

JOURNALS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE
PROVINCE
OF
NEW BRUNSWICK

The 7th day of October, 2020
From the 17th day of November to the 24th day of November, 2020
From the 8th day of December to the 18th day of December, 2020
The 12th day of February, 2021
From the 16th day of March to the 26th day of March, 2021
From the 11th day of May to the 21st day of May, 2021
From the 1st day of June to the 11th day of June, 2021
From the 2nd day of November to the 12th day of November, 2021
From the 23rd day of November to the 17th day of December, 2021
From the 22nd day of March to the 1st day of April, 2022
From the 10th day of May to the 20th day of May, 2022
From the 31st day of May to the 10th day of June, 2022
From the 4th day of October to the 12th day of October, 2022
The 25th day of October, 2022

Being the
First Session of the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly



Fredericton, N.B.
2020-2022

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OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE
PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

**FIRST SESSION OF THE SIXTIETH
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2020-2022**

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

Fredericton, N.B.
Wednesday, October 7, 2020

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the third session of the fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of this Province was dissolved on the 17th day of August, 2020;

AND WHEREAS I have thought fit to call the first session of the sixtieth Legislative Assembly of this Province into session, I hereby issue a Proclamation that the same be called to meet on the seventh day of October, 2020 at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the Province at Fredericton this 1st day of October, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty, and in the sixty-ninth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

BY COMMAND OF THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

Hugh J. Flemming, Q.C.
Attorney General.

Brenda L. Murphy.
Lieutenant-Governor.

This being the day appointed for the opening of the First Session of the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick for the dispatch of business pursuant to the proclamation hereinbefore annexed, and the oath having been already administered to the Members of the Legislative Assembly as named in the roll, delivered to the Clerk of the House by the Chief Electoral Officer, the said Members took their seats in the House.

The Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly then addressed himself to the House as follows:

Members of the Legislative Assembly:

I am commanded by Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to inform you that she doth not think fit to declare the causes for which she has summoned this Legislative Assembly until a Speaker thereof shall have been duly chosen.

It is therefore Her Honour's will that you, the Members of the Legislative Assembly, do proceed forthwith to choose a fit and proper person to be your Speaker, and that you present the person so chosen to Her Honour in this Assembly Chamber this afternoon for Her Honour's approbation.

The list of Members eligible for the first ballot was as follows:

OLIVER, William (Bill)
WETMORE, Ross

Mr. Wetmore having requested that his name be withdrawn from the first ballot, the Acting Clerk advised that it was his duty to preside over the election of Speaker in accordance with the Standing Rules and according to these Rules, Members could not withdraw as candidates for the election except after the first ballot.

The Acting Clerk further advised that based on precedents for this request, if it was the will of the Assembly to dispense with this requirement then he would abide by the wishes of the Assembly.

Having ascertained that there was agreement by unanimous consent to dispense with the requirement of Standing Rule 11(8)(I), the Acting Clerk invited the eligible Members who wished to withdraw from the election to rise in their place and indicate their intention to withdraw.

Whereupon, Mr. Wetmore rose in his place and announced his intention to withdraw as a candidate for the election of Speaker.

The House then proceeded to the election of a Speaker pursuant to the provisions of Standing Rule 11.

The Acting Clerk then announced:

Honourable Members, the Standing Rules stipulate that if only one Member stands for election to the office of Speaker, the Clerk of the House announces the candidate's name and, without any vote, declares that Member to be elected Speaker.

Members of the Legislative Assembly, it is my duty to inform you that only one candidate stands for election to the office pursuant to Standing Rule 11(8)(m). Therefore, it is my duty to announce that William (Bill) Oliver, the honourable Member for the electoral district of Kings Centre, is declared elected as Speaker.

The Premier, the Honourable Mr. Blaine Higgs, and the Leader of the Official Opposition, Mr. Roger Melanson, escorted Mr. William (Bill) Oliver to the dais where, standing on the upper step, he addressed the House as follows:

Members of the Legislative Assembly,

It is my pleasure today to express my grateful and humble acknowledgment to the House for the great honour you have been pleased to confer on me by choosing me as your Speaker.

Conscious as I am of my comparative inexperience in parliamentary procedure, I should have hesitated before accepting a position involving so much responsibility, were it not for the fact that I shall be able at all times to rely with confidence upon the courtesy, forbearance, and kindness of every Member of the Assembly.

Again, thanking you, I now submit myself to the House.

I realize that, according to tradition, I am to accept this chair reluctantly, but in truth, I accept this honour with great humility and respect. I thank you for putting your trust in me to assist in carrying out the important business of this 60th legislature, and I hope that we will accomplish much for the citizens of our great province over the next four years.

I want to take this opportunity to remember a trailblazer in New Brunswick politics. I checked on the records and history, and since 1786, only 47 women have ever sat in these seats, and Senator Brenda Robertson was the first. She was the first woman elected to this Assembly in 1967, and she was the first female minister when she was appointed, in 1970, as the Minister of Youth.

In 2017, I was fortunate to have the privilege of meeting her. She was charming, and she reflected on stories of her political career with her friend Paul D'Astous. I sat and listened, and I feel honoured to have shared that time with her. I want to offer condolences to her family from the New Brunswick Legislature, which she held in high regard.

I would also like to acknowledge the fine work that the member from Restigouche-Chaleur has done, since 2018, during his time as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you. I will honour this position in the same manner that you have over the past two years.

You have the respect of all members for the difficult task you accepted, guiding us through the first minority government in 100 years.

I have been blessed, over the past 36 years, with the support of my wife, who has always indulged me in whatever path I chose. Getting involved in politics was a decision that we made together. As we all know, to accept the commitment that it involves, it needs to be one that our families accept as well. Chris knows the highs and lows that we experience, and I am grateful for her love and support.

To my son Danny, his fiancée Jen, and our grandson Jadon, thank you as well. I know that you will be there to lend your support.

Since 2014, the constituents of Kings Centre have chosen to place their trust in me to serve as their MLA, and I continue to honour that trust. I would like to quote the Rotary motto, Service above Self. I never expected, when I served as the executive assistant to Speaker Harrison back in 1999, that someday I would stand in this place as Speaker. It has, indeed, been a journey from executive assistant to MLA to minister and, now, to Speaker. I can only imagine how proud my parents would be if they were here to share today's ceremony.

Finally, I make this promise to you, the Assembly: I will honour the rules of the House and do my utmost to serve with the dignity that the position of Speaker demands. I expect that healthy and vigorous debate will occur on the floor of the House, and I know that we will respect the honourable members for their passion in debate.

I will rule with fairness, impartiality, and respect for all, and ask for the same in return. My door will always be open to members, and I invite you to visit as you see necessary.

Thank you.

Thereupon Mr. Oliver took the chair, and the mace was placed upon the Clerk's Table.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was announced and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne.

The Speaker then addressed Her Honour to the following effect:

May it Please Your Honour:

Your Honour having communicated your pleasure to the House, they proceeded to choose a Speaker. They have elected me to that important and honourable position, and I am now presented for Your Honour's approval.

The Acting Clerk of the House then said:

Mr. Speaker, I am commanded by Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to declare to you that she is fully sensible of your zeal for the public service and of your sufficiency to execute the duties of the office to which you have been elected by the Legislative Assembly, and she doth readily approve of their choice, and allow and confirm you to be their Speaker.

Mr. Speaker then addressed Her Honour in the following words:

May It Please Your Honour:

Your Honour having been pleased to approve the choice of the Assembly in electing me to be their Speaker, it now becomes my duty in the name and on behalf of the Assembly, to claim and demand that they have all their ancient and accustomed

rights and privileges, especially freedom from arrest, freedom of speech in debate, access to Your Honour when they think the public service requires it, and that the most favourable construction be put on all their proceedings and on my own behalf I have to request that any error of mine may not be imputed to the Assembly.

To which the Acting Clerk of the House replied:

Mr. Speaker, Her Honour hath the utmost confidence in the loyalty and attachment of this Assembly of Her Majesty's person and government and in the wisdom, temper and prudence which will accompany all their proceedings, and she doth most readily and willingly grant and allow them all their privileges in as full and ample a manner as they have at any time heretofore been granted and allowed.

With respect to yourself, Mr. Speaker, though Her Honour is sensible that you do not stand in need of such assurance, Her Honour will ever put the most favourable construction on your words and actions.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to deliver the following message:

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly, on behalf of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, I am pleased to welcome you and wish you well as Honourable Members of this distinguished Assembly.

These are historic days in New Brunswick and around the world as we face the COVID-19 pandemic. May your work here be respectful, friendly, and in the best interests of New Brunswickers.

I wish to advise that my government is not prepared to commence a legislative session at this time. However, it is my fervent hope that Divine Providence will guide you in all your deliberations.

The Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly communicated to the House the following message from Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly,

I am commanded by Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to inform you that it is her pleasure that this Legislative Assembly attend before Her Honour in this Assembly Chamber at 1 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday, November 17, 2020, at which time Her Honour will formally open the First Session of the Sixtieth Legislature of the Province of New Brunswick.

Her Honour then retired.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

And then, 1.25 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

2019-2020 Horizon Health Network	August 17, 2020
2019-2020 Vitalité Health Network	August 25, 2020
2019 Recycle NB	August 28, 2020
2019-2020 Office of the Public Intervener, A Unit of the Office of the Attorney General	September 1, 2020
2019-2020 New Brunswick Energy and Utilities Board	September 10, 2020
2019-2020 Financial and Consumer Services Commission	September 28, 2020
2020 New Brunswick Credit Union Deposit Insurance Corporation	September 28, 2020

Daily sitting 2

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

1 o'clock p.m.

This being the day appointed for the opening of the First Session of the Sixtieth Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick for the dispatch of business pursuant to the message of Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor communicated to the House on October 7, 2020, and subsequent to the Proclamation issued on October 1, 2020, Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was announced and having been bidden to enter, took her seat upon the Throne.

Her Honour was pleased to Open the Session with the following speech:

Opening Remarks

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly, invited guests, and most importantly, the people of New Brunswick, welcome to the First Session of the 60th Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick.

We gather today on the ancestral territory of our indigenous people.

This session opens in the midst of unprecedented times, when our province and indeed the entire world, continues to face an unpredictable and prolonged global health pandemic. Amidst it all, New Brunswickers have proven to be resilient and strong. The people of the province have come together, working collaboratively to flatten the curve of the COVID-19 pandemic and to keep one another and our province safe.

New Brunswick's efforts at slowing and preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus have been effective with one of the lowest rates of the disease in the world.

Your government recognizes and thanks the workers in every corner of the province who rose up when called upon. Thousands were on the front lines to help New Brunswickers transition to our new reality during COVID-19. Doctors, nurses and health-care professionals led the way to protect patients and keep vital services going. Nursing home workers demonstrated unwavering professionalism and compassion.

Emergency responders including police, paramedics and firefighters have ensured order and given reassurance. Our border control efforts have been staffed by highway safety officers, conservation officers, correctional officers and inspectors in the investigations section of the Department of Justice and Public Safety. They have been supplemented at peak times by public health inspectors, sheriffs, forest rangers and administrative services officers. Not only have they adjusted to new roles to protect our province's borders, they have defended the entire Atlantic bubble on the front lines every day.

Grocery store workers, pharmacists, office supply stores, technology installers and truck drivers have kept households and businesses up and running. Educators are finding new and innovative ways to teach and ensure our youngest minds continue to grow and learn.

As a result of this tremendous courage and determination, New Brunswick received positive reviews from across Canada for its handling of the pandemic and its early reopening of the economy. This success is a testament to the strong will of our people and their fortitude in the face of adversity. New Brunswickers must remain vigilant and work together to keep each other protected and to ensure our continued progress. While the pandemic changed so much about our lives, it has also highlighted the importance of working together for the greater good.

Your government made the exceptional decision to establish a COVID-19 all-party cabinet committee to provide oversight and strategic direction to the work being done within government to safeguard New Brunswickers. The group includes the leaders of the recognized political parties in the Legislative Assembly, who we thank for their collaborative, non-partisan approach as the province deals with the impacts of COVID-19.

It is with this spirit of collaboration that your government will approach work in this session of the Legislative Assembly. Your government will apply lessons learned from the pandemic on how to deliver services more effectively, work more productively and to leverage technology. It will continue to move forward with a sense of urgency, clarity of goals and transparent communication that served the province so well in facing the first wave of the COVID-19 crisis.

Through it all, New Brunswick is restoring its sense of pride – here at home and within the nation. There is a renewed momentum with citizens working together to build a stronger and safer future for all. Your government intends to seize this opportunity to continue to lead New Brunswick into new beginnings.

Congratulations / Recognition

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

New Brunswick is home to the Royal Canadian Legion 2020-2021 National Silver Cross Mother, Mrs. Deborah Sullivan of Summerville. Her son, Lieutenant Christopher Edward Saunders was a decorated Naval Officer in the Royal Canadian Navy, who lost his life during a tragic fire while serving aboard the HMCS Chicoutimi in 2004.

Claudette Bradshaw of Moncton received the New Brunswick Human Rights Award for her work and exceptional leadership in helping families and children who are victims of discrimination based on social or family status.

Emma Coakley of Saint John received the Youth Human Rights Award for her dedication to raising awareness about amputation, prostheses, the War Amps and the PLAYSAFE program in her community.

Two New Brunswickers were appointed to the Order of Canada. They are Omer Chouinard of Moncton, for his efforts to protect ecosystems in the Maritimes as a professor of environmental studies; and Derek Lister of Fredericton, for his contributions to nuclear energy research and improvements to occupational safety.

New Brunswickers Peter Sawyer and Élizabéth Levasseur were among the recipients of the 2020 Council of the Federation Literacy Awards.

Milee Millea, of Elsipogtog First Nation was named “Difference Maker of the Year” by the Rick Hansen Foundation for raising awareness about missing and murdered aboriginal women and girls.

Michelle Lang Standring, of Rothesay won the Prime Minister’s Award for Teaching Excellence. She is a dedicated supporter and promoter of LGBTQ+ rights and focuses on creating more diverse and inclusive spaces for all students.

University of New Brunswick’s Dr. Gary Waite of Fredericton was elected to the Royal Society of Canada. Dr. Waite is an internationally recognized historian and acting chair of UNB Fredericton’s history and classics departments.

Mario Thériault from Moncton has been appointed chair of the board of directors of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

Cameron MacMaster received the Roly McLenahan Canada Games Award late last year after capturing the silver medal in the vault category during the Canada Winter Games. This was the first medal for Team New Brunswick in men’s artistic gymnastics in 24 years.

Thirteen New Brunswick educators and groups received National Inclusive Education Awards this year. The awards are presented by the New Brunswick Association for Community Living, in partnership with the Canadian Association for Community Living. Award winners are: staff of the Chatham Day Care Center in Miramichi; Sheryl Titus of Quispamsis; Joanne McIsaac of Woodstock; educational assistants at Keswick Valley Memorial School in Burt’s Corner; Wanda MacDonald of Saint John; Rhonda Magee and Ellen Higgins of Saint John; Robin Buchanan of Oromocto; the integrated services team at École Carrefour-Étudiant in Beresford; students at École Les Éclaireurs in Fredericton; Marie-Josée Couture of District Scolaire Francophone Nord Est; Steven Austin of Moncton; the welding faculty at NBCC Saint John; and staff at École Mgr-Lang in Drummond.

A number of New Brunswickers received special recognition from the Governor General's office earlier this year. Mackie Greene and the late Joseph Michael Howlett, of Wilson's Beach were awarded the Meritorious Service Cross for founding the Campobello Whale Rescue Team. Gerard Barry Losier of Miramichi was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his philanthropy and for championing improved care for the elderly and those facing life-ending illnesses in the Miramichi region. Ralph Thomas of Saint John was awarded the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers for encouraging diversity and physical well-being through his work as an ambassador of the New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame and founder of the New Brunswick Black History Society.

We also recognize Dr. Jennifer Russell for her leadership, guidance and advice as the province has navigated an unprecedented circumstance dealing with the impacts of a global pandemic.

Your government would also like to recognize two very important milestones this year. The Fergusson Foundation is celebrating its 35-year anniversary, and the Table de concertation pour contrer la violence conjugale et familiale dans la Péninsule acadienne is celebrating its 30th anniversary. Both of these organizations are committed to ending family violence in New Brunswick and have made incredible progress over the years.

This year, your government celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the report of The Royal Commission on the Status of Women. The federal commission was tasked to ensure equal opportunities for men and women in all aspects of Canadian society.

Condolences

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

We honour Brenda Robertson, a pioneer for gender equality. She was elected in 1967 as the first female member of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick. She became the province's first female minister, was re-elected four times and later went on to serve Canada for 20 years as a senator.

We remember Albert Levi, of Elsipogtog First Nation. Albert was a longstanding Chief of the Elsipogtog First Nation and was widely recognized as one of New Brunswick's most influential Indigenous leaders.

We remember Bill Gale, of Saint John. Bill was a former banking executive, and a dedicated philanthropist and anti-poverty advocate. Bill founded the Business Community Anti-Poverty Initiative (BCAPI) and was a recipient of the Order of New Brunswick.

We honour James Albert Doyle, a longstanding educator and driving force behind the establishment of a St. Thomas University Campus in Miramichi. He represented the constituency of Miramichi-Bay du Vin from 1997 to 1999.

We remember Barbara Fisher-Townsend, of Nackawic. She was a researcher, teacher and author who dedicated her life to raising awareness about domestic violence towards women.

We remember Guy Cormier, mayor of Saint-Léolin, a dedicated and respected leader who worked tirelessly to make a difference in his community.

We also honour Pat Darragh of Saint John. He was a prominent leader in his community for 60 years. He was part of many key developments in the city including Market Square, Harbour Station and Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick. Pat was a dedicated community activist and philanthropist.

We honour Roland Haché of Petit-Rocher. He was a longstanding member of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, representing Nigadoo-Chaleur (now Restigouche-Chaleur) from 1999 to 2014. He first served as the mayor of Petit-Rocher from 1995 to 1999, then went on to serve provincially as the Minister of Education and Minister of Environment and Local Government.

This year, we lost Hans W. Klohn, a prominent Saint John business leader and philanthropist. He co-founded Ocean Steel with K.C. Irving in 1955 and was inducted in the New Brunswick Business Hall of Fame in 2011. He supported many organizations in the community, including the Saint John Boys and Girls Club and Romero House.

We remember Saint John rowing legend and former journalist Ed Winchester. Ed won a gold medal in the men's lightweight pair competition at the 2000 World Rowing Championships and was an inspirational force in New Brunswick's rowing community.

We remember R.M. Vaughan of Saint John. He was a talented writer, and a mentor to many aspiring artists. He had recently moved back to New Brunswick to be the artist-in-residence at the University of New Brunswick.

Introduction

This is a critical turning point for New Brunswick, and your government is prepared to seize it. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, your government's vision for a better economic future has not changed.

Before the pandemic struck, many actions were taken to restore the province to financial health. Significant gains made our province more attractive to outside investment and positioned the province for sustainability and growth. That successful work has lessened the financial impact of COVID-19, which underscores the importance of building fiscal flexibility and being disciplined during stable economic times.

Your government is committed to continue managing finances responsibly, and during these unprecedented times, your government maintained its existing spending obligations as foreseen prior to COVID-19, while also dealing with the impacts of the crisis.

Despite the fact that uncertainty remains, and COVID-19 related expenditures are significant, the amount of over-expenditure to date has been mitigated due to the commitment of New Brunswickers to limit the spread of the virus by upholding public health guidance.

Second quarter projections for the 2020-2021 fiscal year show a deficit of \$183.3 million compared to the budgeted surplus of \$92.4 million.

The net debt is projected to reach \$14.1 billion, an increase of \$386.9 million over budget.

Revenue is projected to be \$40.3 million lower than budget mainly due to anticipated impacts related to COVID-19. This is largely attributed to decreased projections for provincial taxes, agency revenues and sale of goods and services, offset by federal funding including the Safe Restart Agreement, the Safe Return to Class Fund, and the essential workers wage top-up.

With lower revenues anticipated, your government will renew and reinvent how public services are delivered so better value is given to the residents of New Brunswick while at the same time living within our means. This discipline will be essential so that the government has the resources required to care for seniors and invest in health care, ensure more money for vulnerable people who need it, and for our children who deserve a strong education.

New approaches will be required to bring about positive change, and many improvements have already taken hold. Everyone must do their part to ensure New Brunswick remains strong during and after COVID-19, as there is much work ahead of us.

New Brunswick continues to face persistent issues of poverty where 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 Canada, our province remains one of the least literate. It is also home to the most rapidly aging population. The issues are complex, multi-faceted, and will require innovative solutions.

Your government understands how to navigate tough headwinds and has demonstrated it is ready to grapple with challenges and meet them head on. This resolve is further strengthened by a committed and aligned public service, whose talents were brought to bear during our response to COVID-19 and who we continue to rely on each day to serve citizens. They are highly skilled, committed and driven to show New Brunswickers a government that can continually improve.

Rising to the Challenge – Supporting New Brunswickers During the Pandemic

Your government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated how New Brunswick can rise to the challenge.

Beginning in March 2020, a series of extraordinary measures were set in motion within New Brunswick to contain the spread of COVID-19. On March 16, schools and non-essential government services were closed. A State of Emergency declaration on March 19 shuttered non-essential in-person retail sales, limited food and beverage business services, ordered workplaces reduced to critical functions and closed most public and private institutions to public visitors.

Pre-COVID-19, your government was on a steady path to make our province more attractive by improving the province's credit rating, addressing rising WorkSafe premiums, and managing federal tax increases that would have hurt businesses. Thanks to a number of steps your government took to strengthen the province's finances, New Brunswick was better positioned going into the pandemic, enabling a number of critical financial supports for impacted businesses.

Business Navigators began answering calls the same day of the emergency declaration and have since resolved more than 4,000 calls from the business community. Hundreds of businesses were supported with resources, information and education as they sought to adjust operations and reopen safely.

Your government announced up to \$50 million in working capital loans for businesses to provide immediate assistance to small, medium and large employers negatively impacted by COVID-19.

Your government established the NB Workers Emergency Income Benefit to provide a one-time income benefit of \$900 to individuals who lost their job due to the state of emergency in NB and applied for the income support under the Government of Canada COVID-19 Economic Response Plan. This income support helped bridge the gap between when they lost their employment or closed their business, and when they received their federal benefit. This resulted in a provincial expenditure of approximately \$40 million.

Grants of \$500 to \$10,000 were made available to small- and medium-sized non-profits as part of the COVID-19 Community Investment Fund for non-profits impacted by COVID-19.

Interest and principal payment deferrals were made available for companies with loans from government departments. WorkSafeNB premiums were deferred for three months without interest charges.

Late penalties on property taxes were waived on a case-by-case basis, and New Brunswick corporate income tax payments were deferred up to August 31, 2020.

Electricity bill payments were deferred and service disconnections for non-payment were suspended by NB Power, Saint John Power and the City of Edmundston.

Amendments to the *Employment Standards Act* were made retroactive to March 12 to ensure job protection measures for those unable to work due to the COVID-19 virus.

A job match platform and virtual career fairs were organized to connect employers and workers.

New Brunswick partnered with the federal government to support the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance to provide rent relief for New Brunswick's small businesses.

Strong measures were established to engage critical infrastructure operators to mitigate and respond to supply chain impacts resulting from COVID-19.

These tremendous efforts demonstrate that your government has managed the uncertainty extremely well by protecting the provincial economy during these challenging times. In August, Statistics Canada noted that New Brunswick had witnessed the most complete employment recovery of all provinces.

Economic and Social Recovery and Resilience

Your government is tracking New Brunswick's economic recovery performance by examining key metrics, and to date, they demonstrate the underlying strength of our handling of the pandemic as well as the determination of New Brunswickers to keep the economy open and progressing forward.

Employment, as defined by Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey is currently at 97.7 per cent of the level of employment seen in February. Compared to other provinces, New Brunswick now has the third most complete job recovery behind Newfoundland and Labrador, and Manitoba.

Building permits as measured by Statistics Canada are showing September was the second-best month of the year behind July and marks the first time this year that permits have seen a year-over-year increase. Building permits are now 29 per cent above the level seen in February. Momentum over the last three months has been solid and provides optimism of increased activity in the months ahead.

Retail sales as measured by Statistics Canada have shown a quick recovery since the reopening of the economy. New Brunswick is at almost 104 per cent of the level we were in February and are at 38 per cent above the low point experienced in April. New Brunswick is posting the fourth best performance in August behind Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba and Quebec.

The food services sector was one of the hardest hit parts of the economy. Sales have improved in each of the last three months, however the sector is operating at 87 per cent of the level seen in August 2019. New Brunswick has the third most complete recovery behind Saskatchewan, and Newfoundland and Labrador.

Real estate sales are hitting records in both volume and pricing.

To further support the safe and effective reopening of the economy, your government is partnering with the Government of Canada through the federal-provincial Safe Restart Agreement, which aims to reopen the economy and minimize the impact of potential future waves of COVID-19, with a focus on immediate needs in the next six to eight months. New Brunswick will receive \$218 million of support to meet the needs of critical areas of health care, child care, municipalities, and vulnerable members of our population. The municipalities stream is a 50-50 cost share with the province.

Through this program, the Department of Social Development is investing \$15.2 million to assist vulnerable populations impacted by the pandemic. The department will invest the funding into three main sectors: long-term care facilities, child welfare and emergency shelters.

Your government will continue to work with the federal government and local partners to support vulnerable populations across the province to protect public health, and a safe and open economy.

Reinventing New Brunswick

The early and ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic has New Brunswickers looking at our province with renewed energy – it's a sense of pride not seen in this province in decades. It's a pride that comes from knowing that together, New Brunswickers are agile and continue to adapt quickly to very adverse conditions. With focus and determination, the people of this province are achieving impressive results.

It's not only New Brunswickers who have rediscovered our province in our response to COVID-19. Others across the country and the world have responded with interest and admiration. This momentum is real and your government intends to magnify it by applying our lessons learned from COVID-19 on how to be more collaborative, more effective and more competitive.

Your government invites all New Brunswickers to engage and keep asking - *just how good can we be?* Collectively, we must challenge ourselves to think differently about ways of working, like citizens did in responding to COVID-19. For example, with so much interest in New Brunswick from outside of our province, coupled with our aggressive work to attract newcomers to fill our labour market needs, your government must ask the fundamental question about our airports. Is our existing infrastructure meeting the needs of travellers to and from New Brunswick, and is it meeting the needs of the business community and university students who want to call New Brunswick home? Why, when compared with Nova Scotia, does New Brunswick have such a different volume of air passengers? While Nova Scotia has approximately 25 per cent more population than New Brunswick, it has three times the

passengers through Halifax than the three biggest airports in New Brunswick combined. What are the barriers? What are the qualities our province must possess to attract more growth? What silos must be torn down? These are the kinds of critical questions your government intends to ask, to encourage evidence-based decision making in any long-term decisions that will impact our province's potential.

It is clear New Brunswickers can excel. The Dr. Georges-L. Dumont University Hospital Centre in Moncton has demonstrated tremendous leadership on testing during COVID-19. What lessons have been learned about cooperation within our health-care system?

What would happen if New Brunswick could expand food production and make a greater contribution to world markets? The province is already a global leader in seafood, blueberries, potatoes, frozen foods and more.

When it comes to energy, New Brunswick has a very real opportunity to become a world leader in small modular nuclear reactor research, development, and manufacturing, which could change the course of energy innovation globally.

This is a time to stay focused. It's a time to build – to build on the steps which have been taken to restore our province's financial health. To build on the innovation in service delivery in health care and education. To build an economy that prospers and defies narrow thinking. To build a society in which no New Brunswicker gets left behind.

New Brunswickers must be as determined to build a thriving economy and growing labour force as they have been in fighting COVID-19 together. Your government and its citizens must not settle for less than excellence when it comes to our children receiving the best possible education, and our citizens having access to quality health care. It is a time to reinvent New Brunswick, and your government is more confident than ever that it can be done.

Government Priorities

Your 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:

- Energizing the Private Sector;
- Vibrant and Sustainable Communities;
- Dependable Public Health Care;
- World-Class Education;
- Affordable, Responsive and High-Performing Government;
- Environment

In this session of the Legislative Assembly, progress will be made in each of these priority areas. Each has measurable goals and the results will be made public to ensure transparency and accountability.

Energizing the Private Sector

In January 2020, your government unveiled a new 10- to 20-year vision for a renewed Economic Strategy: *Closing the Gap in One Generation*, which aims to close the prosperity gap between New Brunswick and the rest of Canada. It was the culmination of a series of engagements with the private sector to identify how to close the economic gap that exists between New Brunswick and the rest of the country. Experts from around the province, around the country and the world were engaged to identify ways our province could compete more effectively. Advisors from academia, business and technology were consulted, as were economists, municipal leaders, sector groups and other business leaders.

These consultations identified specific challenges facing New Brunswick's economy, including: a lack of scale and economic integration required to compete in an evolving economic landscape, the rural/urban – north/south mindset that hampers growth potential, slow technology adoption and business investment, and changes in global market conditions and environmental concerns facing our traditional resource-based industries.

While much has changed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, our vision for a better economic future should not. To address these challenges, five strategic objectives were identified:

First, New Brunswick must increase private sector investment. Over the last decade, New Brunswick has largely relied on the public sector for economic growth. Job growth, investment and real GDP growth have all been largely supported by the public sector. This is not sustainable, and it will not lead to positive economic results. After an extended period of weakness, private investment has shown improvement in recent years with 2018 hitting a 10-year high. At the same time, we have returned public sector investment to a sustainable level. The realities of COVID-19 have impacted these levels and will continue to challenge our near-term success, but government remains committed to this long-term strategic objective.

New Brunswick must also increase productivity. Closing the gap between New Brunswick and the rest of the Atlantic region would be the equivalent of adding nearly \$3 billion to the New Brunswick economy. Every dollar in increased productivity would lead to \$636 million in increased economic activity in New Brunswick - that's without the creation of any new jobs.

Next, New Brunswick will diversify and grow exports. Nationally 5 per cent of companies export, while in New Brunswick it's 3 per cent. New Brunswick exports are very much commodity-based at the moment and this makes us vulnerable to economic shifts.

Your government will also increase immigration and repatriation to grow the population base. Approximately 120,000 jobs will be available over the next decade. Bringing New Brunswickers home and attracting newcomers to address this gap will be essential.

Together with increasing private sector investment, increasing productivity, diversifying and growing exports, and increasing immigration and repatriation New Brunswick will create the foundation for economic recovery and growth which will culminate in an increase in GDP.

The strategy is taking hold. Under a renewed mandate, Opportunities New Brunswick is supporting businesses across the province to adopt new technologies for productivity and embrace digital connections to international markets.

Manufacturers are embracing technology in new ways. Waska Cedar Shingles in Clair has invested in building the world's first fully-automated cedar shingle manufacturing facility. This has resulted in lower production costs, reduced energy usage, enhanced efficiency, and most importantly, a significant improvement in employee safety. Automation, artificial intelligence and robotics are fundamental pathways to addressing looming demographic and labour force challenges.

Bouctouche Bay Industries is a COVID-19 success story – an aquaculture company that worked with Dalhousie University to pivot to produce Health Canada Approved Class 1 PPE face shields. Based on a design from Dalhousie, the company was able to quickly retool and begin production thanks to a partnership with Sure Grip Hand Controls in Upper Kingsclear.

To support the attraction of private investment, new talent and diversified trade and exports, Opportunities New Brunswick is partnering with the Indo-Canadian Business Chamber (ICBC). ICBC works to strengthen and promote trade, commerce, and economic opportunities between India and Canada. The province is working to build on its track record of attracting India-based companies to New Brunswick. HCL Technologies Inc., Tech Mahindra, Aditya Birla Group and Sedin Technologies are examples of world-leading companies that now have operations in the province. Many of these companies have also relocated skilled workers, supporting overall population growth initiatives.

Your government's Economic Growth and Action Plan also identifies a new province-wide digital broadband connectivity initiative to accelerate universal access and improve speeds. This has become all the more essential to deliver online education, virtual health and to attract remote workers.

Investment in digital broadband connectivity will support your government's work to build emerging sectors for long-term economic prosperity in cybersecurity, energy innovation, and digital health. By being focused on emerging sectors, the province will attract new foreign investment, build on local expertise, and grow employment opportunities.

One of these emerging sectors is energy innovation. Energy as we know it is shifting to more renewables and non-emitting technologies. Your government has a vision that New Brunswick can develop technology that will put our province – and our entire country – back on the map as a global emissions reduction leader.

Small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs) have tremendous potential to generate safe, clean and low-cost energy for both on-grid and off-grid communities. If New Brunswick can develop advanced SMRs right here at home and achieve just 1 per cent of the estimated Canadian market, it would mean \$190 million in annual direct and indirect impacts to New Brunswick. The province has an under-utilized supply chain that, if activated as part of this strategy, could participate in a worldwide SMR market and bring that revenue back to New Brunswick.

Energizing the private sector will also involve growing Indigenous participation in the economy by supporting Indigenous entrepreneurs and businesses, encouraging partnerships, and understanding and addressing employment challenges to increase labour market participation.

While your government looks long-term, it must also protect and support existing pillars of our economy. Tourism typically employs between 30,000 and 40,000 New Brunswickers and contributes more than \$520 million to the provincial GDP every year. The industry has risen to the challenge, demonstrating the customary grace and grit that New Brunswickers are known for. In every corner of the province, entrepreneurial ideas have taken shape. Your government applauds and thanks those steadfast and persevering visionaries and small business owners.

The Explore NB travel incentive program government introduced this summer with the support of industry advisors has been heralded by tourism associations across the country and spurred real results; generating over \$17 million in spending in just two and a half months.

That's why your government has committed to reoffering it in the weeks to come. Your government will continue to encourage entrepreneurial and innovative thinking to strengthen our tourism sector, even in the face of a global pandemic and reduced travel, so that when the world begins to right itself and people start exploring again, New Brunswick will be ready – to deliver world-class experiences, host with pride and claim the title of most sought-after destination in Canada.

Vibrant and Sustainable Communities

Creating vibrant and sustainable communities will require collaboration and fresh thinking.

New Brunswick has a fragmented governance system with 104 local governments and 236 Local Service Districts, as well as 12 Regional Service Commissions.

Local government representatives have identified many challenges, including the imbalance in property taxation, the unsustainable nature of rising costs of service, the lack of regional approaches in many areas of the province, and the lack of elected representation for citizens living in local service districts. Local governments intimately understand the issues they face every day in offering New Brunswickers services that they want and need as part of their quality of life.

Your government intends to have a new conversation with citizens of this province about ways to improve a system that has its roots in the 1960s. There have been dozens of studies highlighting the need for reforms, and it's time to move to action and implementation.

As stakeholders are engaged, your government will be transparent and seek to ultimately empower regions and communities all across New Brunswick. Above all, citizens will be the top priority.

Your government has worked with the City of Saint John to put in place a very ambitious action plan, and significant progress has been made on many fronts. Of particular note is the work done by a community group, led by Paulette Hicks, Cathy Simpson and David Campbell, who came together a year ago to look at new ways and ideas of boosting our approach for growth. As engaged citizens, they agreed it was time to evaluate a regional solution for economic development efforts and oversight. This has resulted in the full agreement of the local municipalities and the City of Saint John to a new regional agency that will take the lead on strategic investment in economic development, people attraction, infrastructure development, and tourism promotion and development.

It is this kind of leadership and regional cooperation that your government will encourage across the province, building on lessons learned in the Greater Saint John area.

Your government will also bring forth amendments to add a list of criteria that arbitrators will be required to consider during arbitrations for police and firefighters and implement procedural changes. This proposal is being sought by New Brunswick municipalities to ensure fairness in arbitration while taking into account the fiscal constraints faced by local governments.

Your government will also introduce legislation to eliminate the Assessment Gap Exemption to return these properties to real and true market value assessments. Service New Brunswick will apply the existing 10 per cent Spike Protection Mechanism to the affected Assessment Gap properties until the Assessment Gap is eliminated. Nearly 90 per cent of these additional revenues will benefit local governments and local service districts.

Creating vibrant and sustainable communities requires local leadership on community growth plans. Your government has been focused on growing our population. Last year labour force and employment both grew at rates not seen in a decade. The province added more than 4,000 people and that growth was driven almost exclusively by new Canadians.

At the State of the Province address last January, your government announced that it has a goal of attracting 10,000 people per year by 2027. To meet those aggressive targets, communities will need to work harder at retention, be more creative in finding workers, and create the conditions for growth in our province.

Those conversations are taking hold in our communities, driven by our community leaders and employers. You see it in Saint-Quentin, Chipman and St. George. These are great examples of communities that are taking charge of their destiny with tailor-made growth plans. They are attracting people and enticing them to stay.

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.

The *Official Languages Act* will be reviewed next year. Your government will undertake a comprehensive review of the Act to help ensure the equality of our linguistic communities.

Your government understands that New Brunswick has a significant population growth challenge and is not able to meet current demands, especially in areas like health care. As such, communities across the province cannot afford to lose talented, and in many cases, highly specialized individuals.

Government will foster a constructive and open discussion to ensure that existing barriers and potential solutions for language proficiency and professional equivalency accreditation are fully understood. Government wants all children to have greater opportunities to learn both languages, while also finding ways to welcome highly-skilled newcomers, as well as New Brunswickers who wish to move back home and contribute to our collective success.

Communities can only thrive when they are inclusive of all citizens. Through the national housing strategy, your government is working on affordable housing solutions to repair existing housing stock, build new affordable units, and create mixed housing to encourage social inclusion.

During this session, your government will be amending the *Family Law Act* to modernize child support re-calculation services. Your government will also hold legislative hearings regarding accessibility in New Brunswick for people living with disabilities.

In response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action, last year your government announced the formation of an All Nations and Parties Working Group on Truth and Reconciliation. Your government will continue this important work.

The government will also be responding to the work carried out by the Commission of the Inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Dependable Public Health Care

New Brunswickers must have access to dependable public health care. Currently, our province faces a number of challenges in health care, including a lack of human resources and non-optimal use of resources.

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

Improving access to primary care remains a priority. This will only be possible if citizens begin to think differently about service delivery and if everyone commits to becoming more collaborative and innovative. Your government will leverage all resources within the health-care network in new ways, from doctors to pharmacists, and nursing professionals across the province. A good example of how the province can become more effective is the establishment of nurse practitioner clinics that will open in the coming year in Moncton, Saint John and Fredericton, giving 16,000 more residents access to primary care.

During the pandemic, technology was leveraged for virtual appointments, and at peak, saw over 85 per cent of doctor appointments move to phone or video, proving that our people can operate differently and more effectively.

Access to medical information remains a commitment. Earlier this month your government announced a new province-wide initiative to ensure that breast density results are included in mammography reports and in the letters sent to women following routine screening.

Government will continue to optimize the use of resources across the health-care system. A province-wide action plan will demonstrate the effectiveness of new process improvements around access to surgical specialists, surgical capacity, scheduling, and technology use for pre- and post-operative care. This work supports the goal to reduce excessive wait times greater than one year for hip and knee replacement surgeries by 50 per cent by May 2021. Wait times for hip and knee replacement surgery are still too long in New Brunswick. While the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in set backs in wait times for hip and knee replacement surgeries, these wait times are being addressed, with the ultimate goal of ensuring more surgeries are performed within the national benchmark for wait times of six months or less.

Your government is building a comprehensive five-year action plan on mental health and addictions to augment existing facilities with walk-in services, to enhance a province-wide network of mental health and addictions experts while leveraging technology, and to place a critical focus on drug prevention and enforcement.

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

Importantly, your government is focused on allowing our seniors to age in place by working with extra-mural caregivers and local communities to optimize health care delivery and supports for seniors, especially in rural New Brunswick where access can be challenging.

World-Class Education

Re-imagining New Brunswick's education system is well underway. Over the last year your government has consulted broadly with teachers, parents and students to identify ways to improve. Government strives for a system that will empower teachers, increase student resiliency, and ensure a high-quality education for all young New Brunswickers.

Your government will continue to advance the opportunities identified in *Succeeding at Home: a green paper on education in New Brunswick*. Educating children and youth is the most important challenge facing any society.

Your government is committed to ensuring resources and programs are in place so that children can reach their full potential. This includes language skills. As a bilingual province, the education system must do a better job at ensuring that every child has the opportunity to learn both languages for their future success and to create a more level playing field for opportunities. Your government wants every child to thrive, and that includes having the ability to work, live and fully participate in bilingual New Brunswick. Your government is committed to better understanding the barriers in our existing system and to working with all New Brunswickers to forge a more productive path forward.

