Chiasson gave Notice of Motion 54 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

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 correspondence between the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and any staff of the Premier since February 1, 2020.

Mr. C. Chiasson gave Notice of Motion 55 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

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 correspondence between the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and any staff of the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health since February 1, 2020.

Mr. LePage gave Notice of Motion 56 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc:

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 correspondence concerning the “Stepping up for my New Brunswick” campaign from any of the following: the Office of the Premier; the Executive Council Office; the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; and the Department of Finance and Treasury Board, since March 13, 2020.

Mr. LePage gave Notice of Motion 57 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House any information on any contracts entered into concerning the “Stepping up for my New Brunswick” campaign, including graphic design, brand development, and production of t-shirts and other collateral.

Mr. Arseneau gave Notice of Motion 58 that on Thursday, June 4, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

WHEREAS it is estimated Canadian companies avoid paying at least \$6 to \$8 billion in Canadian income taxes annually;

WHEREAS in 2016 Statistics Canada reported that the Irving companies were owned by eight off-shore holding companies based in Bermuda, a known tax haven with a 0% corporate income tax rate;

WHEREAS in 2018 it was reported that Service New Brunswick and the Department of Finance were working on a beneficial ownership registry for New Brunswick;

WHEREAS during Question Period on December 19, 2019, the Premier said that the government “is considering beneficial ownership amendments within the context of the potential modernization of the *Business Corporations Act*”;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ban financial assistance to any companies that are known to use tax havens as a means of avoiding paying New Brunswick or Canadian income taxes;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to table legislation to implement a publicly-accessible beneficial ownership registry by December 31, 2020.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, May 28, 2020, Opposition Members’ Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 44 and 41.

And then, 11.44 a.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:

Under the provisions of the *Fees Act*, proposed
fee changes to the NB 911 Service fee
Response to Petition 22

May 21, 2020
May 22, 2020

Daily sitting 25

Thursday, May 28, 2020

10.30 a.m.

Due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. C. Chiasson, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with the Prayers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker addressed the House and announce that three Members, including Mr. Speaker, had abstained from attending the sitting due to circumstances in their ridings related to the pandemic.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to adopt the following resolution, moved by Hon. Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, September 15, 2020;

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.

At 10.43 a.m. the House recessed. At 10.54 a.m. the House resumed.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to amend the resolution previously adopted this sitting day by striking out “September 15” and substituting “June 9”.

And then, 11.10 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 26

Tuesday, June 9, 2020

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Crossman, Member for Hampton, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to make FibreOP internet available to certain rural communities. (Petition 25)

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Urquhart,

Bill 42, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Holder,

Bill 43, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act.*

By Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason, Q.C.,

Bill 44, *Construction Remedies Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Cardy,

Bill 45, *An Act to Amend the Early Childhood Services Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 46, *An Act to Amend the Civil Service Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Urquhart,

Bill 47, *An Act to Amend the Coroners Act.*

Mr. Melanson gave Notice of Motion 59 that on Thursday, June 18, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Rogers:

WHEREAS the Premier has indicated that his budget projections have had to be revised and the originally projected surplus of \$92.4 million is now expected to be a deficit of \$299.2 million;

WHEREAS the Premier has embarked on a series of decisions including major policy decisions to address the budget shortfall without proper consultation;

WHEREAS these decisions include things like putting approved projects on hold, making significant decisions related to the education system, cutting positions and programs, and restructuring departments;

WHEREAS there should be an update on funds transferred between programs and the status of major funds like the regional development fund;

WHEREAS in the interest of openness and transparency, the details of all changes to programs and services made in relation to revised budget figures should be available to the public;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to table within two weeks a list of all decisions made by government in relation to changes to the 2020-2021 budget as presented in the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Arseneau gave Notice of Motion 60 that on Thursday, June 18, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

WHEREAS a diverse and competitive media industry is important in a well-functioning democracy;

WHEREAS all daily English-language newspapers in New Brunswick are owned by Brunswick News Inc.;

WHEREAS 84% of daily newspaper circulation in New Brunswick is held by Brunswick News;

WHEREAS 71% of weekly newspaper circulation in New Brunswick is held by Brunswick News;

WHEREAS Brunswick News is owned by James K. Irving, who also owns J.D. Irving, Limited;

WHEREAS the House of Commons Final Report on the Canadian News Media found that the Irvings' corporate interests form an industrial-media complex that dominates New Brunswick and that this situation is unique in developed countries;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to institute a 40% cap on the concentration of print media ownership in the province;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to prohibit the cross-ownership of media and non-media businesses.

Ms. Mitton gave Notice of Motion 61 that on Thursday, June 18, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Coon:

WHEREAS no worker should fear losing their job as a result of getting ill or having to take care of a family member;

WHEREAS the pandemic has made it clear that minimum wage workers do essential work in our communities and do not receive a fair wage for it;

WHEREAS workers who work overtime in New Brunswick are only required to receive overtime pay at one and a half times the minimum wage, and not one and a half times their wage;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to give all workers access to 5 paid sick days and 10 additional emergency days, if required due to a health pandemic or other emergency situation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to commit to a path to a \$15 an hour minimum wage over the coming 2 years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure that workers receive overtime pay of one and a half times their wage.

Ms. Harris gave Notice of Motion 62 that on Thursday, June 18, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LePage:

WHEREAS New Brunswickers elected a minority government with an expectation that decision making should be more consultative, open, and transparent;

WHEREAS the Minister of Social Development announced a major policy decision on the reorganization of the Department of Social Development without consultation with stakeholders or the public;

WHEREAS many are concerned that this decision might cause a two-tier system with an inequality of service for rural regions;

WHEREAS according to the New Brunswick Common Front for Social Justice, the vulnerable of our society will be negatively impacted by this decision;

WHEREAS since assuming the role as leader of the government, the Premier has called for greater cooperation between all political parties and for parties to be less political;

WHEREAS the Premier should ensure his Ministers also recognize the need for proper consultation and public engagement prior to making major policy announcements;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to put this reform on pause until proper consultation is undertaken, a full reform proposal outlining all potential implications is brought forward by government, there is an indication of social acceptance, and it has been established that such a reform is necessary and in the best interests of the most vulnerable members of our population.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bill 33, and with leave Bills 42 and 43, be called for second reading, and that, with leave, any Bills that received second reading be considered by the Standing Committee on Economic Policy forthwith.

Unanimous consent was denied to call Bills 42 and 43 for second reading.

Unanimous consent was denied to consider Bill 33 in committee forthwith following second reading.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Days of Rest Act*.

Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*.

Bill 15, *An Act Respecting the Enhancement of Off-Road Vehicle Safety*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 33, *An Act Respecting Security for the Legislative Assembly*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 33 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 33, *An Act Respecting Security for the Legislative Assembly*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

And then, 3 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2018-2019

Centre Communautaire Sainte-Anne

June 1, 2020

Daily sitting 27

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

12 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Arseneau,

Bill 48, *Local Food Security Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Urquhart,

Bill 49, *An Act to Amend the Emergency Measures Act*.

Mr. D'Amours gave Notice of Motion 63 that on Thursday, June 18, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Thériault:

WHEREAS, in early February 2020, the Premier announced that six hospitals, namely the Sussex Health Centre, the Sackville Memorial Hospital, Hotel-Dieu of St. Joseph in Perth-Andover, Stella-Maris-de-Kent Hospital in Sainte-Anne-de-Kent, Enfant-Jésus Hospital in Caraquet, and the Grand Falls General Hospital, would see cuts in their emergency room services;

WHEREAS the Premier also announced an intention to convert 120 acute care beds in these hospitals to long-term care beds, thereby shifting the role of these hospitals from acute care facilities to long-term care facilities;

WHEREAS it became apparent that there was no consultation by the government with medical professionals or the public on the proposed health reforms;

WHEREAS due to mounting opposition to the Premier's plan, the Premier announced in mid-February that the reforms would be put on hold pending consultations;

WHEREAS there have been no consultations since the Premier's announcement;

WHEREAS the Premier indicated that these cuts were Phase 1 of a healthcare reform plan;

BE IT RESOLVED that in the interests of openness and transparency, the Legislative Assembly urge the government to table in the Legislative Assembly all phases of its intended health reform measures.

Mr. LePage gave Notice of Motion 64 that on Thursday, June 18, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS the federal government announced a wage top up program of \$3 billion for essential workers;

WHEREAS under the program, each province could determine which essential workers would receive the top up and how much the top up would be;

WHEREAS the federal government will pay 75% of the costs and the provincial government will pay 25% of the program costs;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick has significantly limited the categories of essential workers who will receive the top up and determined that any essential worker making over \$18 per hour would not qualify for the program;

WHEREAS this wage cut off in New Brunswick is far more restrictive than many other provinces, which means that far fewer essential workers will qualify for wage top up;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Province of New Brunswick to expand the categories of essential workers who qualify for the wage top up and raise the threshold for qualification to \$18.75.

Mr. Melanson gave Notice of Motion 65 that on Thursday, June 18, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

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 documentation, including, but not limited to, briefing notes, correspondence, e-mails, texts, agreements, offers, and contracts with respect to all exemptions under the *Procurement Act*, the regulation, and the *Crown Construction Contracts Act*, for the period of March 1, 2020, to June 5, 2020.

Mr. LeBlanc gave Notice of Motion 66 that on Thursday, June 18, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Thériault:

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 documentation, including briefing notes, contracts, agreements, correspondence, e-mails, and texts related to services purchased or contracts awarded to Bonshaw Media, the digital arm of Brunswick News.

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 67 that on Thursday, June 18, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Horsman:

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 documentation including, but not limited to, briefing notes, correspondence, e-mails, texts, agreements, leases, and memorandum related to the decision to move the New Brunswick Court of Queen's Bench to the Fredericton Convention Centre, including all the costs associated with the decision for the duration of the relocation.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, June 11, 2020, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 44 and 41.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that, with leave to dispense with notice, it was the intention of government that Bills 42 and 43 be called for second reading.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bills 42 and 43 be called for second reading and that if the Bills received second reading, they be considered by the Standing Committee on Economic Policy forthwith.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 42, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 42 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 42, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 43, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 43 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 43, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

And then, 1.52 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 28

Thursday, June 11, 2020

12 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

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

June 11, 2020

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 eighth report.

Your Committee met on June 9 and 10 and had under consideration:

Bill 33, *An Act Respecting Security for the Legislative Assembly*;
Bill 42, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 11, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*;
Bill 43, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd.:) Gary Crossman, 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.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Arseneault,
Bill 50, *An Act to Amend the Elections Act*.

By Mr. Arseneau,
Bill 51, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act*.

Following first reading of Bill 50, Mr. Arseneault requested unanimous consent to debate the Bill at second reading forthwith, and unanimous consent was denied.

Mr. Harvey gave Notice of Motion 68 that on Thursday, June 18, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS, as a result of COVID-19, many businesses have had to close for an extended period and have incurred significant losses and expense;

WHEREAS, although some have been able to reopen, they have had to incur additional expenses related to implementing health and safety protocols including masks and other equipment for staff, installing Plexiglas or other partitions required to protect the public, enhanced sanitization equipment and related purchases;

WHEREAS, despite being able to reopen, businesses like restaurants, hairdressers, barbers, and many other services are unable to run at full capacity due to social distancing requirements;

WHEREAS the federal government has come forward with a variety of small business support programs;

WHEREAS many provinces have also come forward with programs to support small businesses;

WHEREAS, in addition to specific programs to support small business, other provinces have announced additional measures such as deferments and reductions of taxes and worker's compensation premiums;

WHEREAS, unfortunately, as a province, New Brunswick has provided the least amount of support to our business community of any of the provinces;

WHEREAS the only support provided to small business by the province is a repayable loan program that will only add to business debt;

WHEREAS economic recovery must be paramount and it is crucial that the province use its best efforts to help maintain and sustain our small businesses;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Province of New Brunswick to step up and bring forward a comprehensive program of support for small businesses.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House take into consideration Opposition Members' Business.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 44, Ms. Landry moved, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS there is a need to ensure the province's infrastructure including roads and bridges does not fall into an unsafe state of disrepair;

WHEREAS there is a need to follow an asset management policy that provides for a rational plan to remediate and improve infrastructure based on professional evaluation as opposed to political considerations;

WHEREAS several other provinces like Nova Scotia have adopted 10-year plans that outline year by year the projects that will be undertaken year by year;

WHEREAS having a 10-year asset management plan will provide predictability for the construction industry and the public;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government to adopt a 10-year public infrastructure plan.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 44 was resolved in the affirmative.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 41, Mr. D'Amours moved, seconded by Mr. C. Chiasson:

WHEREAS many parents will their personal residences to their children or a family member;

WHEREAS following the death of the parents, a residence that is no longer owner-occupied is subject to double taxation;

WHEREAS the inheriting children or family member may wish to sell the residence, but it may take a considerable period of time to find a buyer;

WHEREAS under the circumstances, double taxation represents an undue hardship for those attempting to sell a residence they have inherited;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that, in the event a residence is willed to a child or family member who is not occupying, leasing or renting the property, the Legislative Assembly urge the government to remove the double taxation on the residence for a period of two years from the date of the death of the testator.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

AMENDMENT

That Motion 41 be amended by adding after the resolution clause the following:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that changes related to double taxation on non-owner-occupied residential properties will be undertaken as the fiscal situation allows.”