Modernizing the educational system will also remain a focus both in programming and delivery. During the pandemic, the education system was tested. One of the most visible lessons during COVID-19 was that schools need to be better prepared to transition to a world of blended learning. Having the proper tools and resources for schools in place is critical to make this happen. Your government will continuously work to ensure schools have the support they require to deliver excellence.

During the pandemic, government invested over \$800,000 to equip students with laptops and connectivity. Government also offered subsidies to support families with the cost of technology. Learning in these modern times requires more than having access to a computer. It requires creating an education system where students can access a variety of tools online to make their learning more personalized to their specific interests.

The challenge is also to design an education system that lets students build their critical thinking skills through more engaging experiential learning. With that aim, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development recently signed a collaboration agreement for the 2020-2021 school year with the Atlantic Canada Aerospace and Defence Association. Through this partnership, students will be exposed to career paths they might not have considered before, while also increasing their engagement with and connection to their community.

Without a good foundation in literacy, all of our other efforts will be compromised. Improving literacy rates across the province will continue to be a priority.

The pandemic demonstrated the critical importance of the early childhood sector. Your government is grateful for the overwhelming support demonstrated by professionals in this sector. New Brunswick opened daycares earlier than most across the country, and that was essential to kickstarting the economy by allowing parents to get back to work. It was also essential for the ongoing social and emotional development of our children.

Early childhood educators are critical, and your government will continue to find new ways to support them and to strengthen this sector of our education system, and our economy. To this end, earlier this month the federal and provincial governments signed a one-year Early Learning and Child Care Agreement to create and support more high quality, affordable child care. The agreement allocates nearly \$10 million in 2020–2021 for early learning and child care investments in New Brunswick.

Specifically, the provincial government will continue to collaborate with the child-care sector and maintain the New Brunswick Early Learning Centres designation. This will assist the province in moving toward the goal of having access to high-quality, affordable child care for all families in both official languages by 2030.

Your government will also work to improve the *Early Childhood Services Act*, in relation to licensing and revocation process for daycares. Our work will be guided by best practices and operational experiences learned since the Act was proclaimed in 2018.

Your government also recognizes the importance of teaching the next generation to embrace a more diverse and inclusive mindset. In recognition of the historical and contemporary significance and importance of Mi'kmaq, Passamaquoddy and Wolastoqey languages within New Brunswick, the government is committed to fostering meaningful partnerships with First Nations communities to expand the availability and quality of these courses within provincial schools.

Affordable, Responsive and High-Performing Government

Your government's goal is to provide responsible and good government by tackling financial challenges head on and continually improving service delivery. While the realities of the pandemic have substantially adjusted the province's financial picture, government will continue to make improvements that drive efficiencies and maximize resources.

Public servants have proven they are agile and flexible, adjusting to different roles as needed to keep our province safe. They have also modified service delivery to leverage technology.

A number of services have been moved online which reduces costs and also offers added flexibility. This will continue with the online driver's licence test soon to be launched by Service New Brunswick.

Your government is also being very responsive to citizen and business needs. Earlier this month, the New Brunswick First Procurement Strategy and Action Plan was officially launched. It recognizes that public procurement can play an important role in economic development by creating more opportunities for growth and increasing the percentage of purchase orders awarded to New Brunswick suppliers.

It is a strategy to help New Brunswick businesses do more business with the New Brunswick government. There are four key objectives for the strategy including: maximizing the awards to New Brunswick businesses, introducing best value and innovative procurement practices, supporting strategic supplier development, and streamlining procurement policy and legislation.

The New Brunswick public service has an important role to play in developing and achieving the government's vision for the future of the province and maintaining a strong focus on affordability and responsiveness. Through their response to the pandemic, they have demonstrated they are up to the challenge.

Increasingly, government is operating cross-functionally with multi-disciplinary teams to develop broad solutions and accelerate implementation. Technology use is on the rise as teams seek to be leaders in the digital workplace. Performance is tracked and reported transparently, with metrics for accountability and ongoing collaboration. There is a culture shift taking hold which was accelerated by the pandemic and which will continue as the public service rises to meet our tremendous potential in New Brunswick.

Environment

Your government has prioritized the environment through tangible actions and real progress. In the spring budget, your government allocated \$36 million to invest in climate change initiatives. These dollars are being invested in energy efficiency programs such as upgrading buildings and infrastructure with green technology and making sure that communities have the tools they need to plan for and adapt to flooding.

Your government also invested a record \$9.1 million from the Environmental Trust Fund.

The government created the Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship Standing Committee, which is a permanent, all-party committee.

New Brunswick has also 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.

Your 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 will 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 also focused on developing natural resources in a responsible manner. New Brunswick is widely recognized for its world-class forestry management system – a sector that is vital to our province's economy. Increased conservation efforts are advancing through meaningful consultation with First Nations and groups across the province. All of these efforts are contributing to what will be a broadly-supported forest management plan for Crown lands.

The government is doubling conserved and protected areas in the province from 4.6 per cent to 10 per cent, which marks the largest conservation gain in the history of New Brunswick. The new area is the equivalent of 19 Fundy National Parks dedicated to conservation. It allows the province to maintain a bio-diverse and ecologically sustainable forest where it can target specific areas of improvement for wildlife habitat, protected waterways, and better tracking and measurement of increases in fish and wildlife populations.

In July of this year, the Canadian Wildlife Federation recognized New Brunswick for our leadership in conservation.

Your government will continue to encourage the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts and stewards of the environment. It will enhance online curriculum for hunter safety and education and will continue to improve real-time information about Crown lands, fish and game for a mobile and connected next generation.

Your government understands that steps must be taken to clean up our environment.

Recycling will continue to be a focus, with government encouraging expanded glass recycling to help eliminate more glass waste from the landfills, which will ultimately save taxpayers money and help protect and enhance our natural environments.

Your government has embraced a ban on single-use plastic bags. It will be phased-in over the coming years as our economy continues to strengthen. The government will work closely with industry and other stakeholders to identify the best path forward.

Government is also committed to holding major producers responsible to recycle packaging and paper products. The Extended Producer Pay Program was announced in 2019 and draft regulation will be brought forward in the very near future to have industry develop and implement their programs following a regulation feedback period. Once the program is in place, New Brunswickers will be able to recycle more products from their homes, buildings and schools.

Protecting the environment will ensure New Brunswick's rich and vast natural spaces can be enjoyed by generations to come.

Conclusion

New Brunswick is moving forward with confidence, boosted by the momentum that continues to build in our province.

We are moving forward with a sense of urgency and focus to tackle our collective challenges because we know we can be better.

We understand there will be a time when the pandemic will end, and we must be ready to emerge stronger.

We've rediscovered all that is possible when we work together and are determined to succeed.

Our future can be one where we begin to lead the nation in new ways. Where our bold moves attract attention from leaders across the country, private investors and top talent.

Where our people are energized, innovative and performing at their best.

Where our quality of life attracts newcomers who are embraced with opportunities to build careers, contribute to world-class research, and thrive in our growing economy.

Where New Brunswickers come back home to put down roots and raise families. It's already happening because they know the transformation has begun.

The time is now to build this future together, here in New Brunswick.

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.

Pursuant to the provisions of the *Elections Act*, Mr. Speaker laid upon the table of the House the returns of votes polled in the several electoral districts of the province in the general election held September 14, 2020.

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

RESOLVED, that the returns be entered in the *Journals* of the House.

And they are as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE RETURNS OF THE GENERAL ELECTION
FOR MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
HELD ON THE 14TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020

Subsection 96(5) of the *Elections Act*

RESTIGOUCHE WEST # 1

Louis Bérubé	PC	1247
Gilles LePage	L	5022E
Travis Pollock	KISSNBPP	56
Charles Thériault	PVNBGP	1755
	Benoît Cyr	
	Returning Officer	

CAMPBELLTON-DALHOUSIE # 2

Charles D. Stewart	PC	1369
Guy H. Arseneault	L	4540E
Marie-Christine Allard	PVNBGP	1054
	Mel Parker	
	Returning Officer	

RESTIGOUCHE-CHALEUR # 3

Louis Robichaud	PC	1149
Daniel Guitard	L	3823E
Marie Larivière	PVNBGP	1896
	Gérald Mallais	
	Returning Officer	

BATHURST WEST-BERESFORD # 4		
Anne Bard-Lavigne	PC	1985
René Legacy	L	3730E
Pierre Duguay-Boudreau	PVNBGP	965
Mark Guindon Returning Officer		
BATHURST EAST-NEPISIGUIT-SAINT-ISIDORE # 5		
Amanda Keast	PC	1568
Denis Landry	L	4163E
Robert Kryszko	PVNBGP	798
Micheline Hachey Returning Officer		
CARAQUET # 6		
Kevin J. Haché	PC	985
Isabelle Thériault	L	5928E
Marie-Christine Haché	PVNBGP	1290
Augustina Lanteigne Returning Officer		
SHIPPAGAN-LAMÈQUE-MISCOU # 7		
Jean-Gérard Chiasson	PC	714
Eric Mallet	L	6834E
Marie Leclerc	PVNBGP	609
Delcia Cool Returning Officer		
TRACADIE-SHEILA # 8		
Diane Carey	PC	2059
Keith Chiasson	L	6175E
Chris LeBlanc	PVNBGP	645
Donald Wade Returning Officer		
MIRAMICHI BAY-NEGUAC # 9		
Robert Trevors	PC	2751
Lisa Harris	L	3561E
Douglas Mullin	NBNBP	139
Curtis Bartibogue	PVNBGP	825
Thomas L'Huillier	PANB	898
Cyril Donahue Returning Officer		

	MIRAMICHI # 10	
Charles Barry	PC	1508
Kevin Vickers	L	2239
Eileen Clancy Teslenko	NBNDP	92
Joshua Shaddick	PVNBGP	398
Michelle Conroy	PANB	3527E
Tristan Sutherland	IND	54
	William Treadwell	
	Returning Officer	
	SOUTHWEST MIRAMICHI-BAY DU VIN # 11	
Jake Stewart	PC	3887E
Josh McCormack	L	1760
Glenna Hanley	NBNDP	188
Art O'Donnell	PANB	2268
	Krista Price Lambert	
	Returning Officer	
	KENT NORTH # 12	
Stephen Robertson	PC	1363
Bertrand LeBlanc	L	2933
Kevin Arseneau	PVNBGP	4021E
Roger Richard	IND	154
	Michel Vautour	
	Returning Officer	
	KENT SOUTH # 13	
Raymond (Bou) Duplessis	PC	2817
Benoit Bourque	L	5148E
Sue Shedd	NBNDP	118
Eva P. Rehak	PVNBGP	996
Lisa Godin	PANB	243
	Andrea Leger	
	Returning Officer	
	SHEDIAC BAY-DIEPPE # 14	
Mathieu Gérald Caissie	PC	2971
Robert Gauvin	L	5839E
Delphine Daigle	NBNDP	528
Phillip Coombes	PANB	371
	Bernice Williams	
	Returning Officer	

SHEDIAC-BEAUBASSIN-CAP-PELÉ # 15		
Marie-Paule Martin	PC	1820
Jacques LeBlanc	L	4949E
Gilles Cormier	PVNBGP	2453
Leo Doiron Returning Officer		
MEMRAMCOOK-TANTRAMAR # 16		
Carole Duguay	PC	1678
Maxime Bourgeois	L	2902
Megan Mitton	PVNBGP	3425E
Heather Collins	PANB	192
Jefferson George Wright	IND	34
William Hicks Returning Officer		
DIEPPE # 17		
Patricia Arsenault	PC	1680
Roger Melanson	L	4564E
Pamela Boudreau	NBNDP	200
Mélyssa Boudreau	PVNBGP	1142
O'Neil Arseneau Returning Officer		
MONCTON EAST # 18		
Daniel Allain	PC	3525E
Monique LeBlanc	L	2759
Christopher Wanamaker	NBNDP	153
Phylomène Zangio	PVNBGP	989
Michel Norman Guitare	PANB	378
George Duff Returning Officer		
MONCTON CENTRE # 19		
Jean Poirier	PC	1642
Rob McKee	L	2448E
James Caldwell	NBNDP	168
Carole Chan	PVNBGP	1725
Aaron Richter	PANB	308
Leo Belliveau Returning Officer		

MONCTON SOUTH # 20		
Greg Turner	PC	2734E
Tyson Milner	L	1966
Rebecca Rogers	NBNDP	220
Josephine Watson	PVNBGP	1245
Marilyn Crossman-Riel	PANB	331
Jennifer Ayles Returning Officer		
MONCTON NORTHWEST # 21		
Ernie Steeves	PC	4111E
Mark Black	L	2448
Cyprien Okana	NBNDP	229
Laura Sanderson	PVNBGP	702
Shawn Soucoup	PANB	493
Harvey Aucoin Returning Officer		
MONCTON SOUTHWEST # 22		
Sherry Wilson	PC	3679E
René Ephestion	L	1561
Juliana McIntosh	NBNDP	224
Claire Kelly	PVNBGP	927
Susan Matthews	PANB	667
Rick Nicholson Returning Officer		
RIVERVIEW # 23		
R. Bruce Fitch	PC	4695E
Heath Johnson	L	1281
John Nuttall	NBNDP	261
Rachel Pletz	PVNBGP	800
Troy Berteit	PANB	778
Dean Johnston Returning Officer		
ALBERT # 24		
Mike Holland	PC	5040E
Kelley Nagle	L	921
Jenny O'Neill	PVNBGP	1056
Sharon Buchanan	PANB	977
James Wilson	IND	90
Cheri Smith Returning Officer		

GAGETOWN-PETITCODIAC # 25		
Ross Wetmore	PC	4773E
John (Jake) Urquhart	L	867
Ryan Jewkes	NBNDP	131
Marilyn Merritt-Gray	PVNBGP	1003
Craig Dykeman	PANB	1303
Gary Barbour Returning Officer		
SUSSEX-FUNDY-ST. MARTINS # 26		
Tammy Scott-Wallace	PC	4366E
Cully Robinson	L	971
Jonas Lanz	NBNDP	129
Tim Thompson	PVNBGP	969
Jim Bedford	PANB	1321
Brenda Graham Returning Officer		
HAMPTON # 27		
Gary E. Crossman	PC	4351E
Carley Parish	L	1084
Alex White	NBNDP	251
John Carl Sabine	PVNBGP	816
Sharon Bradley-Munn	PANB	687
Sandra Thorne Returning Officer		
QUISPAMISIS # 28		
Blaine M. Higgs	PC	5697E
Robert Hunt	L	1225
Caitlin Grogan	NBNDP	501
Addison Fach	PVNBGP	528
Sara Hall	PANB	414
Joanne Nice Returning Officer		
ROTHESAY # 29		
Hugh J. (Ted) Flemming	PC	4265E
Jason Hickey	L	1463
Ann McAllister	PVNBGP	719
Mike Griffin	PANB	413
Neville (NB) Barnett	IND	44
Liz Kramer	IND	56
Victorine Robichaud Returning Officer		

SAINT JOHN EAST # 30		
Glen Savoie	PC	3507E
Phil Comeau	L	1639
Josh Floyd	NBNDP	248
Gerald Irish	PVNBGP	394
Patrick Kemp	PANB	434
Kathryn Dalling Returning Officer		
PORTLAND-SIMONDS # 31		
Trevor A. Holder	PC	3170E
Tim Jones	L	1654
Erik Heinze-Milne	NBNDP	164
Stefan Warner	PVNBGP	483
Darella (Lindsay) Jackson	PANB	282
William Hawco Returning Officer		
SAINT JOHN HARBOUR # 32		
Arlene Dunn	PC	2181E
Alice (Ms McKim) McKim	L	1207
Courtney Pyrke	NBNDP	309
Brent Harris	PVNBGP	1224
Tony Gunn	PANB	186
Mike (Dok) Cyr	IND	47
Arty Watson	IND	114
Carl Killen Returning Officer		
SAINT JOHN LANCASTER # 33		
K. Dorothy Shephard	PC	3560E
Sharon Teare	L	1471
Don Durant	NBNDP	201
Joanna Killen	PVNBGP	938
Paul Seelye	PANB	394
Arthur Sisk Returning Officer		
KINGS CENTRE # 34		
Bill Oliver	PC	4583E
Paul Adams	L	911
Margaret Anderson Kilfoil	NBNDP	254
Bruce Dryer	PVNBGP	1006
William Edgett	PANB	693
Melodie Bourque-Melanson Returning Officer		

 FUNDY-THE ISLES-SAINT JOHN WEST # 35

Andrea Anderson-Mason	PC	4740E
Tony Mann	L	726
Sharon R. Greenlaw	NBNDP	291
Lois P. Mitchell	PVNBGP	686
Vincent P. Edgett	PANB	688

Nancy Coulton
Returning Officer

SAINT CROIX # 36

Kathy Bockus	PC	3570E
John Wayne Gardner	L	401
Brad McKinney	NBNDP	147
Kim Reeder	PVNBGP	1238
Rod Cumberland	PANB	2546

Sylvie Guenette
Returning Officer

OROMOCTO-LINCOLN-FREDERICTON # 37

Mary E. Wilson	PC	3374E
Steven Burns	L	2072
Natasha M. Akhtar	NBNDP	127
Gail Costello	PVNBGP	1306
Craig Rector	PANB	745

Patrick Lynch
Returning Officer

FREDERICTON-GRAND LAKE # 38

Roy Wiggins	PC	2479
Eldon Hunter	L	749
Grenville Woollacott	KISSNBPP	18
Greg Cook	NBNDP	87
Ken Washburn	PVNBGP	1005
Kris Austin	PANB	3759E

Alison Gallagher
Returning Officer

NEW MARYLAND-SUNBURY # 39

Jeff Carr	PC	5342E
Chris Pelkey	L	1048
Chris Thompson	NBNDP	141
Jen Smith	PVNBGP	1463
Morris Shannon	PANB	1254

Eveline Harrison
Returning Officer

FREDERICTON SOUTH # 40

Brian MacKinnon	PC	2342
Nicole Picot	L	895
Geoffrey Noseworthy	NBNDP	117
David Coon	PVNBGP	4213E
Wendell Betts	PANB	234
Kathleen Simonds Returning Officer		

FREDERICTON NORTH # 41

Jill Green	PC	3227E
Stephen Horsman	L	1464
Mackenzie Thomason	NBNDP	100
Luke Randall	PVNBGP	2464
Allen Price	PANB	591
Kathleen MacDonald Returning Officer		

FREDERICTON-YORK # 42

Ryan P. Cullins	PC	3730E
Randy McKeen	L	872
Gerald Bourque	KISSNBPP	24
Steven J. LaForest	NBNDP	68
Melissa Fraser	PVNBGP	2110
Rick DeSaulniers	PANB	1991
Deanna Hawkins-Scott Returning Officer		

FREDERICTON WEST-HANWELL # 43

Dominic Cardy	PC	4726E
Chris Duffie	L	1510
Armand Cormier	NBNDP	131
Susan Jonah	PVNBGP	1745
Mel Keeling	PANB	825
Blake Kennedy Returning Officer		

CARLETON-YORK # 44

Richard Ames	PC	4750E
Robert Kitchen	L	940
Jarrett Oldenburg	NBNDP	110
Louise Comeau	PVNBGP	890
Gary Lemmon	PANB	1524
Nancy Sutherland Returning Officer		

CARLETON # 45		
Bill Hogan	PC	3536E
Theresa Blackburn	L	1239
Andy Walton	KISSNBPP	41
Shawn Oldenburg	NBNDP	80
Greg Crouse	PVNBGP	581
Graham Gill	PANB	1909

Eleanor Leonard
Returning Officer

CARLETON-VICTORIA # 46		
Margaret Johnson	PC	3330E
Andrew Harvey	L	2939
Meriet Gray Miller	NBNDP	113
Rowan Patrick Miller	PVNBGP	372
Terry Leigh Sisson	PANB	610

Vernon Thomas
Returning Officer

VICTORIA-LA VALLÉE # 47		
Roland Michaud	PC	2071
Chuck Chiasson	L	4365E
Nathanaël Denis Lavoie	PVNBGP	426
André Jobin	PANB	292
Danny Zolondek	IND	92

Brigitte Cyr Page
Returning Officer

EDMUNDSTON-MADAWASKA CENTRE # 48		
Joanne Bérubé Gagné	PC	1380
Jean-Claude (JC) D'Amours	L	5236E
Marco Morency	PVNBGP	415

Joanne Plourde
Returning Officer

MADAWASKA LES LACS-EDMUNDSTON # 49		
Marie-Eve Castonguay	PC	1763
Francine Landry	L	4583E
Marie-Soleil Lussier	PVNBGP	542

Jean Marquis
Returning Officer

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 Ms. Bockus, seconded by Mr. Cullins,

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

Ms. Bockus, a Member for the electoral district of Saint Croix, proposed an Address to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in answer to the speech, which she read in her place, and being seconded by Mr. Cullins, a Member for the electoral district of Fredericton-York, it was handed to the Chair where it was again read and is as follows:

Fredericton, N.B.
November 17, 2020.

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. Melanson, the Leader of the Opposition and the Member for the electoral district of Dieppe, adjourned over.

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

RESOLVED, that Sherry Wilson, Member for the electoral district of Moncton Southwest, and Andrea Anderson-Mason, Member for the electoral district of Fundy-The Isles-Saint John West, be appointed Deputy Speakers.

And then, 3.02 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 3

Wednesday, November 18, 2020
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to limit the number of Members seated on the Chamber floor to a maximum of 26, in order to allow for physical distancing, as follows: 14 Government Members; 9 Official Opposition Members; 2 Green Members; and 1 People's Alliance Member.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to allow the 26 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 22 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 the use of 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.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (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 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;

THAT this Special Order shall remain in effect during the remainder of the 60th Legislative Assembly.

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 2)

THAT the definition of “recognized party” in the Standing Rules be suspended for the duration of the 60th Legislative Assembly to provide members of the Green and People’s Alliance caucuses with the same rights and privileges as other members of recognized parties in the House under subsections 28(10) and (11) of the *Legislative Assembly Act* and under Standing Rules 40 and 40.1, with respect to Statements by Ministers and Statements by Members.

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

Mr. Speaker introduced the new pages for the session: Nora Ahmed, Cairo, Egypt; Kurvin Silvio, Grand Gaube, Mauritius; Anna Sirois, Edgecomb, Maine, United States; Emma Wagner, Bridgewater, Nova Scotia; Graci Young, Pictou, Nova Scotia.

The returning pages were: Sarah Albert, Edmundston; Head Page Andie Amaya, Calgary, Alberta; Khanh Do, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Curtis Kelly, Quispamsis.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to extend the time allotted for Statements by Members.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Melanson used unparliamentary language when he used the term “secret agenda”. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Crossman,

Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Cardy,

Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Early Childhood Services Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*.

-
- By Hon. Ms. M. Wilson,
Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*.
- By Hon. Mr. Flemming, Q.C.,
Bill 6, *Family Law Act*.
Bill 7, *An Act Respecting the Family Law Act*.
- By Hon. Mr. Savoie,
Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*.
- By Hon. Mr. Flemming, Q.C.,
Bill 9, *Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting Act*.
Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the Coroners Act*.
Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Queen's Counsel and Precedence Act*.
Bill 12, *Construction Remedies Act*.
Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*.
Bill 14, *An Act Respecting the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act
and the Wills Act*.
Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Notaries Public Act*.
- By Mr. K. Chiasson,
Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Elections Act*.
- By Mr. D'Amours,
Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette
Sales Act*.

Ms. Harris gave Notice of Motion 3 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS the chiefs of the Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq First Nations have written to the Premier asking for an inquiry into systemic racism in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

WHEREAS the information and recommendations from an inquiry should provide valuable insight into what measures can be adopted to best address the serious issue of racism in our criminal justice and policing systems;

WHEREAS the Premier of Nova Scotia has recently apologized for systemic racism in that province's justice system, that province has introduced significant reforms, and it has committed to additional reforms;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to appoint a commission of inquiry into systemic racism in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing under section 2 of the *Inquires Act*;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to appoint Indigenous commissioners and use the terms of reference developed by Indigenous leaders in the constitution of this inquiry;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to implement all of the recommendations of this inquiry.

Ms. Thériault gave Notice of Motion 4 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Guitard:

WHEREAS Clinic 554 provides invaluable health services to a large patient group, including services for marginalized patients with addictions, LGBTQ2SI+ patients, patients with HIV, and persons with mental health needs, as well as abortion services;

WHEREAS the province of New Brunswick has an obligation to provide sufficient access to the services provided by Clinic 554, including reproductive health services such as abortion;

WHEREAS access to abortion services that are currently only provided through public hospitals in Moncton and Bathurst is insufficient to meet existing demand;

WHEREAS insufficient access to abortion services represents a danger to the health and safety of those requiring them;

WHEREAS patients who require access to abortion should not have to pay out of pocket when they are legally entitled to have any associated costs covered through our Medicare;

WHEREAS the Horizon Health Network passed a motion from its board indicating that Horizon's board will "advocate to the government of New Brunswick for payment to physicians to provide abortion services in a quality and safe environment outside of hospitals";

WHEREAS the federal government has indicated that refusal to fund abortion services provided by Clinic 554 is a violation of the *Canada Health Act*;

WHEREAS the Higgs government has refused to fund the services provided by Clinic 554;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the province to fund the services provided by Clinic 554;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the provincial government to repeal paragraph (a.1) of Schedule 2 of regulation 84-20 of the *Medical Services Payment Act* that prevents the payment of abortions outside of a hospital setting.

Ms. Thériault gave Notice of Motion 5 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. D'Amours:

WHEREAS the various communities that make up New Brunswick are committed to the preservation and development of their respective cultural identities;

WHEREAS countries are becoming more and more economically integrated and it is all the more important that cultural communities be able to preserve their identity and a strong sense of belonging;

WHEREAS entrepreneurs in the book chain such as bookstores and publishers in New Brunswick play a fundamental role in the development of the book industry and literacy in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the Canadian Free Trade Agreement adopted in 2017 includes Article 809, which constitutes a cultural exception that allows for the adoption and maintenance of programs and policies favouring the distribution and development of artistic expression or content;

WHEREAS all international trade agreements signed by Canada provide exceptions for cultural industries;

WHEREAS entrepreneurs in the book chain are suffering the financial consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and no additional assistance is currently provided to them by the provincial government;

WHEREAS stakeholders in the cultural industry have been calling for the implementation of a book purchasing policy since the adoption of the New Brunswick Book Policy in 2009;

WHEREAS a book purchasing policy would make it possible to consolidate the local book chain and foster the development of reading of works produced in New Brunswick;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to develop and implement a book purchasing policy requiring institutional purchasers, including government departments and agencies, school districts, schools and agencies under their jurisdiction, and public libraries, to acquire books from New Brunswick independent bookstores and publishing houses.

Ms. Thériault gave Notice of Motion 6 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Gauvin:

WHEREAS the direct contribution of cultural industries to New Brunswick's GDP was \$550,379,000 in 2017;

WHEREAS the number of jobs related to culture in New Brunswick was 7,750 in 2017;

WHEREAS the typical artist had a median income of \$24,200 in 2016, an amount that is 38% less than the median income of the New Brunswick labour force, which is \$38,800;

WHEREAS there is no legislation on the status of the professional artist in New Brunswick and no body to assess and define the legal status of artists, resulting in a lack of recognition of status and the existence of glaring socio-economic inequalities for those in the profession;

WHEREAS most artists do not have access to employment insurance, health insurance, measures covering business risks and fluctuating income, workplace safety insurance or retirement on comparable terms as other professionals;

WHEREAS current programs covering benefits, employment insurance and pension plans are employee-based and do not take into account the realities of the artistic profession such as invisible work, which includes research and creation;

WHEREAS improving the socio-economic conditions of artists requires a link between the governments of New Brunswick and Canada, particularly with respect to: social benefits such as the pension plan; tax measures that take into account annual fluctuations in income, such as income averaging, exemptions on royalties and creation grants; measures related to remuneration and underemployment, such as a guaranteed annual income or employment insurance better adapted to self-employed workers and taking into account invisible work and the periodicity of earnings; measures providing for sick, parental or compassionate leave;

WHEREAS the Premier's Task Force on the Status of the Artist was established in July 2014 and is expected to report shortly;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to commit to the adoption of a Status of the Artist Act that is not merely declaratory but that contains concrete measures to substantially improve the socio-economic status of professional artists;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to establish, following the tabling of the report of the Premier's Task Force on the Status of the Artist, a Standing Committee on the Status of the Artist under the Office of the Premier to be responsible for the implementation of all of the report's recommendations, including those calling for a link between the provincial and federal governments;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to put in place, following the tabling of the report of the Premier's Task Force on the Status of the Artist, a timeline for the implementation of the recommended government measures to cover all of the economic and social risks associated with the artistic profession, including those that call for a link between the provincial and federal governments.

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 7 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Landry:

WHEREAS the Mental Health Court offers an alternative for offenders with mental health issues;

WHEREAS this program is widely praised by mental health advocates for its focus on community treatment as opposed to incarceration or other penalties;

WHEREAS the Mental Health Court program was developed based on best practices in other jurisdictions and informed by research;

WHEREAS the Gallant Government reinstated the Mental Health Court through the Provincial Court system in Saint John with plans to expand Mental Health Court services throughout the province;

WHEREAS there is a need to expand the Mental Health Court program to other regions of the province so that more offenders with mental health issues can avail themselves of this invaluable service for addressing their mental health needs;

WHEREAS other provinces including our neighbouring province of Nova Scotia have recognized the benefits of having a Mental Health Court and have made a commitment to expanding availability;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to expand the Mental Health Court program throughout the province and announce a specific time frame for doing so.

Mr. Gauvin gave Notice of Motion 8 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Thériault:

WHEREAS there is an alarming lack of affordable housing in many areas of the province and the situation is getting worse;

WHEREAS increased demand for rental units has resulted in significant increases to monthly rents for many people who cannot afford it;

WHEREAS there is insufficient subsidized housing to meet the demand;

WHEREAS chronic homelessness is a serious social problem that must be addressed;

WHEREAS, in 2018, the previous Liberal government signed a 10-year \$300-million cost-shared agreement with the federal government to tackle the issue of affordable housing;

WHEREAS this agreement provided for a pathway to protect, renew, and expand social and community housing;

WHEREAS municipalities like the City of Moncton have indicated that they are prepared to partner with the community and the province to make significant investments in social housing and support community housing initiatives like the Rising Tide project;

WHEREAS there have been two years of inaction by the Higgs government in addressing this serious issue that is a threat to the safety and security of many New Brunswickers who desperately need affordable housing;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government of New Brunswick to provide its share of the funding under the federal-provincial housing agreement and make affordable housing a priority;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government of New Brunswick to partner with municipalities and community housing organizations to provide funding support for community housing initiatives.

Ms. Landry gave Notice of Motion 9 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Legacy:

WHEREAS, as a result of the Climate Change Fund, the province is receiving significant tax revenues of over \$128 million for the 2020-21 fiscal year, which includes \$83 million going into general revenues;

WHEREAS, unlike the federal government, the province of New Brunswick has decided not to rebate the monies received through the federal carbon pricing plan to consumers;

WHEREAS, although certain tax revenues are being used to offset increases in excise taxes on gasoline and natural gas, there are additional tax revenues that could be used for funding climate change measures such as energy efficiency initiatives;

WHEREAS energy efficiency programs help businesses and consumers reduce energy consumption costs, support local business suppliers, and create jobs;

WHEREAS energy efficiency programs contribute to fighting the impacts of climate change:

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to direct that all additional carbon pricing revenues beyond those used to offset fuel prices be used to create a comprehensive energy efficiency and retrofit program for businesses and residential property owners and any excess be directed to other climate change initiatives.

Mr. LePage gave Notice of Motion 10 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS we are fortunate that many New Brunswick businesses are able to stay open despite the COVID-19 pandemic, many of which are seeing their revenues reduced significantly and are struggling to survive;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick has provided very little support for businesses, compared to other provinces;

WHEREAS generous business support programs provided by the federal government such as the wage subsidy program have helped many businesses survive that might otherwise have had to close or downsize significantly;

WHEREAS many New Brunswick businesses are worried about how they will survive when the federal subsidies are no longer available;

WHEREAS, unlike the federal business support programs and those of other provinces, the meagre business support programs provided by the Government of New Brunswick are non-forgivable loans that merely add to the debt of a business and put it at further risk;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick has not even provided financial support to help businesses pay for the cost of personal protective equipment for their employees or to offset the costs they have incurred to modify their business premises to accommodate health and safety requirements imposed under the Emergency Order;

WHEREAS small and medium-sized businesses and the jobs they provide are crucial to our economy and are deserving of needed support;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the Government of New Brunswick to bring forward a more comprehensive program of financial support to help New Brunswick businesses survive the pandemic.

Mr. LePage gave Notice of Motion 11 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Mallet:

WHEREAS there are many areas within New Brunswick that do not have adequate access to high-speed Internet;

WHEREAS access to high-speed Internet is crucial for many businesses and the lack of high-speed Internet creates an economic disadvantage for them in communities where it is not available;

WHEREAS access to high-speed Internet is also vital for individuals and communities;

WHEREAS the previous Liberal government invested \$10 million in high-speed Internet and 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 in our regular school program have had to access learning programs remotely, and there is a risk that, in the event of a further outbreak requiring the closure of schools, they and probably more students may have to do so again;

WHEREAS parents of students living in areas without access to high-speed Internet have expressed concern about the educational disadvantage faced by their children;

WHEREAS many post-secondary institutions have moved to an online platform to deliver their education and training programs and postsecondary students require access to high-speed Internet;

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers are now asked to work from home and thus need access to high-speed Internet;

WHEREAS many health services, including doctors' visits, are increasingly being delivered virtually as a result of the health and safety restrictions associated with the pandemic;

WHEREAS individuals, businesses, and communities in mostly rural areas of the province deserve access to high-speed Internet;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to make access to high-speed Internet for all areas of the province a top priority;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to invest in the necessary infrastructure to ensure access to high-speed Internet.

Mr. LePage gave Notice of Motion 12 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. K. Chiasson:

WHEREAS, as a result of the pandemic, there have been significant job losses including layoffs at WestJet, Mount Allison University, Air Canada, the Atlantic Lottery Corporation, and Caribou Mine;

WHEREAS many small businesses all over the province have also suffered as a result of the pandemic which caused reduced business revenues;

WHEREAS other provinces are announcing programs to spur economic recovery with strategic infrastructure investments;

WHEREAS the Higgs government has made very few infrastructure investments under the Canada-New Brunswick Infrastructure Agreement signed by the previous Liberal government;

WHEREAS, unlike other premiers, Premier Higgs has indicated that he is not interested in the new federal-provincial infrastructure program that provides an even more generous cost-sharing structure for provinces;

WHEREAS there are many worthwhile and beneficial infrastructure projects that would create jobs and spur economic growth at a time when we should be focused on economic recovery;

WHEREAS there are many critical municipal infrastructure needs that could be addressed through the proposed federal-provincial infrastructure program;

WHEREAS, not only will strategic infrastructure investments create jobs and spur economic growth, these investments will help address serious issues like the challenge of climate change, and avoid future costs;

WHEREAS, if New Brunswick does not make strategic infrastructure investments, economists predict that economic recovery will be slow and other provinces will recover at a much faster rate;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to recognize the importance of economic recovery and take advantage of the federal-provincial infrastructure program by making strategic infrastructure investments throughout the province a top priority.

Mr. Bourque gave Notice of Motion 13 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LePage:

WHEREAS the pandemic has created considerable challenges for the daycare sector;

WHEREAS, as a result of the pandemic, licenced daycares must implement health and safety measures that add additional expenses, including extra staffing;

WHEREAS, as a result of this additional cost burden, many daycare operators are struggling to keep their businesses open;

WHEREAS having access to daycare services is critical for many parents, including health care workers;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick government has not stepped up to assist licenced daycares;

WHEREAS, without additional support, there is a risk that many licenced daycares may have to close;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to put a support program in place to support licenced daycares which includes financial support to New Brunswick daycare operators.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Hon. Ms. Shephard: (Motion 14)

THAT notwithstanding Standing Rule 29(1), the time for the daily meeting and adjournment of the sitting of the Assembly on Fridays shall be as follows:

Friday 9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

THAT this Special Order shall remain in effect during the remainder of the 60th Legislative Assembly.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Friday, November 20, 2020, Bills 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 would be called for second reading.

And then, 2.07 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

2019-2020 Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission	October 16, 2020
2017-2018 Premier's Council on Disabilities	October 19, 2020
2018-2019 Premier's Council on Disabilities	October 19, 2020
Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume I, Performance Audit, 2020	October 20, 2020
2019-2020 New Brunswick Legal Aid Services Commission	October 28, 2020
2019-2020 New Brunswick Community College	October 29, 2020
2019-2020 Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick	October 29, 2020
2019-2020 Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation	October 29, 2020
2017 Office of the Chief Coroner	November 5, 2020
2019-2020 New Brunswick Research and Productivity Council	November 6, 2020
2019-2020 Service New Brunswick	November 10, 2020
2019-2020 New Brunswick Liquor Corporation	November 10, 2020
2019-2020 Cannabis NB	November 10, 2020
Report on Performance 2019-2020, Auditor General of New Brunswick	November 10, 2020
Legislative Activities 2019	November 13, 2020

Other

Public Accounts for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020, Volume 1, Consolidated Financial Statements	October 14, 2020
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Daily sitting 4

Thursday, November 19, 2020
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 Ms. Bockus, seconded by Mr. Cullins:

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 17, 2020.

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, 11.13 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 5

Friday, November 20, 2020

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 15)

THAT notwithstanding Standing Rules 30 and 40.1, the time allocated for “Statements of Condolence and Congratulation” and “Statements by Members” shall be limited to a maximum of eleven minutes for each item, and the statements under each item shall be allocated as follows: three for the Government Members, three for the Official Opposition Members, three for the Green Members, and two for the People’s Alliance Members;

THAT this Special Order shall remain in effect during the remainder of the 60th Legislative Assembly.

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

Mr. Speaker advised the House of a House Leaders’ agreement to follow the recommendation of the Department of Health that all Members and staff wear face masks at all times during the sittings of the House.

At 9.21 a.m. the House recessed. At 9.26 a.m. the House resumed.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to recess from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. and that the hour of daily adjournment be 3 p.m.

Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Coon referred to a Member by name and that Mr. Arseneau attributed certain comments to the Premier. Mr. Speaker ruled the first point well take and took the second point under advisement.

Mr. Speaker laid upon the table of the House the *Independent Auditor’s Report on the financial statements of the Office of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020*.

Mr. Arseneau, Member for Kent North, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to repair Route 505. (Petition 1)

Mr. Arseneau, Member for Kent North, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to replace the destroyed A255 bridge on Gray Road. (Petition 2)

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Coon,

Bill 18, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*.

Mr. Bourque gave Notice of Motion 16 that on Thursday, November 26, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Landry:

WHEREAS New Brunswick adopted the *Official Languages Act* in 1969, before Canada had even adopted an official languages act;

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

WHEREAS the House of Commons and the Senate of Canada both have standing committees on official languages;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick *Official Languages Act* contains a requirement that it be reviewed every 10 years;

WHEREAS the *Official Languages Act* is exceptional in that it prevails over all New Brunswick acts and regulations;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to establish a standing committee on official languages;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this committee enable its members, among other things, to play an active role in the review and the implementation of the *Official Languages Act* and *An Act Recognizing the Equality of the Two Official Linguistic Communities in New Brunswick*, in the 10-year review of the *Official Languages Act*, and in the review of reports from the Commissioner of Official Languages;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no party have a majority of members on this committee to ensure that no current or future government can make unilateral decisions regarding official languages.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 8, 3, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 2, 6, 7 and 14 be called for second reading until 1.30 p.m.; 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 8, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council 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 Executive Council Act*, was read a second time.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 3, *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 3 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Early Childhood Services Act*, was read a second time.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 9, *Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting 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, *Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting Act*, was read a second time.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the Coroners 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 Coroners Act*, was read a second time.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Queen's Counsel and Precedence Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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 to Amend the Queen's Counsel and Precedence Act*, was read a second time.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 12, *Construction Remedies Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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, *Construction Remedies Act*, was read a second time.