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

At 3.42 p.m. the House recessed. At 3.52 p.m. the House resumed.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

And then, 4 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 29

Tuesday, June 16, 2020

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Harvey, Member for Carleton-Victoria, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reopen the Service New Brunswick in Plaster Rock. (Petition 26)

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Urquhart,

Bill 52, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Control Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Holder,

Bill 53, *An Act to Amend the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission and Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal Act.*

Bill 54, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act.*

By Ms. Mitton,

Bill 55, *An Act to Amend the Education Act.*

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Crossman,

Bill 56, *An Act to Remove Certain Restrictive Covenants on Title to Certain Lands in the City of Saint John vested in Plazacorp Property Holdings Inc.*

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Ms. Harris gave Notice of Motion 69 that on Thursday, June 25, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS two Indigenous New Brunswickers died as a result of police shootings;

WHEREAS the deaths of Chantel Moore and Rodney Levi have led to calls for an inquiry into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

WHEREAS First Nations leaders in New Brunswick have called for an inquiry into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

WHEREAS First Nation leaders in New Brunswick have called for this inquiry to be inclusive of an Indigenous perspective and asked government to appoint Indigenous and legal experts to oversee this investigation in an unbiased way;

WHEREAS the six chiefs of the Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick have called for this inquiry to be held under section 2 of the *Inquiries Act*;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Minister of Aboriginal Affairs has echoed the call for an inquiry into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

WHEREAS the Liberal Party is on record supporting a call for an inquiry into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

WHEREAS the Premier has not indicated that he supports an inquiry into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to support an inquiry under section 2 of the *Inquiries Act* into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure that this inquiry be inclusive of an Indigenous perspective through appointing Indigenous and legal experts to oversee this systemic investigation.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 70 that on Thursday, June 25, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Kenny:

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 documentation, information, notes, memos, records, correspondence, summaries, and reports, however stored, electronically or otherwise, including mobile to mobile device communication, PINs, and SMS text messages, between the Office of the Premier, the Executive Council Office, the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development, and NB Power in relation to the Maritime Iron project.

Mr. Austin gave Notice of Motion 71 that on Thursday, June 25, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. DeSaulniers:

WHEREAS there are approximately 26,000 small businesses in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the small business tax rate in New Brunswick is 2.5% and the general rate is 14%;

WHEREAS the 2020-2021 corporate income tax is currently projected at \$307.9 million;

WHEREAS it is anticipated that \$30-\$35 million is related to the small business tax rate;

WHEREAS Covid-19 has taken a toll on small businesses in the province resulting in many not being able to survive;

WHEREAS dozens of Chambers of Commerce agree that a reduced tax would be of great benefit to small businesses and would assist them through the difficulties they are facing and would allow them to continue operating;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to eliminate the corporate income tax on small business immediately.

Hon. Mr. Holder gave notice that on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, Bills 39, 44, 45, 46, 47, 52, 53 and 54 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Holder, Acting Government House Leader, announced that third reading of Bills 33 and 42 would be deferred until Wednesday, June 17, 2020.

And then, 2.47 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 30

Wednesday, June 17, 2020

12 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Holder laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *Municipal Fire and Police Binding Arbitration Stakeholder Committee Report to the Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour, June 5, 2020*.

Mr. Harvey, Member for Carleton-Victoria, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reopen the Service New Brunswick in Plaster Rock. (Petition 27)

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

June 17, 2020

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 ninth report.

Your Committee met on June 16 and had under consideration:

Bill 43, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 11, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Gary Crossman, 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.

Mr. C. Chiasson gave Notice of Motion 72 that on Thursday, June 25, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Harvey:

WHEREAS not all areas of the province have adequate access to high-speed Internet;

WHEREAS access to high-speed Internet is crucial for many individuals and businesses;

WHEREAS the previous Liberal government was committed to ensuring all areas of the province would have access to high-speed Internet;

WHEREAS, as a result of COVID-19, many students have had to undertake their studies remotely;

WHEREAS many universities will be moving to an online platform for at least part of the coming year;

WHEREAS students in rural areas will be at a distinct disadvantage as it pertains to studies;

WHEREAS many students without adequate access to Internet might be able to utilize the Internet services provided in public libraries;

WHEREAS students and the public would be well served if public libraries had extended hours during this time of restrictions imposed as a result of COVID-19;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to extend the hours of public libraries to match the needs of these students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to make the necessary investments to ramp up Internet accessibility by adding more computer stations as space permits in our public libraries;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to continue to partner with the federal government and Xplornet to ensure all areas of the province have access to high-speed Internet.

Ms. Landry gave Notice of Motion 73 that on Thursday, June 25, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LePage:

WHEREAS there are strong social and economic bonds between families and citizens of Madawaska and the border community of Temiscouata, Quebec;

WHEREAS there are strong social and economic bonds between families and people of Restigouche and the border communities of La Matapedia and Baie-des-Chaleurs, Quebec;

WHEREAS border travel restrictions are causing hardship for the people who regularly cross the borders in these border regions and for businesses that rely on people from border communities for their livelihoods;

WHEREAS there does not seem to be an indication of widespread virus transmission in these adjacent border regions;

WHEREAS there is discussion of an Atlantic bubble that would allow people in the Atlantic region to travel freely back and forth between the provincial borders;

WHEREAS there is also merit in considering a “border bubble” that would allow people in these adjacent border regions to travel freely across the New Brunswick-Quebec border;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government of New Brunswick to give due consideration to developing “border bubbles” for the border communities in Madawaska and Temiscouata, Quebec, and Restigouche and La Matapedia, Quebec, and Baie-des-Chaleurs, Quebec.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 74 that on Thursday, June 25, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

WHEREAS NB Power is on pace to meet its target to have 40% of the total in-province electricity sales in kilowatt-hours of electricity from renewable resources by December 31, 2020;

WHEREAS NB Power does not have any additional renewable energy targets beyond December 31, 2020;

WHEREAS the State of Maine, which also currently receives 40% of its electricity needs from renewable resources, has a goal of 80% renewable electricity by 2030 and 100% by 2050;

WHEREAS municipalities and First Nations across New Brunswick could use cheap, renewable energy to power their government operations, but are prevented from doing so by provisions in the *Electricity Act*;

WHEREAS NB Power submitted a proposal to the Energy and Utilities Board to cut its spending on energy efficiency in half, from \$32 million to \$15 million, this year;

WHEREAS Efficiency One has saved Nova Scotians \$230 million on their annual energy costs and cut the province's carbon foot print by over 1 million tonnes annually;

WHEREAS a major program to retrofit homes and businesses would be an engine of economic growth for our province, increasing our GDP by \$2 to \$3 billion annually, creating between 900 and 1,300 jobs every year, while shrinking our carbon footprint;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to create an agency that would have the mandate to promote and develop jobs in renewable energy, energy efficiency and public transportation, and invest in renewable energy, energy efficiency and public transportation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to update the renewable energy portfolio requirements under the regulations to the *Electricity Act* with targets to have 80% renewable energy on the grid by 2030 and 100% renewable energy on the grid by 2050;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to reduce barriers to generating green energy by allowing municipalities and First Nations to directly purchase small-scale, New Brunswick-based renewable energy for use in their government operations.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, June 18, 2020, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 41; other parties items.

Ms. Mitton gave notice of Bill 55.

Mr. DeSaulniers gave notice of Motion 18.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave Notice of Motion 75 that on Tuesday, June 23, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Hon. Mr. Higgs:

THAT the report of the Municipal Fire and Police Binding Arbitration Stakeholder Committee tabled by the Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, stand referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments to be considered by the committee during its deliberations on Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act*.

Hon. Mr. Savoie requested unanimous consent to dispense with notice of Motion 75 and unanimous consent was denied.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bills 53, 54, 52, 44, 45, 46, 47 and 39 be called for second reading.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bill 43 be ordered for third reading forthwith.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 33, *An Act Respecting Security for the Legislative Assembly*.

Bill 42, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*.

Bill 43, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 53, *An Act to Amend the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission and Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 53 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 53, *An Act to Amend the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission and Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 54, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 54 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 54, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 52, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Control Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 52 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 52, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Control Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 44, *Construction Remedies Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 44 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 44, *Construction Remedies Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 45, *An Act to Amend the Early Childhood Services Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 45 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 45, *An Act to Amend the Early Childhood Services Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 46, *An Act to Amend the Civil Service Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 46 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 46, *An Act to Amend the Civil Service Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 47, *An Act to Amend the Coroners Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 47 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 47, *An Act to Amend the Coroners Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 39, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 39 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 39, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

And then, 3.07 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 31

Thursday, June 18, 2020

12 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Harvey, Member for Carleton-Victoria, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reopen the Service New Brunswick in Plaster Rock. (Petition 28)

Ms. Thériault, Member for Caraquet, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reopen cultural locations. (Petition 29)

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

June 18, 2020

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 tenth report.

Your Committee met on June 17 and had under consideration:

Bill 11, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Gary Crossman, 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.

Ms. Rogers gave Notice of Motion 76 that on Thursday, June 25, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Horsman:

WHEREAS there is a shortage of affordable housing in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS, despite signing a 10-year \$300-million agreement with the federal government for the funding of affordable housing, the provincial government has not moved forward to provide its share of the funding to trigger the agreement;

WHEREAS there is a significant demand for affordable rental units in many areas of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS several other Canadian provinces have adopted legislation to provide for rent controls as a means of ensuring that rent increases are reasonable;

WHEREAS there is a need for New Brunswick to adopt rent control measures;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to establish rent controls;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure that annual rent increases are tied to the New Brunswick CPI or set by an independent board or commission with exceptions provided as appropriate and approved.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that, with leave, it was the intention of government that Bill 11 be ordered for third reading; following which Royal Assent would take place; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bill 11 be ordered for third reading forthwith.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 11, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*, the motion for third reading was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 20

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Fitch	Ms. Thériault
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. LeBlanc
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. K. Chiasson
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Urquhart	Mr. Lowe
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Oliver	Mr. McKee
Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Fairgrieve	Mr. D'Amours
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Ms. Harris	

NAYS - 22

Mr. Austin	Mr. Crossman	Ms. Landry
Ms. Conroy	Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LePage
Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason	Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson
Hon. Mr. Stewart	Mr. Landry	Ms. LeBlanc
Mr. DeSaulniers	Ms. Rogers	Mr. Gauvin
Hon. Mr. Carr	Mr. Harvey	Mr. Horsman
Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Kenny	
Mr. Northrup	Mr. Bourque	

Her Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, was announced, and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker addressed Her Honour as follows:

May It Please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick has passed several Bills at the present sittings of the Legislature to which, in the name and on behalf of the said Legislative Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Deputy Clerk then read the titles of the Bills as follows:

- Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Days of Rest Act.*
Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act.*
Bill 15, *An Act Respecting the Enhancement of Off-Road Vehicle Safety.*
Bill 33, *An Act Respecting Security for the Legislative Assembly.*
Bill 42, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act.*
Bill 43, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act.*

Her Honour signified Her Assent as follows:

It is the Queen's wish. La reine le veut.

To these Bills, Her Honour's assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

In Her Majesty's name, Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor assents to these Bills, enacting the same and ordering them to be enrolled.

Her Honour then retired and Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Debate resumed on the amendment to Motion 41, moved by Hon. Mr. Steeves, seconded by Hon. Mr. Savoie, on Thursday, June 11, 2020.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to withdraw the amendment under consideration.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 41 was resolved in the affirmative.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 55, *An Act to Amend the Education Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 55 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 55, *An Act to Amend the Education Act*, was read a second time and, with unanimous consent, was ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy.

And then, 3 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 Reports

2018-2019 New Brunswick Police Commission	June 8, 2020
2018-2019 Elections New Brunswick	June 24, 2020
2017-2018 New Brunswick Women's Council	June 30, 2020
2019 New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation	July 7, 2020
Business Plan 2020-2021, Auditor General of New Brunswick	July 16, 2020
2018-2019 Kings Landing Corporation	July 20, 2020
2019 <i>Firefighters' Compensation Act</i> Disability Fund	July 22, 2020
2019 WorkSafeNB	July 22, 2020
2019-2020 New Brunswick Health Council	July 24, 2020
2019-2020 New Brunswick Power Corporation	August 5, 2020

Other

Consolidated Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report for the New Brunswick Power Corporation, March 31, 2020	July 7, 2020
Management Discussion and Analysis of 2019 Consolidated Financial Statements and Operating Results, WorkSafeNB	July 22, 2020
New Brunswick's Disability Action Plan for Persons with a Disability, Premier's Council on Disabilities, July 2020	July 23, 2020
Pursuant to the <i>Regulatory Accountability and Reporting Act</i> , Minister's Report on Regulatory Accountability and Reporting	August 4, 2020

Petitions

Response to Petitions 20, 23, 24	June 25, 2020
Response to Petitions 26, 27, 28, 29	June 30, 2020
Response to Petition 25	July 2, 2020

2019-2020 INDEX

**INDEX
TO JOURNALS OF
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
2019-2020**

A

Address,

In reply to speech of Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at opening of House, moved, debated, adjourned, 19, 45, 51, 55, 59, 62; debate ended, question put, 67; motion carried on division, ordered to be engrossed and presented, Committee to present same appointed, 68; Lieutenant-Governor's reply thereto, 125.

Adjournment of House, 68, 120, 145, 149, 153, 160.

Annual Reports Filed,

Aboriginal Affairs 2018-2019, 75.
Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries 2018-2019, 123.
Auditor General 2019, Volume 2, 75.
Auditor General 2019, Volume 3, 75.
Auditor General, Business Plan 2020-2021, 187.
Centre Communautaire Sainte-Anne 2018-2019, 165.
Child, Youth and Seniors' Advocate 2017-2018, 156.
Consumer Advocate for Insurance 2019, 156.
Education and Early Childhood Development 2018-2019, 123.
Elections New Brunswick 2018-2019, 187.
Energy and Resource Development 2018-2019, 123.
Environment and Local Government 2018-2019, 123.
Extra-Mural/Ambulance New Brunswick 2018-2019, 123.
Fees, Report on, 2020, 123.
Finance 2018-2019, 123.
Firefighters' Compensation Act Disability Fund 2019, 187.
Health 2018-2019, 123.
Kings Landing Corporation 2018-2019, 187.
Labour and Employment Board 2018-2019, 75.
Legislative Activities 2018, 156.
New Brunswick Arts Board 2018-2019, 113.
New Brunswick Farm Products Commission 2018-2019, 123.
New Brunswick Forest Products Commission 2017-2018, 91; 2018-2019, 123.
New Brunswick Health Council 2019-2020, 187.
New Brunswick Human Rights Commission 2018-2019, 123.
New Brunswick Insurance Board 2019, 123.
New Brunswick Lotteries and Gaming Corporation 2017-2018, 123.
New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation 2019, 187.