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

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 17)

THAT, pursuant to Standing Rule 89, the Standing Committee on Economic Policy be appointed for the duration of the 60th Legislative Assembly and that the membership of the said Committee be as follows:

Mr. Turner, Mr. Carr, Mr. Cullins, Mr. Ames, Mr. Wetmore, Ms. S. Wilson, Mr. LePage, Mr. K. Chiasson, Mr. Gauvin, Mr. Arseneau and Mr. Austin.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie advised the House of his intention to designate the Standing Committee on Economic Policy to consider the Bills that received second reading this sitting day. Accordingly, Bills 3, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 were ordered referred to the committee.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 13 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 13, *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 15, *An Act to Amend the Notaries Public Act*, 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 to Amend the Notaries Public 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 2, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 2 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 2, *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 6, *Family Law Act*, a debate arose thereon.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

At 1.02 p.m. the House recessed. At 2.09 p.m. the House resumed.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to adjourn the debate on second reading of Bill 6.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Ms. Bockus, seconded by Mr. Cullins:

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 17, 2020.

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. S. Wilson, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

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

And then, 2.49 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 6

Tuesday, November 24, 2020

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

The Acting Clerk addressed the House as follows:

Members,

I wish to advise you that due to the travel restrictions recommended by Public Health in Zone 1 and Zone 2 of the province, our Speaker and both Deputy Speakers made the appropriate and prudent decision not to travel to the Legislative Assembly today. As such, due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, we must rely on Standing Rule 18 and section 16 of the Legislative Assembly Act.

Accordingly, when the Legislative Assembly is informed by the Clerk of the unavoidable absence of the Speaker and both Deputy Speakers, on a motion by which the question shall be put by the Clerk, the Legislative Assembly shall appoint a Member to take the chair and act as Speaker during the continuance of the absence or until the Legislative Assembly otherwise orders.

The Acting Clerk recognized Hon. Ms. Green, Acting Government House Leader.

Hon. Ms. Green moved, seconded by Hon. Ms. Shephard:

THAT Jeff Carr, Member for the electoral district of New Maryland-Sunbury, be appointed Acting Speaker for the remainder of this sitting day, November 24, 2020.

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

Mr. Carr took the chair as Acting Speaker.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 45, Mr. Arseneau rose to request an emergency debate on the Legislature implementing virtual and hybrid sittings.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that the request for an emergency debate was out of order. Mr. Arseneau spoke on the point of order.

The Acting Speaker advised the House that he would take the matter under advisement.

Hon. Ms. Green requested the unanimous consent of the House to proceed to Statements by Ministers, and unanimous consent was denied.

Hon. Ms. Green moved, seconded by Hon. Ms. Shephard:

THAT the House do now proceed to Statements by Ministers.

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

The Acting Speaker, at the request of Hon. Ms. Green, reverted to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House.

With leave of the House, Hon. Ms. Green moved, seconded by Hon. Ms. Shephard: (Motion 18)

WHEREAS the following public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, were listed in the 2020 Annual Report, *Statute Repeal Act*, laid before the Legislative Assembly on March 12, 2020, 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, 2019, 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
5. *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act*, S.N.B. 2010, c.24
6. *Early Childhood Services Act* (formerly the *Early Learning and Childcare Act*), S.N.B. 2010, c.E-0.5, s.18, 54, Part 3

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, 2020, 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.

Hon. Ms. Green moved, seconded by Hon. Ms. Shephard:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, December 8, 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 or that the adjournment should continue beyond Tuesday, December 8, 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.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the motion, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 11

Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. Landry
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. K. Chiasson
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Stewart	Mr. LePage
Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Arseneault	

NAYS - 4

Mr. Coon	Ms. Conroy	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Austin		

The Acting Speaker delivered the following ruling with respect to the request for an emergency debate:

STATEMENT BY ACTING SPEAKER

Members,

I now wish to address the request for an emergency debate by the Member for Kent North, regarding virtual or hybrid sittings of the Legislative Assembly. Obviously, this is a very important matter and a matter that has to be resolved, and in this day and age of global pandemic, we see other Legislatures and Houses conducting their business virtually.

It is my understanding that this has been discussed by our Legislative Administration Committee, otherwise known as LAC, a few weeks ago and will likely be discussed again at the next committee meeting. As well, given that the majority of our Members were unable to attend today's sitting, including our Speaker and Deputy Speakers, I do not believe that it would be appropriate for us to schedule such an important debate in the current circumstances. As such, the Member's request for an emergency debate is denied.

And then, 1.49 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 2019-2020
Opportunities NB

November 20, 2020

Daily sitting 7

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to observe a moment of silence on the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in remembrance of the École Polytechnique massacre.

Mr. Turner, 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 8, 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 first report.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 99, the Clerk Assistant convened a meeting of the Standing Committee on Economic Policy on November 20, 2020, in the Legislative Assembly Chamber and presided over the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair. On motion of Mr. Cullins, Mr. Turner was elected Chair of the Committee. On motion of Mr. Ames, Mr. Carr was elected Vice-Chair.

Your Committee met on December 4 and had under consideration:

Bill 9, *Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting Act*;
Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the Coroners Act*;
Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Queen's Counsel and Precedence Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Holder,

Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act.*

Bill 20, *An Act to Amend the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission and Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal Act.*

Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act.*

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

Bill 22, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Control Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Allain,

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Holland,

Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act.*

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 19 that on Thursday, December 17, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic is creating a great deal of uncertainty for anyone who is forced to move out of their apartment, especially in orange zones;

WHEREAS Nova Scotia instituted a rent cap of 2% for existing tenants, retroactive to September 1, 2020, that will remain in place until February 2021 or the state of emergency is lifted, whichever comes first;

WHEREAS Nova Scotia has banned renovictions until February 2021 or when the state of emergency is lifted, whichever comes first;

WHEREAS renters in New Brunswick are facing similar problems to those in Nova Scotia due to a low vacancy rate;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to put a cap on rental increases;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ban lease terminations due to renovations, also known as renovictions, until February 2021, or when the state of emergency in New Brunswick is lifted, whichever comes first.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Wednesday, December 9, 2020, Bills 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 4, 5, 6, 7 and 14 be called for second reading until 4.30 p.m.; following which the House would resume the adjourned debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 20)

THAT, pursuant to Standing Rule 89, the following Standing Committees be appointed for the 60th Legislative Assembly and that the membership of the said Committees be as follows:

The Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship be composed of Mr. Hogan, Hon. Mr. Holland, Hon. Ms. Johnson, Hon. Mr. Crossman, Ms. Bockus, Mr. Stewart, Ms. Landry, Mr. Mallet, Mr. LeBlanc, Ms. Mitton and Ms. Conroy.

The Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy be composed of Hon. Mr. Savoie, Mr. Turner, Mr. Carr, Ms. Bockus, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Ames, Mr. Legacy, Mr. Bourque, Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Arseneau and Mr. Austin.

The Standing Committee on Law Amendments be composed of Hon. Mr. Flemming, Ms. Anderson-Mason, Mr. Hogan, Ms. Bockus, Ms. S. Wilson, Mr. Cullins, Mr. D'Amours, Mr. Legacy, Mr. McKee, Mr. Coon and Ms. Conroy.

The Standing Committee on Private Bills be composed of Mr. Cullins, Mr. Ames, Ms. S. Wilson, Mr. Hogan, Ms. Bockus, Ms. Anderson-Mason, Mr. C. Chiasson, Mr. Guitard, Mr. Mallet, Ms. Mitton and Mr. Austin.

The Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers be composed of Mr. Carr, Mr. Turner, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Wetmore, Mr. Ames, Ms. S. Wilson, Mr. D'Amours, Mr. Arseneault, Ms. Thériault, Mr. Coon and Ms. Conroy.

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts be composed of Ms. Anderson-Mason, Mr. Cullins, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Turner, Mr. Wetmore, Mr. Carr, Mr. C. Chiasson, Ms. Harris, Mr. McKee, Ms. Mitton and Ms. Conroy.

The Standing Committee on Social Policy be composed of Mr. Hogan, Mr. Wetmore, Mr. Carr, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Ames, Ms. Bockus, Mr. Guitard, Mr. K. Chiasson, Mr. Gauvin, Ms. Mitton and Ms. Conroy.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie requested leave of the House to move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 21)

THAT, pursuant to Standing Rule 89, notwithstanding Standing Rule 104, the Legislative Administration Committee be appointed for the duration of the 60th Legislative Assembly and that the membership of the said Committee be as follows:

Hon. Mr. Oliver, Ms. S. Wilson, Ms. Anderson-Mason, Hon. Mr. Savoie, Hon. Ms. Green, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Turner, Mr. Melanson, Mr. Arseneault, Mr. Coon, Mr. Arseneau, Mr. Austin, and Ms. Conroy; and

THAT, pursuant to section 37 of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, the Legislative Assembly delegate to the Legislative Administration Committee its authority under the Act with respect to amounts, indemnities, allowances and salaries and with respect to the amendment of Schedule A.

Leave to dispense with notice of Motion 21 was denied. Accordingly, notice was given for Friday, December 11, 2020.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Assessment 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 Assessment 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 Assessment 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 Assessment 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 6, *Family Law Act*, be now read a second time.

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, *Family Law 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 7, *An Act Respecting the Family Law Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 7 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 7, *An Act Respecting the Family Law 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 Respecting the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act and the Wills 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 Respecting the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act and the Wills Act*, 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 Ms. Bockus, seconded by Mr. Cullins:

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 17, 2020.

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.

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

Annual Report 2018-2019 Department of Justice and Office of the Attorney General	November 24, 2020
Annual Report 2019-2020 Department of Social Development	November 26, 2020
Annual Report 2019-2020 Department of Public Safety	November 27, 2020
Annual Report 2019-2020 Labour and Employment Board	November 27, 2020
Annual Report 2019-2020 Department of Aboriginal Affairs	December 2, 2020

Daily sitting 8

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that the Premier used unparliamentary language when he used the term “grow up” in reference to Mr. Melanson. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken, but asked Members to raise the level of debate.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that electronic devices were used during question period. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken as unanimous consent had been granted for the use of electronic devices, as long as the devices were not disruptive or interfering with the conventions of the House. Mr. Speaker, however, cautioned Members on how such devices were used during question period.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that the Premier broke Cabinet solidarity and confidentiality when he commented on Mr. Melanson’s participation in certain Covid Cabinet Committee meetings. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken as Cabinet solidarity and confidentiality were not within the jurisdiction of the Speaker to rule upon.

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Ms. Bockus,

Bill 25, *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.

Hon. Mr. Steeves gave Notice of Motion 22 that on Tuesday, December 15, 2020, 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. Melanson gave Notice of Motion 23 that on Thursday, December 17, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS the Legislative Administration Committee (LAC) is responsible for the administration, operation, management, maintenance, and control of the Legislative Building, the Legislative Library, and other lands, buildings, and facilities connected with the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the committee, chaired by the Speaker, is also responsible generally for all matters relating to the Legislative Assembly and to the Members of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the meetings of the Legislative Administration Committee are held in camera without access by media and the public;

WHEREAS there is need for greater openness and transparency with respect to the affairs of the Legislative Assembly and the deliberations of its elected members;

WHEREAS, although there are discussions on certain matters before LAC that require confidentiality, including human resource issues, much of the business of LAC could be discussed in an open forum;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Speaker to work with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly to bring forward a plan for greater openness and transparency by the Legislative Administration Committee.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, December 10, 2020, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 3 and 4.

Hon. Mr. Savoie requested leave of the House to move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 24)

THAT in addition to the existing sitting hours prescribed in Standing Rule 29(1) and by Special Order of the House adopted November 18, 2020, 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 Tuesday, December 15, 2020, and shall remain in effect until Thursday, December 31, 2020.

Leave to dispense with notice of Motion 24 was denied. Accordingly, notice was given for Tuesday, December 15, 2020.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bills 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24 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 for 1.5 hours; following which the House would adjourn.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 9, *Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting Act*.

Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the Coroners Act*.

Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Queen's Counsel and Precedence Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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 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 20, *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 20 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 20, *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 21, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Mr. Coon, seconded by Ms. Mitton, 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 21, *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 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And after some time, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved the adjournment of the debate.

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

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 22, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Control 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, *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 23, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Mr. Arseneau, seconded by Mr. Coon, 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 23, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections 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.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative.

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 Municipal Elections 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 24, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 24 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, 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 Ms. Bockus, seconded by Mr. Cullins:

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 17, 2020.

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 adjournment had arrived.

And then, 4 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 9

Thursday, December 10, 2020

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Melanson used unparliamentary language when he stated that Hon. Mr. Fitch had not answered questions “in a truthful manner”. Mr. Melanson withdrew the remark.

Hon. Mr. Flemming laid upon the table of the House documents entitled *Annual Report 2018, Office of the Chief Coroner* and *Annual Report 2019, Office of the Chief Coroner*.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Gauvin,

Bill 26, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bill 21 be called for second reading until 12 p.m.; following which the House would resume at 2.30 p.m. for Opposition Members' Business.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act*, be now read a second time, moved by Mr. Coon, seconded by Ms. Mitton, on Wednesday, December 9, 2020.

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

YEAS - 21

Mr. Arseneault
Ms. Thériault
Mr. Melanson
Mr. McKee
Ms. Landry
Ms. Harris
Mr. Coon

Mr. LeBlanc
Mr. K. Chiasson
Mr. C. Chiasson
Mr. Bourque
Mr. LePage
Mr. D'Amours
Ms. Mitton

Ms. Conroy
Mr. Legacy
Mr. Guitard
Mr. Gauvin
Mr. Mallet
Mr. Landry
Mr. Arseneau

 NAYS - 26

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	

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 Industrial Relations 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 p.m. the House recessed. At 2.47 p.m. the House resumed.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Members,

There is a long-standing convention in our House and in other legislatures across Canada and the Commonwealth, that the use of props is not permitted.

To quote the *House of Commons Procedure and Practice*, Third Edition, at page 617:

Speakers have consistently ruled that visual displays or demonstrations of any kind used by Members to illustrate their remarks or emphasize their positions are out of order. Similarly, props of any kind have always been found to be unacceptable in the Chamber.

Today, it has been brought to my attention that we have a number of Members in the Chamber who are wearing masks with a message that is causing some disorder with other Members. As such, while the nature of the message is certainly a matter of great importance, and I respect the Members for their compassion, I would ask that the Members please remove and replace the masks in question.

Mr. Coon requested clarification on the acceptability of certain masks. Mr. Speaker advised that masks which may cause disruption or could be perceived as problematic with other Members would not be allowed.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 3, Ms. Harris moved, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS the chiefs of the Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq First Nations have written to the Premier asking for an inquiry into systemic racism in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

WHEREAS the information and recommendations from an inquiry should provide valuable insight into what measures can be adopted to best address the serious issue of racism in our criminal justice and policing systems;

WHEREAS the Premier of Nova Scotia has recently apologized for systemic racism in that province's justice system, that province has introduced significant reforms, and it has committed to additional reforms;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to appoint a commission of inquiry into systemic racism in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing under section 2 of the *Inquires Act*;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to appoint Indigenous commissioners and use the terms of reference developed by Indigenous leaders in the constitution of this inquiry;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to implement all of the recommendations of this inquiry.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Hon. Ms. Dunn, seconded by the Honourable the Premier, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 3 be amended by striking out all three resolution clauses and substituting the following:

“BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly acknowledge the existence of systemic racism and the need to undertake vital steps to eliminate it in all its forms;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to continue consultations with First Nations communities to identify a plan to address systemic racism;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to take immediate and tangible actions to ensure that the fundamental equality of all persons is promoted and celebrated;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly support the work of the All Nations and Parties Working Group on Truth and Reconciliation, which is a committee that includes members from the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqey and Peskotomuhkati Nations and all four political parties represented in the Legislative Assembly.”

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

At 3.23 p.m. the House recessed. At 3.30 p.m. the House resumed

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that the amendment was out of order as it negated the intent of the motion. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that based on the previous ruling, the Speaker appeared to have received a copy of the amendment in advance of the Opposition. Mr. Speaker advised that amendments are often submitted to the Clerk's Office for review prior to their introduction in the House.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

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

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to Motion 3 be amended by adding the following after the last resolution clause:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to appoint a commission of inquiry into systemic racism in the New Brunswick criminal justice and policing systems under section 2 of the *Inquiries Act* using the term of reference developed by Indigenous leaders, with Indigenous commissioners appointed to the commission.”

Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that the sub-amendment was out of order as it reintroduced the wording that the amendment proposed to remove.

At 3.53 p.m. the House recessed. At 4.02 p.m. the House resumed

Madam Deputy Speaker ruled the point well taken and advised the House that the sub-amendment was out of order as it was clearly an attempt to negate the amendment under consideration.

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

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to Motion 3 be amended in the first resolution clause by adding after “forms” the following: “, including investigations of a form agreed to by Wolastoqey, Mi’kmaw and Peskotomuhkati Chiefs”.

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

At 4.29 p.m. the House recessed. At 4.35 p.m. the House resumed

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

YEAS - 23

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Austin	Ms. Conroy	

NAYS - 24

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Turner

Madam Deputy Speaker put the question on the amendment and it was adopted.

Madam Deputy Speaker put the question on Motion 3 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS the chiefs of the Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq First Nations have written to the Premier asking for an inquiry into systemic racism in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

WHEREAS the information and recommendations from an inquiry should provide valuable insight into what measures can be adopted to best address the serious issue of racism in our criminal justice and policing systems;

WHEREAS the Premier of Nova Scotia has recently apologized for systemic racism in that province's justice system, that province has introduced significant reforms, and it has committed to additional reforms;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly acknowledge the existence of systemic racism and the need to undertake vital steps to eliminate it in all its forms;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to continue consultations with First Nations communities to identify a plan to address systemic racism;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to take immediate and tangible actions to ensure that the fundamental equality of all persons is promoted and celebrated;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly support the work of the All Nations and Parties Working Group on Truth and Reconciliation, which is a committee that includes members from the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqey and Peskotomuhkati Nations and all four political parties represented in the Legislative Assembly.

And the question being put, Motion 3 as amended was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 24

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Turner

NAYS - 23

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Austin	Ms. Conroy	

And then, 5.56 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 10 Friday, December 11, 2020
9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Bourque, Member for Kent South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to increase police patrolling to curtail traffic infractions in certain communities. (Petition 3)

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Ms. Anderson-Mason, Q.C.,
Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Saint John Transit Commission Act.*

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 25 that on Thursday, December 17, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LePage:

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, however stored, electronically or otherwise, including but not limited to, e-mails, mobile to mobile device communication, PINs, and SMS text messages regarding discussions and agreements with Groupe Lokia, its long-term care and special care facilities in New Brunswick including Manoir de la Vallée, Manoir Brise de l'Oasis, Manoir Oasis de la Baie, Manoir Sugarloaf, Manoir Sunrise, and its representatives and agents, in relation to, but not limited to, the pilot project, staffing ratios, and care levels.

Hon. 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 for one hour; following which the House would adjourn.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Ms. Bockus, seconded by Mr. Cullins:

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 17, 2020.

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

And then, 11.17 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 2019-2020

Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture
and Fisheries

December 10, 2020

Daily sitting 11

Tuesday, December 15, 2020

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Turner, 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 15, 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 second report.

Your Committee met on December 9 and 11 and had under consideration:

Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner,
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. Cullins, from the Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

December 15, 2020

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

Mr. Speaker:

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

Pursuant to Standing Rule 99, the Committee Clerk convened a meeting of the Standing Committee on Private Bills on December 10, 2020, in the Legislative Assembly Chamber and presided over the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair. On motion of Hon. Mr. Savoie, Mr. Cullins was elected Chair of the Committee. On motion of Hon. Mr. Savoie, Mr. Ames was elected Vice-Chair.

Your Committee met on December 15, 2020, in the Legislative Council Chamber and had under consideration the following Bill:

Bill 25, *An Act to Remove Certain Restrictive Covenants on Title to Certain Lands in The City of Saint John vested in Plazacorp Property Holdings Inc.*;

which it recommends to the favourable consideration of the House.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

I move, seconded by the Member for Carleton-York, that the report be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Ryan Cullins, M.L.A.
Chair

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

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. K. Chiasson,
Bill 28, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act.*

Mr. Melanson gave Notice of Motion 26 that on Thursday, December 24, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS 49 MLAs represent the interests of their constituents throughout the province in the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS every Member of the Legislative Assembly should have the opportunity to participate fully in the business of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, under the guidance of Public Health and Public Safety, the province has enacted an Emergency Order that imposes certain restrictions on

gatherings which may vary from one region of the province to another based on outbreaks of the virus;

WHEREAS parliamentary bodies have had to adapt to the new reality of COVID-19 and modify the rules for participation by elected members in the affairs of Parliaments and/or Legislative Assemblies;

WHEREAS the technology is available to permit all elected members to participate in the affairs of the Legislative Assembly remotely through virtual participation;

WHEREAS the Parliament of Canada and other Legislative Assemblies have adopted the use of technologies that provide for virtual participation;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly has not adapted the use of technology for virtual participation for routine proceedings;

WHEREAS, given the ongoing threat of COVID-19, some Members of the Legislative Assembly may be reluctant to attend the Legislative Assembly out of concern for themselves and others;

WHEREAS a Member of the Legislative Assembly who might not be in favour of virtual technology should not be able to subvert the will of the Legislative Administration Committee whose members are supportive of using the technology for virtual sittings of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the Standing Committee on Economic Policy met and agreed to use virtual technology that would permit elected members to participate remotely;

WHEREAS the technology is available, has been tested, and can be put in operation right away;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Speaker to ensure that technology is immediately adopted in the Legislative Assembly that allows for virtual participation in the affairs of the Legislative Assembly.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, Bill 25 would be called for second reading.

Hon. 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; following which the House would consider Motion 22.

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 Ms. Bockus, seconded by Mr. Cullins:

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 17, 2020.

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.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that he had stood to request a recorded division. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken.

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, Ms. Bockus and Mr. Cullins be the Committee to Wait upon Her Honour with the Address and present the same.

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 15, 2020.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmits the *Capital Estimates* for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022, the *Supplementary Estimates 2020-2021, Volume I*, and the *Supplementary Estimates 2018-2019, Volume I*, 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 22, 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 2021-2022 capital budget speech.

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

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 Ms. S. Wilson in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Ms. S. Wilson, 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 she was directed to ask leave to sit again.

Ms. S. Wilson 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.

Hon. 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.

And then, 3.12 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 12

Wednesday, December 16, 2020
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Ms. Harris rose on a point of order and submitted that certain Members were not consistently wearing their masks. Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken and reminded Members to wear their masks.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that a Minister made an unfavourable comparison between Mr. K. Chiasson and Donald Trump. Mr. Speaker reminded Members to raise the level of debate and refrain from making certain comparisons that may cause disorder.

Mr. Turner, 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 16, 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 third report.

Your Committee met on December 15 and had under consideration:

Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act*;
Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*;
Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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 Mr. Arseneau,
Bill 29, *Local Food Security Act*.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, December 17, 2020, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 4, Bill 28 and Motion 16.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bill 25 be called for second reading; following which the House would resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the Supplementary Estimates 2018-2019, Volume I, the Supplementary Estimates 2020-2021, Volume I, and the Capital Estimates of the Departments of Transportation and Infrastructure, Health and Education and Early Childhood Development; following which the House would consider Motion 21.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

The following Private Bill was read a second time:

Bill 25, *An Act to Remove Certain Restrictive Covenants on Title to Certain Lands in The City of Saint John vested in Plazacorp Property Holdings Inc.*

Pursuant to Standing Rule 121, Mr. Speaker ordered Private Bill 25 for third reading forthwith.

The following Private Bill was read a third time:

Bill 25, *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 that the said Bill does pass.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Ms. S. Wilson in the chair.

At 12 p.m. the Committee recessed. At 1.04 p.m. the Committee resumed.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Ms. S. Wilson, 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, had passed several items, 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.

The following are the items reported:

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 2018-2019, VOLUME I

RESOLVED, that there be granted to Her Majesty sums not exceeding the following to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2019:

ORDINARY ACCOUNT	Voted (\$)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
Commissions Paid to Collectors of Pari-Mutuel Taxes ...	98,988.47
Provision for Losses	3,752,170.07
OTHER AGENCIES	
New Brunswick Police Commission	50,037.71
DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission	1,841,021.06
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	
Security and Emergencies Division.....	73,629,699.01
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Child Welfare and Disability Support Services	20,833,693.91
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Winter Maintenance.....	11,009,331.07

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
Local Service Districts	180,616.52

LOANS AND ADVANCES

DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Student Loan Advances	1,865,242.56

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 2020-2021, VOLUME I

RESOLVED, that there be granted to Her Majesty sums not exceeding the following to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2021:

ORDINARY ACCOUNT	Voted (\$)
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	
Corporate and Other Education Services	8,500,000
Early Childhood Development	10,500,000
School Districts	27,000,000
Voted	46,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
Corporate Services and Community Funding	40,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Corporate and Other Health Services	6,000,000
Part III Health Services	104,000,000
Voted	110,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY	
Attorney General	200,000
Community Safety Division	6,800,000
Justice Services	500,000
Law Enforcement and Inspections Division	9,500,000
Security and Emergencies Division	25,000,000
Voted	42,000,000
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY	
Elections New Brunswick	9,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Employment Development	34,750,000

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Child Welfare and Youth Services	1,900,000
Seniors and Long Term Care	14,400,000
Voted.....	16,300,000

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, HERITAGE AND CULTURE

Tourism.....	3,500,000
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Buildings Group.....	2,500,000
Maintenance.....	900,000
New Brunswick Highway Corporation.....	7,350,000
Winter Maintenance.....	2,000,000
Voted.....	12,750,000

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Public Hospitals - Capital Equipment.....	6,000,000
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LOANS AND ADVANCES

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

New Brunswick Small Business Working Capital Loan Program.....	14,000,000
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The said items were concurred in by the House.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to revert to Introduction of Bills.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 30, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2018-2019 (1)*.

Bill 31, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (1)*.

Mr. Speaker announced that pursuant to Standing Rule 42.3(1), Bills 30 and 31 were ordered for second and third reading forthwith.

The following Bills were read a second time:

Bill 30, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2018-2019 (1)*.

Bill 31, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (1)*.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 30, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2018-2019 (1)*.

Bill 31, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (1)*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 21, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT, pursuant to Standing Rule 89, notwithstanding Standing Rule 104, the Legislative Administration Committee be appointed for the duration of the 60th Legislative Assembly and that the membership of the said Committee be as follows:

Hon. Mr. Oliver, Ms. S. Wilson, Ms. Anderson-Mason, Hon. Mr. Savoie, Hon. Ms. Green, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Turner, Mr. Melanson, Mr. Arseneault, Mr. Coon, Mr. Arseneau, Mr. Austin, and Ms. Conroy; and

THAT, pursuant to section 37 of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, the Legislative Assembly delegate to the Legislative Administration Committee its authority under the Act with respect to amounts, indemnities, allowances and salaries and with respect to the amendment of Schedule A.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that the comments of Mr. Arseneau were beyond the scope of the motion. Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken.

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

AMENDMENT

That Motion 21 be amended by adding after the first resolution clause the following:

“THAT the Legislative Administration Committee meet in public, except when discussing a personal matter relating to one or more employees of the Assembly or to one or more Assembly offices; a legal matter involving existing or anticipated legal proceedings; or a matter relating to the preparation of annual estimates of expenditures of the Legislative Assembly;”

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that the amendment was out of order as it introduced elements beyond the scope of the motion. Ms. Mitton and Mr. Arseneault spoke on the point of order.

At 2.45 p.m. the House recessed. At 3.06 p.m. the House resumed.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Members,

I have reviewed the amendment moved by the Member for Kent North and the arguments made for and against.

I certainly understand the Member's passion concerning the deliberations of the Committee. However, the purpose of Motion 21 is to appoint the Legislative Administration Committee, to specify its membership, and to delegate it certain powers.

How the Committee operates or conducts its proceedings is beyond the scope of this motion and not relevant to the purpose of the motion. There is currently a motion on the Order Paper which may offer a more appropriate opportunity to have this debate.

As well, the wording of the second paragraph of the motion mirrors the wording of section 37 of the *Legislative Assembly Act*. Section 37 does not place restrictions on how the Committee's powers are utilized or how the committee conducts its proceedings. As such, I do not feel comfortable placing restrictions on the delegation of powers beyond those of the said Act as the proposed amendment appears to do. Accordingly, I find the amendment to be out of order.

I would encourage the Member to raise this matter in the Committee, participate in the debate on the motion I referred to earlier, or perhaps move his own motion concerning the deliberations of the Legislative Administration Committee.

Debate resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 21 was resolved in the affirmative.

And then, 3.10 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 13

Thursday, December 17, 2020

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Turner, 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 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 fourth report.

Your Committee met on December 16 and had under consideration:

Bill 6, *Family Law Act*;
Bill 7, *An Act Respecting the Family Law Act*;
Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*;
Bill 12, *Construction Remedies Act*;
Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act*;
Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that the House recess until 2.30 p.m., at which time Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act*.
Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*.
Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

At 11.27 a.m. the House recessed. At 2.30 p.m. the House resumed

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 4, Ms. Thériault moved, seconded by Mr. Guitard:

WHEREAS Clinic 554 provides invaluable health services to a large patient group, including services for marginalized patients with addictions, LGBTQ2SI+ patients, patients with HIV, and persons with mental health needs, as well as abortion services;

WHEREAS the province of New Brunswick has an obligation to provide sufficient access to the services provided by Clinic 554, including reproductive health services such as abortion;

WHEREAS access to abortion services that are currently only provided through public hospitals in Moncton and Bathurst is insufficient to meet existing demand;

WHEREAS insufficient access to abortion services represents a danger to the health and safety of those requiring them;

WHEREAS patients who require access to abortion should not have to pay out of pocket when they are legally entitled to have any associated costs covered through our Medicare;

WHEREAS the Horizon Health Network passed a motion from its board indicating that Horizon's board will "advocate to the government of New Brunswick for payment to physicians to provide abortion services in a quality and safe environment outside of hospitals";

WHEREAS the federal government has indicated that refusal to fund abortion services provided by Clinic 554 is a violation of the *Canada Health Act*;

WHEREAS the Higgs government has refused to fund the services provided by Clinic 554;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the province to fund the services provided by Clinic 554;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the provincial government to repeal paragraph (a.1) of Schedule 2 of regulation 84-20 of the *Medical Services Payment Act* that prevents the payment of abortions outside of a hospital setting.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

AMENDMENT

That Motion 4 be amended by striking out both resolution clauses and substituting the following:

“BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to task the Regional Health Authorities with determining if abortion services in New Brunswick follow the *Canada Health Act*;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to task the Regional Health Authorities with prioritizing primary health care access for all New Brunswickers, including adequate services to the LGBTQ2SI+ community.”

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

At 3.06 p.m. the House recessed. At 3.14 p.m. the House resumed.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that the amendment was out of order as the health authorities lack jurisdiction and the federal government already determined that New Brunswick was contravening the *Canada Health Act*.

At 3.17 p.m. the House recessed. At 3.22 p.m. the House resumed.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Honourable Members,

I have reviewed the original motion and the proposed amendment by the Minister of Health, and I find the amendment to be in order for the following reasons.

The subject matter of the proposed amendment is not foreign to the original motion. Both the amendment and the original motion relate to the provision of abortion services. The original motion urges the government to fund the service outside of a hospital setting, while the amendment urges the government to determine whether abortion services comply with the applicable legislation.

Whether the determination has already been made by the federal government is not for the Speaker to decide, nor is the question of whether the health authorities have the necessary jurisdiction. The amendment merely attempts to make the motion more acceptable to the House. I also find that the amendment does not negate the intent of the original motion. Rather, it presents a modified proposal for the consideration of the House.

Debate resumed.

And after some time, Ms. Landry, seconded by Mr. K. Chiasson, moved a sub-amendment:

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the following be added after the second resolution clause:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to fund expanded access to abortion services provided in a clinical setting outside of hospitals including those provided in private clinics.”

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

At 3.39 p.m. the House recessed. At 4.05 p.m. the House resumed.

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

YEAS - 20

Mr. Arseneault
Ms. Thériault
Mr. Melanson
Mr. McKee
Ms. Landry
Ms. Harris
Mr. Coon

Mr. LeBlanc
Mr. K. Chiasson
Mr. C. Chiasson
Mr. Bourque
Mr. LePage
Mr. D'Amours
Ms. Mitton

Mr. Legacy
Mr. Guitard
Mr. Gauvin
Mr. Mallet
Mr. Landry
Mr. Arseneau

NAYS - 27

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Austin

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

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 4 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS Clinic 554 provides invaluable health services to a large patient group, including services for marginalized patients with addictions, LGBTQ2SI+ patients, patients with HIV, and persons with mental health needs, as well as abortion services;

WHEREAS the province of New Brunswick has an obligation to provide sufficient access to the services provided by Clinic 554, including reproductive health services such as abortion;

WHEREAS access to abortion services that are currently only provided through public hospitals in Moncton and Bathurst is insufficient to meet existing demand;

WHEREAS insufficient access to abortion services represents a danger to the health and safety of those requiring them;

WHEREAS patients who require access to abortion should not have to pay out of pocket when they are legally entitled to have any associated costs covered through our Medicare;

WHEREAS the Horizon Health Network passed a motion from its board indicating that Horizon's board will "advocate to the government of New Brunswick for payment to physicians to provide abortion services in a quality and safe environment outside of hospitals";

WHEREAS the federal government has indicated that refusal to fund abortion services provided by Clinic 554 is a violation of the *Canada Health Act*;

WHEREAS the Higgs government has refused to fund the services provided by Clinic 554;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to task the Regional Health Authorities with determining if abortion services in New Brunswick follow the *Canada Health Act*;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to task the Regional Health Authorities with prioritizing primary health care access for all New Brunswickers, including adequate services to the LGBTQ2SI+ community.

And the question being put, Motion 4 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 28, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections 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, 6 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 2019-2020

Office of the Commissioner of Official
Languages for New Brunswick

December 16, 2020

Daily sitting 14

Friday, December 18, 2020

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Turner, 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 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 fifth report.

Your Committee met on December 17 and had under consideration:

Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*;
Bill 14, *An Act Respecting the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act and the Wills Act*;
Bill 22, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Control Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Anderson-Mason, from the Legislative Administration Committee, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

December 18, 2020

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

Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Legislative Administration begs leave to submit this their First Report.

On October 26, 2020, Mr. Donald J. Forestell informed the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of his decision to retire as Clerk of the Legislative Assembly effective November 13, 2020.

Mr. Forestell began his career at the Legislative Assembly in 1993 as Clerk Assistant. He was appointed Clerk of the Legislative Assembly by resolution of the House on June 7, 2012.

The Committee wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Forestell, for his professionalism, dedication, and exemplary service to the Legislative Assembly and the Province.

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly is the chief permanent officer of the Legislature and the principal authority on the laws, practices and privileges of Parliament. The Clerk's responsibilities include advising the Speaker and Members on questions of parliamentary law, procedure, and interpretation of the rules and practices of the House. The Clerk is also responsible for the overall administration of the Legislative Assembly and is Secretary of the Legislative Administration Committee. The Clerk serves all Members equally, regardless of party affiliation, and must act with impartiality and discretion.

At a meeting held December 17, 2020, the Committee agreed that Mr. Shayne Davies, Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, had the necessary qualifications and 20 years of experience at the Table to serve as the next Clerk of the House.

Your Committee therefore recommends to the House that Shayne Davies be appointed Clerk of the Legislative Assembly effective December 18, 2020.

And your Committee asks leave to make a further report.

(Sgd.:) Andrea Anderson-Mason, Q.C., M.L.A.
Deputy Speaker and Member of the
Legislative Administration Committee

Ordered that the report be received, and leave granted.

With leave of the House, the Honourable the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. Melanson: (Motion 27)

WHEREAS Donald J. Forestell, was appointed Clerk of the Legislative Assembly by resolution of the House adopted June 7, 2012;

WHEREAS Mr. Forestell retired as Clerk of the Legislative Assembly on November 13, 2020;

WHEREAS the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly shall be appointed by the Legislative Assembly on the recommendation of the Legislative Administration Committee pursuant to subsection 41(2) of the *Legislative Assembly Act*;

WHEREAS the Legislative Administration Committee has recommended the appointment of Shayne Davies as Clerk of the Legislative Assembly;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Assembly appoint Shayne Davies, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, effective this day, Friday, December 18, 2020.

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

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bills 13, 14 and 22 be ordered for third reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that the House consider an adjournment motion; following which Royal Assent would take place.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 6, *Family Law Act*.

Bill 7, *An Act Respecting the Family Law Act*.

Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*.

Bill 12, *Construction Remedies Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for third reading be amended by deleting all the words after the word “that” and substituting the following:

“Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*, be not now read a third time but that the order for third 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.

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

YEAS - 19

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Mallet
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Landry
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Arseneau
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	
Mr. Coon	Ms. Mitton	

NAYS - 27

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	Ms. Conroy

And the question being put that Bill 13 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 14, *An Act Respecting the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act and the Wills Act*.

Bill 22, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Control Act*.

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act*.

Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

On motion of Hon. 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 Friday, February 12, 2021, 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 or that the adjournment should continue beyond Friday, February 12, 2021, 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.

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 then read the titles of the Bills as follows:

Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act.*

Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act.*

Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act.*

Bill 6, *Family Law Act.*

Bill 7, *An Act Respecting the Family Law Act.*

Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act.*

Bill 9, *Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting Act.*

Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the Coroners Act.*

Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Queen's Counsel and Precedence Act.*

Bill 12, *Construction Remedies Act.*

Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act.*

Bill 14, *An Act Respecting the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act and the Wills Act.*

Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act.*

Bill 22, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Control Act.*

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act.*

Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act.*

Bill 25, *An Act to Remove Certain Restrictive Covenants on Title to Certain Lands in The City of Saint John vested in Plazacorp Property Holdings Inc.*

Bill 30, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2018-2019 (1).*

Bill 31, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (1).*

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, 11.42 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 15

Friday, February 12, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Statements by Members, Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that the statement by Ms. Harris was a personal attack on the character of Hon. Mr. Holder. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Hon. Mr. Fitch laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *Overcoming Poverty Together, The New Brunswick Economic and Social Inclusion Plan 2014 – 2019, Final Report, Fall 2020*.

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to repeal the Social Development Household Income Policy 6.1 for those living with disabilities. (Petition 4)

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

February 12, 2021

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 February 2 and 3 and had under consideration:

Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*;
Bill 20, *An Act to Amend the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission and Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Early Childhood Services Act*;
Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Notaries Public Act*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Cullins, from the Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the Second Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

February 12, 2021

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

Mr. Speaker:

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

Your Committee met on February 5, 2021, in the Legislative Assembly Chamber and had under consideration the following Bill:

Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Saint John Transit Commission Act*;

which it recommends to the favourable consideration of the House with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

I move, seconded by the Member for Carleton-York, that the report be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Ryan Cullins, M.L.A.
Chair

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

Hon. Mr. Steeves gave Notice of Motion 28 that on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 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. Melanson gave Notice of Motion 29 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LePage:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant negative impact on New Brunswick businesses and the economy;

WHEREAS a new report by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business indicates that one in four small and medium-sized businesses in New Brunswick is at risk of closing;

WHEREAS the report further indicates that the findings in New Brunswick were among the worst in the country;

WHEREAS, in response to concerns about the state of businesses, Fredericton Chamber of Commerce CEO Krista Ross, expressing the need for business support and concern about austerity, wrote in an op-ed on January 28, 2021, that the first order of business must be “*supporting the businesses that are here now, that have been hanging on by an increasingly fraying thread this past year*”;

WHEREAS economist Richard Saillant wrote in an article January 15, 2021, entitled “Higgs deficit obsession threatens New Brunswick’s recovery”: “*New Brunswick, meanwhile is doing much less to support its people, businesses and communities*” and “*Yet there is little to suggest that Higgs has a credible plan to ensure a successful recovery*”;

WHEREAS economist Herb Emery, in an article featured in *Huddle* on May 10, 2020, warned that “*For New Brunswick, a province that was struggling before the pandemic, the outbreak is exacerbating existing economic issues*”;

WHEREAS a recent opinion piece in *L’Acadie Nouvelle* on June 3, 2020, recognized that New Brunswick will need to rely more on its resources in the years to come and there must be a focus on economic growth;

WHEREAS economists like Donald Savoie have indicated publicly that we need to invest in growth areas like the food industry to transform our economy;

WHEREAS, in a *L'Acadie Nouvelle* article dated January 15, 2021, economist Pierre-Marcel Desjardins, comparing the significant investments being made by other provinces, echoed the concerns of OECD economist Laurence Boone about the dangers of fiscal rigour at this time and the need for stimulus investments;

WHEREAS an increasing number of business leaders and economists are echoing a concern about the lack of business support and investment in New Brunswick, the lack of a plan for economic growth, and a preoccupation by the Premier with cuts and budget tightening;

WHEREAS the Premier has gutted ONB, which played a key role in job creation;

WHEREAS the Higgs government ranks dead last in provincial support for the private sector;

WHEREAS, unlike other provinces, New Brunswick is not taking advantage of significant cost-shared infrastructure and program funding being offered by the federal government;

WHEREAS the provincial government has not brought forward an economic recovery plan with a focus on business support and economic growth;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to introduce, as soon as possible, an economic recovery plan that builds on the innovative products, services, and business practices born of necessity and of New Brunswick ingenuity to boost our economic growth potential;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to focus the plan on bold ideas focused on exports and domestic opportunities, tourism and hospitality, addressing our labour shortage through training and population growth, housing, supply chain management, food security, green economy, advanced manufacturing, transportation, infrastructure, information technology, cybersecurity, and research and development, supported by strategic investments in partnership with government and the private sector;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to make New Brunswick's economic recovery plan inclusive of women, newcomers, and Indigenous communities.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 30 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS the legislative branch of government is independent from the executive branch of government;

WHEREAS, despite this independence, it is the Executive Council that ultimately nominates Legislative Officers when a vacancy occurs or an office is created;

WHEREAS there is a growing chorus of voices that suggest that in order to avoid conflicts of interest, the appointment process for Legislative Officers should be independent of the Executive Council;

WHEREAS Brent White, an Associate Professor at Mount Allison University and former auditor with the provincial Auditor General, recently released a dissertation calling for changes to the selection process for the next Auditor General to foster public confidence in the appointment process;

WHEREAS, in 2010, Queen's University Business Professor Steven Salterio raised similar concerns;

WHEREAS the Premier has moved to consolidate power in the Executive Council Office, raising even greater concerns about the need for independence in the selection process;

WHEREAS there is a need to maintain public confidence in the selection process for Legislative Officers;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to review the selection process for Legislative Officers and bring forward a revised selection process that is independent of the Executive Council.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 31 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, 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 documentation related to the expenses for all members of the Premier's Office staff since June 2020.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 32 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, 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 documentation, information, notes, memos, records, correspondence, however stored, electronically or otherwise, including but not limited to, e-mails, mobile to mobile device communication, PINs, and SMS text messages regarding discussions between staff of the Premier's Office and Jeannot Volpé for the period November 1, 2020, to January 8, 2021.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 33 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, 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 documentation related to meetings held between members of the Executive Council and interest groups, community groups, and communities.

Mr. Guitard gave Notice of Motion 34 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Legacy:

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 related to the number of persons hired by government, by department, including full-time employees, casual and term employees, and personal services contracts, since November 2018, and the names of the persons hired.

Mr. Guitard gave Notice of Motion 35 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Legacy:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House the names of all full-time employees terminated by government since December 1, 2018.

Ms. Harris gave Notice of Motion 36 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Bourque:

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 related to information provided to the public and stakeholders on the health reform process including the consultation process and all information related to advertising and informing the public.

Mr. K. Chiasson gave Notice of Motion 37 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Mallet:

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 related to all persons hired by government, by department, as political staff under the hiring competition exemption provided under Section 18 of the *Civil Service Act*, since November 15, 2018.

Mr. K. Chiasson gave Notice of Motion 38 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Mallet:

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 calendars and meeting schedules of the Premier and Members of the Executive Council since November 2018.

Mr. Gauvin gave Notice of Motion 39 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, 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 documentation related to amounts paid for any cost of living and/or accommodation allowance for members of the staff of the Premier of New Brunswick, Executive Council staff, deputy ministers and senior staff in Part 1 of the public service, and all persons hired under a Personal Services Contract, since November 2018.

Mr. Mallet gave Notice of Motion 40 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. K. 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 documentation related to virtual and/or Zoom meetings between the Premier and third parties.

Mr. Mallet gave Notice of Motion 41 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. K. 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 documentation related to deputy heads, members of the Executive Council, their staff, and the staff of the Premier's Office who applied for and received a rebate under the Explore NB Travel Incentive program.

Ms. Thériault gave Notice of Motion 42 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. K. 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 documentation, information, notes, memos, records, correspondence, however stored, electronically or otherwise, including but not limited to, e-mails, mobile to mobile device communication, PINs, and SMS text messages between the Minister of Health and the Health Authorities related to the proposed health reform process.

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 43 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Bourque:

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, however stored, electronically or otherwise, including but not limited to, e-mails, mobile to mobile device communication, PINs, and SMS text messages regarding all meetings and/or representations by persons registered under the *Lobbyists' Registration Act* and all members of the Executive Council.

Mr. Legacy gave Notice of Motion 44 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Guitard:

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, however stored, electronically or otherwise, including but not limited to, e-mails, mobile to mobile device communication, PINs, and SMS text messages regarding the decision to have the Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Development write to the Energy and Utilities Board with respect to the application by Irving Oil for an increase in fuel margins, including but not limited to all discussions between the Premier's Office and third parties.

Mr. Bourque gave Notice of Motion 45 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Legacy:

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, however stored, electronically or otherwise, including but not limited to, e-mails, mobile to mobile device communication, PINs, and SMS text messages regarding the review of the *Official Languages Act*, including but not limited to the consultation process.

Mr. LePage gave Notice of Motion 46 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Guitard:

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 related to contracts entered into and purchases made since March 15, 2020, for which exemptions under the *Procurement Act* were utilized.

Mr. Austin gave Notice of Motion 47 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Conroy:

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 New Brunswick is one of Canada's most open provinces, with CFIB indicating that 67% of small businesses in the province are fully open and 24% of those have normal sales;

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 during the state of emergency.

Ms. Conroy gave Notice of Motion 48 that on Thursday, February 18, 2021, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Austin:

WHEREAS in New Brunswick there is an urgent need to reduce healthcare wait times;

WHEREAS optometrists have indicated a willingness to take an expanded role to ease the backlog 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 Minister of Health and the Government of New Brunswick to take immediate action to expand the scope of optometry to include treatment of glaucoma and oral medications for eye conditions.

Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 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 or that the adjournment should continue beyond Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 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.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that, with leave, it was the intention of government that Bills 3, 15, 19 and 20 be ordered for third reading; following which, with leave, Private Bill 27 would be called for second and third reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie requested the unanimous consent of the House to proceed to third reading of Bills 3, 15, 19 and 20, and unanimous consent was denied.

Hon. Mr. Savoie requested the unanimous consent of the House to proceed to second and third reading of Private Bill 27, and unanimous consent was denied.

And then, 12.50 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

2019-2020 Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour	December 18, 2020
2019-2020 Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development	December 23, 2020
2019-2020 Department of Transportation and Infrastructure	December 23, 2020
2019-2020 Department of Environment and Local Government	December 23, 2020
2019-2020 New Brunswick Human Rights Commission	January 18, 2021

2019-2020 Extra-Mural/Ambulance New Brunswick	January 29, 2021
2018-2019 Regional Development Corporation Fees 2021, Department of Finance and Treasury Board	January 29, 2021 February 1, 2021
2019-2020 Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture	February 11, 2021

Others

Air Quality Monitoring Result, 2018, Department of Environment and Local Government	December 18, 2020
Pursuant to the <i>Private Occupational Training Act</i> , the audited financial statements of the Training Completions Fund for the 2019-2020 fiscal year	December 21, 2020
Public Accounts for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020, Volume 2, Supplementary Information	December 22, 2020
Unaudited Supplementary Employee Lists, Payments to Medical Practitioners List, and Supplier Lists, 2019-2020	December 22, 2020
Under the provisions of the <i>Fees Act</i> , information regarding fee changes for bundling of licences under the <i>Hunting Regulation, Fish and Wildlife Act</i>	January 22, 2021
Post-Election Recommendations for Legislative Change, September 14, 2020, Elections New Brunswick	January 27, 2021
Pursuant to the <i>Climate Change Act</i> , the Climate Change Fund Report for the fiscal years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020	February 3, 2021

Petitions

Response to Petition 3	December 22, 2020
Response to Petition 2	February 9, 2021
Response to Petition 1	February 10, 2021

Daily sitting 16

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Arseneau rose on a point of privilege. Mr. Speaker advised the House that he would not recognize a point of privilege on the day the budget was being introduced and invited the Member to rise on the following sitting day.

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 16, 2021.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmits the *Main Estimates* for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022, which include the estimates of the sums required for the services of the Province, not otherwise provided for, for the year ending March 31, 2022, and in accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, recommends these Estimates to the House.

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

Hon. Mr. Steeves laid upon the table of the House documents entitled *2021-2022 Economic Outlook* and *2021-2022 Budget, Reinventing New Brunswick Together*.

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 28, 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. McKee, 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, 1.53 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2019-2020 Department of Health	February 16, 2021
Annual Report 2019-2020 New Brunswick Forest Products Commission	February 17, 2021
Encouraging Public Accounts Committee Effectiveness: Sixteen suggestions from the Auditor General to the Public Accounts Committee on becoming more effective	February 23, 2021
Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume II, Performance Audit, 2020	February 23, 2021
Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume III, Financial Audit, 2020	February 23, 2021
Report of the Chief Electoral Officer, Fortieth General Provincial Election, September 14, 2020	February 24, 2021
Annual Report 2020 Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance	February 26, 2021
Response to Petition 4	March 1, 2021
Report to the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers regarding virtual sittings of the House	March 10, 2021

Daily sitting 17

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Arseneau rose on a question of privilege and submitted that during an *in camera* meeting of the Legislative Administration Committee, a report was distributed in only one official language, which the Member submitted was an obstruction of his ability to perform his duties as a member of the Committee. In accordance with Standing Rule 9(2), Mr. Arseneau gave notice of his intention to move the following motion, seconded by Mr. Coon:

THAT the matter concerning the breach of privilege committed on February 18, 2021, during a meeting of the Legislative Administration Committee and events related to the meeting, with regard to the distribution of working documents and access to said documents in the language of choice, be referred to the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers.

Mr. Speaker advised that in accordance with Standing Rule 9(2), he would consider the matter in two hours' time.

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to launch an inquiry into the death of Lexi Alayna Daken. (Petition 5)

Mr. Carr, 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:

March 17, 2021

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 First Session of the 60th Legislature.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 91, the Committee heard from the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages for New Brunswick on February 16 and Elections New Brunswick on February 19.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 92, the Committee discussed virtual sittings of the Legislative Assembly on February 19 and March 10 and has agreed that the *Report to the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers regarding virtual sittings of the House*, prepared by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly at the request of the Committee, be attached to this report for your consideration.

And your Committee asks leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Jeff Carr, 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.

On December 10, 2020, the Clerk Assistant, pursuant to Standing Rule 99, convened a meeting of the Committee in the Legislative Assembly Chamber and presided over the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair. On motion of Hon. Mr. Savoie, Mr. Carr was elected Chair of the Committee. On motion of Hon. Mr. Savoie, Mr. Turner was elected Vice-Chair.

On February 16, 2021, the Committee heard from Shirley C. MacLean, Q.C., Commissioner of Official Languages for New Brunswick, regarding the *2019-2020 Annual Report* of her office.

Following the appearance by the Commissioner, the Committee adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted scheduled sessions of the Legislative Assembly on multiple occasions over the past year;

WHEREAS the House of Commons has adopted the use of technologies that allow Members of Parliament to participate virtually, including for routine business and in the debate and voting of bills;

WHEREAS the technology has been temporarily secured for the Legislative Assembly to allow members to participate virtually;

WHEREAS multiple standing committees of the Legislative Assembly, including the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, the Standing Committee on Private Bills and the Standing Committee on Public Accounts have met using a hybrid system with some members in the Legislative chamber and others participating virtually;

WHEREAS in a Global News article dated February 12 regarding hybrid sittings, the Premier said, "Not being able to conduct the business of the province is not an option. It will be a discussion over the next few weeks about how can we do this and what things can we do it [for], because you're exactly right, we can't just hope that we don't have an outbreak.";

WHEREAS the same Global News article cited the Government House Leader as saying that a motion should be tabled at the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers in order to discuss further and formulate in what situations a hybrid system could be used;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers meet on Friday, February 19, 2021, to discuss virtual sittings of the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee report its findings and recommendations to the Legislative Assembly by March 17, 2021.

On February 19, 2021, Kimberly A. Poffenroth, Chief Electoral Officer and Supervisor of Political Financing, appeared before the Committee to discuss a document entitled *Post-Election Recommendations for Legislative Change, September 14, 2020, Elections New Brunswick*.

Following the appearance by the Chief Electoral Officer, the Committee discussed virtual sittings of the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly. Shayne Davies, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, appeared before the Committee.

The Committee requested that the Clerk provide a report by March 10 which would summarize the issues that may require consideration in relation to virtual sittings of the Legislative Assembly.

On March 10, 2021, the Committee met to discuss virtual sittings of the House and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the changing pandemic restrictions have made it difficult for all Members to participate in person in the deliberations of the Legislative Assembly and its committees;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers Committee urge the House to review the report of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick be attached to the Committee Report.

Accordingly, the report of the Clerk is attached to this report for the consideration of the House.

And the Committee begs leave to make a further report.

Ordered that the report be received, and leave granted.

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.*

Bill 33, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act.*

Bill 34, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Cardy,

Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System.*

By Hon. Ms. Green,

Bill 36, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Holland,

Bill 37, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act.*

By Hon. Ms. M. Wilson,

Bill 38, *An Act to Amend the Service New Brunswick Act.*

By Mr. McKee,

Bill 39, *An Act to Amend the Auditor General Act.*

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 49 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. D'Amours:

WHEREAS the tragic death of 16-year-old Lexi Daken has drawn attention to the gaps in our mental health services that desperately need to be addressed;

WHEREAS Lexi's story was a catalyst for many other families to come forward with other tragic stories of how our mental health system has failed their loved ones who were not able to receive the help they needed when they needed it;

WHEREAS, while the reviews undertaken by the Child and Youth Advocate and Horizon Health in relation to the events leading up to the death of Lexi Daken are appropriate, there is a recognition that mental health services have been chronically underfunded for many years, which must be addressed;

WHEREAS mental health experts and advocates believe the mental health crisis is worsening and believe there is an urgent need to ensure our healthcare system can respond to those struggling with mental health issues who need immediate help;

WHEREAS the Official Opposition brought a motion forward in the Legislative Assembly in 2019 calling for the position of Mental Health Advocate to be created;

WHEREAS this motion received unanimous support from all Members of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the Official Opposition has also called for the expansion of the mental health court to ensure that people appearing in the courts with mental health issues have access to the treatments and services they require;

WHEREAS the Minister of Health has just announced an Addiction and Mental Health action plan for priority areas for 2021-2025;

WHEREAS there is a need for urgent action on improvements to our mental health system;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to accelerate the timeline for the implementation of all the measures contained in the action plan from 5 years to 3 years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to immediately enhance the funding for mental health services to achieve this objective;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to establish the position of Mental Health Advocate without delay.

Mr. Gauvin gave Notice of Motion 50 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS, in January 2017, a 10-year aging strategy entitled *We are all in this together: An Aging Strategy for New Brunswick* was released;

WHEREAS the strategy was created under the *Healthy Aging and Long-term Care Act* which provides for the creation of an Aging Secretariat with certain responsibilities including tracking actions under the strategy;

WHEREAS the Auditor General undertook a review of the aging strategy and the progress made in implementing the action items contained in the strategy;

WHEREAS the Auditor General found that the Department of Social Development had failed to set targets for the initiative “Access to care and services” which was designed to improve access to adequate care for seniors;

WHEREAS the Auditor General further found that the department had failed to develop an implementation plan for the aging strategy;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to set specific targets for its “Access to care and services” initiative;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to develop an implementation plan for the aging strategy with clear objectives, performance indicators for success, relevant program inputs and outputs required to achieve action items, a progress monitoring plan, and a timeline for when and how results will be reported.

Ms. Landry gave Notice of Motion 51 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LePage:

WHEREAS, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions imposed through the various phases, many in-person services provided by government to the members of the public were limited;

WHEREAS, in recognition of the need for the public to continue to access many of the government programs and services during the pandemic, many more services were offered online;

WHEREAS, while it is commendable that government will make access to more programs and services available online, there is a concern for many New Brunswickers who are unable to access online services;

WHEREAS the reasons for being unable to access online services include factors such as lack of access to high-speed Internet, lack of technological literacy, and lack of access to computers, tablets, or other devices;

WHEREAS a lack of future access to many in-person services for people seeking government programs and services will disadvantage many New Brunswickers;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure that in-person access to government programs and services is not significantly reduced as a result of a move to increase availability of online services when eased health restrictions permit these services to be offered.

Ms. Thériault gave Notice of Motion 52 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the people of New Brunswick to have more women elected to serve as Members of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS women are often the primary caregiver of children, and a significant barrier to participation by more women in the provincial political process that is often cited is the fact that the rules governing parliamentary institutions are not family-friendly or parent-friendly;

WHEREAS many other jurisdictions nationally and internationally are moving forward with reforms to make their parliaments or governing institutions more parent-friendly;

WHEREAS New Brunswick's "Women for 50%", which is focused on gender parity in the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly, supports reforms that are more parent-friendly;

WHEREAS British MPs voted to bring in family friendly reforms like a system of "baby leave" that would provide new parents in the House of Commons with proxy votes that could be utilized by their legislative colleagues, which allows MPs to care for their families while doing their jobs;

WHEREAS certain provinces allow childcare costs as eligible campaign expenses;

WHEREAS legislatures have adopted measures that permit virtual participation in proceedings;

WHEREAS reforms dealing with shared legislative responsibilities, the availability of on-site childcare, changes to the sitting hours, and additional initiatives that reduce barriers to participation in the political process have been adopted by other jurisdictions;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly direct the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers to undertake a review of initiatives that will encourage more women to offer as candidates to represent New Brunswickers in the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly and report back to the Legislative Assembly within three months with specific recommendations.

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

Mr. Arseneau gave Notice of Motion 53 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Coon:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House all documents, information, memos, records, and correspondence, however stored, electronically or otherwise, including e-mails, mobile to mobile device communication, PINs, and text messages about discussions, agreements, and service contracts concerning the organization of Destination Acadie events between 2014 and 2020.

Mr. Arseneau gave Notice of Motion 54 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Coon:

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 regarding expenditures of the government of New Brunswick related to organizing and holding Destination Acadie events between 2014 and 2020.

Mr. Austin gave Notice of Motion 55 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Conroy:

WHEREAS Lexi Daken's tragic case is not an isolated incident, as there are many health zones with many cases;

WHEREAS the demand for mental health services in New Brunswick has seen a dramatic jump in the past five years with 117,000 people receiving help from CMHC in New Brunswick through online services from April to December 2020;

WHEREAS New Brunswick provides between 4% and 7% of the public health care budget to mental health;

WHEREAS CMHC has been advocating for mental health parity with physical health care resources, but no government has yet raised the mental health care budget;

WHEREAS mental health problems manifest physically in the body and, too often, doctors and nurses in the ER do not have sufficient training in mental health to identify the signs and provide the care these people need;

WHEREAS low to moderate cases are placing a huge strain on the health system and the ER is not the best place for people with mental health illness to go;

WHEREAS, before COVID-19, 2% of New Brunswickers had suicidal thoughts, in April 2020 that number increased to 6%, and, in the fall of 2020, that number jumped to 10%;

WHEREAS, in 2018, suicide was the leading cause of death among male youth aged 15 to 19 and was the second leading cause of death among female youth in Canada;

WHEREAS there are over 100 suicides in New Brunswick each year, and New Brunswick has a higher suicide rate per capita than any other province (particularly among men);

WHEREAS 70,000 people in New Brunswick do not have a family doctor, thus ending up at the ER, and the current wait time for specialists such as psychiatrists through the province is 12 months;

WHEREAS approximately 40% of those people who use virtual healthcare to see doctors and nurse practitioners online (allowing people to be assessed quickly) do not have a family doctor;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government of New Brunswick to issue a directive for both the Horizon and Vitalité Health Authorities that no minor will be turned away when presenting themselves at any Department of Health facility without being properly evaluated for their mental health concerns.

Mr. Austin gave Notice of Motion 56 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Conroy:

WHEREAS rural hospitals face unit closures or shutdowns for periods of time due to staffing shortages;

WHEREAS New Brunswick health authorities are unable to recruit enough doctors to address the need of countless people who are waiting for a family physician;

WHEREAS nurses who take 811 calls cannot diagnose or treat people who call NB tele-care;

WHEREAS virtual healthcare allows patients to see doctors and nurse practitioners online providing access, diagnosis, and treatment quickly without patients leaving their home;

WHEREAS the mental health crisis, overcrowded emergency rooms, and doctor shortages are among the many issues the province's broken healthcare system could address through a virtual care model;

WHEREAS other jurisdictions throughout North America have had success with various virtual care models including 20 hospitals in Canada using some form of virtual care in their ER departments;

WHEREAS since 2020, the eVisitNB virtual healthcare platform had over 13,000 visits to its platform from people who are being seen by doctors and nurse practitioners currently working in the province when they are available.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to expand the use of virtual care in emergency rooms, rural clinics, and any other healthcare facility under the Department of Health as well as promoting access to virtual care availability for patients outside these facilities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to give the virtual care model equal remuneration to that of in person visits as it relates to physician and nurse practitioner billing.

Ms. Conroy gave Notice of Motion 57 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Austin:

WHEREAS the Auditor General's Report indicated the number of New Brunswick seniors aged 75 and older will double by 2036;

WHEREAS nursing home waitlists continue to grow, and there continue to be long wait times for nursing home placements, thus creating added pressure and costs for hospitals as about half of those seniors are waiting in hospitals;

WHEREAS, as indicated in the 2011-16 Nursing Home Renovation and Replacement Plan (as of November 2020), of the 704 specialized memory care beds to be added, only 428 were completed and 276 were not;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Nurses Union has called on government to order an independent inquiry into the long-term care sector, citing increasing severity of several issues, including low staffing ratios, residents going without basic personal care, and an increase in violence;

WHEREAS the Department of Social Development has produced a 2011-2016 Nursing Home Renovation and Replacement Plan, a 2018-2023 Nursing Home Plan and a 10-year Aging Strategy in collaboration with other stakeholders and, also taking into consideration the Department of Finance and Treasury Board's financial analysis of the nursing home delivery model, the Department of Social Development has failed to address the nursing home capacity demand;

WHEREAS the Auditor General made the recommendation in the 2016 Auditor General Report that the Department of Social Development evaluate whether there is an economic benefit to providing nursing home beds under the for-profit model versus the traditional model, and the recommendation has not been implemented;

WHEREAS the Department of Social Development needs to compare actual costs and overall quality of service to determine if the for-profit operated model has more economic benefit than the traditional model;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Department of Social Development to initiate and release a report on the comparison of actual costs of providing nursing home services under the for-profit model versus the traditional public model, and, in addition, do a detailed comparison of quality of service between the two models.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Friday, March 19, 2021, Bills 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37 and 38 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Private Bill 27 be called for second and third reading.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until 1 p.m. on Thursday, March 18, 2021.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Early Childhood Services Act.*

Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Notaries Public Act.*

Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act.*

Bill 20, *An Act to Amend the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission and Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Private Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Saint John Transit Commission 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 Saint John Transit Commission Act*, was read a second time.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 121, Mr. Speaker ordered Private Bill 27 for third reading forthwith.

The following Private Bill was read a third time:

Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Saint John Transit Commission Act.*

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

Mr. Speaker advised the House that the two hours' notice required by Standing Rule 9(2) had elapsed and recognized Mr. Arseneau to speak on the question of privilege raised earlier in the sitting day. Having heard the arguments, Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

And then, 12.50 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2019-2020	
Vehicle Management Agency	March 15, 2021
Annual Report 2021	
<i>Statute Repeal Act</i> , Office of the Attorney	
General – Justice and Public Safety	March 16, 2021
State of the Child Report 2020, Office of the Child	
and Youth Advocate, November 2020	March 16, 2021

Daily sitting 18

Thursday, March 18, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 28),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

And after some time, on motion of Mr. Coon, the further consideration thereof was adjourned over.

And then, 1.55 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 19

Friday, March 19, 2021

9 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.
March 11, 2021.

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 Murphy.
Lieutenant-Governor.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Ms. Dunn,

Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Opportunities New Brunswick Act.*

By Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace,

Bill 41, *An Act to Amend the Combat Sport Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Savoie,

Bill 42, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act.*

Bill 43, *An Act Respecting the Executive Council Act and the Legislative Assembly Act.*

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

Bill 44, *An Act to Amend the Public Trustee Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Allain,

Bill 45, *An Act Respecting Municipal General Elections in 2021.*

By Mr. Gauvin,

Bill 46, *Life Partners in Long-Term Care Act.*

Hon. Mr. Cardy gave Notice of Motion 58 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Bourque:

THAT the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick adopt the following non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism:

As defined by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, “Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 59 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House a copy of the report entitled *The Needs Analysis and Best Practices Review of Sexual Harm to Children* prepared by the Crime Prevention and Reduction Strategy Branch of the Department of Justice and Public Safety.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave Notice of Motion 60 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT, notwithstanding any Standing Rule, Special Order, or usual practice of the House, the Legislative Assembly adopt the following Special Order to facilitate the participation of Members in House and Committee proceedings during the current State of Emergency in the Province of New Brunswick:

1. In emergency or extraordinary circumstances, Members may participate in proceedings of the House, either in person or by virtual means using the Zoom platform, at the discretion of the Speaker following consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and with the agreement of all House Leaders.
2. The presence of fourteen Members in person, including the Speaker, is considered a quorum and is required to constitute a meeting of the House for the exercise of its powers.
3. Meetings of a Committee of the House may be conducted by virtual means as determined by the Chair in consultation with the Office of the Clerk.
4. Members who participate by virtual means in a Committee are counted for the purposes of a quorum.
5. House Leaders shall advise the Office of the Clerk of the anticipated attendance of their Members by virtual means three days in advance of each House sitting or Committee meeting.

6. Members who participate in the proceedings of the House or a Committee by virtual means may table documents, present petitions and committee reports, introduce bills, provide notice of motions and move motions and amendments to bills and motions electronically, provided the documents are transmitted to and received by the Clerk prior to their presentation in the House or Committee.
 7. The rules and practices that relate to proper decorum in the House are applicable to those Members who wish to participate in any proceedings by virtual means.
 8. Members who wish to participate by virtual means shall utilize the proper hardware and software as designated by the Office of the Clerk.
 9. Recorded divisions shall be conducted with Members participating in person in the manner prescribed by the Standing Rules, followed by a roll call of the Members participating virtually in an order and manner as determined by the Speaker.
 10. In order to vote during a recorded division, a virtual Member shall be present on screen at the time the Speaker orders the doors to be secured and for the duration of the vote.
 11. The video and audio of a Member participating virtually shall be activated when called upon for a recorded division.
 12. When called upon for a recorded division, each virtual Member shall state whether they are voting “yes” or “no” to the question put.
 13. In the event of technical issues, the Speaker shall be empowered to take all necessary steps to ensure the integrity of the voting process.
 14. Members participating virtually shall enjoy all the rights, privileges and freedoms of those Members participating in person, except to the extent they are specifically limited by this Special Order.
 15. The Speaker or Chair is empowered to exercise discretion in the interpretation or application of any provision of the Standing Rules or this Special Order that may require leniency or alteration to allow all Members to fully exercise their duties and rights in the proceedings of the House or a Committee conducted by virtual means.
 16. This Special Order remains in effect for the duration of the State of Emergency first declared on March 19, 2020 in the Province of New Brunswick and ceases to be in force when said State of Emergency ends.
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Hon. Mr. Savoie gave Notice of Motion 61 that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT, pursuant to subsection 39(1) of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, the Legislative Assembly direct the Legislative Administration Committee to establish a committee to review the salary and benefits of members under the *Legislative Assembly Act* and the salaries and benefits of members who have responsibilities under the *Executive Council Act*.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, Bills 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 and 45 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37 and 38 be called for second reading until 12 p.m.; at which time the House would resume the adjourned debate on the Budget.

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 after some time, Ms. S. Wilson, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Madam Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the time allotted for second reading had expired.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 28),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

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

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

And then, 2 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 20

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling with respect to the question of privilege raised on Wednesday last:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Honourable Members,

I am now prepared to rule on the question of privilege raised by the Member for Kent North.

In stating his question of privilege, the Member referred to a report that was distributed to members of the Legislative Administration Committee in only one language, at an *in camera* meeting, which the Member submitted was an obstruction of his ability to perform his duties as a member of the Committee.

The Member further submitted that the said obstruction was a breach of his privileges as a Member and gave notice of his intention to move a motion calling upon the House to refer the matter to the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers.

Members, Standing Rule 9(3) is quite clear when it comes to questions of privilege. It states that the Speaker shall not accept such a motion unless satisfied that there is a *prima facie* case (meaning on first impression or at first glance) that a breach of privilege has been committed and that the matter is being raised at the earliest opportunity.

If the Speaker is convinced these two conditions are satisfied, the Member who has raised the question will be permitted to immediately move his motion, which will take precedence over all other business before the House. The Speaker's ruling does not extend to deciding whether a breach of privilege has in fact been committed. This is a matter which can only be decided by the House itself.

Given that the Committee meeting in question took place on February 18, 2021, and the Member raised the matter on the first day, March 17, not including budget day, that the House has sat since that date, I am satisfied the matter has been raised at the earliest opportunity.

As has been submitted, on the day in question, the Office of the Clerk provided Committee members with a 38-page draft report, technical in nature, prepared by a private sector entity. The draft report was only submitted by the private sector entity in one language, however, included with the report was a summary of its contents, in both official languages, prepared and professionally translated by the Office of the Clerk. The Office also scheduled a briefing on the report for Committee members in both official languages.

When the report was up for consideration, the Member for Kent North raised his objection to the report only being in one language. As Chair of the Committee, I immediately set aside that item for consideration until all Members had the draft report in both official languages. No further discussions took place on the report.

Following the meeting, the Clerk apologized to the Member for Kent North for this oversight, assured him it would not be repeated, and discussed with the Member how we can move forward with the resources at our disposal. The Member was clear with his justified position that all documentation must be translated and, to that end, I am pleased to announce that we recently hired two new junior translators. But more needs to be done, and I commit to you that more will be done.

The draft report in question has now been translated and was provided to all Committee members on March 9, 2021.

I certainly understand the Member's frustration for not initially receiving the draft report in his language of choice, and I echo the Clerk's apology and commitment to ensure that, going forward, Members of the Legislative Administration Committee are provided with any and all documentation, in their official language of choice, before it is taken into consideration by the Committee.

In the year 2000, the practice at the House of Commons, with all of their resources, was to let a committee decide whether to accept and distribute documents from the public in only one language, pending translation, or wait for translation to be completed before the distribution of the documents. As the Member for Kent North submitted, the practice now at the House of Commons, in the year 2021, is to never distribute any document from the public in one language.

This is the bar that we must meet, as the Legislative Assembly of the only bilingual province in Canada. I understand patience in this matter is not an option. Members have rights that must be respected, and I assure you today that they will be respected.

There is no doubt in the statement that Members are entitled to receive documents in the official language of their choice. At the same time, members of the public have the right to communicate with a parliamentary committee in their language of choice. Balancing these rights may be difficult, and will require additional resources, but it is necessary and must be done to ensure we respect our language obligations, and more importantly, that we respect each other and all New Brunswickers.

Now, with respect to the question of privilege and whether there is a *prima facie* case that a breach of privilege has been committed, I have reviewed the relevant authorities and a previous ruling by a well-respected Speaker of this House. During the first session of the 52nd Legislature, Madam Speaker Dysart found that a *prima facie* case did exist when a Member was denied the translation of briefs presented to a Select Committee. The argument by the Member at that time was similar to what has been argued in this matter. The lack of translation impaired the Member's ability to fulfil her role on the Select Committee.

However, there is one difference, which I find significant. In the matter before us today, the Member for Kent North was not denied the translation of the draft report. Instead, consideration of the report was immediately set aside until it could be translated, which has now taken place and the translated report has been provided to all Committee members.

For that reason, I find the Member has not established that the matter in question could be found to constitute obstruction from performing his duties as a Member and, accordingly, I must find that a *prima facie* matter of privilege has not been established.

My ruling today should not be taken, in any way, as diminishing the importance of the rights of Members to use their official language of choice. As I stated previously, the Speaker's ruling on a question of privilege is limited to deciding whether the particular incident raised by the Member warrants priority consideration over all other matters that are before the House.

I want to thank the Member for Kent North for raising this important matter. He is a strong advocate for language rights and a valued Member of this Assembly. Going forward, I wish to reiterate, once again, that I will ensure that Members of the Legislative Administration Committee receive all documentation in their language of choice. And I advise other committees of this House to do the same. Thank you.

Mr. Ames, Member for Carleton-York, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to upgrade the Campbell Settlement and Stairs Hill Roads. (Petition 6)

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 62 that on Thursday, April 1, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LePage:

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 information including documentation, notes, memos, minutes, records, correspondence, however stored, electronically or otherwise, including but not limited to e-mails, mobile to mobile device communication, and SMS text messages between members of the Executive Council, the Premier's Office, the Department of Finance and Treasury Board, the Department of Health, the Department of Justice and Public Safety, Cannabis New Brunswick, the Cannabis Management Corporation, Alcool NB Liquor, their staff, employees, agents, and contractors, and all third parties, related to discussions and meetings regarding the issuance of a request for proposals issued for a single private entity to operate, distribute, and sell recreational cannabis in New Brunswick, and the subsequent evaluation of and negotiations with the eight proponents, including the terms and conditions of the final negotiations with the sole remaining proponent.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 32, 45, 38, 40, 33, 34, 36, 37, 41, 42, 43, 44 and 35 be called for second reading until 4 p.m.; at which time the House would resume the adjourned debate on the Budget.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, be now read a second time.

And after some time, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved the adjournment of the debate.

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

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 45, *An Act Respecting Municipal General Elections in 2021*, 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 Respecting Municipal General Elections in 2021*, 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 28),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

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.

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 2019-2020

Department of Finance and Treasury Board March 18, 2021

Daily sitting 21

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Crossman, Member for Hampton, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the Legislative Assembly to attract new doctors and nurse practitioners to the riding. (Petition 7)

Mr. C. Chiasson, Member for Victoria-La Vallée, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the Premier to relieve the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development from his duties as a member of the Executive Council. (Petition 8)

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, March 25, 2021, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 52 and 49.

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 24, 2021.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmits the *Supplementary Estimates 2019-2020, Volume I*, of the sums required for the services of the Province, not otherwise provided for, for the year ending March 31, 2020, and in accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, recommends these estimates to the House.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 38, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 33 be called for second reading until no later than 3 p.m.; at which time the House would resume the adjourned debate on the Budget until 5 p.m.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 38, *An Act to Amend the Service New Brunswick Act*, 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 to Amend the Service New Brunswick 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 40, *An Act to Amend the Opportunities New Brunswick Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 40 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Opportunities New Brunswick 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 41, *An Act to Amend the Combat Sport Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 41 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 41, *An Act to Amend the Combat Sport 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 42, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Mr. Arseneau, seconded by Mr. Coon, 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 42, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment 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.”

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

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and requested clarification on which committees could call on witnesses from the public to appear concerning Bills.

At 11.58 a.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed with Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Members,

The Opposition House Leader raised a question concerning the calling of witnesses in committees. I will now reiterate a ruling from December 17, 2020, by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Economic Policy.

To determine the mandate of the Economic Policy Committee, we are guided by the Standing Rules, and the amendments found in the First Report of the Standing Committee on Procedure dated December 10, 2014.

Standing Rule 42.1(4) provides that those Bills which receive second reading, shall be referred to the Committee of the Whole House, or such other Committee designated by the Government House Leader. It was determined that the intent of this Rule is to allow a Standing Committee to replace the operations of the Committee of the Whole House.

Standing Rule 89.2 provides that when a Bill is referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, the Chair shall inquire whether any comments questions or amendments are to be offered and to which sections. This is the exact wording of Standing Rule 87, which governs the operations of the Committee of the Whole House.

As such, again it is demonstrated that the Economic Policy Committee is intended to operate in the same manner as the Committee of the Whole House, where Ministers, accompanied by staff, defend their Bills by answering questions from Members. The House has mandated this Committee to decide whether to recommend a Bill to the House, or not, with or without amendments.

It has never been the practice of this House to allow witnesses from the public to appear before the Committee of the Whole House, and based on a review of the Standing Rules, this practice is intended to apply to the Economic Policy Committee as well. Our practice has always been that if public consultation is specifically required, the Bill in question would be referred by the House to our Standing Committee on Law Amendments, or such other committee designated to solicit public input.

Finally, this interpretation is supported by the First Report of the Standing Committee on Procedure, dated December 10, 2014, which stated that the standing committees created to consider Government Bills “would function in the same manner as the Committee of the Whole House and all meetings would be held in public and televised. As is the current practice, if the House found it necessary to consult the public on a proposed Bill prior to second reading, the subject matter of the Bill would be referred to the existing Standing Committee on Law Amendments.”

Debate resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, the amendment was defeated.

And the question being put that Bill 42 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 42, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment 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 Respecting the Executive Council Act and the Legislative Assembly Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason resumed the chair.

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 Respecting the Executive Council Act and the Legislative Assembly 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 33, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act*, 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 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 of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 28),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

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

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

And then, 5 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 2019-2020

Centre Communautaire Sainte-Anne

March 23, 2021

Daily sitting 22

Thursday, March 25, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

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

March 25, 2021

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 March 24 and had under consideration:

Bill 45, *An Act Respecting Municipal General Elections in 2021*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Mitton gave Notice of Motion 63 that on Thursday, April 1, 2021, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Coon:

WHEREAS, in 2018, 579 sexual assaults were reported to the police in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS, according to Statistics Canada, New Brunswick has seen a 27% increase in sexual assaults reported to the police since 2012;

WHEREAS the number of people charged with sexual assault in New Brunswick has dropped from 53.2% to 36.3% since 2012;

WHEREAS 87% of sexual assault victims in New Brunswick were women, and almost half of these victims were under the age of 18;

WHEREAS a *Globe and Mail* article published in February 2017 entitled *Will the Police Believe You?* found that Canada's national average of unfounded complaints for reported sexual assault was 32% in New Brunswick, the highest in Canada;

WHEREAS, in Canada, Indigenous women are three times more likely to experience sexual assault;

WHEREAS people who identify as lesbian, gay, and bisexual are twice as likely to report experiencing violent victimization compared to those who identify as heterosexual;

WHEREAS 61% of trans youth surveyed in Atlantic Canada aged 14-18 reported they had experienced sexual harassment within the past year;

WHEREAS sexual violence can have long-lasting impacts on survivors, being linked to mental health difficulties, including depression and PTSD, feelings of shame, self-blame, fear, and distressing memories of the experience;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Women's Council advises that the government increase funding for preventing and responding to sexual violence and improve police response to sexual violence;

WHEREAS, in 2019, 71% of students in Canadian post-secondary institutions witnessed or experienced unwanted sexualized behaviours in a post-secondary setting;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to fully implement and fund the recommendations and actions in *Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence in New Brunswick: A Framework for Action*;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to examine the gaps in victims services provision through the Department of Justice and Public Safety, to identify and address gaps, especially in relation to where the crime occurred;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to increase funding for frontline services, including transition houses, and increase funding for trauma-informed support services, including access for all public post-secondary campuses;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to adopt legislation requiring standalone campus violence policies for all publicly-funded universities and including provisions ensuring student involvement in the drafting and amending process, as well as built in metrics to guarantee the clarity of the reporting structure at each institution.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that the House consider Motions 60, 58 and 61 until no later than 2 p.m.; at which time the House would resume the adjourned debate on the Budget; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns on Friday, March 26, 2021, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, May 11, 2021, 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 or that the adjournment should continue beyond Tuesday, May 11, 2021, 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.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the motion, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 24

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Turner

NAYS - 22

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amour	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Ms. Mitton	
Mr. Austin	Ms. Conroy	

At 12.12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bill 45 be ordered for third reading forthwith.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 45, *An Act Respecting Municipal General Elections in 2021*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 60, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT, notwithstanding any Standing Rule, Special Order, or usual practice of the House, the Legislative Assembly adopt the following Special Order to facilitate the participation of Members in House and Committee proceedings during the current State of Emergency in the Province of New Brunswick:

1. In emergency or extraordinary circumstances, Members may participate in proceedings of the House, either in person or by virtual means using the Zoom platform, at the discretion of the Speaker following consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and with the agreement of all House Leaders.
2. The presence of fourteen Members in person, including the Speaker, is considered a quorum and is required to constitute a meeting of the House for the exercise of its powers.
3. Meetings of a Committee of the House may be conducted by virtual means as determined by the Chair in consultation with the Office of the Clerk.
4. Members who participate by virtual means in a Committee are counted for the purposes of a quorum.