New Brunswick Police Commission 2018-2019, 187.
New Brunswick Power Corporation 2018-2019, 123; 2019-2020, 187.
New Brunswick Women's Council 2017-2018, 187.
Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour 2018-2019, 123.
Public Safety 2018-2019, 68.
Service New Brunswick 2018-2019, 75.
Social Development 2018-2019, 81.
Statute Repeal Act, 2020, 148.
Supervisor of Political Financing 2017, 156.
Tourism, Heritage and Culture 2018-2019, 123.
Transportation and Infrastructure 2018-2019, 75.
Treasury Board 2018-2019, 89.
WorkSafeNB 2019, 187.

Other Reports Filed,

Air Quality Monitoring Results 2017, 75.
Consolidated Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report for
New Brunswick Power Corporation, 188.
Fee changes re gypsum royalty under *Mining Act*, 124.
Fee changes re Hopewell Rocks, Le Village Historique Acadien and
provincial park campsites, 124.
Fee changes re Hunting and General Angling Regulation under *Fish and
Wildlife Act*, 131.
Fee changes re NB 911 Service, 159.
Fee changes re Plant Propagation Centre, 91.
Fee changes re video lottery sites, 45.
Management Discussion and Analysis of 2019 Consolidated Financial
Statements and Operating Results, WorkSafeNB, 188.
Members' Public Disclosure Statements 2018, 124.
New Brunswick's Disability Action Plan for Persons with Disability,
Premier's Council on Disabilities, 188.
Public Accounts for fiscal year ended 31 March 2019, Volume 2,
Supplementary Information, 124.
Pursuant to *Private Occupational Training Act*, audited financial
statements of Training Completions Fund for 2018-2019, 75.
Pursuant to *Regulatory Accountability and Reporting Act*, Minister's Report
on Regulatory Accountability and Reporting, 188.
Report on Performance 2018-2019, Auditor General of New Brunswick, 75.
Unaudited Supplementary Employee Lists, Payments to Medical
Practitioners List, and Supplier Lists 2018-2019, 124.

B**Bills Introduced:****Government Public Bills [Passed]***Appropriations Act 2020-2021,*

Bill 36. First reading, 143; second reading, third reading, 144. R.A., 147.

Aquaculture Act,

Bill 28. First reading, 61; second reading debated, carried, 83; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 92; third reading, 106. R.A., 121.

Building Code Administration Act,

Bill 34. First reading, 126; second reading debated, carried, third reading, 146. R.A., 147.

Climate Change Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 18. First reading, 53; second reading debated, carried, 106; Economic Policy Committee agreed to as amended, 126; third reading, 135. R.A., 147.

Days of Rest Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 3. First reading, 41; second reading debated, carried, 129; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 157; third reading, 164. R.A., 186.

Elections in 2020,

An Act Respecting, Bill 38. First reading, 145; second reading debated, carried, third reading, 146. R.A., 147.

Emergency Measures Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 41. First reading, 149; second reading, third reading, 150. R.A., 150.

Employment Standards Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 40. First reading, 149; second reading, third reading, 150. R.A., 150.

Enduring Powers of Attorney Act,

Bill 6. First reading, 41; second reading debated, carried, 58; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 76; third reading, 83. R.A., 121.

Enhancement of Off-Road Vehicle Safety,

An Act Respecting the, Bill 15. First reading, 53; second reading debated, carried, 130; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 157; third reading, 164. R.A., 186.

Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 17. First reading, 53; second reading debated, adjourned, 89; debate, carried, 91; Economic Policy Committee agreed to as amended, 94; third reading debated, carried on division, 118. R.A., 121.

Executive Council Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 5. First reading, 41; second reading debated, carried, 58; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 82; third reading, 88. R.A., 121.

Fish and Wildlife Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 19. First reading, 53; second reading debated, adjourned, 75; debated, carried, 79; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 126; third reading, 135. R.A., 147.

Gaming Control Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 8. First reading, 46; second reading debated, carried, 80; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 92; agreed to, 114; third reading, 118. R.A., 121.

Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 30. First reading, 82; second reading debated, carried, 130; Economic Policy Committee order discharged, third reading, 144. R.A., 147.

Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 32. First reading, 126; second reading debated, carried, 135; Economic Policy Committee order discharged, third reading, 144. R.A., 147.

Insurance Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 21. First reading, 56; second reading debated, carried, 61; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 92; third reading, 106. R.A., 121.

Loan Act 2020,
Bill 37. First reading, 145; second reading debated, carried, third reading, 146. R.A., 147.

Management of Prescriptions and Recovery Authority,
An Act Respecting the, Bill 12. First reading, 46; second reading debated, carried, 59; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 126; third reading, 135. R.A., 147.

Motor Vehicle Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 16. First reading, 53; second reading debated, carried, 106; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 126; third reading, 135. R.A., 147.

Motor Vehicle Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 42. First reading, 161; second reading debated, carried, 168; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 170; third reading, 181. R.A., 186.

New Brunswick Liquor Corporation Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 10. First reading, 46; second reading debated, carried, 80; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 114; third reading, 118. R.A., 121.

Occupational Health and Safety Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 26. First reading, 61; second reading debated, carried, 74; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 82; third reading, 88. R.A., 121.

Occupational Health and Safety Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 43. First reading, 161; second reading debated, carried, 168; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 170; agreed to, 177; third reading, 181. R.A., 186.

Property Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 23. First reading, 56; second reading debated, carried, 62; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 76; third reading, 83. R.A., 121.

Provincial Offences Procedure Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 4. First reading, 41; second reading debated, carried, 58; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 76; third reading, 83. R.A., 121.

Residential Tenancies Act,

An Act to Amend The, Bill 20. First reading, 56; second reading debated, carried, 80; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 94; third reading debated, carried, 119. R.A., 121.

Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 14. First reading, 53; second reading debated, carried, 130; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 157; third reading, 164. R.A., 186.

Seafood Processing Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 29. First reading, 61; second reading debated, carried, 83; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 92; third reading, 106. R.A., 121.

Securities Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 9. First reading, 46; second reading debated, carried, 59; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 82; third reading, 88. R.A., 121.

Security for the Legislative Assembly,

An Act Respecting, Bill 33. First reading, 126; second reading debated, carried, 164; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 170; third reading, 181. R.A., 186.

Unclaimed Property Act,

Bill 22. First reading, 56; second reading debated, carried, 62; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 126; third reading, 135. R.A., 147.

Workers' Compensation Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 27. First reading, 61; second reading debated, carried, 75; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 82; agreed to, 92; third reading, 106. R.A., 121.