5. House Leaders shall advise the Office of the Clerk of the anticipated attendance of their Members by virtual means three days in advance of each House sitting or Committee meeting.
6. Members who participate in the proceedings of the House or a Committee by virtual means may table documents, present petitions and committee reports, introduce bills, provide notice of motions and move motions and amendments to bills and motions electronically, provided the documents are transmitted to and received by the Clerk prior to their presentation in the House or Committee.
7. The rules and practices that relate to proper decorum in the House are applicable to those Members who wish to participate in any proceedings by virtual means.
8. Members who wish to participate by virtual means shall utilize the proper hardware and software as designated by the Office of the Clerk.
9. Recorded divisions shall be conducted with Members participating in person in the manner prescribed by the Standing Rules, followed by a roll call of the Members participating virtually in an order and manner as determined by the Speaker.
10. In order to vote during a recorded division, a virtual Member shall be present on screen at the time the Speaker orders the doors to be secured and for the duration of the vote.
11. The video and audio of a Member participating virtually shall be activated when called upon for a recorded division.
12. When called upon for a recorded division, each virtual Member shall state whether they are voting “yes” or “no” to the question put.
13. In the event of technical issues, the Speaker shall be empowered to take all necessary steps to ensure the integrity of the voting process.
14. Members participating virtually shall enjoy all the rights, privileges and freedoms of those Members participating in person, except to the extent they are specifically limited by this Special Order.
15. The Speaker or Chair is empowered to exercise discretion in the interpretation or application of any provision of the Standing Rules or this Special Order that may require leniency or alteration to allow all Members to fully exercise their duties and rights in the proceedings of the House or a Committee conducted by virtual means.
16. This Special Order remains in effect for the duration of the State of Emergency first declared on March 19, 2020 in the Province of New Brunswick and ceases to be in force when said State of Emergency ends.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

AMENDMENT

That Motion 60 be amended:

In the portion preceding paragraph 1, by striking out “during the current State of Emergency in the Province of New Brunswick”.

By striking out paragraph 1 and substituting the following:

“In emergency or extraordinary circumstances, including those circumstances prescribed by paragraph 34(5)(d) of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, Members may participate in proceedings of the House, either in person or by virtual means using the Zoom platform, at the discretion of the Speaker, following consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health where necessary.”

By striking out paragraph 16 and substituting the following:

“This Special Order remains in effect during the remainder of the 60th Legislative Assembly.”

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

And after some time, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved the adjournment of the debate.

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

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 58, Hon. Mr. Cardy moved, seconded by Mr. Bourque:

THAT the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick adopt the following non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism:

As defined by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, “Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 58 was resolved in the affirmative.

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 resume consideration of Motions 60.

Debate resumed on the amendment to Motion 60, moved by Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Coon.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the time allotted had expired.

Mr. Melanson requested the unanimous consent of the House to conclude the debate on Motion 60 and put the questions forthwith, and unanimous consent was denied.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 28),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

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

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 52, Ms. Thériault moved, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the people of New Brunswick to have more women elected to serve as Members of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS women are often the primary caregiver of children, and a significant barrier to participation by more women in the provincial political process that is often cited is the fact that the rules governing parliamentary institutions are not family-friendly or parent-friendly;

WHEREAS many other jurisdictions nationally and internationally are moving forward with reforms to make their parliaments or governing institutions more parent-friendly;

WHEREAS New Brunswick's "Women for 50%", which is focused on gender parity in the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly, supports reforms that are more parent-friendly;

WHEREAS British MPs voted to bring in family friendly reforms like a system of "baby leave" that would provide new parents in the House of Commons with proxy votes that could be utilized by their legislative colleagues, which allows MPs to care for their families while doing their jobs;

WHEREAS certain provinces allow childcare costs as eligible campaign expenses;

WHEREAS legislatures have adopted measures that permit virtual participation in proceedings;

WHEREAS reforms dealing with shared legislative responsibilities, the availability of on-site childcare, changes to the sitting hours, and additional initiatives that reduce barriers to participation in the political process have been adopted by other jurisdictions;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly direct the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers to undertake a review of initiatives that will encourage more women to offer as candidates to represent New Brunswickers in the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly and report back to the Legislative Assembly within three months with specific recommendations.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Mr. Arseneau, seconded by Ms. Mitton, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 52 be amended in the resolution clause by striking out "three" and substituting "two".

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

At 4.30 p.m. the House recessed. At 4.39 p.m. the House resumed.

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

Madam Deputy Speaker put the question on Motion 52 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the people of New Brunswick to have more women elected to serve as Members of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS women are often the primary caregiver of children, and a significant barrier to participation by more women in the provincial political process that is often cited is the fact that the rules governing parliamentary institutions are not family-friendly or parent-friendly;

WHEREAS many other jurisdictions nationally and internationally are moving forward with reforms to make their parliaments or governing institutions more parent-friendly;

WHEREAS New Brunswick's "Women for 50%", which is focused on gender parity in the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly, supports reforms that are more parent-friendly;

WHEREAS British MPs voted to bring in family friendly reforms like a system of "baby leave" that would provide new parents in the House of Commons with proxy votes that could be utilized by their legislative colleagues, which allows MPs to care for their families while doing their jobs;

WHEREAS certain provinces allow childcare costs as eligible campaign expenses;

WHEREAS legislatures have adopted measures that permit virtual participation in proceedings;

WHEREAS reforms dealing with shared legislative responsibilities, the availability of on-site childcare, changes to the sitting hours, and additional initiatives that reduce barriers to participation in the political process have been adopted by other jurisdictions;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly direct the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers to undertake a review of initiatives that will encourage more women to offer as candidates to represent New Brunswickers in the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly and report back to the Legislative Assembly within two months with specific recommendations.

And the question being put, Motion 52 as amended was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 43

Hon. Mr. Holder	Ms. Bockus	Mr. LeBlanc
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Mr. Cullins	Mr. K. Chiasson
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Mr. Hogan	Mr. C. Chiasson
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Mr. Stewart	Mr. Bourque
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Ames	Mr. D'Amours
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Carr	Ms. Mitton
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Turner	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Legacy
Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Thériault	Mr. Guitard
Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Melanson	Mr. Gauvin
Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. McKee	Mr. Mallet
Hon. Mr. Allain	Ms. Landry	Mr. Landry
Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. Harris	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Coon	
Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Austin	

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 49, Mr. McKee moved, seconded by Mr. D'Amours:

WHEREAS the tragic death of 16-year-old Lexi Daken has drawn attention to the gaps in our mental health services that desperately need to be addressed;

WHEREAS Lexi's story was a catalyst for many other families to come forward with other tragic stories of how our mental health system has failed their loved ones who were not able to receive the help they needed when they needed it;

WHEREAS, while the reviews undertaken by the Child and Youth Advocate and Horizon Health in relation to the events leading up to the death of Lexi Daken are appropriate, there is a recognition that mental health services have been chronically underfunded for many years, which must be addressed;

WHEREAS mental health experts and advocates believe the mental health crisis is worsening and believe there is an urgent need to ensure our healthcare system can respond to those struggling with mental health issues who need immediate help;

WHEREAS the Official Opposition brought a motion forward in the Legislative Assembly in 2019 calling for the position of Mental Health Advocate to be created;

WHEREAS this motion received unanimous support from all Members of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the Official Opposition has also called for the expansion of the mental health court to ensure that people appearing in the courts with mental health issues have access to the treatments and services they require;

WHEREAS the Minister of Health has just announced an Addiction and Mental Health action plan for priority areas for 2021-2025;

WHEREAS there is a need for urgent action on improvements to our mental health system;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to accelerate the timeline for the implementation of all the measures contained in the action plan from 5 years to 3 years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to immediately enhance the funding for mental health services to achieve this objective;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to establish the position of Mental Health Advocate without delay.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

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

And then, 6 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
New Brunswick Insurance Board

March 24, 2021

Daily sitting 23

Friday, March 26, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 28),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 28 was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 25

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. S. Wilson	
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	

NAYS - 20

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Austin	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Ms. Conroy	

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 Ms. S. Wilson in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Ms. S. Wilson, 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 she was directed to ask leave to sit again.

Ms. S. Wilson 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.

Hon. 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.

Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT, pursuant to Standing Rule 109, the *Main Estimates 2021-2022*, the *Capital Estimates 2021-2022*, and the *Supplementary Estimates 2019-2020, Volume 1*, be referred to the Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy.

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

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 then read the titles of the Bills as follows:

Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Early Childhood Services Act.*

Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Notaries Public Act.*

Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act.*

Bill 20, *An Act to Amend the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission and Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal Act.*

Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Saint John Transit Commission Act.*

Bill 45, *An Act Respecting Municipal General Elections in 2021.*

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, 10.10 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 24

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Ms. Dunn laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *Report on Implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action*.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, from the Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

May 11, 2021

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

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy begs leave to submit this, their First Report.

Your Committee met in the Legislative Assembly Chamber on April 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28 and 29, to consider the estimates referred to your Committee by resolution of the House adopted March 26, 2021.

Your Committee wishes to report that they have passed all estimates referred to them and outlined in this report. Your Committee recommends that these estimates be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Hon. Glen Savoie, M.L.A.
Chair

The following are the items that were passed by the Committee:

MAIN ESTIMATES, 2021-2022

RESOLVED, that there be granted to Her Majesty sums not exceeding the following to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2022:

ORDINARY ACCOUNT	Voted (\$)
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	
Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries	45,455,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	45,408,000

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	
Corporate and Other Education Services	72,635,000
School Districts	1,192,270,000
Early Childhood Development	115,937,000
COVID-19 Pandemic	30,100,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted	1,410,895,000
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
Corporate Services and Community Funding	2,176,000
Policy, First Nations and Public Engagement	1,216,000
Local Government	137,042,000
Assessment and Planning Appeal Board	316,000
Authorizations and Compliance	6,857,000
Environmental Science and Protection	4,590,000
Climate Change Secretariat	1,579,000
Less amounts authorized by law	94,000
Voted	153,682,000
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE	
Office of the Clerk, Chief Operating Officer and Head of the Public Service and Executive Council Secretariat ...	3,363,000
Corporate Communications	6,181,000
Office of the Lieutenant-Governor	453,000
Women's Equality Branch	3,219,000
Voted	13,216,000
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND TREASURY BOARD	
Budget and Financial Management	846,000
Corporate Services	5,488,000
Treasury Management and Fiscal Policy	2,677,000
Office of the Chief Human Resources Officer	4,840,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer	7,233,000
Office of the Comptroller	3,055,000
Revenue Administration	5,431,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted	29,523,000
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
Aboriginal Affairs	5,440,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted	5,393,000
Climate and Economic Development Initiatives with First Nations	9,000,000
Commissions Paid to Collectors of Pari-Mutuel Taxes	455,000
Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)	21,699,000
Equal Employment Opportunity Program	688,000

Intergovernmental Affairs.....	8,513,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	8,466,000
Legislated Pension Plans, Benefit Accruals, Subsidies, and Supplementary Allowances	124,227,000
Less amounts authorized by law	177,000
Voted.....	124,050,000
Natural Gas Distribution Program	12,000,000
Pension and Employee Benefits Plan	339,268,000
Less amounts authorized by law	2,000
Voted.....	339,266,000
Provision for Losses.....	14,200,000
Revenue Sharing Agreements with First Nations	50,500,000
Service New Brunswick.....	181,575,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	181,528,000
Supplementary Funding Provision.....	162,624,000
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Corporate and Other Health Services	190,633,000
Medicare	714,053,000
Drug Programs.....	233,403,000
Part III Health Services.....	1,868,068,000
COVID-19 Pandemic.....	64,781,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	3,070,891,000
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY	
Technical Safety & Corporate Services Division	15,274,000
Community Safety Division	173,668,000
Office of the Attorney General	21,154,000
Justice Services Division	25,754,000
Legal Aid	10,354,000
Security and Emergencies Division.....	41,799,000
COVID-19 Pandemic.....	22,091,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	310,047,000
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY	
Members' Allowances, Committees and Operations.....	9,137,000
Less amounts authorized by law	4,272,000
Voted.....	4,865,000

Office of the Legislative Assembly	3,799,000
Office of the Auditor General	3,377,000
Offices of Leaders and Members of Registered Political Parties.....	2,234,000
Less amounts authorized by law	95,000
Voted.....	2,139,000
Elections New Brunswick.....	9,330,000
Office of the Ombud	1,712,000
Office of the Child, Youth and Senior Advocate.....	1,307,000
Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages.....	729,000
Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance	500,000
Office of the Integrity Commissioner	369,000
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	
Administration	8,161,000
Natural Resources	84,424,000
Energy and Mines	5,636,000
Land Management	3,038,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	101,237,000
OFFICE OF THE PREMIER	
Administration	1,507,000
Less amounts authorized by law	67,000
Voted.....	1,440,000
OPPORTUNITIES NEW BRUNSWICK	
Administration and Business Development Services	14,384,000
Financial Assistance	25,000,000
Population Growth.....	8,628,000
COVID-19 Pandemic.....	5,000,000
Voted.....	53,012,000
OTHER AGENCIES	
Consolidated Entities	364,530,000
Less amounts authorized by law	364,530,000
Voted.....	0
Council of Atlantic Premiers	642,000
Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation	2,825,000
Labour and Employment Board.....	653,000
New Brunswick Police Commission	672,000
New Brunswick Women's Council	467,000
Premier's Council on Disabilities	302,000

DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Labour and Strategic Services	11,626,000
Post-Secondary Affairs	464,094,000
WorkingNB.....	171,253,000
New Brunswick Public Library Service	15,560,000
Apprenticeship and Occupational Certification.....	6,067,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	668,553,000
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	
Development Projects and Operations.....	65,153,000
SERVICE OF THE PUBLIC DEBT	
Service of the Public Debt	655,000,000
Less amounts authorized by law	649,100,000
Voted.....	5,900,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Corporate and Other Services	10,259,000
Seniors and Long Term Care	794,022,000
Child Welfare and Youth Services	143,432,000
Income Security	239,054,000
Housing Services	114,059,000
Other Benefits	53,183,000
COVID-19 Pandemic.....	12,600,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	1,366,562,000
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, HERITAGE AND CULTURE	
Administration	2,934,000
Parks and Attractions.....	13,052,000
Culture, Heritage and Sport	27,053,000
Tourism.....	11,531,000
COVID-19 Pandemic.....	7,265,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	61,788,000
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Administration	14,937,000
Policy and Legislative Affairs	1,214,000
Maintenance.....	77,346,000
Winter Maintenance.....	69,483,000
Bridge and Highway Construction.....	3,128,000
Buildings Group.....	137,072,000
New Brunswick Highway Corporation.....	24,220,000
COVID-19 Pandemic.....	2,800,000
Less amounts authorized by law	23,728,000
Voted.....	306,472,000

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	
Capital Equipment	140,000
Strategic Infrastructure	200,000
Voted.....	340,000
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	
Public Schools – Capital Equipment.....	500,000
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
Local Service Districts.....	1,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Public Hospitals – Capital Equipment	25,850,000
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	
Mine Reclamation.....	250,000
Musquash Watershed Infrastructure – Capital Improvements	3,100,000
Sentier NB Trail Infrastructure	750,000
Voted.....	4,100,000
DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Deferred Maintenance Program	2,286,000
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	
Canada-New Brunswick Integrated Bilateral Agreement	15,000,000
Strategic Infrastructure Initiative	26,250,000
Voted.....	41,250,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Nursing Home Services - Capital Improvements	9,000,000
Nursing Home Services - Capital Maintenance.....	3,000,000
Voted.....	12,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, HERITAGE AND CULTURE	
Capital Improvements.....	6,425,000
Strategic Infrastructure	4,275,000
Voted.....	10,700,000
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Bridges	46,820,000
Highways	180,240,000
Municipal Designated Highway Program.....	10,000,000
Federal-Provincial Cost-Shared Program	70,670,000
Vehicle Management Agency.....	18,000,000
Public Works and Infrastructure	249,658,000
Less amounts authorized by law	63,387,000
Voted.....	512,001,000

 LOANS AND ADVANCES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	
New Brunswick Agricultural Insurance Commission	1,600,000
Loan Programs	9,500,000
Voted.....	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 Development	
Loans Program	5,000,000
Financial assistance under the New Brunswick	
Small Business Emergency Working Capital	
Loan Program.....	8,000,000
Voted.....	13,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Housing.....	3,224,000

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 2019-2020, Volume I

RESOLVED, that there be granted to Her Majesty sums not exceeding the following to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2020:

ORDINARY ACCOUNT	Voted (\$)
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	
School Districts.....	1,807,089.72
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE	
Intergovernmental Affairs	58,199.01
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Drug Programs	14,726,829.86
Medicare	10,552,984.68
Part III Health Services.....	17,823,754.98
Voted.....	43,103,569.52
DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Employment Development	42,308,038.35
NB Public Libraries	447,917.14
Post-Secondary Affairs	14,197,675.45
Voted.....	56,953,630.94

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	
Community Safety Division	501,658.72
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Child Welfare and Disability Support Services	23,144,307.52
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Winter Maintenance.....	7,610,949.97
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
Local Service Districts.....	300,106.63
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Public Hospitals – Capital Equipment	117,352.76
LOANS AND ADVANCES	
DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Student Loan Advances	29,616.12

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.

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

May 11, 2021

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 May 5 and had under consideration:

Bill 38, *An Act to Amend the Service New Brunswick Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Opportunities New Brunswick Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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 47, *Loan Act 2021*.

Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*.

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

Bill 49, *An Act to Amend the Limitation of Actions Act*.

Bill 50, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*.

Bill 51, *An Act Respecting Image-capturing Enforcement Systems*.

Bill 52, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act*.

Bill 53, *An Act Respecting the Police Act*.

Bill 54, *An Act Respecting the Operation of the Order Relating to COVID-19 under the Emergency Measures Act*.

By Hon. Ms. Shephard,

Bill 55, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*.

Bill 56, *An Act to Amend the Medical Consent of Minors Act*.

By Hon. Ms. Dunn,

Bill 57, *An Act to Amend the Regulatory Accountability and Reporting Act*.

By Hon. Ms. Johnson,

Bill 58, *Bee Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 59, *Appropriations Act 2021-2022*.

Bill 60, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2019-2020 (1)*.

Mr. Speaker announced that pursuant to Standing Rule 42.3(1), Bills 59 and 60 were ordered for second and third reading forthwith.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 59, *Appropriations Act 2021-2022*, the motion for second reading was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 25

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. S. Wilson	
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	

NAYS - 22

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Ms. Mitton	
Mr. Austin	Ms. Conroy	

Accordingly, Bill 59, *Appropriations Act 2021-2022*, was read a second time.

The following Bill was read a second time:

Bill 60, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2019-2020 (1)*.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 59, *Appropriations Act 2021-2022*.

Bill 60, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2019-2020 (1)*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. D'Amours,

Bill 61, *An Act to Amend the Human Tissue Gift Act*.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 64 that on Thursday, May 20, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

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 increasing the minimum wage to \$13 an hour by April 1, 2022, and to \$15 an hour by April 1, 2023;

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.

Mr. Austin gave Notice of Motion 65 that on Thursday, May 20, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Conroy:

WHEREAS over 5 million cubic meters of New Brunswick Crown wood is utilized in the New Brunswick forest industry annually;

WHEREAS the taxpayers of New Brunswick pay to manage this land from budget items including \$19 million dollars for Crown land silviculture and an additional \$20 million of taxpayers dollars for forest management fees to private companies;

WHEREAS the price of finished forest products, according to *Madison's Lumber Report*, have risen from \$450 US per 1000 board feet to over \$1,600 US in 2021 for eastern spruce/fir lumber;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Government has changed regulations to restrict the use of unstamped lumber in construction projects across the province that has been successfully used for centuries in our province across rural New Brunswick in buildings that are still standing to this day;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Government has only provided a temporary, stop-gap interim measure to address this growing and costly situation;

WHEREAS the price of finished lumber across the province at all lumber warehouses has correspondingly increased to nearly 4 times their former prices for materials used in our construction industry, which is presently derailing investment and construction of commercial and residential properties;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to convene immediately a task force/working group to brainstorm ideas and remedies within the next 60 days to address this current situation.

With leave of the House, the Honourable the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. Melanson: (Motion 66)

THAT a humble address be presented to Her Most Gracious Majesty The Queen, to convey our most profound condolences to Her Majesty on the death of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh; and to those ends that the following address be adopted:

To The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty
Most Gracious Sovereign:

We, Your Majesty's most loyal and devoted servants, Members of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to convey to Your Majesty the deep sorrow of the Members of this House and the people of New Brunswick at the death of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh; and to express to Your Majesty and to all members of the Royal Family our sincere sympathy.

We fondly remember His Royal Highness and his many visits to our Province, both on his own and with Your Majesty, and the special efforts he made to meet with New Brunswickers from all walks of life who strive to make valuable contributions to their communities.

His Royal Highness will be deeply mourned by all, and his legacy will continue through the thousands of young people who challenge themselves each year to achieve The Duke of Edinburgh Award. We reflect on his distinguished wartime record, his love and unwavering support for Your Majesty, and his loyalty and service to all Canadians.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, Bills 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57 and 58 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House take into consideration Motion 60; following which Bills 32, 34, 35, 36, 37 and 44 would be called for second reading.

Debate resumed on the amendment to Motion 60, moved by Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Coon, on Thursday, March 25, 2021.

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

YEAS - 20

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Ms. Mitton	

NAYS - 26

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Austin
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. S. Wilson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	

Debate resumed on Motion 60.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 60 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 - 39

Hon. Mr. Holder	Ms. Bockus	Mr. K. Chiasson
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Mr. Cullins	Mr. C. Chiasson
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Ms. Anderson-Mason	Mr. Bourque
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Mr. Ames	Mr. LePage
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Carr	Mr. D'Amours
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Arseneault	Ms. Mitton
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Thériault	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Melanson	Mr. Legacy
Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. McKee	Mr. Guitard
Hon. Mr. Allain	Ms. Landry	Mr. Gauvin
Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. Harris	Mr. Mallet
Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Coon	Mr. Landry
Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Arseneau

NAYS - 7

Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Austin
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Mr. Hogan	
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Turner	

On the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, be now read a second time, the question was put and 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 being read for second reading of Bill 34, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax 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, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income 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 being read for second reading of Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, a debate arose thereon.

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.

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:

Response to Petition 6	March 31, 2021
Report by the Department of Social Development based on recommendations in the Auditor General's Report on Group Homes and Specialized Placements (December 2019)	April 1, 2021
Annual Report 2019-2020 Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	April 12, 2021
Annual Report 2018-2019 New Brunswick Lotteries and Gaming Corporation	April 16, 2021
Under the provisions of the <i>Fees Act</i> , information regarding fee changes to Crown rental rates under the <i>Lands Administration Regulation – Crown Lands and Forests Act</i>	April 16, 2021
Business Plan 2021-2022, Auditor General of New Brunswick	April 23, 2021
Annual Report 2019-2020 Kings Landing Corporation	May 5, 2021

Daily sitting 25

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. K. Chiasson used unparliamentary language when he used the term “truth” in reference to a response by Hon. Mr. Allain. Mr. K. Chiasson withdrew the remark.

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to respect the Wolastoq Grand Council resolution to halt funding of Small Modular Nuclear Reactor development. (Petition 9)

Mr. Austin, Member for Fredericton-Grand Lake, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to take action on Chipman flood mitigation. (Petition 10)

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 67 that on Thursday, May 20, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

WHEREAS a single recipient on transitional assistance receives \$564 a month;

WHEREAS the Common Front for Social Justice found that the minimum monthly cost of living in Moncton ranges from \$1,262 to \$1,302 a month for a single person;

WHEREAS a single recipient on the extended benefit program receives \$697 a month;

WHEREAS the Common Front for Social Justice found that the minimum monthly cost of living for a single mobility impaired person in Moncton ranges from \$1,368 to \$1,408;

WHEREAS a family of four on transitional assistance receives \$995;

WHEREAS the Human Development Council found that a monthly income of \$5,932 is needed for a family of four in Fredericton to meet their needs, compared to \$5,744 in Saint John, \$5,556 in Moncton, and \$5,431 in Bathurst;

WHEREAS, subject to specific exemptions, the government currently does not allow individuals on social assistance to share accommodations;

WHEREAS the government's wage exemption regulation discourages social assistance recipients from accepting work for more than a few hours per month;

WHEREAS the government currently forces seniors on social assistance to collect their Canada Pension Plans at age 60, resulting in a reduced pension;

WHEREAS work income, disability pension, and survivor benefits are clawed back from social assistance recipients;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to amend the *Family Income Security Act* Regulation 95-61 to increase the allowable income through work they can keep from \$150 per month to \$500;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to end the Household Income Policy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to immediately increase social assistance rates to reduce the number of people living in poverty;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to pursue a basic income guarantee pilot for New Brunswickers living with disabilities with the participation of the federal government.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, May 13, 2021, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Bill 61; Motion 49.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bills 35, 36, 37, 44, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57 and 58 be called for second reading.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 38, *An Act to Amend the Service New Brunswick Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, be now read a second time.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 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, 6 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 the Operational Review of the
Prescription Monitoring Act, June 2020
Response to Petitions 5, 7

May 10, 2021
May 10, 2021

Daily sitting 26

Thursday, May 13, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Carr,

Bill 62, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Keystone General Insurance Company.*

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to revert to Statements by Ministers.

Mr. Arseneau gave Notice of Motion 68 that on Thursday, May 20, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

WHEREAS it is estimated that 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 offshore 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, 2021.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 37, 44, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 35 and 36 be called for second reading.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 37, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act*, 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, *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 44, *An Act to Amend the Public Trustee 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, *An Act to Amend the Public Trustee 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, *Loan Act 2021*, 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, *Loan Act 2021*, 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 48, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*, a debate arose thereon.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1.02 p.m. the House resumed.

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

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

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 61, *An Act to Amend the Human Tissue Gift Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Hon. Ms. Shephard, seconded by Hon. 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 61, *An Act to Amend the Human Tissue Gift 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."

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

At 3.05 p.m. the House recessed. At 3.20 p.m. the House resumed with Mr. Speaker in the Chair.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 25

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Turner
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	

NAYS - 22

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Ms. Mitton	
Mr. Austin	Ms. Conroy	

Debate resumed on Motion 49, moved by Mr. McKee, seconded by Mr. D'Amours, on Thursday, March 25, 2021.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 49 was resolved in the affirmative.

And then, 5.59 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 27

Friday, May 14, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 69 that on Thursday, May 20, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneau:

WHEREAS climate change is already having negative impacts in New Brunswick and, if not addressed, will have devastating effects on all aspects of the province's environment, economy, and society;

WHEREAS the sector of transportation is currently one of the largest contributors to New Brunswick's greenhouse gas emissions, responsible for 28% of the total greenhouse gas emissions;

WHEREAS in New Brunswick cars and trucks burn more than 1.1 billion liters of gasoline each year, emitting more than 2.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere;

WHEREAS switching to an electric vehicle can lessen the contribution to climate change, extreme weather events, and smog related health problems by reducing carbon dioxide emissions by approximately 80%;

WHEREAS the government has failed to meet New Brunswick's Climate Change Action Plan target of having 2,500 electric vehicles on the road, and currently has approximately 730 electric vehicles on the road;

WHEREAS the government has failed to implement an electric vehicle strategy that specifies the required incentives, regulations, policies, programs, and charging infrastructure to achieve provincial targets for electric vehicles;

WHEREAS the province of Nova Scotia has announced incentives of \$3,000 for the purchase of a new electric vehicle and \$2,000 for the purchase of a used electric vehicle, in addition to the federal rebate;

WHEREAS the province of Prince Edward Island has announced a similar rebate consisting of \$5,000 for the purchase of a new or used electric vehicle;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to offer rebates for purchasing new and used electric vehicles to meet the provincial target of having 20,000 electric vehicles on the road by 2030;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to collaborate with municipal and local governments to expand cleaner alternative transportation options such as electric vehicles, public transit, carpooling, ride-sharing, bicycling, and walking;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to advance public transportation planning at the regional level to allow for route integration and improvements in access.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 35, 36, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57 and 58 be called for second reading.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, be now read a second time.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Bourque, 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:

“the House decline to give second reading to Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, as it presents a risk to children which is contrary and unacceptable to good public policy.”

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

At 11.35 a.m. the House recessed. At 11.41 a.m. the House resumed.

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

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

And then, 2 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 28

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means. Mr. Speaker reminded those Members to unmute their microphones and have their video functioning when they wished to speak.

At 1.08 p.m., Mr. Speaker declared a recess and left the chair due to technical difficulties with the sound and interpretation system. At 1.19 p.m. the House resumed.

Following Oral Questions, Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Melanson referred to Hon. Mr. Cardy by name and made reference to the presence or absence of the Minister from the Chamber. Mr. Melanson withdrew the first remark. Mr. Speaker ruled the second point not well taken as the reference regarded virtual participation.

Mr. Carr requested leave of the House to move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Hogan: (Motion 70)

THAT in addition to the existing sitting hours prescribed in Standing Rule 29(1) and by Special Order of the House adopted November 18, 2020, 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 Tuesday, May 18, 2021, and shall remain in effect for the remainder of the First Session of the 60th Legislative Assembly.

Leave to dispense with notice of Motion 70 was denied. Accordingly, notice was given for Friday, May 21, 2021.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 71 that on Thursday, May 27, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

WHEREAS the mental health care system in New Brunswick is failing to meet people's needs due to long waitlists, access issues, and underfunding;

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has intensified feelings of stress and anxiety, causing alarming levels of despair, suicidal thought, and hopelessness in New Brunswick's population;

WHEREAS there are challenges to access mental health services in New Brunswick, where wait times can last from 6 to 18 months for service;

WHEREAS suicide remains the second leading cause of death in Canada among young people aged 15 to 24, and New Brunswick has the highest suicide rate per capita in Canada;

WHEREAS the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate recognized that New Brunswick is lacking an effective provincial strategy for youth suicide prevention;

WHEREAS the Canadian Mental Health Association of New Brunswick estimates that the percentage of the provincial population having suicidal or self-harm thoughts has increased from about 2% to 10% in the last year;

WHEREAS the Canadian Mental Health Association recommends increasing mental health spending to 9% of the total health budget, yet the provincial government has allotted in its 2021-2022 budget only 5.5% of the total health budget;

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly urged the government for the creation of the Mental Health Advocate in 2019, and yet this position has not been created;

WHEREAS there is a chronic shortage of registered school psychologists, with 23 of 38 funded positions in the Anglophone sector vacant and 14 of 38 funded positions in the Francophone sector vacant;

WHEREAS ongoing staff shortages forced the four-bed Inpatient Youth and Wellness Unit at the Moncton Hospital to merge with the Provincial Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Unit, bringing the total number of beds for youth in crisis from 10 down to 6;

WHEREAS a central system of governance for the Integrated Service Delivery (ISD) program would ensure that the sharing of information and financial resources among the ISD partners flow in a timely manner to properly address a child's need;

WHEREAS the death of 16-year-old Lexi Daken, who committed suicide after waiting in an emergency room for over 8 hours to see a psychiatrist and never saw one, has sparked calls for the New Brunswick government to transform the mental health care system, specifically on how it is being delivered to young people;

WHEREAS, as a response to the mental health and addiction crisis in New Brunswick, the provincial government has launched a 5-year Inter-Departmental Mental Health and Addiction Action Plan, which will establish 14 mental health clinics across the province;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to add 24-hour emergency mental health services to the mental health walk-in clinics being established around the province;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to commit to increase the proportion of health spending devoted to mental health to 9%;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to create a new government department responsible for child and youth services, with a legislative mandate to ensure the integration of services to children and youth across all government departments and agencies.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House consider Motion 61; following which Bills 36, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58 and 35 would be called for second reading.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 61, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT, pursuant to subsection 39(1) of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, the Legislative Assembly direct the Legislative Administration Committee to establish a committee to review the salary and benefits of members under the *Legislative Assembly Act* and the salaries and benefits of members who have responsibilities under the *Executive Council Act*.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

Mr. Arseneau rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Carr used unparliamentary language when he used the term “misleading New Brunswickers” in reference to Mr. Arseneau. Mr. Carr withdrew the remark.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 61 was resolved in the affirmative.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 36, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Ms. S. Wilson, 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 29

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

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

May 19, 2021

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 May 18 and had under consideration:

Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Opportunities New Brunswick Act*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 47, *Loan Act 2021*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Coon gave Notice of Motion 72 that on Thursday, May 27, 2021 he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneau:

WHEREAS NB Power met its target to have 40% of the total in-province electricity sales in kilowatt-hours in electricity from renewable resources by December 31, 2020;

WHEREAS NB Power no longer has a renewable energy target;

WHEREAS the State of Maine, which also currently receives 40% of its electricity needs from renewable resources, has a target of 80% renewable energy by 2030 and 100% by 2050;

WHEREAS Nova Scotia is committed to have all government offices using renewable electricity by 2025;

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*;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to update the renewable energy portfolio requirements under the *Electricity from Renewable Resources Regulation* (2015-60) under 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 table a plan to be carbon-neutral in its operation by 2030;

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, May 20, 2021, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Bill 17; Third Party item.

Mr. Arseneau gave notice that the Third Party item would be Bill 18.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bill 35 be called for second reading for one hour; following which Bill 36 would be called for second reading for one hour; following which Bills 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57 and 58 would be called for second reading.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, be now read a second time, moved by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Bourque, on Friday, May 14, 2021.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the time allocated for second reading of Bill 35 had expired.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 36, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act*, be now read a second time.

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

And after some further time, Madam Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the time allocated for second reading of Bill 36 had expired.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*, be now read a second time.

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

And after some further time, Ms. Anderson-Mason took the chair.

Mr. Guitard rose on a point of order and submitted that the House should adjourn due to lack of quorum. Madam Deputy Speaker ruled that a quorum was present.

Mr. Carr rose on a point of order and submitted that Ms. Landry should not be permitted to continue her speech as she exited the Chamber during Mr. Guitard's point of order. Madam Deputy Speaker ruled the point not well taken as she had already recognized the Member to continue her speech.

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 48 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 26

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Turner
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Austin
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus	

NAYS - 19

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Guitard
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. Melanson	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Mr. McKee	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Landry	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Arseneau
Ms. Harris	Ms. Mitton	
Mr. Coon	Mr. Legacy	

Accordingly, Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income 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 being read for second reading of Bill 49, *An Act to Amend the Limitation of Actions Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 49 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 49, *An Act to Amend the Limitation of Actions 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 50, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 50 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 50, *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 51, *An Act Respecting Image-capturing Enforcement Systems*, a debate arose thereon.

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 30

Thursday, May 20, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 35 and 36 be called for second reading.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 51, *An Act Respecting Image-capturing Enforcement Systems*, be now read a second time.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

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

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

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 on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 44

Hon. Mr. Holder	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Coon
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Ms. Bockus	Mr. LeBlanc
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Mr. Cullins	Mr. K. Chiasson
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Ms. Anderson-Mason	Mr. Bourque
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Mr. Hogan	Mr. LePage
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Stewart	Mr. D'Amours
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Ames	Ms. Mitton
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Carr	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Turner	Mr. Legacy

Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Guitard
Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Thériault	Mr. Gauvin
Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Melanson	Mr. Mallet
Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. McKee	Mr. Landry
Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. Landry	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Wetmore	Ms. Harris	

Accordingly, Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*, was read a second time.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Standing Rule 42.2(6) Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*, be referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 18, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies 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, 6 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 31

Friday, May 21, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that Hon. Ms. Shephard used unparliamentary language when she used the term “screw up”. Mr. Speaker asked Members to raise the level of debate.

Mr. McKee, Member for Moncton Centre, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government not to combine the services provided by the Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont Regional Hospital and the Moncton City Hospital. (Petition 11)

Mr. D’Amours gave Notice of Motion 73 that on Thursday, May 27, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS, according to the Nurses Association of New Brunswick, the Nurses’ Union, and the CEOs of the health authorities, there is a severe shortage of nurses in the province with serious implications for our health system if the shortage is not addressed;

WHEREAS the health authorities told a Legislative committee that the province has a shortage of 520 nurses per year;

WHEREAS the shortage is estimated to be upwards of 5,000 nurses in the next five years;

WHEREAS, in a move that boggles the mind, the Higgs government cut \$9 million from funding for nurse training;

WHEREAS, despite evidence that shows that NB nurses are amongst the lowest paid in Canada and statistics that show that New Brunswick is losing nurses and nursing graduates to other provinces with better compensation, contracts for nurses and licensed practical nurses have not been finalized and the Premier seems determined to avoid paying nurses a competitive salary;

WHEREAS, while other jurisdictions are offering incentives to nurses and nursing graduates, there is no comprehensive plan, to our knowledge, to attract and retain nurses in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the shortage of nurses has resulted in hospital services having to be reduced or temporarily shut down in hospitals throughout the province;

WHEREAS examples of these hospital service reductions due to nursing shortages include the diversion of ambulances to the Moncton Hospital from the Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont Hospital, the shutdown of psychiatric services at the Campbellton hospital to divert nurses elsewhere, the shutdown of pediatric services at the Miramichi hospital to divert nursing resources, the temporary shutdown of obstetrical services at the Bathurst hospital due to nursing shortages, the shutdown of obstetrical services at the Campbellton hospital for a period of 14 months, bed closures at the Saint John Regional Hospital due to nurse shortages and others;

WHEREAS, despite that there is a crisis caused by the nursing shortage, the government has not done anything to address it, leading to speculation that the Premier plans to permanently reduce or shutdown services at hospitals throughout the province and will use the nursing shortage as an excuse for doing so;

WHEREAS the Premier said to nursing home workers who were asking for a better salary “if you want that kind of wage, then Alberta’s where to get it”;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Premier to immediately address the nursing shortage by initiatives such as providing nurses and licensed practical nurses with competitive salaries, investing in more nursing seats, and providing a comprehensive incentive program to attract and retain nurses;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Premier to abandon any plans to reduce hospital services throughout the province by attempting to justify them based on a nursing shortage crisis that his government has not been willing to resolve.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House consider an adjournment motion; following which third reading would take place; following which Bills 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 35 and 36 would be called for second reading.

On motion of Hon. 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, June 1, 2021, 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 or that the adjournment should continue beyond Tuesday, June 1, 2021, 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.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Opportunities New Brunswick Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 51, *An Act Respecting Image-capturing Enforcement Systems*, be now read a second time.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 51 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 51, *An Act Respecting Image-capturing Enforcement Systems*, 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 Provincial Offences Procedure 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 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 53, *An Act Respecting the Police 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 Respecting the Police 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 Respecting the Operation of the Order Relating to COVID-19 under the Emergency Measures 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 Respecting the Operation of the Order Relating to COVID-19 under the Emergency Measures 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 55, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales 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 Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales 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 56, *An Act to Amend the Medical Consent of Minors Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 56 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 56, *An Act to Amend the Medical Consent of Minors 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 57, *An Act to Amend the Regulatory Accountability and Reporting Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 57 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 57, *An Act to Amend the Regulatory Accountability and Reporting 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 58, *Bee Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 58 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 58, *Bee 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, 1.25 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 32

Tuesday, June 1, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace offered condolences to the family of the late Hazen Myers, former Progressive Conservative MLA for Kings East (1978-1987, 1991-1995). Hon. Mr. Holder joined in this regard.

At the request of the Honourable the Premier, the House observed a moment of silence to honour the lives of the 215 Indigenous children whose remains were discovered at a former residential school site in Kamloops, British Columbia.

Mr. Turner, 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 1, 2021

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 May 19, 25, 26, 27 and 28, and had under consideration:

Bill 33, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act*;
Bill 34, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*;
Bill 37, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act*;
Bill 41, *An Act to Amend the Combat Sport Act*;
Bill 44, *An Act to Amend the Public Trustee Act*;
Bill 47, *Loan Act 2021*;
Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*;
Bill 50, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act*;
Bill 51, *An Act Respecting Image-capturing Enforcement Systems*;
Bill 52, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act*;
Bill 53, *An Act Respecting the Police Act*;
Bill 54, *An Act Respecting the Operation of the Order Relating to COVID-19 under the Emergency Measures Act*;
Bill 57, *An Act to Amend the Regulatory Accountability and Reporting Act*;
Bill 58, *Bee Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*;
Bill 49, *An Act to Amend the Limitation of Actions Act*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Cullins, from the Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the Third Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

June 1, 2021

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

Mr. Speaker:

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

Your Committee met on June 1, 2021, in the Legislative Council Chamber and had under consideration the following Bill:

Bill 62, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Keystone General Insurance Company*;

which it recommends to the favourable consideration of the House.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

I move, seconded by the Member for Carleton-York, that the report be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Ryan Cullins, M.L.A.
Chair

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

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. D'Amours,
Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act.*

Ms. Mitton gave Notice of Motion 74 that on Thursday, June 10, 2021, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Coon:

WHEREAS palliative care is an important component of the continuum of care, and it currently does not receive sufficient attention, funding and resources from the provincial government;

WHEREAS approximately 80-85% of individuals receiving palliative care have a cancer diagnosis;

WHEREAS New Brunswick has the highest rate of in-hospital deaths in Canada, with 80% of end-stage cancer patients being admitted to hospital for the last two weeks of their life, compared to the Canadian average of 60%;

WHEREAS quality palliative care provides patients and families with the care they need, when they want, in the setting of their choice and is an efficient use of health care money that can help create a more sustainable health care system;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to provide additional funding for specialty care staff including, palliative care nurses, palliative care social workers, primary care workers, extra mural, licensed practical nurses, homecare workers, personal support workers, and paramedics across the province;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to invest resources to deliver palliative care within the home and within the long-term care settings, and increase the number of staff, equipment, and resources for hospices to enhance community capacity;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to strengthen caregiver supports, particularly related to grief and bereavement, as well as educate and communicate to New Brunswickers the resources available in the community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to update and report on the status of New Brunswick Palliative Care Strategy, including on the implementations of the Five Strategic Pillars, actions plans, policies, programs and services, and on the status of the New Brunswick Palliative Care Advisory Committee by December 31, 2021;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Minister of Health to table in the Legislative Assembly a report on the state of palliative care in New Brunswick every 3 years.

Hon. Mr. Savoie requested unanimous consent to call Bill 63 for second reading forthwith, and unanimous consent was denied.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 35 and 36 be called for second reading.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, be now read a second time, moved by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Bourque, on Friday, May 14, 2021.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

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

And then, 6 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 10

May 27, 2021

Daily sitting 33 Wednesday, June 2, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, June 3, 2021, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Third Party item, Bill 63 and 28; Motion 73.

Mr. Arseneau gave notice that the Third Party item would be Bill 18.

Hon. Mr. Holder, Acting Government House Leader, deferred third reading of several Bills to Friday, June 4, 2021, and announced that it was the intention of government that Bill 35 be called for second reading for one hour; following which Bills 36 and 35, if not already concluded, would be called for second reading.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, be now read a second time, moved by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Bourque, on Friday, May 14, 2021.

And the debate being ended on the amendment, and the question being put, it was resolved in the negative.

Debate resumed.

And after some time, Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Coon, 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 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, 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.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the time allocated for second reading of Bill 35 had expired.

At 12.05 p.m. the House recessed. At 1.05 p.m. the House resumed.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 36, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act*, be now read a second time.

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 36 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 36, *An Act to Amend the Highway 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 amendment to the motion that Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, be now read a second time, moved by Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Coon, earlier in the sitting day.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason took the chair.

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

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

Daily sitting 34

Thursday, June 3, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bill 35 be called for second reading; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, be now read a second time, moved by Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Coon, on Wednesday, June 2, 2021.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed with Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, in the chair.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 20

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. LePage	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Landry
Mr. Coon	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Austin	Ms. Conroy	

NAYS - 23

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Wetmore	

And the question being put that Bill 35 be now read a second time, it 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 - 25

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Austin
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus	

NAYS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. LePage	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Landry
Mr. Coon	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Arseneau

Accordingly, Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

At 2 p.m. the House recessed. At 2.30 p.m. the House resumed with Mr. Speaker in the chair.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 18, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, be now read a second time.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 18 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. LePage	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Landry
Mr. Coon	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Arseneau

NAYS - 28

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Austin
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. S. Wilson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	
Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Cullins	

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Mr. Austin moved an amendment to the Bill. Mr. Speaker ruled the amendment out of order.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 63 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*, was read a second time.

Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT pursuant to Standing Rule 42.2(6) Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*, be referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy.

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

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 28, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act*, be now read a second time.

And after some time, Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. K. Chiasson, 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 28, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections 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.

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

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 73, Mr. D’Amours moved, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS, according to the Nurses Association of New Brunswick, the Nurses’ Union, and the CEOs of the health authorities, there is a severe shortage of nurses in the province with serious implications for our health system if the shortage is not addressed;

WHEREAS the health authorities told a Legislative committee that the province has a shortage of 520 nurses per year;

WHEREAS the shortage is estimated to be upwards of 5,000 nurses in the next five years;

WHEREAS, in a move that boggles the mind, the Higgs government cut \$9 million from funding for nurse training;

WHEREAS, despite evidence that shows that NB nurses are amongst the lowest paid in Canada and statistics that show that New Brunswick is losing nurses and nursing graduates to other provinces with better compensation, contracts for nurses and licensed practical nurses have not been finalized and the Premier seems determined to avoid paying nurses a competitive salary;

WHEREAS, while other jurisdictions are offering incentives to nurses and nursing graduates, there is no comprehensive plan, to our knowledge, to attract and retain nurses in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the shortage of nurses has resulted in hospital services having to be reduced or temporarily shut down in hospitals throughout the province;

WHEREAS examples of these hospital service reductions due to nursing shortages include the diversion of ambulances to the Moncton Hospital from the Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont Hospital, the shutdown of psychiatric services at the Campbellton hospital to divert nurses elsewhere, the shutdown of pediatric services at the Miramichi hospital to divert nursing resources, the temporary shutdown of obstetrical services at the Bathurst hospital due to nursing shortages, the shutdown of obstetrical services at the Campbellton hospital for a period of 14 months, bed closures at the Saint John Regional Hospital due to nurse shortages and others;

WHEREAS, despite that there is a crisis caused by the nursing shortage, the government has not done anything to address it, leading to speculation that the Premier plans to permanently reduce or shutdown services at hospitals throughout the province and will use the nursing shortage as an excuse for doing so;

WHEREAS the Premier said to nursing home workers who were asking for a better salary “if you want that kind of wage, then Alberta’s where to get it”;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Premier to immediately address the nursing shortage by initiatives such as providing nurses and licensed practical nurses with competitive salaries, investing in more nursing seats, and providing a comprehensive incentive program to attract and retain nurses;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Premier to abandon any plans to reduce hospital services throughout the province by attempting to justify them based on a nursing shortage crisis that his government has not been willing to resolve.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Ms. S. Wilson took the chair.

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 35

Friday, June 4, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Hon. Mr. Crossman, Member for Hampton, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to provide funding to upgrade certain roads. (Petition 12)

Mr. Bourque gave Notice of Motion 75 that on Thursday, June 10, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS District Education Councils are the voices of our communities;

WHEREAS the elected members should be congratulated for selflessly putting their names forward to serve for the betterment of the education system;

WHEREAS DEC members play a key role in education at the district level;

WHEREAS, according to the *Education Act*, the DECs are tasked with crucial responsibilities like developing and monitoring education plans and budget expenditures, setting district and governance policy, establishing objectives and expectations, and monitoring performance, to name just a few;

WHEREAS these dedicated volunteers know their communities, know their schools, and are best able to provide invaluable input and guidance;

WHEREAS, in the past, the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development has shown contempt for the role of the District Education Councils, has lacked respect for their members, and has threatened to disband them when their members did not agree with him;

WHEREAS, despite the fact that we have just elected the members of the District Education Councils, the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development is once again musing about disbanding the District Education Councils;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to commit to maintaining the District Education Councils with their duly elected members.

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 76 that on Thursday, June 10, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS the former President of Alcool NB Liquor and Cannabis NB resigned his position in December 2020 to return to the private sector;

WHEREAS over 5 months have elapsed since he left;

WHEREAS we recently learned that the Chair of the ANBL Board, who is a well-known Conservative political operative, having supported the Premier's leadership bid and served as an official agent, has decided that the new president shall not be hired with the assistance of an independent professional executive search firm;

WHEREAS, for such a significant role in managing a \$500 million a year corporation, it is crucial to ensure that the most qualified candidate is selected, and it is irresponsible to not engage a third party professional search firm with human resource expertise;

WHEREAS the Chair of ANBL has a reputation for exceeding his authority as Board Chair, interfering in the day-to-day operations of the corporation;

WHEREAS there is growing concern that the Board Chair does not want an independent firm engaged because he wants to control the outcome of the hiring process;

WHEREAS there is additional concern that the process proposed by the Board Chair could be subject to political interference;

WHEREAS there is a need to maintain public confidence in the selection process and establish the credibility of the chosen candidate;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure the candidate selection process for the President of ANBL and Cannabis NB is independent and impartial, and that a third-party search firm be engaged to conduct the search, interview candidates and submit its hiring recommendations.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 77 that on Thursday, June 10, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

WHEREAS investments in energy efficiency help combat climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improve affordability of energy for families and competitiveness for businesses by lowering energy bills, and create a substantial number of local jobs;

WHEREAS, since 2013, the provincial government has funded the Low-Income Energy Savings program with \$2 million per year;

WHEREAS additional investment in the Low-Income Energy Savings program would reduce the current waitlist, which currently has an estimated wait time of approximately 12 months;

WHEREAS Prince Edward Island is planning to invest an additional \$5.6 million towards its Energy Efficiency Equipment Program to allow every household to reduce its carbon footprint;

WHEREAS Nova Scotia announced an investment of \$6.7 million in energy efficiency incentives for affordable housing projects and \$3.5 million to provide incentives for energy efficiency upgrades for small businesses and non-profit organizations;

WHEREAS, through Efficiency One, Nova Scotia is avoiding more than 1 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent annually, reducing electricity use by 11%, and saving more than \$1 billion on energy costs;

WHEREAS New Brunswick spends \$17.77 on energy efficiency per household in energy poverty, compared to Prince Edward Island, which spends \$214.99, and Nova Scotia, which spends \$120.88;

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 and 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 establish zero-interest loans of up to \$10,000 to furnish the capital for cost-effective energy and renewable heat and power retrofits of homes;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to transfer energy efficiency and heating upgrade programs to a new non-profit agency modelled on Nova Scotia's Efficiency One.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, deferred third reading of Bills 48, 51 and 53 to Tuesday, June 8, 2021, and announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bill 62 be called for second reading.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act.*
Bill 33, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act.*
Bill 34, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act.*
Bill 37, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act.*
Bill 41, *An Act to Amend the Combat Sport Act.*
Bill 44, *An Act to Amend the Public Trustee Act.*
Bill 47, *Loan Act 2021.*
Bill 49, *An Act to Amend the Limitation of Actions Act.*
Bill 50, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act.*
Bill 52, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act.*
Bill 54, *An Act Respecting the Operation of the Order Relating to COVID-19 under the Emergency Measures Act.*
Bill 57, *An Act to Amend the Regulatory Accountability and Reporting Act.*
Bill 58, *Bee Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Private Bill 62, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Keystone General Insurance Company*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 62 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 62, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Keystone General Insurance Company*, was read a second time.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 121, Mr. Speaker ordered Private Bill 62 for third reading forthwith.

The following Private Bill was read a third time:

Bill 62, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Keystone General Insurance Company.*

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

And then, 10.20 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:

Response to Petition 9

June 3, 2021

Daily sitting 36

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Following Oral Questions, Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Coon made an unparliamentary remark towards the Premier. Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken and reminded Members to be respectful.

Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Coon deliberately misled the House. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken and requested that Hon. Mr. Savoie withdraw the word “misled”, which he did.

Mr. K. Chiasson, Member for Tracadie-Sheila, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore bridge functions in Haut-Rivière-du-Portage and Rivière-du-Portage. (Petition 13)

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 14)

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

June 8, 2021

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 eleventh report.

Your Committee met on June 4, and had under consideration:

Bill 55, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*;
Bill 56, *An Act to Amend the Medical Consent of Minors Act*;
Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 42, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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 Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Ms. Anderson-Mason, Q.C.,
Bill 64, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Podiatry*.

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 48, 51 and 53 be ordered for third reading.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 51, *An Act Respecting Image-capturing Enforcement Systems*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 51 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 28

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Coon
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Austin
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Cullins	
Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Anderson-Mason	

NAYS - 16

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Guitard
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. Melanson	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Mr. McKee	Mr. LePage	Mr. Arseneau
Ms. Landry	Mr. D'Amours	
Ms. Harris	Mr. Legacy	

Accordingly, Bill 51, *An Act Respecting Image-capturing Enforcement Systems*, was read a third time and passed.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 53, *An Act Respecting the Police Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 53 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 26

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus	

NAYS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Arseneau

Accordingly, Bill 53, *An Act Respecting the Police Act*, was read a third time and passed.

And then, 3.12 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 37

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Mr. K. Chiasson, Member for Tracadie-Sheila, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore bridge functions in Haut-Rivière-du-Portage and Rivière-du-Portage. (Petition 15)

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

June 9, 2021

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 twelfth report.

Your Committee met on June 8, and had under consideration:

Bill 36, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act*;
Bill 42, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act*;
Bill 43, *An Act Respecting the Executive Council Act and the Legislative Assembly Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, June 10, 2021, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Bill 63; Motion 76 and 73.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 78)

WHEREAS New Brunswick currently has the second highest rate of disability in Canada, and government's vision is to proactively eliminate and prevent barriers to ensure greater opportunities and access to services for persons with disabilities;

WHEREAS government strives to ensure New Brunswickers receive services that are accessible to all, may move freely around public buildings and spaces, have access to all employment opportunities and accessible workplaces, have access to digital content and technologies, and receive barrier free services and spaces;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the House appoint a Select Committee on Accessibility in New Brunswick, that will be charged with conducting consultations with community stakeholders and government departments involved with the disability community, and reporting to the House with recommendations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in addition to the powers traditionally conferred upon the said committee by the Standing Rules, the committee shall have the following additional powers: to meet during sittings of the House and during the recess after prorogation until the following session, and to retain such personnel and expertise as may be required to assist the committee;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said committee be composed of Ms. Bockus, Mr. Hogan, Hon. Mr. Fitch, Mr. Ames, Mr. Cullins, Ms. S. Wilson, Ms. Thériault, Mr. Bourque, Mr. LePage, Mr. Coon and Ms. Conroy.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 55 and 56 be ordered for third reading.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 55, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act.*

Bill 56, *An Act to Amend the Medical Consent of Minors Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

And then, 11.05 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 38 Thursday, June 10, 2021
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Mr. K. Chiasson, Member for Tracadie-Sheila, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore bridge functions in Haut-Rivière-du-Portage and Rivière-du-Portage. (Petition 16)

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

June 10, 2021

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 thirteenth report.

Your Committee met on June 9 and had under consideration:

Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Holder, Acting Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that, with leave, Bills 35 and 63 be ordered for third reading; following which, with leave, Opposition Members' Business would be considered from 1 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bills 35 and 63 be ordered for third reading forthwith.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Opposition Members' Business be considered from 1 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 36, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act.*

Bill 42, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act.*

Bill 43, *An Act Respecting the Executive Council Act and the Legislative Assembly Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 35 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 27

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Austin
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus	Ms. Conroy

NAYS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Arseneau

Accordingly, Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Holder moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 79)

WHEREAS the government provides public funds to support New Brunswick's independently operated universities;

WHEREAS representatives of these publicly funded universities have agreed to appear before a committee of the House to answer questions related to how these funds are administered and related issues;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the House appoint a Select Committee on Public Universities to be charged with the responsibility of inviting representatives of New Brunswick's publicly funded universities and the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission to appear before the committee to discuss and provide insight into university administration, programming, performance measurement, accountability and transparency;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said committee be composed of Mr. Hogan, Ms. Bockus, Ms. S. Wilson, Mr. Cullins, Mr. Ames, Hon. Mr. Savoie, Mr. C. Chiasson, Mr. Legacy, Ms. Thériault, Mr. Coon and Ms. Conroy.

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

Hon. Mr. Holder moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns on Friday, June 11, 2021, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, November 2, 2021, 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.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

At 11.49 a.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 76, Mr. McKee moved, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS the former President of Alcool NB Liquor and Cannabis NB resigned his position in December 2020 to return to the private sector;

WHEREAS over 5 months have elapsed since he left;

WHEREAS we recently learned that the Chair of the ANBL Board, who is a well-known Conservative political operative, having supported the Premier's leadership bid and served as an official agent, has decided that the new president shall not be hired with the assistance of an independent professional executive search firm;

WHEREAS, for such a significant role in managing a \$500 million a year corporation, it is crucial to ensure that the most qualified candidate is selected, and it is irresponsible to not engage a third party professional search firm with human resource expertise;

WHEREAS the Chair of ANBL has a reputation for exceeding his authority as Board Chair, interfering in the day-to-day operations of the corporation;

WHEREAS there is growing concern that the Board Chair does not want an independent firm engaged because he wants to control the outcome of the hiring process;

WHEREAS there is additional concern that the process proposed by the Board Chair could be subject to political interference;

WHEREAS there is a need to maintain public confidence in the selection process and establish the credibility of the chosen candidate;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure the candidate selection process for the President of ANBL and Cannabis NB is independent and impartial, and that a third-party search firm be engaged to conduct the search, interview candidates and submit its hiring recommendations.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And after some further time, Hon. Mr. Steeves, seconded by Hon. Mr. Fitch, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 76 be amended by striking out the third, fifth, sixth and seventh whereas clauses.

Madam Deputy Speaker put the question on the proposed 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 amendment was adopted.

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 76 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS the former President of Alcool NB Liquor and Cannabis NB resigned his position in December 2020 to return to the private sector;

WHEREAS over 5 months have elapsed since he left;

WHEREAS, for such a significant role in managing a \$500 million a year corporation, it is crucial to ensure that the most qualified candidate is selected, and it is irresponsible to not engage a third party professional search firm with human resource expertise;

WHEREAS there is a need to maintain public confidence in the selection process and establish the credibility of the chosen candidate;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure the candidate selection process for the President of ANBL and Cannabis NB is independent and impartial, and that a third-party search firm be engaged to conduct the search, interview candidates and submit its hiring recommendations.

And the question being put, Motion 76 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

Debate resumed on Motion 73, moved by Mr. D'Amours, seconded by Mr. Arseneault, on Thursday, June 3, 2021.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 73 was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 19

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Austin	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Guitard
Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Ms. Harris	Mr. D'Amours	
Mr. Coon	Ms. Conroy	

NAYS - 24

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Elections Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

And then, 4.30 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 39

Friday, June 11, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 60, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Mr. K. Chiasson, Member for Tracadie-Sheila, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore bridge functions in Haut-Rivière-du-Portage and Rivière-du-Portage. (Petition 17)

Mr. Carr, from the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers presented the Second Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

June 11, 2021

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 Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers.

The report is the result of your Committee's deliberations on Motion 52 with respect to having more women elected to serve as Members of the Legislative Assembly.

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank those individuals and organizations who appeared before the Committee to provide information on this issue. 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. :) Jeff Carr, M.L.A.
Chair

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers begs leave to submit their Second Report of the session.

On March 25, 2021, Motion 52, introduced by Isabelle Thériault, Member for Caraquet, was debated and carried as amended by the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick. The purpose of Motion 52 is to direct the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers to undertake a review of initiatives that will encourage more women to offer as candidates to represent New Brunswickers in the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly.

On April 1, the Committee met virtually and determined that members of women's advocacy groups should be invited to provide input and advice to the Committee with respect to the issues raised by Motion 52. Consultations with experts were held in the Legislative Assembly Chamber for Motion 52 on April 20.

During the consultations, the Committee heard from six different women's advocacy organizations and one independent expert.

The Committee met again virtually on April 30 and May 4 to consider 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 in the Chamber and provided additional information after the presentations were given.

The following is a summary of the input received on the issues raised by Motion 52, with recommendations to the House.

MOTION 52

The following is Motion 52, moved by Ms. Thériault, seconded by Mr. Melanson, which was carried as amended by the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick on March 25, 2021.

WHEREAS it is in the best interests of the people of New Brunswick to have more women elected to serve as Members of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS women are often the primary caregiver of children, and a significant barrier to participation by more women in the provincial political process that is often cited is the fact that the rules governing parliamentary institutions are not family-friendly or parent-friendly;

WHEREAS many other jurisdictions nationally and internationally are moving forward with reforms to make their parliaments or governing institutions more parent-friendly;

WHEREAS New Brunswick's "Women for 50%", which is focused on gender parity in the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly, supports reforms that are more parent-friendly;

WHEREAS British MPs voted to bring in family friendly reforms like a system of "baby leave" that would provide new parents in the House of Commons with proxy votes that could be utilized by their legislative colleagues, which allows MPs to care for their families while doing their jobs;

WHEREAS certain provinces allow childcare costs as eligible campaign expenses;

WHEREAS legislatures have adopted measures that permit virtual participation in proceedings

WHEREAS reforms dealing with shared legislative responsibilities, the availability of on-site childcare, changes to the sitting hours, and additional initiatives that reduce barriers to participation in the political process have been adopted by other jurisdictions

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly direct the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers to undertake a review of initiatives that will encourage more women to offer as candidates to represent New Brunswickers in the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly and report back to the Legislative Assembly within two months with specific recommendations.

CONSULTATIONS WITH EXPERTS

Dr. Joanna Everitt

Dr. Joanna Everitt, a professor of political science at the University of New Brunswick's Saint John campus, specializes in Canadian politics, gender and politics, and political behaviour.

Dr. Everitt illustrated how legislative assemblies occupy a symbolic role in society and as such, they should demonstrate practices that are ethical and fair. She advised that greater diversity is desirable in legislatures because they should represent the diversity of the population they serve. She also noted that more women should play active roles in the legislative process, such as holding the position of Chair on committees. She urged that it is the responsibility of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick to acknowledge its current limitations.

Dr. Everitt also indicated that media coverage of individuals in office is different for men than for women, as is the experience of holding office. For example, women face more harassment than their male counterparts and measures to counteract inappropriate comments often are not enforced.

She stressed that one of the major barriers to recruiting more women to run as candidates in New Brunswick is the lack of incentives or recruitment strategies aimed specifically at women. Dr. Everitt discussed how evidence has shown that the greatest hurdle to women entering politics is being nominated. She advised that women are also discouraged due to a lack of incentives like childcare options and family-friendly facilities as women are often the primary caregivers of their families. However, New Brunswick is the first province in the country to create gender-targeted incentives and this should be applauded.

Regroupement féministe du Nouveau-Brunswick

The Regroupement féministe du Nouveau-Brunswick (RFNB) is a non-profit non-partisan group comprised of individual members and organizations. Its mission is to promote the interests of francophone women in New Brunswick; to engage in political action and defend women's rights; and to encourage women's civic participation, while acknowledging their diverse backgrounds.

Julie Gillet, the Executive Director of RFNB, presented information from an intersectional lens, which takes into account cross-discrimination, particularly for women who are francophone, racialized, or who occupy a low socio-economic status. She stressed that not all women are treated equally, as some undergo more discrimination than others, which is important to consider when making decisions about inclusion policies.

Ms. Gillet advised that she and her colleagues identified three main barriers for women entering public office: the current political environment favours men, women encounter more workplace sexism and harassment than men, and women perceive work-family balance in public office to be a struggle.

Ms. Gillet indicated that these issues should be addressed with a global approach and there is a need for short-, medium- and long-term solutions to eliminate barriers for women entering and remaining in politics. She also advised that change will not happen on its own – there are larger social mindsets and gender stereotypes that need to be changed first. She urged that the Legislative Assembly, political parties, and governing bodies all have a part to play in addressing these issues.

Women's Equality Branch, Executive Council Office

The Women's Equality Branch was created, within the Executive Council Office, to promote gender equality and reduce systemic discrimination, to provide advice and support women's issues to the Minister responsible for Women's Equality as well as to departments of government, and to coordinate the implementation of the government's actions and initiatives in the areas of women's personal, economic and social security.

Yennah Hurley, Deputy Minister, and Nicole McCarty, Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives, gave a presentation on behalf of the Women's Equality Branch. They advised that studies have shown that having more women in leadership roles leads to better economic outcomes. As an example, women are currently over-represented in lower-wage sectors. To encourage more women to enter public office, the presenters argued that support systems need to be in place to ensure their success.

The presenters outlined that women remain under-represented in legislatures partially due to societal expectations. While women represent half of the workforce, they also are generally expected to be the primary caregivers for children and for their older parents or family members, while men are not. However, they offered that having more women role models in public office can help combat these gender stereotypes.

The presenters indicated that gender-based harassment is a significant barrier that disproportionately affects more women than men offering as candidates. They also advised that various forms of media treat women and men differently.

In addition, the presenters urged government to hear a variety of perspectives when making key decisions, contending that it is fundamental for democracy and equality that different viewpoints be considered during decision-making processes.

Women for 50%

Women for 50% is a cross-collaboration of women committed to gender diversity and equal representation of women in the New Brunswick Legislature. The group provides educational opportunities, regional workshops, and resource guides for women candidates interested in entering provincial politics. Presenters on behalf of Women for 50% were Roxanne Fairweather, Co-Chair and Co-CEO of Innovatia; Aldéa Landry, Co-Chair, President of Landal Inc. and former Cabinet Minister; Elizabeth Weir, Parliamentary Governance Specialist and former Leader of the Provincial New Democratic Party; and Norma Dubé, Initiative Director and former Assistant Deputy Minister of the Women's Equality Branch with the Executive Council Office of the Province of New Brunswick.

Presenters were pleased that the number of women elected in New Brunswick increased from 22% in the 2018 election to 28.5% in the 2020 election, but there is still much work to be done to address the climate for running as a candidate. Only 10% of women became their riding's candidate as a result of winning a contested vote, the rest were either appointed by their party or acclaimed.

They submitted that New Brunswick has the opportunity to create Canada's most family-friendly legislature, and in doing so, demonstrate global leadership on gender equality. The presenters suggested that the Legislative Assembly look at ways to modernize policies and create a harassment-free workplace, define acceptable language and communications, and undertake training programs to help eliminate biases. They also suggested that a permanent sitting calendar and other parental supports would be helpful for all Members, not just women.

Equal Voice

The presenters outlined how women are largely underrepresented in legislatures in Canada and around the world, and more so when looking at women with intersectional identities including those who are Black, Indigenous, people of colour, have disabilities, or are members of LGBTQIAS2+ communities. They also highlighted the positive outcomes of having more women in politics, including the better social and economic outcomes seen in countries with better gender balance, and better representation of the constituents they serve. They presented recommendations in three areas: safe and respectful workplaces; family friendly measures; and modernization.

Findings from literature reviews and pan-Canadian consultations show that elected women face heightened levels of harassment, both in-person and online. Harassment and sexual harassment are issues that are intensified by the imbalance of power and political dynamics. The presenters outlined how legislatures should ensure a safe and respectful workplace for all elected officials and staff. They suggested that harassment policies should be updated regularly, and refresher workshops should be available. Also, a security policy would improve the workplace safety of legislators and their staff.

Members were urged to make changes to rules and policies to encourage greater participation of legislators who are parents. The presenters also recommended that family-friendly measures such as a pregnancy and parental leave, childcare, and family travel arrangements be available to Members. Modernization of the Legislature, including having a predictable calendar, allowing proxy voting, and virtual participation would allow legislators to plan better and allow greater flexibility for carrying out duties while maintaining a work-life balance.

New Brunswick Women's Council

The New Brunswick Women's Council is an independent public agency that provides advice to government on matters of importance to women and to bring public attention to issues of interest and concern to women. The Council is comprised of members representing equity-seeking organizations, as well as individual members. Beth Lyons, Executive Director, gave a presentation on behalf of the organization.

Ms. Lyons noted that the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly is comprised of approximately 70% men, with little to no representation of Indigenous, racialized, LGBTQIA2S+, or persons with disabilities. She discussed that the root causes of the lack of representation are oppressions, including patriarchy, racism, colonialism, ableism, and classism. She stressed that these need to be understood before anyone can intervene effectively on the underrepresentation of women as candidates for Members of the Legislative Assembly. Ms. Lyons cautioned that solutions that solely address gender-based oppression will only support some women, primarily those who are the least marginalized. She advised that solutions that account for multiple oppressions will be more inclusive.

Ms. Lyons noted that broader gender equality issues, such as economic insecurity and inadequate health care access, contribute to women not running for public office. She proposed that the Legislative Assembly conduct Gender-based Analysis+, an intersectional analytical process for examining how various intersecting identity factors impact the effectiveness of government initiatives. She indicated that strengthening the use of Gender-based Analysis+, as well as increasing public disclosure on the use of this process by government and by legislative committees would help ensure these broader issues are addressed. She also recommended Gender-based Analysis+ on existing legislative policies and procedures as the current frameworks are more conducive to the participation of men than other genders.

Platform

Platform is a national organization in Toronto. Its mission is to reshape the political landscape to advance the priorities of young Black, Indigenous, and racialized women and gender-diverse youth. Arezoo Najibzadeh, Founder and Managing Director, gave a virtual presentation to the Committee.

Ms. Najibzadeh began by advising that many inequality issues, such as racism, transphobia, and ableism, disproportionately affect women and societal reform is needed to remove these barriers. She argued that there is a need to generate conditions for meaningful civic participation. She went on to say that women need to be able to fully participate in political activities and that they need to go beyond surface-level participation if they are to represent the population accurately and appropriately.

Ms. Najibzadeh also stressed that sexual violence should no longer be part of the expectation for women in politics. She indicated that preventative measures should be implemented so the workplace is a safe space and that violators are held accountable.

She said the most important thing legislators can do to support women is to strengthen the social determinants of civic engagement. Civic engagement is closely tied to many socio-economic factors, such as employment status and education level. Ms. Najibzadeh went on to say that by addressing systemic racism in marginalized communities, civic engagement would increase and more diverse groups of people would come forward to represent their communities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee understands that the intent of Motion 52 is to undertake a review of initiatives that will encourage more women to offer as candidates to represent New Brunswickers in the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly.

The Legislative Assembly has established human resources policies that recognize Members' parental leave, permit infants on the floor of the House, designate a private area for the care of infants, promote the installation of changing tables, and permit the issuing of a security access card for a designated partner or caregiver to the infant of a Member. In conjunction with these policies and based on the input received, the Committee wishes to make the following recommendations:

1. Inclusive and Safe Workplaces

- a. THAT the Legislative Assembly's *Respectful Workplace and Harassment Policy* and *Code of Conduct* undergo a Gender-based Analysis+ by the Legislative Administration Committee and that a review be performed every five years thereafter.
- b. THAT Gender-based Analysis+ training be mandatory for Members and be conducted in tandem with *Respectful Workplace and Harassment Policy* training.
- c. THAT caucuses represented in the House ensure, where possible, there is a balance of men and women on committees.
- d. THAT all government departments, provincial agencies, boards, and commissions include gender inclusivity audits in their annual reports for consideration during meetings of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.
- e. THAT the Electoral Boundaries Commission continue to consider proportional representation.
- f. THAT Government amend the *Elections Act* and the *Municipal Elections Act* to protect the privacy of candidates regarding the public disclosure of personal addresses and contact information.

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- g. THAT Members of standing and select committees of the Legislative Assembly ensure that experts or representatives invited to speak during consultations are diverse.
 - h. THAT a sub-committee of the Legislative Administration Committee be struck to analyze how new acquisitions and displays of artwork in the Legislative Assembly could better reflect the diverse history and culture of New Brunswick.
 - i. THAT the Legislative Administration Committee consult the Sergeant-at-Arms to provide threat-assessment training and security resources for Members and their constituency office assistants.

2. Family-friendly Initiatives

- a. THAT subsection 34(5) of the *Legislative Assembly Act* be amended to list parental leave as a distinct type of leave that covers an array of situations, including adoption, in an effort to normalize work-family balance.
- b. THAT the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers draft amendments to the Standing Rules to establish a legislative sitting calendar for consideration of the House.
- c. THAT the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers draft amendments to the Standing Rules to establish virtual participation options for committee meetings and sittings of the House.
- d. THAT the Legislative Administration Committee provide a list of childcare resources for Members.
- e. THAT the Legislative Administration Committee consider other family-friendly options referred to it from the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers.

3. Incentives and Support

- a. THAT the Legislative Administration Committee ensure that constituency office assistants are compensated for full-time work.
 - b. THAT relevant civil society groups are consulted when creating and revising diversity-related policies.
 - c. THAT the Legislative Administration Committee develop and promote inclusive workplace initiatives based on the results of Gender-based Analysis+ findings.
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Ordered that the report be received, and leave granted.

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 32, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act.*
- Bill 33, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act.*
- Bill 34, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act.*
- Bill 35, *An Act Respecting Empowering the School System.*
- Bill 36, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act.*
- Bill 37, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act.*
- Bill 38, *An Act to Amend the Service New Brunswick Act.*
- Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Opportunities New Brunswick Act.*
- Bill 41, *An Act to Amend the Combat Sport Act.*
- Bill 42, *Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act.*
- Bill 43, *An Act Respecting the Executive Council Act and the Legislative Assembly Act.*
- Bill 44, *An Act to Amend the Public Trustee Act.*
- Bill 47, *Loan Act 2021.*
- Bill 48, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act.*
- Bill 49, *An Act to Amend the Limitation of Actions Act.*
- Bill 50, *An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act.*
- Bill 51, *An Act Respecting Image-capturing Enforcement Systems.*
- Bill 52, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act.*
- Bill 53, *An Act Respecting the Police Act.*
- Bill 54, *An Act Respecting the Operation of the Order Relating to COVID-19 under the Emergency Measures Act.*
- Bill 55, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act.*
- Bill 56, *An Act to Amend the Medical Consent of Minors Act.*
- Bill 57, *An Act to Amend the Regulatory Accountability and Reporting Act.*
- Bill 58, *Bee Act.*
- Bill 60, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2019-2020 (1).*

Bill 62, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Keystone General Insurance Company.*

Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales 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.

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 2021-2022*. (Bill 59)

Her Honour replied:

It is the Queen's wish. La reine le veut.

To this Bill, Her Honour's assent was announced by the 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.

And then, 11.13 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 40

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 45, Mr. Arseneau rose to request an emergency debate concerning the ongoing labour issues between public service workers and the government of New Brunswick. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. C. Chiasson used unparliamentary language when he stated that the government “misappropriated federal funding”. Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken and the Member withdrew the remark.

Mr. Speaker laid upon the table of the House the *Independent Auditor’s Report on the financial statements of the Office of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021*.

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to repair Route 935. (Petition 18)

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to repair Lower Rockport Road and Pecks Cove Seawall Bridge. (Petition 19)

Mr. Hogan, from the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

November 2, 2021

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 Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship.

The report is the result of your Committee’s deliberations on the use of pesticides and herbicides, including glyphosate, in the Province.

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. :) Bill Hogan, M.L.A.
Chair

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship begs leave to submit their First Report of the session.

On December 12, 2019, during the Third Session of the 59th Legislative Assembly, all parties in the Legislative Assembly unanimously resolved that the government should refer the issue of glyphosate spraying to a legislative committee to hold public hearings, engage stakeholders, invite submissions, and make recommendations to government; and that a legislative committee dedicated to climate change and environmental stewardship should be created. The Legislative Assembly created the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship on December 19, 2019.

On January 16 and February 4, 2020, the Committee met to clarify its mandate, as outlined later in this report, and decided to study the use of pesticides and herbicides, including glyphosate, in the Province. The Committee scheduled departmental briefings and public hearings and invited written submissions.

On February 4-6, 2020, the Committee heard presentations on pesticide and herbicide use from the departments of Environment and Local Government; Natural Resources and Energy Development; and Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries; and from NB Power.

Public hearings on pesticide and herbicide use were scheduled for the week of March 24, 2020; however, they were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

After the dissolution of the 59th Legislative Assembly and the Committee's reconstitution during the First Session of the 60th Legislative Assembly, the Committee met on March 8 and 11, 2021, and decided, among other things, to resume its study of the use of pesticides and herbicides, including glyphosate, in the Province.

On March 12, 2021, the Committee received an updated presentation from the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries regarding glyphosate use in New Brunswick agriculture, and posed questions to the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development regarding herbicide use in forestry.

The Committee held public hearings on June 22-25, September 7, 10, and 21, 2021. The Committee heard 23 presentations, including from conservation groups, forestry and agricultural industry representatives, academics, government agencies, individuals, and Indigenous representatives. The Committee also received 26 written submissions, in the form of emails, letters, and briefs from individuals and organizations in New Brunswick and across Canada.

The Committee met on September 21-23 and October 1 and 27, 2021, to consider the input received during the consultation process and to formulate a 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 mandate adopted by the Committee is set out below. The first section of the summary that follows contains information from the government department and Crown corporation presentations from both 2020 and 2021. The second part is a summary of the input received from members of the public, stakeholders, and subject matter experts on the use of pesticides and herbicides, including glyphosate, in the Province. The report concludes with the Committee's recommendations.

MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

The mandate of the Committee, with respect to climate change and environmental stewardship, shall include the following:

- To receive updates from the Department of Environment and Local Government on progress towards the implementation of New Brunswick's Climate Change Action Plan;
- To call on specific departments, agencies, key stakeholders and subject matter experts to provide updates on implementation efforts;
- To gather factual information on climate change, environmental stewardship and any other related issues by engaging with experts and stakeholders in the fields of natural environment and natural resource management;
- To prepare reports with recommendations to the Legislative Assembly.

DEPARTMENTAL AND CROWN CORPORATION PRESENTATIONS**Department of Environment and Local Government**

Officials from the Department of Environment and Local Government presented to the Committee regarding New Brunswick pesticide regulations. Pesticides are products that have been designed to manage, destroy, attack or repel pests. Herbicides, including glyphosate, are pesticides for the control of vegetation. Only those pesticides approved for registration by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) may be used in the Province. The use of pesticides in New Brunswick is further controlled under the authority of the provincial *Pesticides Control Act* and regulations. The Act requires licensing of vendors and operators, use permits, and applicator certification for non-domestic (e.g., commercial) application of pesticides.

Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development

Officials from the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development presented to the Committee about forest management, including herbicide use, particularly in New Brunswick's Crown forest. Herbicides are applied to softwood tree plantations on different areas each year representing 0.5% of the Crown forest to control vegetation that would compete with planted seedlings. The Department views glyphosate use as an important part of forest management. It allows for the growth of more trees for harvesting in a smaller concentrated area. This allows more areas of the forest to be used for other objectives, such as conservation. The officials outlined controls in place around aerial herbicide application in the Crown forest, including planning, permitting, signage requirements, controlled access, GPS guidance, computer-automated controls, and post-operation reporting.

Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries

Officials from the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries presented to the Committee on the topic of glyphosate use in New Brunswick agriculture. They described glyphosate as the most important and widely used herbicide in New Brunswick agriculture. It is a cost-effective manner of controlling weeds, for which there is no direct replacement. They explained the regulation of the use of glyphosate in New Brunswick agriculture, which requires users to comply with the detailed application instructions approved by Health Canada, and to train and pass an exam to receive an applicator certificate. The officials explained some of the technologies used to apply glyphosate in agriculture. Aerial spraying does not occur. The Department supports the PMRA's rigorous, science-based evaluation and continued approval of glyphosate for use in agriculture.

NB Power

Officials from NB Power presented to the Committee about its Integrated Vegetation Management program to control vegetation underneath the corporation's 28,000 kilometres of transmission and distribution lines. Manual, mechanical, and chemical methods are used to promote desirable, stable, low-growing plants that resist invasion of tall trees. As of 2020, only 28% of vegetation management is done using herbicides. On average, 1,000 to 1,500 hectares are treated. Herbicides are not used in urban areas or on distribution lines. They are applied manually, not by aerial spraying. Several Health Canada-approved herbicides are used, only some of which contain glyphosate. In 2019, no glyphosate-based herbicides were used. When they are applied, a qualified technician from NB Power accompanies the certified applicator, following newspaper advertisements and landowner notification, and after obtaining a use permit from the Department of Environment and Local Government. A report of areas treated and quantity used is provided to the Department.