Government Public Bills [Not Passed]*Assessment Act,*

An Act to Amend the, Bill 39. First reading, 145; second reading debated, carried, 183.

Civil Service Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 46. First reading, 161; second reading debated, carried, 182.

Construction Remedies Act,

Bill 44. First reading, 161; second reading debated, carried, 182.

Coroners Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 47. First reading, 161; second reading debated, carried, 183.

Early Childhood Services Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 45. First reading, 161; second reading debated, carried, 182.

Emergency Measures Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 49. First reading, 166.

Greater Saint John Regional Facilities Commission Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 2. First reading, 41.

Industrial Relations Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 13. First reading, 46; Second reading debated,
 amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, debated,
 amendment carried, 119.

Liquor Control Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 52. First reading, 174; second reading debated,
 carried, 182.

Proof of Immunization,
An Act Respecting, Bill 11. First reading, 46; second reading debated,
 adjourned, 80, 83; debated, carried, 130; Economic Policy Committee
 progress reported, 170, 177; agreed to as amended, 184; third reading
 defeated on division, 185.

Workers' Compensation Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 54. First reading, 174; second reading debated,
 carried, 182.

Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission and Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 53. First reading, 174; second reading debated,
 carried, 181.

Private Bills [Not Passed]

Remove Certain Restrictive Covenants on Title to Certain Lands in the City of Saint John vested in Plazacorp Property Holdings Inc.,
An Act to, Bill 56. First reading, referred to Private Bills Committee, 174.

Private Members' Public Bills [Not Passed]

Crown Lands and Forests Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 7. First reading, 41.

Education Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 55. First reading, 174; second reading debated,
 carried, 187.

Elections Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 50. First reading, 170.

Family Income Security Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 31. First reading, 90.

Industrial Relations Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 51. First reading, 170.

Local Food Security Act,
Bill 48. First reading, 166.

Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 25. First reading, 56.

Prescription Drug Payment Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 24. First reading, 56.

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Protection Act,
Bill 35. First reading, 126.

Budget,

Motion that House approve capital budget (Motion 19); notice of, 56;
moved, debated, carried, 73.

Motion that House approve budget (Motion 30); notice of, 93; moved, 122;
debated, adjourned, 132; debated, 135; unanimous consent to conclude
debate, carried on division, 136.

C

Clerk, Deputy Clerk or Clerk Assistant,

Announced Assent and read titles of Bills to be assented to, 121, 147,
148, 150, 186.

Committees (Standing),

Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship, appointed, 106.

Economic Policy, First Report, 76; Second Report, 82; Third Report, 92;
Fourth Report, 94; Fifth Report, 114; Sixth Report, 125; membership
amended, 153; Seventh Report, 157; Eighth Report, 170; Ninth
Report, 177; Tenth Report, 184.

Law Amendments, First Report, 21; Second Report, 33.

Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers, membership amended, 61;
First Report, 101.

Public Accounts, First Report, 95.

Committee of Supply,

House resolves itself into a Committee of Supply, 74, 79, 136.

Coronavirus disease COVID-19, Addressed House,

Premier 144; Speaker 148, 151; Hon. Mr. Savoie, 151; Deputy Speaker, 160.

D

Documents Tabled,

By Mr. Arseneau,

Without Favour: Concentration of Ownership in New Brunswick's Print Media Industry, 88.

By Hon. Mr. Gauvin,

Annual Report 2018-2019, New Brunswick Arts Board, 92.

By Hon. Mr. Holder,

Municipal Fire and Police Binding Arbitration Stakeholder Committee Report, 177.

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

2020-2021 Budget, Creating a Culture of Action, 122.

2020-2021 Economic Outlook, 122.

E

Estimates,

Capital Estimates 2020-2021, tabled, 73.

Main Estimates 2020-2021, tabled, 122.

Main Estimates 2020-2021,

Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, 137, 142, 143.

Education and Early Childhood Development, 137, 142.

Environment and Local Government, 137, 142.

Executive Council, 138.

Finance and Treasury Board, 138.

General Government, 138.

Health, 139, 142.

Justice and Attorney General, 139.

Legislative Assembly, 139.

Natural Resources and Energy Development, 140, 142.

Opportunities New Brunswick, 140, 143.

Other Agencies, 140.

Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour, 140, 142, 143.

Premier, 140.

Public Safety, 141.

Regional Development Corporation, 141, 142, 143.

Service of the Public Debt, 141.

Social Development, 141, 142, 143.

Tourism, Heritage and Culture, 141, 142.

Transportation and Infrastructure, 141, 143.

L**Lieutenant-Governor,**

Delivered Speech from Throne, 2.

Replied to Address, 125.

Signified Royal Assent to Bills, 121, 147, 150, 186.

Transmitting Capital Estimates 2020-2021, 73.

Transmitting Main Estimates 2020-2021, 122.

M**Motions,**

That speech of Her Honour be taken into consideration, 19.

Fixing time/date of adjournment, 68, 120, 145, 149, 153, 160.

That Address be engrossed, signed, and presented, 68.

That Supply be granted to Her Majesty; that House does concur with Committee of Supply in its report, 74, 136, 137.

That consideration of estimates in Committee of Supply be added to Orders of Day, 74, 123.

That portion of Speech of Her Honour be referred to Committee of Supply, 122.

That consideration of motion on budgetary policy of government be resumed on Thursday next, 123.

Motions, Notices of,

No. 1 by Mr. Savoie to call statements of condolence and congratulation during daily routine, motion moved with leave, carried, 20.

No. 2 by Mr. LePage to provide binding arbitration to resolve labour dispute in nursing homes, 41.

No. 3 by Ms. Rogers to refer glyphosate spraying issue to committee, 42; motion moved, debated, amendment proposed, debated, 84; defeated on division, amendment proposed, 85; debated, sub-amendment proposed, adopted, amendment adopted, 86; motion carried as amended on division, 87.

No. 4 by Mr. D'Amours to declare National Nurse Practitioner Week, 42; motion moved, 65; debated, adjourned, 66; debated, carried, 87.

No. 5 by Mr. C. Chiasson to abandon green paper on education, 43.

No. 6 by Mr. McKee to refer major reforms to committees, 44.

No. 7 by Mr. Savoie to appoint Official Languages Commissioner, motion moved with leave, 46; carried, 47.

No. 8 by Mr. Savoie to appoint Integrity Commissioner, motion moved with leave, 47; carried, 48.

No. 9 by Mr. Arseneault to table documents re daily schedule of Premier, 48.

No. 10 by Mr. Arseneault to table documents re correspondence between Premier and staff, 48.