PUBLIC HEARINGS**Conservation Groups**

Representatives from three conservation groups spoke against the continued use of pesticides and herbicides, particularly glyphosate, in the Province. They listed negative impacts on the environment, animals, and human health as causes of concern, and critiqued Health Canada's process for evaluating the safety of these products. Arguing that the long-term outcomes of exposure to glyphosate-based herbicides are not yet known, they urged legislators and regulators to err on the side of caution when making decisions about their use in the Province.

The issue of how the spray program is funded was also a key concern among conservation groups. According to a public poll, most New Brunswick citizens are concerned about the safety of glyphosate-based herbicides and do not want public funds spent on spraying Crown forests. They urged the Committee to listen to citizens' concerns and act accordingly.

Some conservation groups provided specific recommendations, which included updating the Crown Forest Management Plan and creating a Chief Forester position. The Chief Forester would integrate new science into forest management best practices, work with Indigenous communities to share knowledge, and be accountable for the actions outlined in the plan. They also recommended scaling back clearcutting and amending the *Crown Lands and Forests Act* with ecosystem protection, and fairness to Indigenous peoples as central features.

Conservation groups also addressed Quebec's glyphosate phase-out plan, where the process of banning its use in Crown forests occurred over a period of several years and began with public engagement. They suggested that this could be a model for New Brunswick to follow.

Health Canada

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), a branch of Health Canada, is responsible for pesticide regulation in Canada. Representatives from the PMRA discussed the approval process for pesticides, with emphasis on glyphosate-based herbicides.

The presenters first outlined the benefits of pesticides, including their use in agriculture, industrial processes and public health. However, they said that because such products are toxic, Health Canada governs their use under the legislative authority of the *Pest Control Products Act* and the *Food and Drugs Act*. Provinces have the power to adopt more restrictive, but not less restrictive, pesticide legislation than the federal government.

They explained the process that the PMRA uses when approving any pesticide. PMRA scientists perform a risk assessment of a product based on hundreds and sometimes thousands of scientific studies. They emphasized that this rigorous process ensures that the toxicity of any product approved by the PMRA is well below what would be harmful for humans if it is used according to the product's label.

Regarding the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)'s 2015 classification of glyphosate as a probable carcinogen, they explained that IARC uses a hazard-based assessment system which does not take exposure levels into account, and this eliminates any real-world context.

The presenters said all products are up for review on a 15-year cycle, but this does not prevent them from conducting a special review if new evidence of a risk factor comes forward. They also assured the Committee that they evaluate the ingredients of each product when considering its toxicity. Also, they have specific data requirements for evaluating toxicity – this includes potential effects on reproduction, neurotoxicity, genotoxicity, developmental effects, and short-term exposure effects at various levels.

PMRA representatives assured the Committee that no registration authority in the world says that glyphosate poses a cancer risk at the current levels at which it is used.

Agricultural Industry

Representatives from agricultural organizations offered their perspectives on the use of pesticides and herbicides, including glyphosate. Three presenters supported the continued use of these products, while one argued against their use.

The presenters discussed how local farms are in decline as the industry favours imported food over Canadian-grown food. Those in favour of the continued use of pesticides and herbicides said that to remain profitable, farmers need to be able to use the best tools available to get the best yield.

Those who favored the continued use of glyphosate-based herbicides said that pesticides are among the most regulated substances in the world and that the PMRA stands firmly behind their safety if used according to the product's label. One presenter also outlined how any New Brunswick farmer first must obtain a pesticide applicator certificate through a comprehensive course and then obtain a permit from the Department of Environment and Local Government to handle a non-domestic pesticide. The presenters emphasized that farmers are motivated to use these products according to the label, not only because the label itself is a legal document, but also because misuse could negatively affect both their own health and crop yields, which would be a costly mistake.

One group gave specific details about the application of glyphosate products in wild blueberry operations. The presenters clarified that in this industry, "swiping" rather than spraying is used, in which case sponges containing the herbicide only touch weeds and this method is not used when any fruit is present. This type of application is performed on a two-year cycle: weed control is done the first year and the crop is harvested the second year.

The group opposed to the continued use of glyphosate-based herbicides in the Province argued that more research needs to be done regarding the role that additives play in increasing the toxicity of glyphosate-based products. They also mentioned that other substances once deemed safe by Health Canada are now banned, so regulators should use caution when approving products whose full effects are not known.

Forestry Industry

Three groups of forestry industry representatives spoke during the Committee's public hearings. They all supported the continued use of pesticides and herbicides, including glyphosate, in the Province.

Two presenters gave an overview of how important lumber and wood products are to New Brunswick's economy. They said New Brunswick is the most forestry-dependent province in Canada with 24,000 people directly or indirectly employed in the sector.

The industry representatives described how vegetation management using glyphosate products is just one component of the overall forest management cycle. This process ensures specific crops are given the best possible conditions to grow quickly and sustainably, and this is particularly critical for the survival of young seedlings.

The presenters clarified that New Brunswick is a national leader in responsible forest renewal and management, with 67% of all harvested areas left to regenerate naturally, without using herbicides. Representatives from one group also clarified that less than 15% of Crown forest is planted today and only 20% will ever be planted over time. In addition, they said softwood and hardwood inventories have remained unchanged over the past 50 years.

They advised the Committee that in New Brunswick, the forestry industry selects the most appropriate, Health Canada-approved herbicides, which are applied using specialized aircraft or forestry tractors. Aircraft used for spraying are equipped with GPS technology that ensures accuracy and enables analysis immediately following application. Sprays containing glyphosate are applied in one location once or twice over 40 years. The Department of Environment and Local Government enforces operational conditions for herbicide use, including setbacks around residential areas and wetlands.

Universities/Research Organizations

The Committee heard from five groups of scientists from universities or federal research organizations. They each discussed a different aspect related to the use of glyphosate-based herbicides, and all focused primarily on their use in the forestry sector. One presenter made a recommendation to discontinue the use of glyphosate-based herbicides; one recommended further study; and the remaining three provided information but did not make specific recommendations about continuation or discontinuation.

One presenter gave an overview of how herbicides work; how they are applied in the forestry sector; and when they are typically used. He said that there is minimal risk when glyphosate sprays are used in forestry, but there is a need to be especially careful around aquatic environments. He pointed to a river monitoring study in New Brunswick that was recently completed (measuring a 2020 application of glyphosate-based herbicide) and found that out of 237 samples, there was one detection of glyphosate in the water and it was very small. He clarified that it is possible to detect glyphosate in very small quantities, and just because it is present does not mean it is a risk to human or animal health.

Presenters from a group that recommended discontinuing the glyphosate-based herbicide spraying program in the New Brunswick forestry sector described how glyphosate blocks amino acids, which are the building blocks of proteins and cells. By doing so, it kills all plants in its pathway, as well as microorganisms. They said that because this process can eliminate plants at the base of the food web, it can negatively affect animal populations. They also said that glyphosate can bind to minerals in soil, which can result in soil depletion. The presenters went on to say that conclusive information about the effects of glyphosate on human health is currently lacking and that the Committee should recognize this as a concern.

The presenter who provided specific recommendations has completed forest ecosystem studies in Oregon and New Brunswick. He presented findings from a study he conducted in Oregon that measured the impact of herbicide spraying on the biodiversity of the forests in test areas. While he found changes to plant life and bird populations, he did not find a major difference on tree yield between treated and control groups. He found similar results in bird population declines in New Brunswick and remarked that there has yet to be a full cost-benefit analysis in the Province that would determine the economic benefits of herbicide use in forestry. He recommended that this be done as soon as possible.

The Committee heard from a group that develops early intervention strategies for controlling spruce budworm populations. The presenters outlined the economic and atmospheric impacts of spruce budworm outbreaks and stressed that early intervention is integral to controlling them. They stressed that their goal is to contain outbreaks, not to completely eradicate the species. The insecticides used to combat spruce budworm outbreaks in New Brunswick have no known level of toxicity to humans and are narrow spectrum, meaning they target the specific biology of caterpillars.

The Committee also heard from aquatic science experts. They discussed how it is important to take water cycles and the hydrological characteristics of the land into account when developing spraying plans and setbacks for aerial pesticide and herbicide application. They also emphasized that it is difficult to measure the direct effects of chemical sprays on various bodies and cycles of water but confirmed that anything added to water over time could have a cumulative effect.

Indigenous Representatives

Organizations speaking on behalf of the Mi'gmaq and Wolastoqey First Nations in New Brunswick, as well as chiefs of individual First Nations communities, and representatives of a traditional Wolastoqey governance organization, spoke during the public hearings. All Indigenous representatives were opposed to the continued use of pesticide and herbicide sprays, including glyphosate.

The Indigenous representatives all said that the land comprising the Province of New Brunswick is their traditional unceded territory. They said that their connection to the land is deep and extends to all the plants and animals that are contained within it. They emphasized that the climate changes that are observable now are due to human activity, and interventions are needed now for future generations to benefit.

Presenters expressed the view that Indigenous perspectives are unique and should be taken into consideration when decisions are made that impact the forest they use for food and medicine. They also said that Indigenous peoples have sophisticated knowledge of the forest as a whole and this knowledge is a valuable and unique resource that should be considered alongside science when making decisions about how forests in New Brunswick are managed.

Many representatives also said that consultation and reconciliation should be actions instead of mere words. One presenter outlined an Indigenous-led framework that is currently in place for the Mi'gmaq community to determine if consent for a project will be granted. This presenter suggested that this framework could be applied to the issue of glyphosate-based herbicide spraying and forestry management practices.

Individuals

Two individuals presented to the Committee. Both opposed the continued use of glyphosate-based herbicides.

One individual, a former deer biologist, focused his presentation on concerns about the PMRA's approval process for pesticides. He emphasized that there is a lack of long-term studies on glyphosate and few that apply to New Brunswick specifically. In addition, he said the Auditor General of Canada revealed areas of concern regarding PMRA's approval process, including not considering the cumulative effects of glyphosate on human health. He went on to discuss his concerns about the impact of glyphosate spraying on deer populations.

The other individual, a hobby farmer, said that it is important for the Committee to take citizens' perspectives into account when making decisions about the use of glyphosate-based products in the Province. She emphasized that New Brunswickers are concerned because such herbicides are used on Crown land, and the spraying program is funded by taxpayers. She said that while the direct hazard of these products may not be obvious now, or backed by specific scientific studies, there have been changes to New Brunswick's forests that citizens like her have observed. She said the Committee should keep consulting the public and look for alternatives to clearcutting and spraying.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

The Committee received 26 written submissions.

The vast majority (21) of the submissions expressed views opposed to the continued use of pesticides and herbicides in the Province, with particular emphasis on glyphosate-based herbicides. Four supported the continued use of these products and one submission, from an individual at a federal research organization, was neutral in opinion, arguing that silviculture practices are neither good nor bad but that more research is needed into alternatives to herbicides in forestry.

Submissions Opposed

Half of the submissions opposed to continued use of glyphosate-based herbicides in the Province reflected an individual opinion, while the other half were sent from individuals representing academic, scientific, or professional organizations.

Three main themes emerge as the primary concerns with the use of pesticides and herbicides in the Province, including glyphosate. These are: 1) negative impact on the environment (forests and waterways, and the animals that dwell in them), 2) negative impact on human health, and 3) criticism of Health Canada's evaluation process.

1. Negative Impact on the Environment

A recurring argument in the written submissions was that glyphosate-based herbicides contribute to biodiversity loss in forests and freshwater ecosystems. Some submissions also argued that this lack of biodiversity creates changes to diet sources for animals such as deer, birds and fish, which can negatively impact their populations. Others cited recent research that has linked glyphosate-based herbicides to lowered biodiversity of phytoplankton.

2. Negative Impact on Human Health

While some submissions that expressed concern about human health were based on individual opinion, most provided sources. One submission outlined published results regarding the toxic mechanisms of glyphosate and its impact on human health. Another discussed the need to take the different ingredients in glyphosate-based herbicides into consideration when evaluating the safety of such products, as they often contain substances that may be more toxic to humans than the glyphosate itself. A further submission outlined investigations that have linked glyphosate to toxic effects on the microbiome of humans and animals, which could result in chronic health conditions.

3. Criticism of Health Canada's Evaluation Process

Concern over how the PMRA evaluates the safety of glyphosate-based herbicide products figured prominently in many submissions. Criticism of the PMRA focused mainly on the view that the agency does not systematically assemble peer reviewed science but relies on the studies provided by the company that submits a product for approval. Those who expressed concern over this process outlined how these studies could be funded by the chemical companies themselves, and thus be biased toward a favourable outcome. Other criticism of the PMRA included its reliance on studies that are not based in Canada and that are significantly outdated.

Submissions in Support

The four submissions that supported the continued use of pesticides and herbicides in the Province centred around their proven safety and their effectiveness.

One submission argued that in agriculture, glyphosate-based products provide the best results when reducing weed pressure and clearing weeds, and they are the only products that eradicate certain types of invasive species' root systems. Another submission said that if New Brunswick farmers did not have access to the same herbicides as international competitors, they would be unable to compete in the global economy.

The Canadian Army uses glyphosate-based herbicides to manage weeds in training areas. Their submission argued that eliminating unwanted vegetation increases the safety of the training area where heavy artillery and other weapons are used.

Three submissions supported the view that Canada's *Pest Control Products Act* is sound and that the approval process is rigorous. Another said that there is public misconception about the cancer risk of glyphosate products and that the PMRA uses the best available science to make regulatory decisions.

CONCLUSION

The Committee wishes to report the public concern regarding the use of pesticides and herbicides, and particularly glyphosate, in the Province. While Health Canada has recently re-evaluated and approved the continued use of glyphosate based on extensive scientific data, and while federal and provincial regulations already impose rigorous requirements for the use of pesticides in the Province, these public concerns remain. As several presenters pointed out, other pesticides used in the past were thought to be safe at the time, but scientific understanding evolved and eventually judged them unsafe.

Consequently, the Committee recommends a cautious approach toward the use of pesticides, including glyphosate. This should include increased restrictions on spraying, and exploration of alternatives where these exist; more frequent re-evaluation of the safety of glyphosate based on the latest data, including data specific to New Brunswick; and this should also involve provincial agencies that will monitor evolving data and advise government on best practices for safe use of pesticides and proper management of Crown forests. Greater public education and awareness of the regulations that control pesticide use and of the areas where pesticides are applied in New Brunswick are also necessary to address public concerns.

The Committee has identified gaps in the information provided to it on the subject of glyphosate in particular, including evidence regarding its long-term effects on human health and that of wildlife in New Brunswick; perspectives from additional participants in the agricultural sector regarding glyphosate usage and alternatives; and data regarding the costs and benefits of its use in intensive forest management as compared to alternative methods. The Committee therefore wishes to make initial recommendations based on the input it has received to date; however, the Committee emphasizes that it is prepared to revisit this topic in the future and make further recommendations if warranted.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the input received to date, the Committee makes the following initial recommendations:

Pesticides Advisory Board

1. THAT the Minister of Environment and Climate Change re-activate the Pesticides Advisory Board and ensure it remains active.
2. THAT the Minister task the Pesticides Advisory Board with investigating issues and gaps in information regarding the use of pesticides, which includes herbicides, in the Province as identified by the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship.
3. THAT, within six months of the tabling of this report, the Minister review the composition of the Pesticides Advisory Board as prescribed in the *Pesticides Control Act* to determine whether any amendments are needed to ensure adequate independent expertise is represented.

Crown Lands and Forests Advisory Board

4. THAT the Crown Lands and Forests Advisory Board be re-activated within six months of the tabling of this report.
5. THAT the Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Development review the composition of the Board to ensure diversity of expertise.
6. THAT the Board ensure stakeholders who use Crown Lands are doing so in a responsible manner to meet stated objectives established by the Minister and/or in legislation.

Forest Management and Ecosystem Protection

7. THAT, for the purpose of evaluating the impact of eliminating herbicide spraying, the government initiate a comprehensive cost-benefit economic study comparing the usage and non-usage of herbicide in managing tree plantations in New Brunswick within 12 months of the tabling of this report.
8. THAT remaining old hardwood, mixedwood, and softwood forest be maintained (not converted). This would require (1) ecologically based forestry, and (2) additional protected natural areas (reserves).
9. THAT the government ensure protected natural areas have connected corridors, where needed, and minimize edge habitat for the purpose of biodiversity.

Increased Restrictions on Spraying

10. THAT setbacks for aerial spraying be increased from 500 metres to 1 kilometre from dwellings.
11. THAT the government require a spraying setback of 100 metres from protected natural areas.

12. THAT the government require a minimum 100-metre aerial spraying setback from water and wetlands and/or require spray plans that may vary depending on the landscape and the hydrological characteristics of the land.
13. THAT the government ban spraying of pesticides in protected watersheds as designated under the *Clean Water Act*.
14. THAT the Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Development request of NB Power that it immediately begin phasing out spraying of pesticides under transmission lines.

Further Monitoring and Research

15. THAT the Legislative Assembly appoint a Legislative Officer charged with the responsibility for Crown Lands and Waters with an appropriate budget beginning in the next fiscal year.
16. THAT the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development partner with educational institutions and non-governmental organizations, where applicable, to study the effects of spraying pesticides in forestry on wild game, other food and Indigenous medicines in New Brunswick.
17. THAT the government request that Health Canada evaluate the registration of glyphosate every five years and with research conducted in and applicable to New Brunswick.
18. THAT the Department of Environment and Local Government be mandated to routinely sample and test water and sediment for glyphosate and related components adjacent to areas where glyphosate has recently been applied, and to report annually.
19. THAT for the purpose of evaluating the impact of eliminating glyphosate, the government undertake a comprehensive cost-benefit economic study comparing the usage and non-usage of glyphosate in the agricultural sector in New Brunswick within 18 months.

Public Education and Awareness

20. THAT, within six months of the tabling of this report, the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development create a public dashboard regarding all aspects of Crown forest utilization, including pesticide spraying, for the purpose of increasing public education and awareness.

Ordered that the report be received, and leave granted.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Fitch,

Bill 65, *An Act Respecting the Family Income Security Act.*

By Hon. Ms. M. Wilson,

Bill 66, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act.*

Bill 67, *An Act to Amend the Procurement Act.*

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

Bill 68, *An Act to Amend the Construction Remedies Act.*

Bill 69, *Intimate Images Unlawful Distribution Act.*

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 80)

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship be amended by substituting Mr. Cullins for Mr. Stewart;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Economic Policy be amended by substituting Mr. LeBlanc for Mr. Gauvin;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy be amended by substituting Ms. S. Wilson for Mr. Stewart;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers be amended by substituting Mr. Cullins for Mr. Stewart;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts be amended by substituting Ms. S. Wilson for Mr. Stewart, Mr. Ames for Mr. Cullins and Mr. Legacy for Ms. Harris;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Social Policy be amended by substituting Mr. Turner for Mr. Stewart; and

THAT the membership of the Select Committee on Public Universities be amended by substituting Mr. Turner for Hon. Mr. Savoie.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave Notice of Motion 81 that on Friday, November 5, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

That, notwithstanding any Standing Rule, Special Order, or usual practice of the House, the Legislative Assembly adopt the following Special Order to facilitate the participation of Members in House and Committee proceedings during the current State of Emergency in the Province of New Brunswick:

1. In emergency or extraordinary circumstances, Members may participate in proceedings of the House, either in person or by virtual means using the Zoom platform, at the discretion of the Speaker following consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and with the agreement of all House Leaders.
2. The presence of fourteen Members in person, including the Speaker, is considered a quorum and is required to constitute a meeting of the House for the exercise of its powers.
3. Meetings of a Committee of the House may be conducted by virtual means as determined by the Chair in consultation with the Office of the Clerk.
4. Members who participate by virtual means in a Committee are counted for the purposes of a quorum.
5. House Leaders shall advise the Office of the Clerk of the anticipated attendance of their Members by virtual means three days in advance of each House sitting or Committee meeting.
6. Members who participate in the proceedings of the House or a Committee by virtual means may table documents, present petitions and committee reports, introduce bills, provide notice of motions and move motions and amendments to bills and motions electronically, provided the documents are transmitted to and received by the Clerk prior to their presentation in the House or Committee.
7. The rules and practices that relate to proper decorum in the House are applicable to those Members who wish to participate in any proceedings by virtual means.
8. Members who wish to participate by virtual means shall utilize the proper hardware and software as designated by the Office of the Clerk.
9. Recorded divisions shall be conducted with Members participating in person in the manner prescribed by the Standing Rules, followed by a roll call of the Members participating virtually in an order and manner as determined by the Speaker.
10. In order to vote during a recorded division, a virtual Member shall be present on screen at the time the Speaker orders the doors to be secured and for the duration of the vote.
11. The video and audio of a Member participating virtually shall be activated when called upon for a recorded division.

12. When called upon for a recorded division, each virtual Member shall state whether they are voting “yes” or “no” to the question put.
13. In the event of technical issues, the Speaker shall be empowered to take all necessary steps to ensure the integrity of the voting process.
14. Members participating virtually shall enjoy all the rights, privileges and freedoms of those Members participating in person, except to the extent they are specifically limited by this Special Order.
15. The Speaker or Chair is empowered to exercise discretion in the interpretation or application of any provision of the Standing Rules or this Special Order that may require leniency or alteration to allow all Members to fully exercise their duties and rights in the proceedings of the House or a Committee conducted by virtual means.
16. This Special Order remains in effect for the duration of the State of Emergency first declared on September 24, 2021, in the Province of New Brunswick and ceases to be in force when said State of Emergency ends.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, Bills 65, 66, 67, 68 and 69 would be called for second reading.

The Speaker delivered the following ruling with respect to the request for an emergency debate:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Honourable Members,

The Member for Kent North has asked leave to introduce a motion for an emergency debate on the ongoing labour issues between public service workers and the government of New Brunswick.

I received notice from the Member this morning at 11 a.m. satisfying the two hours’ notice requirement.

In deciding the matter, I am guided by Standing Rule 45(6) which states: In determining whether a matter should have urgent consideration, the Speaker shall have regard to the extent to which it concerns the administrative responsibilities of the government or could come within the scope of ministerial action and also shall have regard to the probability of the matter being brought before the House within a reasonable time by other means.

Given recent media reports, it does seem more likely than not that this very matter will be brought before the House in a reasonable time by other means. Accordingly, based on this reason, the matter will not go forward at this time.

That being said, if after a reasonable period of time, the matter has not been brought before the House, then I will reconsider my decision if the Member wishes to make a further request for an emergency debate.

And then, 2.55 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:

Annual Reports

2018 Supervisor of Political Financing	June 29, 2021
2020 Recycle NB	June 30, 2021
2019-2020 Department of Justice and Office of the Attorney General	July 5, 2021
2020-2021 New Brunswick Health Council	July 15, 2021
2020-2021 Vitalité Health Network	July 16, 2021
2019 Supervisor of Political Financing	July 27, 2021
2020-2021 Financial and Consumer Services Commission	August 4, 2021
2020-2021 New Brunswick Credit Union Deposit Insurance Corporation	August 4, 2021
2020 Vestcor Inc.	August 5, 2021
2020-2021 Horizon Health Network	August 9, 2021
2020-2021 New Brunswick Power Corporation	August 11, 2021
2019 Vestcor Inc.	August 12, 2021
2020-2021 Office of the Public Intervener, A Unit of the Office of the Attorney General	August 31, 2021
2020-2021 Cannabis NB	September 2, 2021
2020-2021 New Brunswick Liquor Corporation	September 2, 2021
2020-2021 Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation	September 29, 2021
2020-2021 New Brunswick Energy and Utilities Board	September 29, 2021
2020 New Brunswick <i>Firefighters'</i> <i>Compensation Act</i> Disability Fund	October 6, 2021
2020 WorkSafe NB	October 6, 2021
2019-2020 Elections New Brunswick	October 8, 2021
2019-2020 Premier's Council on Disabilities	October 13, 2021
2019-2020 New Brunswick Police Commission	October 18, 2021

2020-2021 Collège Communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick	October 27, 2021
2020-2021 New Brunswick Community College	October 27, 2021
2020-2021 Office of Commissioner of Official Languages for New Brunswick	October 27, 2021

Others

Under provisions of <i>Fees Act</i> , information regarding changes in lottery scheme licence fees under <i>Gaming Control Act</i>	June 17, 2021
Consolidated Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report for New Brunswick Power Corporation, March 31, 2021	July 15, 2021
Air Quality Monitoring Results, 2019, Department of Environment and Local Government	August 17, 2021
Report on Performance 2020-2021, Auditor General of New Brunswick	August 30, 2021
May 2021 Local Elections: Electoral Modifications and Post-Election Recommendations	September 7, 2021
Report of Municipal Electoral Officer, General Elections, May 10, 2021	September 7, 2021
Pursuant to <i>Private Occupational Training Act</i> , audited financial statements of Training Completions Fund for 2020-2021	September 30, 2021
Management Discussion and Analysis and Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes, 2020, WorkSafe NB	October 6, 2021
Report of Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume I, Performance Audit, 2021	October 7, 2021
Public Accounts for fiscal year ended March 31, 2021, Volume 1, Consolidated Financial Statements	October 13, 2021
Under provisions of <i>Fees Act</i> , information regarding changes to replacement dog licence tag fees under <i>Municipalities Act</i> (to be repealed and replaced under <i>Local Governance Act</i>)	October 18, 2021

Petitions

Response to Petition 12	June 17, 2021
Response to Petition 14	June 29, 2021
Response to Petitions 13, 15, 16, 17	July 15, 2021

Daily sitting 41

Wednesday, November 3, 2021
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 45, Mr. Arseneau rose to request an emergency debate concerning the ongoing labour issues between public service workers and the government of New Brunswick. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Mr. Speaker introduced the new pages for the session: Bradley Doucet, Dieppe; Maggie Jardine, Blackville; Brock Johnson, Fredericton; Rosalind Keyes, Rothesay; Emily Simon, Battleford, Saskatchewan; Claudia Ruiz Valdes, Miami, Florida.

The returning pages were: Jane Landry, Fredericton; Emma Wagner, Bridgewater, Nova Scotia; Head Page Graci Young, Pictou, Nova Scotia.

Mr. Coon requested the unanimous consent of the House to table a document, and unanimous consent was denied.

Following Oral Questions, Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. D'Amours used unparliamentary language when he used the term "cover up". Mr. Speaker requested that Mr. D'Amours withdraw the remark, which he did.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Crossman,

Bill 70, *An Act to Amend the Beverage Containers Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 71, *An Act to Amend the Pension Benefits Act*.

By Hon. Ms. M. Wilson,

Bill 72, *An Act Respecting the Modernization of Legislation Governing Limited Liability Partnerships*.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, November 4, 2021, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Bills 16 and 46; Motion 8.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Thursday, November 4, 2021, Bills 70, 71 and 72 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 65, 66, 67, 68 and 69 be called for second reading.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 65, *An Act Respecting the Family Income Security Act*, a debate arose thereon.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1.04 p.m. the House resumed.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 65 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 65, *An Act Respecting the Family Income Security 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 66, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 66 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 66, *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 67, *An Act to Amend the Procurement Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Ms. S. Wilson took the chair.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 67 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 67, *An Act to Amend the Procurement 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 68, *An Act to Amend the Construction Remedies Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 68 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 68, *An Act to Amend the 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 69, *Intimate Images Unlawful Distribution Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 69 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 69, *Intimate Images Unlawful Distribution Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Speaker delivered the following ruling with respect to the request for an emergency debate:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Honourable Members,

The Member for Kent North has once again asked leave to introduce a motion for an emergency debate on the ongoing labour issues between public service workers and the government of New Brunswick. I received notice from the Member last evening, satisfying the two hours' notice requirement.

Yesterday, I ruled that this matter could not go forward. However, I indicated that if, after a reasonable period of time, the matter had still not been brought before the House, then I would reconsider my decision, if the Member wished to make a further request for an emergency debate, which he has now done.

When making his request today, the Member submitted that due to notice requirements and the fact that next week's Opposition day will fall on Remembrance Day, there will not be an opportunity to debate this matter within the next two weeks.

As you are all aware, this is a matter of extreme importance to the Members of this House and to many of our fellow New Brunswickers. We are faced with a labour issue, during a State of Emergency, caused by a global pandemic. These are unprecedented issues occurring at the same time that should be debated in this House in a timely manner.

That being said, this is only the second day the House has sat. A reasonable period of time has not elapsed since my ruling yesterday. As well, I am still optimistic that this matter may be debated in the House, by other means, in the coming days, if it is the will of the House, or perhaps the labour issues will be resolved in the coming days for the benefit of all.

Accordingly, based on these reasons, I must again deny the Member's request for an emergency debate at this time, but I reserve the right to reconsider my decision next week, depending on the circumstances present at that time. Thank you.

And then, 2.52 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 2020-2021
Service New Brunswick

November 2, 2021

Daily sitting 42

Thursday, November 4, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

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

Bill 73, *An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act.*

Bill 74, *An Act to Amend the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Holland,

Bill 75, *An Act to Amend the Mining Act.*

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Friday, November 5, 2021, Bills 73, 74 and 75 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 70, 71 and 72 be called for second reading; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 70, *An Act to Amend the Beverage Containers Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 70 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 70, *An Act to Amend the Beverage Containers 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 71, *An Act to Amend the Pension Benefits Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 71 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 71, *An Act to Amend the Pension Benefits 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 72, *An Act Respecting the Modernization of Legislation Governing Limited Liability Partnerships*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 72 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 72, *An Act Respecting the Modernization of Legislation Governing Limited Liability Partnerships*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to recess the House forthwith and to resume sitting at 1 p.m. to consider Opposition Members' Business until 4.30 p.m.

At 11.47 a.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed with Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, in the chair.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Elections Act*, be now read a second time.

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

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 Elections Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 46, *Life Partners in Long-Term Care 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.

Daily sitting 43

Friday, November 5, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker asked Members to raise the level of decorum.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 73, 74 and 75 be called for second reading; following which the House would consider Motion 81.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent to adopt Motion 81.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 73, *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 73 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 73, *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 74, *An Act to Amend the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 74 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 74, *An Act to Amend the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

At 10.33 a.m. the House recessed. At 10.40 a.m. the House resumed.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 75, *An Act to Amend the Mining Act*, a debate arose thereon.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 45, Mr. Arseneau rose to request an emergency debate and Mr. Speaker denied the request.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 75 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 75, *An Act to Amend the Mining 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, 10.56 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 2020-2021
New Brunswick Legal Aid
Services Commission

November 4, 2021

Daily sitting 44

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 45, Mr. Arseneau rose to request an emergency debate concerning the ongoing labour issues between public service workers and the government of New Brunswick. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Mr. Speaker reminded Members to respect the time limits during Statements of Condolence and Congratulation.

Mr. Speaker interrupted Statements by Members and requested that Mr. C. Chiasson withdraw his statement as it alleged dishonesty and contained allegations of misleading the House. Mr. C. Chiasson withdrew the statement.

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition supporting frontline workers. (Petition 20)

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition supporting frontline workers. (Petition 21)

Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition supporting frontline workers. (Petition 22)

Mr. Speaker reminded Members that the statements provided during Presentations of Petitions are to be brief.

Mr. Arseneau, Member for Kent North, laid upon the table of the House a petition supporting frontline workers. (Petition 23)

Mr. Arseneau, Member for Kent North, laid upon the table of the House a petition supporting frontline workers. (Petition 24)

Mr. Arseneau, Member for Kent North, laid upon the table of the House a petition supporting frontline workers. (Petition 25)

Mr. Arseneau, Member for Kent North, laid upon the table of the House a petition supporting frontline workers. (Petition 26)

Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that the statements provided during Presentations of Petitions were overly lengthy and detailed. Mr. Arseneau spoke on the point of order. Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken and requested that the statements not exceed two minutes and the petitions be summarized when necessary.

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition supporting frontline workers. (Petition 27)

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition supporting frontline workers. (Petition 28)

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition supporting frontline workers. (Petition 29)

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition supporting frontline workers. (Petition 30)

The Honourable the Premier gave Notice of Motion 82 that on Friday, November 12, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Hon. Mr. Savoie:

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick has been negotiating collective agreements with Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) bargaining units covering nearly 20,000 employees in the civil service, in schools and in the health care system;

WHEREAS these bargaining units include workers such as court stenographers, highway workers, social workers, correctional officers, educational assistants, school bus drivers, LPNs, and hospital support workers among many others;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick recognizes the important role public service employees play in providing valuable services to New Brunswickers and are committed to working with bargaining units in good faith to reach agreements;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick has demonstrated a commitment to working with CUPE bargaining units to reach a fair deal and on November 4th, CUPE and Government reinstated discussions over possible negotiations;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick offered wage increases of 15 percent over five years, which includes a wage adjustment, to seven of the CUPE locals representing nearly 20,000 employees;

WHEREAS the wage increase of 15 percent over five years includes a two percent a year increase over a five-year period and an annual wage adjustment of 25 cents per hour, representing an additional increase of one percent per year on average;

WHEREAS in part of the agreement from November 4th, CUPE and the Government of New Brunswick would have actuaries review the pensions and create a path forward for the two groups affected;

WHEREAS the offer also includes raising the salary for casuals to 100 percent of the salary paid to permanent staff, representing \$8 Million more in wages for casual workers;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick recognizes the importance of all employees having access to a pension that is sustainable and supports their future;

WHEREAS CUPE Members have not yet had the opportunity to vote on this offer;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly support the Government of New Brunswick to continue to keep the health and safety of New Brunswickers as a top priority during this strike action; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly support CUPE voting on the final and full proposal from the Government of New Brunswick.

The Speaker delivered the following ruling with respect to the request for an emergency debate:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Honourable Members,

The Member for Kent North has once again asked leave to introduce a motion for an emergency debate on the ongoing labour issues between public service workers and the government of New Brunswick.

In light of the Notice of Motion introduced today by the Premier, I find the matter will now come before the House, by other means, this coming Friday. Accordingly, I must deny the Member's request for an emergency debate and I look forward to a full debate on Friday.

And then, 2.44 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 2020-2021
Elections New Brunswick

November 5, 2021

Daily sitting 45

Wednesday, November 10, 2021
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 45, Mr. Arseneau rose to request an emergency debate concerning the ongoing labour issues between public service workers and the government of New Brunswick. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Hon. Mr. Savoie requested leave of the House to move Motion 82 on Friday, November 12, 2021, and leave was denied. Accordingly, as Thursday would be Remembrance Day, Mr. Speaker corrected notice for Motion 82 to Tuesday, November 16, 2021.

The Speaker delivered the following ruling with respect to the request for an emergency debate:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

I now wish to decide on the request by the Member for Kent North for an emergency debate. Motion 82 was presented yesterday by the Honorable the Premier.

Motion 82 relates to the same subject matter as the topic wished to be discussed in the emergency debate. The government requested that the House allow for Motion 82 to be debated this coming Friday. The House declined, indicating to me that this matter does not require urgent consideration.

Accordingly, given the House's decision not to allow debate on Motion 82 this Friday, I find that the matter does not satisfy the requirement that it relate to a "genuine emergency calling for immediate and urgent consideration".

As well, I believe the matter of an emergency debate on the current labour issue has now been resolved. Thank you.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
Bill 76, *An Act to Amend the Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act.*
By Hon. Mr. Holland,
Bill 77, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act.*

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 83 that on Thursday, November 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LePage:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has been the cause of deaths and serious illness in New Brunswick, as it has in other provinces;

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has also had a devastating impact on many businesses;

WHEREAS the federal government has stepped up to provide significant financial assistance to provinces to help them keep citizens safe, reduce the potential for the spread of the virus, and support businesses struggling to cope with the realities of dealing with COVID-19;

WHEREAS many provinces were grateful for this financial support provided by the federal government and made sure that it was utilized for the purposes for which it was intended;

WHEREAS it has come to light that the Higgs government diverted much of the federal COVID-19 financial assistance to general revenues for political purposes;

WHEREAS, had this money been used for the purpose for which it was intended, it may have allowed our province to dedicate more resources to the fight against COVID-19 and the goal of keeping New Brunswickers safe;

WHEREAS there is public outrage that the Premier would pocket much-needed monies provided for addressing our serious pandemic needs to try to create the illusion that he is a good fiscal manager;

WHEREAS public funds designed to aid the province in dealing with a public health crisis should never be used to support a government's political agenda;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to adopt a policy that would prevent federal funds directed to address a pandemic or other serious public health crisis from being used for any other purpose;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to provide a full public accounting for all federal funding provided to New Brunswick in support of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 84 that on Thursday, November 18, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. K. Chiasson:

WHEREAS property tax assessments on residential properties have been increasing year over year across the province;

WHEREAS a demand for housing in New Brunswick has driven up the market value of residential property throughout the province;

WHEREAS many people on fixed incomes are finding it difficult to afford a significant rise in their property tax due to increased assessments;

WHEREAS, even though there is a cap limiting the rise of assessments to 10 percent in a given year, homeowners may still face significant assessment increases year after year, resulting in a cumulative unjustifiable tax hike;

WHEREAS this latest assessment increase will provide a significant revenue windfall for municipalities and the province;

WHEREAS there is no direct correlation between the rise of assessments and the costs to municipalities and the province to provide services like water and sewerage, garbage pickup, or other services;

WHEREAS there is no obligation on municipalities or the province to reduce their tax rates to help offset the financial impact of rising assessments;

WHEREAS the province should put the interests of homeowners before its own interests and ensure that residential taxpayers are not facing undue hardship;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to establish a mechanism whereby tax rates are adjusted downward if real property assessments increase beyond a certain threshold each year.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Friday, November 12, 2021, Bills 76 and 77 would be called for second reading.

And then, 11.28 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:

Members' Public Disclosure Statements 2019 November 8, 2021

Daily sitting 46

Friday, November 12, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

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

November 12, 2021

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 fourteenth report.

Your Committee met on November 5, 9 and 10 and had under consideration:

Bill 65, *An Act Respecting the Family Income Security Act*;
Bill 71, *An Act to Amend the Pension Benefits Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Jeff Carr, M.L.A.
Vice-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. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 76 and 77 be called for second reading.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 76, *An Act to Amend the Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 76 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 76, *An Act to Amend the Right to Information and Protection of Privacy 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 77, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. Arseneau, 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 77, *An Act to Amend the Electricity 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 11.52 a.m. the House recessed. At 12.02 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 17

Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Ms. Conroy
Mr. McKee	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Legacy
Mr. Guitard	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. Coon	Mr. LePage	Mr. Mallet
Mr. Austin	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Mitton	

NAYS - 22

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	

And the question being put that Bill 77 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative

Accordingly, Bill 77, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, November 23, 2021, 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.

And the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 22

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	

NAYS - 16

Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Legacy
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. Guitard	Mr. LePage	Mr. Mallet
Mr. Coon	Mr. D'Amours	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Mitton	
Mr. K. Chiasson	Ms. Conroy	

And then, 12.32 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 47

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

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

November 23, 2021

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

Mr. Speaker:

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

Your Committee met on November 16, 2021, in the Legislative Council Chamber and had under consideration the following Bill:

Bill 64, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Podiatry*;

which it recommends to the favourable consideration of the House.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

I move, seconded by the Member for Carleton-York, that the report be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Ryan Cullins, M.L.A.
Chair

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

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Coon,
Bill 78, *An Act Respecting The United Church of Canada*.

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 65 and 71 be ordered for third reading.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 65, *An Act Respecting the Family Income Security Act.*

Bill 71, *An Act to Amend the Pension Benefits Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

And then, 2.05 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2020-2021

New Brunswick Research and

Productivity Council

Response to Petitions 18, 19

November 15, 2021

November 18, 2021

Daily sitting 48

Wednesday, November 24, 2021
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Melanson used unparliamentary language when he stated that the Premier was “manipulating numbers” and that Hon. Mr. Steeves was “withholding fiscal information”. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, November 25, 2021, Opposition Members’ Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 83 and 84.

And then, 11.09 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 49

Thursday, November 25, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker rose to address the point of order raised the previous day and ruled the point well taken as such comments could be interpreted as questioning the integrity of Members. Mr. Speaker reminded Members to direct their comments through the Chair and to be respectful.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and requested that the Speaker expand the scope of the ruling. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken as the ruling was directed at both sides of the House.