-
- No. 11 by Mr. D'Amours to table documents re nursing recruitment strategy, 48.
- No. 12 by Ms. LeBlanc to create position of mental health advocate, 49; motion moved, debated, amendment proposed, 63; debated, sub-amendment proposed, adopted, amendment adopted, 64; motion carried as amended, 65.
- No. 13 by Mr. Austin to revert to previous method of taxation on used vehicles, 49.
- No. 14 by Ms. Conroy to implement automatic organ donation system, 50.
- No. 15 by Mr. DeSaulniers to increase child age in car seat regulations, 51.
- No. 16 by Mr. Arseneault to adopt legislative calendar, 53.
- No. 17 by Mr. Harvey to continue implementation of Strategic Program Review, 54.
- No. 18 by Mr. Austin to increase role of chiropractors and optometrists in healthcare system, 54.
- No. 19 by Hon. Mr. Steeves that House approves in general capital budgetary policy of government, 56; motion moved, debated, carried, 73.
- No. 20 by Mr. McKee to have Bill 40 from previous session reviewed and re-introduced as government legislation, 56.
- No. 21 by Mr. Savoie to amend membership of committee; motion moved with leave, carried, 61.
- No. 22 by Mr. Fairgrieve to vary sitting hours, leave to dispense denied, 69; motion moved, debated, 88; carried on division, 89.
- No. 23 by Mr. D'Amours to have health authorities complete annual workplace violence risk assessments, 69.
- No. 24 by Mr. D'Amours to fund additional nursing seats in universities, 70; motion moved, 107; debated, 108; amendment proposed, debated, sub-amendment proposed, debated, defeated, amendment adopted, 109; motion carried as amended, 110.
- No. 25 by Mr. Austin to prohibit glyphosate spraying on Crown land, 72.
- No. 26 by Ms. Harris to adopt United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 76.
- No. 27 by Ms. Harris to refer subject of vulnerable children in group homes to committee, 77; motion moved, 110; debated, amendment proposed, 111; debated, sub-amendment proposed, debated, adopted, amendment adopted, 112; motion carried as amended, 113.
- No. 28 by Mr. D'Amours to bring forth regulations concerning e-cigarettes and vaping, 78.
- No. 29 by Mr. Savoie that certain public acts not be repealed, 90; moved, 119; carried, 120.
- No. 30 by Hon. Mr. Steeves that House approves in general budgetary policy of government, 93; motion moved, 122; debated, adjourned, 132; debated, 135; unanimous consent to conclude debate, carried on division, 136.

- No. 31 by Ms. Rogers to develop program to plant trees, 105.
- No. 32 by Mr. Savoie to concur in committee report recommendations, motion moved with leave, carried, 105.
- No. 33 by Mr. Savoie to appoint standing committee; motion moved with leave, carried, 106.
- No. 34 by Mr. Horsman to undertake review of cancelled Centennial Building renovations, 115.
- No. 35 by Mr. Arseneault to provide non-repayable grants to students and create new debt relief program, 116.
- No. 36 by Mr. Arseneault to mandate training and create “Reconciliation Through Post-Secondary Education Fund”, 116.
- No. 37 by Ms. Mitton to table documents re healthcare reform announcement, 127.
- No. 38 by Ms. Mitton to refer healthcare reform to committee, 127.
- No. 39 by Mr. Coon to review social assistance legislation and increase rates, 128.
- No. 40 by Mr. Arseneau to change name of Department to Agriculture, Aquaculture, *Food* and Fisheries, 129.
- No. 41 by Mr. D’Amours to remove double taxation on residence willed to family, 133; motion moved, 172; amendment proposed, debated, adjourned, 173; debated, amendment withdrawn, carried, 187.
- No. 42 by Ms. Rogers to adopt strategy on crystal meth, 133.
- No. 43 by Ms. Rogers to remove double taxation on apartment buildings in return for low-income units, 134.
- No. 44 by Ms. Landry to adopt 10-year public infrastructure plan, 135; motion moved, debated, carried, 172.
- No. 45 by Hon. Mr. Savoie to amend membership of committee; motion moved with leave, carried, 153.
- No. 46 by Hon. Mr. Savoie to adopt sessional calendar, motion moved with leave, 153; carried, 154.
- No. 47 by Mr. Arseneault to table documents re Canadian Red Cross, 154.
- No. 48 by Mr. Arseneault to table documents re contracts concerning New Brunswick Workers Emergency Income Benefit, 154.
- No. 49 by Mr. Arseneault to table documents re budget and deadlines for New Brunswick Workers Emergency Income Benefit, 154.
- No. 50 by Mr. LeBlanc to table documents re #ExploreNB and #NBalways tourism campaigns, 155.
- No. 51 by Mr. LeBlanc to table documents re contracts concerning #ExploreNB and #NBalways tourism campaigns, 155.
- No. 52 by Mr. Coon to ensure goods and services are procured locally, 156.
- No. 53 by Mr. D’Amours to table documents re New Brunswick Medical Society, 157.
- No. 54 by Mr. C. Chiasson to table documents re Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and Premier staff, 158.

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- No. 55 by Mr. C. Chiasson to table documents re Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development and Chief Medical Officer, 158.
 - No. 56 by Mr. LePage to table document re “Stepping up for my New Brunswick” campaign, 158.
 - No. 57 by Mr. LePage to table documents re “Stepping up for my New Brunswick” campaign contracts, 158.
 - No. 58 by Mr. Arseneau to ban assistance to companies using tax havens and implement beneficial ownership registry, 159.
 - No. 59 by Mr. Melanson to table list of changes to 2020-2021 budget, 161.
 - No. 60 by Mr. Arseneau to institute cap on print media ownership and prohibit cross-ownership, 162.
 - No. 61 by Ms. Mitton to provide paid sick and emergency days, increased minimum wage and overtime pay, 162.
 - No. 62 by Ms. Harris to pause Social Development reform, 163.
 - No. 63 by Mr. D’Amours to table all phases of health reform measures, 166.
 - No. 64 by Mr. LePage to expand categories of essential workers who qualify for wage top up, 167.
 - No. 65 by Mr. Melanson to table documents re exemptions under *Procurement Act* and *Crown Construction Contracts Act*, 167.
 - No. 66 by Mr. LeBlanc to table documents re contracts awarded to Bonshaw Media, 167.
 - No. 67 by Mr. McKee to table documents re decision to move Court of Queen’s Bench, 168.
 - No. 68 by Mr. Harvey to bring forward support program for small businesses, 171.
 - No. 69 by Ms. Harris to support inquiry into systemic bias against Indigenous people in criminal justice and policing, 174.
 - No. 70 by Mr. Arseneault to table documents re Maritime Iron project, 175.
 - No. 71 by Mr. Austin to eliminate corporate income tax on small business, 176.
 - No. 72 by Mr. C. Chiasson to extend public library hours and ensure high speed Internet access, 178.
 - No. 73 by Ms. Landry to develop “border bubbles” for Quebec border communities, 179.
 - No. 74 by Mr. Coon to create renewable energy agency, 179.
 - No. 75 by Hon. Mr. Savoie to refer report to committee, 181.
 - No. 76 by Ms. Rogers to ensure annual rent increases are tied to CPI or set by independent board, 185.

O

Order, points of,

- By Members re unparliamentary language, 61, 90, 91, 94, 114, 132.
- By Mr. Arseneault to request copy of Minister’s remarks; Chair ruled it was a courtesy to provide remarks; 79.

- By Hon. Mr. Holder to refrain from attributing remarks to a Member; Speaker cautioned Members against quoting private conversations, 80.
- By Mr. Arseneault that motion to sit nights was out of order as it was moved by a private member; Speaker ruled point not well taken, 88.

P

Petitions,

- No. 1 by Ms. Landry to abandon consolidation of certain Local Service Districts, 21; response filed, 75.
- No. 2 by Mr. Harvey to chipseal Enterprise Road, 21; response filed, 75.
- No. 3 by Ms. Thériault in opposition to Naveco wind farm project, 21; response filed, 75.
- No. 4 by Mr. Coon to ban glyphosate spraying, 21; response filed, 75.
- No. 5 by Hon. Mr. Cardy in support of Bill 39 from previous session, 46; response filed, 75.
- No. 6 by Mr. Coon to reduce greenhouse gases, 46; response filed, 75.
- No. 7 by Hon. Mr. Urquhart to upgrade Tweedside Road, 56; response filed, 87.
- No. 8 by Mr. Coon to provide publicly funded abortion services, 69; response filed, 124.
- No. 9 by Mr. Harvey to complete Bath Community School renovations, 76; response filed, 124.
- No. 10 by Mr. Harvey to complete Bath Community School renovations, 90; response filed, 124.
- No. 11 by Mr. Coon to increase social assistance, 90; response filed, 124.
- No. 12 by Mr. Arseneau to have nurse practitioner at Baie-Sainte-Anne Medical Clinic, 90; response filed, 124.
- No. 13 by Mr. C. Chiasson to sign AgriRecovery Framework Agreement, 92; response filed, 124.
- No. 14 by Mr. Landry to ensure couples may live together in same nursing facility, 94; response filed, 124.
- No. 15 by Mr. Harvey to complete Bath Community School renovations, 94; response filed, 124.
- No. 16 by Mr. Harvey to sign AgriRecovery Framework Agreement, 92; response filed, 124.
- No. 17 by Ms. Mitton to improve Johnston Point Road, 114; response filed, 124.
- No. 18 by Mr. Northrup to oppose nightly closures of certain hospital emergency rooms including Sussex Health Center, 125.
- No. 19 by Mr. C. Chiasson to oppose nightly closure of emergency department at Grand Falls General Hospital, 125.
- No. 20 by Ms. Mitton to reverse certain changes to Sackville Memorial Hospital, 125; response filed, 188.

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- No. 21 by Mr. C. Chiasson to oppose nightly closure of emergency department at Grand Falls General Hospital, 133.
 - No. 22 by Mr. Coon to provide year-round ferry service from Campobello Island, 149; response filed, 159.
 - No. 23 by Mr. Coon to provide publicly funded abortion services, 152; response filed, 188.
 - No. 24 by Ms. Landry to compensate nursing home workers, 157; response filed, 188.
 - No. 25 by Mr. Crossman to make internet available to certain rural communities, 161; response filed, 188.
 - No. 26 by Mr. Harvey to reopen Plaster Rock Service New Brunswick, 174; response filed, 188.
 - No. 27 by Mr. Harvey to reopen Plaster Rock Service New Brunswick, 177; response filed, 188.
 - No. 28 by Mr. Harvey to reopen Plaster Rock Service New Brunswick, 184; response filed, 188.
 - No. 29 by Ms. Thériault to reopen cultural locations, 184; response filed, 188.

Proclamation, 1.

R

Recorded Votes,

Bills (Recorded Votes),

- Bill 11, third reading defeated, 185.
- Bill 17, third reading carried, 118.

Motions (Recorded Votes),

- Motion on address in reply, carried, 68.
- Motion 3, amendment defeated, 85; carried as amended, 87.
- Motion 22, carried, 89.
- Motion 30, carried, 136.

Royal Assent,

- Lieutenant Governor signified Her Assent, 121, 147, 150, 186.

Rulings (Statements by Speaker or Deputy Speaker),

- Ruled on unparliamentary language, 61, 90, 91, 114, 132.
- Ruled it was courtesy to provide copy of Minister's remarks, 79.
- Ruled Members should be cautious when quoting private conversations, 80.
- Ruled motion to sit nights in order, 88.

S

Speaker or Deputy Speaker,

- Offered to reread Her Honour's speech, 19.
- Reverted to Government Motions for Ordering of Business of House, 20, 83, 123, 136, 143.
- Reminded Member not to refer to Members by name even when quoting from media article, 56.
- Recognized retirement of employee, 88.
- Advised guests in gallery not to participate in debate, 114.
- Recessed during recorded division due to disruption in gallery, 118.
- Reverted to Introduction of Bills, 143.
- Declared recess due to technical difficulties, 152, 157.
- Announced that Members had not attended sitting due to pandemic, 160.

Speech from Throne,

- At Opening, 2.

Supply,

- (See Budget, Committee of Supply, Estimates.)

T

- Tributes or Condolences,** 20, 88, 152.

U

Unanimous consent (denied),

- To dispense with notice and move motion, 74, 181.
- To extend time allotted for Oral Questions, 125.
- To call Bills for second reading, 164.
- To consider Bill in committee, 164.
- To debate Bill at second reading, 171.

Unanimous consent (granted),

- To extend time allotted for Oral Questions, 20.
- To dispense with notice and move motion, 20, 46, 47, 61, 105, 106, 153.
- To make lengthy Statements of Condolence, 20.
- To continue sitting through noon recess, 21.
- To continue past hour of adjournment, 52.
- To dispense with ringing of bells, 67, 136.
- To table document, 88.
- To delay Members' Statements, 114.
- To order Bill for third reading, 118, 144, 181, 185.
- To recess House, 136.

-
- To conclude debate on budget and put question, 136.
 - To discharge order referring Capital Estimates to Committee of Supply and refer back to Legislative Assembly, 137.
 - To not refer Main Estimates to Committee of Supply; that totals to be voted in Main Estimates and Capital Estimates be adopted; that subject matter of estimates be considered by committee, 137.
 - To allow Members option to speak from seat other than their own, 145, 149, 152.
 - To dispense with Routine Proceedings and proceed to Government Motions for Ordering of Business of House, 145, 149.
 - To order Bills for second and third reading and that Bills not be referred to committee, 146, 150.
 - To limit seats on Chamber floor and designate seats by caucus, 152.
 - To allow Members to be seated in Chamber gallery, 152.
 - To allow for use of electronic documents and devices in Chamber, 152.
 - To dispense with Prayers, 160.
 - To adopt motion fixing adjournment; to amend after adoption, 160.
 - To call Bill for second reading and consider in committee, 168.
 - To withdraw amendment, 187.
 - To refer Bill to committee, 187.

Unparliamentary language,

“bully”, 61, 91; “underhanded”, “half truths”, 90; “come clean”, 94; “untrue”, 114; “deliberately deceived House”, 132.

V

Votes (Recorded or Division),

(See Recorded Votes.)

W

Welcomes, 53, 92.