Ms. Mitton gave Notice of Motion 85 that on Thursday, December 2, 2021, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Coon:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House a list of the projects and the amount spent on each that the government has invested amounting to \$1-billion as it relates to investment towards wind energy in New Brunswick as stated by the Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Development during Question Period on November 12, 2021.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Friday, November 26, 2021, Private Bill 64 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House recess until 2.30 p.m., at which time Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

At 11.15 a.m. the House recessed. At 2.30 p.m. the House resumed with Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, in the chair.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 83, Mr. McKee moved, seconded by Mr. LePage:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has been the cause of deaths and serious illness in New Brunswick, as it has in other provinces;

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has also had a devastating impact on many businesses;

WHEREAS the federal government has stepped up to provide significant financial assistance to provinces to help them keep citizens safe, reduce the potential for the spread of the virus, and support businesses struggling to cope with the realities of dealing with COVID-19;

WHEREAS many provinces were grateful for this financial support provided by the federal government and made sure that it was utilized for the purposes for which it was intended;

WHEREAS it has come to light that the Higgs government diverted much of the federal COVID-19 financial assistance to general revenues for political purposes;

WHEREAS, had this money been used for the purpose for which it was intended, it may have allowed our province to dedicate more resources to the fight against COVID-19 and the goal of keeping New Brunswickers safe;

WHEREAS there is public outrage that the Premier would pocket much-needed monies provided for addressing our serious pandemic needs to try to create the illusion that he is a good fiscal manager;

WHEREAS public funds designed to aid the province in dealing with a public health crisis should never be used to support a government's political agenda;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to adopt a policy that would prevent federal funds directed to address a pandemic or other serious public health crisis from being used for any other purpose;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to provide a full public accounting for all federal funding provided to New Brunswick in support of the COVID-19 pandemic.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 83 was resolved in the negative.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 84, Mr. McKee moved, seconded by Mr. K. Chiasson:

WHEREAS property tax assessments on residential properties have been increasing year over year across the province;

WHEREAS a demand for housing in New Brunswick has driven up the market value of residential property throughout the province;

WHEREAS many people on fixed incomes are finding it difficult to afford a significant rise in their property tax due to increased assessments;

WHEREAS, even though there is a cap limiting the rise of assessments to 10 percent in a given year, homeowners may still face significant assessment increases year after year, resulting in a cumulative unjustifiable tax hike;

WHEREAS this latest assessment increase will provide a significant revenue windfall for municipalities and the province;

WHEREAS there is no direct correlation between the rise of assessments and the costs to municipalities and the province to provide services like water and sewerage, garbage pickup, or other services;

WHEREAS there is no obligation on municipalities or the province to reduce their tax rates to help offset the financial impact of rising assessments;

WHEREAS the province should put the interests of homeowners before its own interests and ensure that residential taxpayers are not facing undue hardship;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to establish a mechanism whereby tax rates are adjusted downward if real property assessments increase beyond a certain threshold each year.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

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

Daily sitting 50

Friday, November 26, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker reminded Members that congratulatory statements were not to be political in nature.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that Hon. Mr. Holland questioned the character of Mr. Guitard. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken.

Mr. Melanson gave Notice of Motion 86 that on Thursday, December 2, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. D'Amours:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic caught the world by surprise and many governments at all levels had to put immediate measures in place to protect their citizens and attempt to avoid widespread transmission of the virus;

WHEREAS the impact of the pandemic has been a significant threat to human health and public safety;

WHEREAS very few governments had developed comprehensive pandemic response plans prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and New Brunswick was no exception;

WHEREAS there were several outbreaks in New Brunswick resulting in severe illness and loss of life;

WHEREAS there is developing consensus that an effective pandemic response plan with proper protocols and training would be invaluable in the efforts to keep people safe and reduce the likelihood of widespread virus transmission;

WHEREAS there are many lessons that can be learned from dealing with the pandemic that will be beneficial in helping to better manage the COVID-19 health crisis and respond to future pandemic crises in the event they occur;

WHEREAS there is a need to conduct a thorough review of the province's pandemic response which would provide information on what worked well, as well as where improvements could be made;

WHEREAS such a review might also be of great assistance in the development of an updated pandemic response plan and in looking at best practices for pandemic protocols, communication, and decision-making;

WHEREAS a review might also provide an opportunity to hear from subject matter experts, front-line workers, businesses, and families who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and might provide invaluable insight;

WHEREAS the review should be independent in order to ensure that it is truly objective and transparent;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to conduct an independent comprehensive review of the New Brunswick pandemic response which will provide recommendations for consideration by government.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bill 64 be called for second reading.

The following Private Bill was read a second time:

Bill 64, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Podiatry*.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 121, Mr. Speaker ordered Private Bill 64 for third reading forthwith.

The following Private Bill was read a third time:

Bill 64, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Podiatry*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

And then, 10.17 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:

Response to Petitions 20, 21, 22, 23, 24,
25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

November 24, 2021

Daily sitting 51

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 79, *An Act Respecting the Retail Sale of Cannabis*.

By Hon. Mr. Fitch,

Bill 80, *An Act to Amend the Nursing Homes Act*.

By Mr. Coon,

Bill 81, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*.

Hon. Mr. Holder requested leave of the House to move the following resolution, seconded by Hon. Mr. Savoie: (Motion 87)

THAT notwithstanding Standing Rule 109.1 and the expiration of the time allocated for the consideration of estimates during the First Session, not more than 80 hours shall be allocated for the consideration of the 2022-2023 Main and Capital Estimates and any Supplementary Estimates transmitted to the House during the remainder of the First Session of the 60th Legislative Assembly.

Leave to dispense with notice of Motion 87 was denied. Accordingly, notice was given for Friday, December 3, 2021.

Hon. Mr. Holder gave notice that on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, Bills 79 and 80 would be called for second reading.

And then, 2.05 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 52

Wednesday, December 1, 2021
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Ms. Landry, Member for Madawaska Les lacs-Edmundston, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government not to amalgamate the village of Lac Baker with the rural community of Haut-Madawaska. (Petition 31)

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Allain,
Bill 82, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*.

Hon. Mr. Steeves gave Notice of Motion 88 that on Tuesday, December 7, 2021, 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. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, December 2, 2021, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Third Party item; Motion 51.

Mr. Arseneau gave notice that the Third Party item would be Bill 81.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Thursday, December 2, 2021, Bill 82 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 79 and 80 be called for second reading.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 79, *An Act Respecting the Retail Sale of Cannabis*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 79 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 79, *An Act Respecting the Retail Sale of Cannabis*, 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 80, *An Act to Amend the Nursing Homes Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 80 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 80, *An Act to Amend the 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, 11.51 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:

Annual Report 2020-2021 Department of Justice and Public Safety	November 29, 2021
Annual Report 2020-2021 Department of Social Development	November 30, 2021
Annual Report 2020-2021 Department of Transportation and Infrastructure	November 30, 2021
Annual Report 2020-2021 Department of Environment and Local Government	November 30, 2021
Annual Report 2020-2021 Opportunities NB	November 30, 2021

Daily sitting 53

Thursday, December 2, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. McKee offered condolences to the family of the late Jean-Paul LeBlanc, former Progressive Conservative MLA for Moncton (1970-1974).

Mr. Speaker interrupted Statements by Members and requested that Mr. D'Amours withdraw the term "lie", which he did. Mr. Speaker reminded Members not to use unparliamentary language, even when quoting from a document.

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

December 2, 2021

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 fifteenth report.

Your Committee met on November 12, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 30, and December 1, and had under consideration:

Bill 66, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*;
Bill 67, *An Act to Amend the Procurement Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 70, *An Act to Amend the Beverage Containers Act*;
Bill 77, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Flemming, Q.C.,

Bill 83, *An Act to Amend the Building Code Administration Act.*

Bill 84, *An Act to Amend the Police Act.*

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bill 82 be called for second reading; following which the House would recess until 2.30 p.m., at which time Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 82, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1.01 p.m. the House resumed.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Friday, December 3, 2021, Bills 83 and 84 would be called for second reading.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 81, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Ms. S. Wilson took the chair.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 81 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the negative.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 51, Ms. Landry moved, seconded by Mr. LePage:

WHEREAS, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions imposed through the various phases, many in-person services provided by government to the members of the public were limited;

WHEREAS, in recognition of the need for the public to continue to access many of the government programs and services during the pandemic, many more services were offered online;

WHEREAS, while it is commendable that government will make access to more programs and services available online, there is a concern for many New Brunswickers who are unable to access online services;

WHEREAS the reasons for being unable to access online services include factors such as lack of access to high-speed Internet, lack of technological literacy, and lack of access to computers, tablets, or other devices;

WHEREAS a lack of future access to many in-person services for people seeking government programs and services will disadvantage many New Brunswickers;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure that in-person access to government programs and services is not significantly reduced as a result of a move to increase availability of online services when eased health restrictions permit these services to be offered.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 51 was resolved in the affirmative.

And then, 5.42 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2020-2021

Department of Finance and Treasury Board December 1, 2021

Annual Report 2020-2021

Department of Natural Resources and
Energy Development

December 1, 2021

Daily sitting 54

Friday, December 3, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

At the request of Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace, the House observed a moment of silence in recognition of the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

Mr. Hogan gave Notice of Motion 89 that on Thursday, December 9, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Turner:

THAT, notwithstanding the Standing Rules of the Legislative Assembly, following the adoption of this motion, there shall be 56 hours allocated for the proceedings at all stages of the passage of Bills 66, 67, 68, 70, 77, 80, 82, 83 and 84, which shall include the hours spent considering said Bills from November 3, 2021, and onward, and at the expiration of the said 56 hours, unless sooner concluded, the Speaker, or the Chair of the Standing Committee on Economic Policy as the case may be, shall interrupt the proceedings and put every question necessary to dispose of the order for second reading of the said Bills; the order for consideration of the said Bills in committee and report of the Bills to the House; and the order for third reading and passage of the said Bills; and where necessary, the said Bills shall be allowed to advance more than one stage in one day;

THAT, notwithstanding the expiry of the said 56 hours, there shall be, if necessary, 20 minutes allocated at committee stage for the consideration of any of the said Bills, if requested by the Government House Leader.

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 90 that on Thursday, December 9, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS, in the March 2021 budget, the Higgs government projected a deficit of \$245 million for the fiscal quarter ending June 30, 2021;

WHEREAS, although the first quarter fiscal update numbers for June 30 are known to the government in July and are usually released in July or August, the government announced without explanation that they would not be available until September 2, 2021;

WHEREAS the government subsequently delayed the announcement of the first-quarter fiscal update even further, until October 13, 2021, when the second fiscal quarter was over;

WHEREAS this additional delay was also without explanation and makes a mockery of openness and transparency;

WHEREAS the fiscal update showed that, instead of a deficit of \$245 million, the province actually recorded a surplus of \$160 million;

WHEREAS such a significant gap clearly shows that the government doctored the March 2021 budget;

WHEREAS it soon became painfully obvious that the government surplus was based on the fact that it had pocketed \$300 million provided by the federal government that was intended to be used to help New Brunswickers get through the pandemic and that the government had spent \$300 million dollars less than it had budgeted;

WHEREAS, since the government made a decision to significantly reduce provincial spending and knew that its own-source revenues had increased significantly, it would have known that it would have a surplus, yet intentionally forecast the \$245 million deficit;

WHEREAS it appears that revenue information has been deliberately omitted from the fiscal forecasts;

WHEREAS, in macabre irony, it was the Premier who brought in the *Fiscal Transparency and Accountability Act* in 2014 when he was Finance Minister, and yet he has completely abandoned the principles that he espoused when the legislation was introduced;

WHEREAS, in a democratic society, the public should expect that its government will provide timely fiscal updates that are as accurate as possible using all the financial means available to it;

WHEREAS government has been secretive and omitted information crucial to budget forecast for political reasons;

WHEREAS, in order to ascertain what information was available to government when it made its fiscal forecasts, senior officials with the Executive Council Office and the Department of Finance and Treasury Board should appear before the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to provide complete disclosure;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to support a call by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to request that senior officials from the Executive Council Office and the Department of Finance and Treasury Board appear before the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to provide committee members and other MLAs the opportunity to obtain the information available at the time fiscal forecasts were made and to explain the inability to deliver more accurate fiscal forecasts;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to request that the Auditor General conduct an investigation into this serious issue.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, deferred third reading of certain bills to a later date and announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 82, 83 and 84 be called for second reading.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 82, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*, be now read a second time.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Arseneau, 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 82, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*, 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.”

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

At 12.54 p.m. the House recessed. At 1.03 p.m. the House resumed.

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

And after some further 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 2020-2021

Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture
and Fisheries

December 2, 2021

Daily sitting 55

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. C. Chiasson offered condolences to the family of the late John Flynn, former Liberal MLA for York (1995-1999).

Ms. Landry, Member for Madawaska Les Lacs-Edmundston, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government not to amalgamate the village of Lac Baker with the rural community of Haut-Madawaska. (Petition 32)

Ms. Landry, Member for Madawaska Les Lacs-Edmundston, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Saint-Jacques urging government to hold a plebiscite on local governance reform in their community. (Petition 33)

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 7, 2021.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmits the *Capital Estimates* for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023, 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 88, 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 2022-2023 capital budget speech.

And after some time, Mr. Arseneau rose to debate the motion under consideration. Mr. Speaker ruled that only one representative from each party would be recognized and that each reply would not be permitted to exceed the length of the Minister's speech.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 88 was resolved in the affirmative.

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 Ms. S. Wilson in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Ms. S. Wilson, 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 she was directed to ask leave to sit again.

Ms. S. Wilson 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.

Hon. 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.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House take into consideration Motion 87; following which Bills 66 and 67 would be called for third reading; following which Bills 82, 83 and 84 would be called for second reading.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 87, Hon. Mr. Savoie, the seconder, moved on behalf of Hon. Mr. Holder:

THAT notwithstanding Standing Rule 109.1 and the expiration of the time allocated for the consideration of estimates during the First Session, not more than 80 hours shall be allocated for the consideration of the 2022-2023 Main and Capital Estimates and any Supplementary Estimates transmitted to the House during the remainder of the First Session of the 60th Legislative Assembly.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 87 was resolved in the affirmative.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 66, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, the motion for third reading was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 25

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Coon
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Austin
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus	
Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins	

NAYS - 16

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Landry
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Arseneau
Ms. Landry	Mr. D'Amours	
Mr. Guitard	Ms. Mitton	

Accordingly, Bill 66, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 67, *An Act to Amend the Procurement Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Bill 82, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*, be now read a second time, moved by Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Arseneau on Friday, December 3, 2021.

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.

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

Annual Report 2020-2021	
Department of Aboriginal Affairs	December 3, 2021
Annual Report 2020	
New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation	December 3, 2021

Daily sitting 56

Wednesday, December 8, 2021
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

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

December 8, 2021

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 sixteenth report.

Your Committee met on December 7, and had under consideration:

Bill 70, *An Act to Amend the Beverage Containers Act*;
Bill 77, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 80, *An Act to Amend the Nursing Homes Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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.

With leave of the House, the Honourable the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. Melanson: (Motion 91)

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick enacted the *Ombud Act*;

WHEREAS subsection 2(1) of that Act provides that an Ombud be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on recommendation of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the term of office of Charles Murray has expired;

WHEREAS a selection committee was established pursuant to subsection 2(2) of the Act for the purpose of identifying persons as potential candidates to be appointed Ombud;

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 pursuant to subsection 2(4) of the Act;

WHEREAS the selection committee has determined that Marie-France Pelletier possesses the proper qualifications and experience to successfully discharge the duties of the Ombud;

WHEREAS the Premier consulted with the Leader of the Opposition and the leaders of the other political parties represented in the Legislative Assembly pursuant to subsection 2(5) of the Act;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council that Marie-France Pelletier be appointed Ombud 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.

With leave of the House, the Honourable the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. Melanson: (Motion 92)

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick enacted the *Child, Youth and Senior Advocate Act*;

WHEREAS subsection 3(1) of that Act provides that a Child, Youth and Senior Advocate be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on recommendation of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the term of office of Norman Bossé has expired;

WHEREAS a selection committee was established pursuant to subsection 3(1.1) of the Act for the purpose of identifying persons as potential candidates to be appointed Child, Youth and Senior Advocate;

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 pursuant to subsection 3(1.3) of the Act;

WHEREAS the selection committee has determined that Kelly Lamrock possesses the proper qualifications and experience to successfully discharge the duties of the Child, Youth and Senior Advocate;

WHEREAS the Premier consulted with the Leader of the Opposition and the leaders of the other political parties represented in the Legislative Assembly pursuant to subsection 3(1.4) of the Act;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council that Kelly Lamrock be appointed Child, Youth and Senior Advocate for a term of seven years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House express its appreciation and gratitude to Norman Bossé 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, the Honourable the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. Melanson: (Motion 93)

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick enacted the *Auditor General Act*;

WHEREAS subsection 3(1) of that Act provides that an Auditor General be appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on recommendation of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the term of office of Kim Adair-MacPherson has expired;

WHEREAS a selection committee was established pursuant to subsection 3(2.1) of the Act for the purpose of identifying persons as potential candidates to be appointed Auditor General;

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 pursuant to subsection 3(2.3) of the Act;

WHEREAS the selection committee has determined that Paul Martin possesses the proper qualifications and experience to successfully discharge the duties of the Auditor General;

WHEREAS the Premier consulted with the Leader of the Opposition and the leaders of the other political parties represented in the Legislative Assembly pursuant to subsection 3(2.4) of the Act;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly recommend to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council that Paul Martin be appointed Auditor General for a term of ten years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House express its appreciation and gratitude to Kim Adair-MacPherson for her professional and dedicated service to the Legislature and the people of New Brunswick, as well as to Janice Leahy who has served in the position of acting Auditor General since Ms. Adair-MacPherson's resignation.

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

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, December 9, 2021, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 86 and 90.

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 consider the estimates of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development; following which Bills 83, 84 and 82 would be called for second reading and that, with leave, Bills 83 and 84 would be considered in committee forthwith.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Ms. S. Wilson in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Ms. S. Wilson, 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.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 83, *An Act to Amend the Building Code Administration Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 83 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 83, *An Act to Amend the Building Code Administration Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

Mr. Speaker requested leave of the House to allow Bill 83 to be considered by the Standing Committee on Economic Policy forthwith, and leave was denied.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 84, *An Act to Amend the Police Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 84 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 84, *An Act to Amend the Police Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

Mr. Speaker requested leave of the House to allow Bill 84 to be considered by the Standing Committee on Economic Policy forthwith, and leave was denied.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Bill 82, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*, be now read a second time, moved by Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Arseneau, on Friday, December 3, 2021.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative.

And the question being put that Bill 82 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 82, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

And then, 2.35 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 57

Thursday, December 9, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Crossman, Member for Hampton, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to introduce stunting legislation and stricter penalties for driving violations. (Petition 34)

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore emergency room services and acute care beds in the Sackville Memorial Hospital. (Petition 35)

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

December 9, 2021

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 seventeenth report.

Your Committee met on December 8, and had under consideration:

Bill 68, *An Act to Amend the Construction Remedies Act*;

Bill 80, *An Act to Amend the Nursing Homes Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Savoie, Government House Leader, deferred third reading of certain bills to a later date and announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Department

of Transportation and Infrastructure; following which the House would take into consideration Motion 89; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Ms. S. Wilson in the chair.

Mr. Arseneau rose on a point of order and submitted that the opposition parties should receive a copy of the Minister's remarks. Madam Chair ruled the point well taken.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Ms. S. Wilson, 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.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that Motion 89 was out of order as it was not introduced by a Minister and was retroactive in nature. Mr. Arseneau and Hon. Mr. Savoie spoke on the point of order. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement and declared a recess.

At 11.37 a.m. the House recessed. At 11.57 a.m. the House resumed.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Honourable Members,

I will now rule on the point of order raised by the Opposition House Leader with respect to Motion 89.

Motion 89 can be characterized as a "time allocation motion". The use of time allocation motions has been an accepted practice in this House for some time and such motions have been utilized in numerous other jurisdictions as well. A number of Canadian jurisdictions have specific rules that define the use of such motions. New Brunswick, however, does not. Therefore, we must rely on the practices that have been established in our House.

Generally, time allocation motions have been used to facilitate the efficient and effective use of the time of the House and its committees. A time allocation motion allows for a specific length of time to be set aside for the consideration of one or more stages of a bill or bills. It is different than a motion of closure, as it invokes the concept of time management, as opposed to a motion of closure, which often takes effect immediately, without allowing for any further consideration.

Time allocation motions have been used in this House with some degree of regularity since 2008. In total, 10 time allocation motions have been adopted by this House since that time. Specifically:

April 22, 2008; June 17, 2008; April 14, 2010; December 4, 2013; December 19, 2014; February 20, 2015; March 26, 2015; July 7, 2016; December 15, 2016; December 20, 2017.

The wording of the motion currently before the House is very similar, if not identical, to many of these previous motions adopted by the House.

With respect to the arguments that the motion should be ruled out of order because it was moved by a Private Member or it is retroactive in nature or it applies to different stages, as I stated earlier, our Standing Rules do not address time allocation motions, so I must rely on previous practices and rulings.

This very matter has been ruled on twice by previous Speakers. Speaker Graham allowed a similar motion to proceed in 2013. As did Speaker Collins during his tenure.

Although this motion is only being moved today, Members were given notice of same on Friday last. Hence, the determination of how to best utilize the time spent considering the Bills listed since Friday was a decision for Members to make, knowing that the time allocation motion was pending.

So, in keeping with past practices and rulings, I find Motion 89 to be in order and will allow it to proceed.

At 12 p.m., the House recessed. At 1 p.m., the House resumed.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 89, Mr. Hogan moved, seconded by Mr. Turner:

THAT, notwithstanding the Standing Rules of the Legislative Assembly, following the adoption of this motion, there shall be 56 hours allocated for the proceedings at all stages of the passage of Bills 66, 67, 68, 70, 77, 80, 82, 83 and 84, which shall include the hours spent considering said Bills from November 3, 2021, and onward, and at the expiration of the said 56 hours, unless sooner concluded, the Speaker, or the Chair of the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as the case may be, shall interrupt the proceedings and put every question necessary to dispose of the order for second reading of the said Bills; the order for consideration of the said Bills in committee and report of the Bills to the House; and the order for third reading and passage of the said Bills; and where necessary, the said Bills shall be allowed to advance more than one stage in one day;

THAT, notwithstanding the expiry of the said 56 hours, there shall be, if necessary, 20 minutes allocated at committee stage for the consideration of any of the said Bills, if requested by the Government House Leader.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Mr. Melanson, seconded by Ms. Landry, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 89 be amended by adding the following after "Government House Leader.":

"WHEREAS during the initial community consultations on local government reform, the Minister of Local Government did not indicate that the government would be moving forward with forced amalgamations;

WHEREAS the proposed legislation removes the right of citizens to hold a plebiscite on amalgamations;

WHEREAS community leaders and community members could provide invaluable input into the discussion on amalgamations and related matters;

WHEREAS it is crucial to the success of any reform of this nature that the communities are actively engaged in the discussions about their futures;

THAT following the passing of Bill 82, within 45 days, the Minister of Local Government will schedule a series of public consultations in each of the 12 Regional Service Districts to discuss the legislation, the proposed amalgamations, and other relevant issues.”

Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that the amendment was out of order as it was beyond the scope of the original motion. Madam Deputy Speaker ruled the point well taken and advised the House that the amendment was out of order.

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

AMENDMENT

That Motion 89 be amended as follows:

In the first resolution clause, by striking out “56 hours” and substituting “75 hours”;

In the second resolution clause, by striking out “56 hours” and substituting “75 hours”.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that the amendment was out of order as it negated the intent of the original motion by altering the government’s agenda. Madam Deputy Speaker ruled the point not well taken and announced that the time designated for Opposition Members’ Business had arrived.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 86, Mr. Melanson moved, seconded by Mr. D’Amours:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic caught the world by surprise and many governments at all levels had to put immediate measures in place to protect their citizens and attempt to avoid widespread transmission of the virus;

WHEREAS the impact of the pandemic has been a significant threat to human health and public safety;

WHEREAS very few governments had developed comprehensive pandemic response plans prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and New Brunswick was no exception;

WHEREAS there were several outbreaks in New Brunswick resulting in severe illness and loss of life;

WHEREAS there is developing consensus that an effective pandemic response plan with proper protocols and training would be invaluable in the efforts to keep people safe and reduce the likelihood of widespread virus transmission;

WHEREAS there are many lessons that can be learned from dealing with the pandemic that will be beneficial in helping to better manage the COVID-19 health crisis and respond to future pandemic crises in the event they occur;

WHEREAS there is a need to conduct a thorough review of the province's pandemic response which would provide information on what worked well, as well as where improvements could be made;

WHEREAS such a review might also be of great assistance in the development of an updated pandemic response plan and in looking at best practices for pandemic protocols, communication, and decision-making;

WHEREAS a review might also provide an opportunity to hear from subject matter experts, front-line workers, businesses, and families who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and might provide invaluable insight;

WHEREAS the review should be independent in order to ensure that it is truly objective and transparent;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to conduct an independent comprehensive review of the New Brunswick pandemic response which will provide recommendations for consideration by government.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 86 was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 20

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Austin	Ms. Mitton
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Conroy
Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Legacy
Mr. McKee	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Ms. Landry	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Landry
Mr. Guitard	Mr. LePage	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Mr. D'Amours	

NAYS - 23

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. S. Wilson	

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that due to the rising number of COVID-19 cases, the Speaker should unilaterally implement virtual hybrid sittings of the House for the following week. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken as the House had adopted a process for the implementation of virtual hybrid sittings.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 90, Mr. McKee moved, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS, in the March 2021 budget, the Higgs government projected a deficit of \$245 million for the fiscal quarter ending June 30, 2021;

WHEREAS, although the first quarter fiscal update numbers for June 30 are known to the government in July and are usually released in July or August, the government announced without explanation that they would not be available until September 2, 2021;

WHEREAS the government subsequently delayed the announcement of the first-quarter fiscal update even further, until October 13, 2021, when the second fiscal quarter was over;

WHEREAS this additional delay was also without explanation and makes a mockery of openness and transparency;

WHEREAS the fiscal update showed that, instead of a deficit of \$245 million, the province actually recorded a surplus of \$160 million;

WHEREAS such a significant gap clearly shows that the government doctored the March 2021 budget;

WHEREAS it soon became painfully obvious that the government surplus was based on the fact that it had pocketed \$300 million provided by the federal government that was intended to be used to help New Brunswickers get through the pandemic and that the government had spent \$300 million dollars less than it had budgeted;

WHEREAS, since the government made a decision to significantly reduce provincial spending and knew that its own-source revenues had increased significantly, it would have known that it would have a surplus, yet intentionally forecast the \$245 million deficit;

WHEREAS it appears that revenue information has been deliberately omitted from the fiscal forecasts;

WHEREAS, in macabre irony, it was the Premier who brought in the *Fiscal Transparency and Accountability Act* in 2014 when he was Finance Minister, and yet he has completely abandoned the principles that he espoused when the legislation was introduced;

WHEREAS, in a democratic society, the public should expect that its government will provide timely fiscal updates that are as accurate as possible using all the financial means available to it;

WHEREAS government has been secretive and omitted information crucial to budget forecast for political reasons;

WHEREAS, in order to ascertain what information was available to government when it made its fiscal forecasts, senior officials with the Executive Council Office and the Department of Finance and Treasury Board should appear before the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to provide complete disclosure;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to support a call by the Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to request that senior officials from the Executive Council Office and the Department of Finance and

Treasury Board appear before the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to provide committee members and other MLAs the opportunity to obtain the information available at the time fiscal forecasts were made and to explain the inability to deliver more accurate fiscal forecasts;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to request that the Auditor General conduct an investigation into this serious issue.

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.

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 2020-2021

Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture December 8, 2021

Daily sitting 58

Friday, December 10, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore emergency room services and acute care beds in the Sackville Memorial Hospital. (Petition 36)

Mr. Hogan gave Notice of Motion 94 that on Thursday, December 16, 2021, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Carr:

WHEREAS the following public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, were listed in the 2021 Annual Report, *Statute Repeal Act*, laid before the Legislative Assembly on March 16, 2021, 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, 2020, 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. *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act*, S.N.B. 2010, c.24

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, 2021, 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.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House take into consideration Motion 89; following which Bills 68, 70, 77 and 80 would be ordered for third reading.

Debate resumed on the amendment to Motion 89, moved by Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. Arseneau, on Thursday, December 9, 2021.

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

YEAS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. D'Amours
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Mitton
Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Legacy
Mr. McKee	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Ms. Landry	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Landry
Mr. Guitard	Mr. LePage	Mr. Arseneau

NAYS - 26

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Austin
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. S. Wilson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 89 and it 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 - 26

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Austin
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. S. Wilson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	

NAYS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. D'Amours
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Mitton
Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Legacy
Mr. McKee	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Ms. Landry	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Landry
Mr. Guitard	Mr. LePage	Mr. Arseneau

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 68, *An Act to Amend the Construction Remedies Act*.

Bill 70, *An Act to Amend the Beverage Containers Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 77, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for third reading be amended by deleting all the words after the word “that” and substituting the following:

“the House decline to give third reading to Bill 77, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, as it will allow NB Power to set up a corporate structure that will allow it to pursue business ventures or invest in the business ventures of others without any public accountability”.

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division after leave was granted to dispense with the ten-minute time allotted for the ringing of the bells:

YEAS - 20

Mr. Arseneault
Ms. Thériault
Mr. Melanson
Mr. McKee
Ms. Landry
Mr. Guitard
Mr. Coon

Mr. Austin
Mr. LeBlanc
Mr. K. Chiasson
Mr. C. Chiasson
Mr. Bourque
Mr. LePage
Mr. D'Amours

Ms. Mitton
Ms. Conroy
Mr. Legacy
Mr. Gauvin
Mr. Landry
Mr. Arseneau

 NAYS - 24

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner

And the question being put that Bill 77 be now read a third time, it 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. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner

NAYS - 20

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Austin	Ms. Mitton
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Conroy
Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Legacy
Mr. McKee	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Ms. Landry	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Landry
Mr. Guitard	Mr. LePage	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Mr. D'Amours	

Accordingly, Bill 77, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, was read a third time and passed.

Prior to the recorded division on third reading, Mr. Arseneault requested the unanimous consent of the House to apply the reverse result from the previous division to the motion for third reading, and unanimous consent was denied.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that Members should only be permitted to participate in a recorded division if they are seated in the Chamber when the Speaker puts the question to the House. Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 80, *An Act to Amend the Nursing Homes Act.*

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

And then, 11.11 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 59

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 81, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore emergency room services and acute care beds in the Sackville Memorial Hospital. (Petition 37)

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

December 14, 2021

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 eighteenth report.

Your Committee met on December 10, and had under consideration:

Bill 83, *An Act to Amend the Building Code Administration Act*;

Bill 84, *An Act to Amend the Police Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 82, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*;

And have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Steeves gave Notice of Motion 95 that on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

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

And then, 1.58 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2020

Office of the Chief Coroner

December 10, 2021

Documents requested in Notice of Motion 85

December 10, 2021

Daily sitting 60 Wednesday, December 15, 2021
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 81, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore emergency room services and acute care beds in the Sackville Memorial Hospital. (Petition 38)

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. McKee,
Bill 85, *An Act to Amend the Emergency Measures Act*.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, December 16, 2021, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Bill 85; Motion 90 and 50.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 83 and 84 be ordered for third reading.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 83, *An Act to Amend the Building Code Administration Act*.
Bill 84, *An Act to Amend the Police Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

And then, 11.18 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 61

Thursday, December 16, 2021

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 81, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore emergency room services and acute care beds in the Sackville Memorial Hospital. (Petition 39)

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

December 16, 2021

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 nineteenth report.

Your Committee met on December 14 and 15, and had under consideration:

Bill 82, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that the House take into consideration Motion 94; following which the House would consider an adjournment motion; following which, with leave, Opposition Members' Business would be considered forthwith.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 82, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 94, Mr. Hogan moved, seconded by Mr. Carr:

WHEREAS the following public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, were listed in the 2021 Annual Report, *Statute Repeal Act*, laid before the Legislative Assembly on March 16, 2021, 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, 2020, 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. *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act*, S.N.B. 2010, c.24

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, 2021, 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, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 94 was resolved in the affirmative.

Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns on Friday, December 17, 2021, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 22, 2022, 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.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Melanson, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That the motion be amended by deleting “March 22, 2022” and substituting “February 8, 2022”.

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

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, the amendment was defeated.

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

It was agreed by unanimous consent to consider Opposition Members’ Business forthwith.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 85, *An Act to Amend the Emergency Measures Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 85 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 20

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Austin	Ms. Mitton
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Conroy
Mr. Melanson	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Legacy
Mr. McKee	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Ms. Landry	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Landry
Mr. Guitard	Mr. LePage	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Mr. D'Amours	

NAYS - 22

Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. S. Wilson	
Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Bockus	

Debate resumed on Motion 90, moved by Mr. McKee, seconded by Mr. Arseneault, on Thursday, December 9, 2021.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 90 was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 17

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Mitton
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Legacy
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Landry
Mr. Guitard	Mr. LePage	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Mr. D'Amours	

NAYS - 24

Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Hogan
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Austin

And then, 4.31 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 62

Friday, December 17, 2021

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to Motion 81, certain Members participated in House proceedings by virtual means.

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore emergency room services and acute care beds in the Sackville Memorial Hospital. (Petition 40)

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that Royal Assent would take place.

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 Law Clerk then read the titles of the Bills as follows:

- Bill 64, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Podiatry.*
- Bill 65, *An Act Respecting the Family Income Security Act.*
- Bill 66, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act.*
- Bill 67, *An Act to Amend the Procurement Act.*
- Bill 68, *An Act to Amend the Construction Remedies Act.*
- Bill 70, *An Act to Amend the Beverage Containers Act.*
- Bill 71, *An Act to Amend the Pension Benefits Act.*
- Bill 77, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act.*
- Bill 80, *An Act to Amend the Nursing Homes Act.*
- Bill 82, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform.*
- Bill 83, *An Act to Amend the Building Code Administration Act.*
- Bill 84, *An Act to Amend the Police 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 Assistant 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, 10.43 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:

Response to Petition 31

December 16, 2021

Daily sitting 63

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to allow statements concerning the war in Ukraine.

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 22, 2022.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmits the *Main Estimates* for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023, which include the estimates of the sums required for the services of the Province, not otherwise provided for, for the year ending March 31, 2023, and in accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, recommends these Estimates to the House.

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

Hon. Mr. Steeves laid upon the table of the House documents entitled *2022-2023 Economic Outlook* and *2022-2023 Budget, Building on Success*.

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 95, 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. McKee, 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, 2.16 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

2020-2021 Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour	December 20, 2021
2013-2016 Office of the Ombud	December 22, 2021
2016-2019 Office of the Ombud	December 22, 2021
2020-2021 Labour and Employment Board	January 4, 2022
Legislative Activities 2020	January 7, 2022
2020 Supervisor of Political Financing Fees 2022, Department of Finance and Treasury Board	January 20, 2022
2020-2021 Extra-Mural/Ambulance New Brunswick	January 27, 2022
2020-2021 Department of Health	January 31, 2022
2019-2021 Office of the Ombud	February 22, 2022
2021 New Brunswick Insurance Board	March 2, 2022
	March 16, 2022

Others

Report of the Municipal Electoral Officer, 2021 Electoral Events	December 20, 2021
Public Accounts for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021, Volume 2, Supplementary Information	December 23, 2021
Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume II, Performance Audit, 2021	February 24, 2022

Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume III, Financial Audit, 2021	February 24, 2022
Disability Action Plan, Status Update, Premier's Council on Disabilities	March 8, 2022

Petitions

Response to Petitions 32, 33	December 20, 2021
Response to Petition 34	December 21, 2021
Response to Petition 35	January 13, 2022
Response to Petitions 36, 37, 38, 39, 40	February 16, 2022

Daily sitting 64

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker acknowledged Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee and thanked Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor for providing Members with commemorative pins.

Mr. C. Chiasson offered condolences to the family of the late Evérard H. Daigle, former Liberal MLA for the Riding of Grand Falls (1974-1987).

Mr. Speaker offered condolences to the family of the late David L.E. Peterson, Q.C., former lawyer, city councillor, special prosecutor, deputy judge and Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick from 1978 to 1993.

Mr. Arseneault requested the unanimous consent of the House to extend Oral Questions by 15 minutes, and unanimous consent was denied.

Mr. Landry, Member for Bathurst East-Nepisiguit-Saint-Isidore, laid upon the table of the House a petition in opposition to a part of Big River becoming part of the City of Bathurst. (Petition 41)

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

March 23, 2022

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Economic Policy begs leave to submit this, their twentieth report.

Your Committee met on January 25, 26, 27 and 28 and February 1, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 69, *Intimate Images Unlawful Distribution Act*;
Bill 72, *An Act Respecting the Modernization of Legislation Governing Limited Liability Partnerships*;
Bill 73, *An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*;
Bill 74, *An Act to Amend the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act*;
Bill 75, *An Act to Amend the Mining Act*;
Bill 79, *An Act Respecting the Retail Sale of Cannabis*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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 gave Notice of Motion 96 that on Thursday, March 31, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. D'Amours:

WHEREAS the Emergency Order was lifted as of March 14, 2022;

WHEREAS governments at all levels will undoubtedly reflect on the pandemic as it applies to preparedness, public health and safety measures implemented, communications and accountability, programs to support individuals and businesses and other related matters;

WHEREAS there is tremendous benefit that can be gained from undertaking an extensive COVID-19 review which could examine which measures were effective and how additional measures might have assisted in reducing the transmission of the virus;

WHEREAS such a review would provide an opportunity to obtain information, advice and ideas that might assist in future emergency preparedness;

WHEREAS a review could look at vulnerabilities and best practices and use that knowledge for planning, policy development and protocols to assist in dealing with future public health threats;

WHEREAS a review would also provide the opportunity to hear from front line workers, health professionals and other subject matter experts;

WHEREAS the Liberal Opposition has called for a complete independent review to be undertaken of the response by the provincial government to the COVID-19 health crisis;

WHEREAS the government has indicated that it now sees the benefit of undertaking a review of its response to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS there is a need to ensure that such a review is independent of government and is adequately resourced;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to request that the Auditor General undertake a review of the response by the provincial government to the COVID-19 pandemic;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to the powers provided for under the *Auditor General Act*, the Auditor General shall have the powers prescribed pursuant to the *Inquiries Act* including the power to subpoena documents and compel witnesses to testify;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Auditor General be provided any additional financial resources required to carry out the review;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the alternative, should the Auditor General be unable to undertake this review, then an independent individual or entity be engaged to do so.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave Notice of Motion 97 that on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT unless otherwise provided by Standing Rule or Special Order of the House, the Legislative Assembly adopt the following calendar for meetings of the House in 2022:

Tuesday, March 22 to Friday, March 25;
Tuesday, March 29 to Friday, April 1;
Tuesday, May 10 to Friday, May 13;
Tuesday, May 17 to Friday, May 20;
Tuesday, May 31 to Friday, June 3;
Tuesday, June 7 to Friday, June 10;
Tuesday, October 25 to Friday October 28;
Tuesday, November 1 to Friday, November 4;
Tuesday, November 15 to Friday, November 18;
Tuesday, November 22 to Friday, November 25;
Tuesday, December 6 to Friday, December 9; and
Tuesday, December 13 to Friday, December 16;

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 any period of 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;

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;

THAT during the weeks in which the House is adjourned, the following dates are available to the standing and select committees to meet to consider bills, estimates and other matters:

Tuesday, April 5 to Friday, April 8;
Tuesday, April 12 to Thursday, April 14;
Tuesday, April 19 to Friday, April 22;
Tuesday, April 26 to Friday, April 29;
Tuesday, May 3 to Friday, May 6;
Tuesday, May 24 to Friday, May 27;
Tuesday, September 6 to Friday, September 9;
Tuesday, September 13 to Friday, September 16;
Tuesday, September 20 to Friday, September 23;
Tuesday, September 27 to Thursday, September 29;
Tuesday, October 4 to Friday, October 7;
Tuesday, October 11 to Friday, October 14;
Tuesday, November 8 to Thursday, November 10; and
Tuesday, November 29 to Friday, December 2;

THAT, notwithstanding the dates available to committees, the chairs of standing and select committees may call meetings outside of the available dates when required;

THAT this Special Order come into effect on March 22 and remain in effect until December 16, 2022.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 98)

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship be amended by substituting Mr. Carr for Hon. Mr. Hogan;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy be amended by substituting Mr. Wetmore for Hon. Mr. Savoie;

THAT the membership of the Select Committee on Accessibility in New Brunswick be amended by substituting Mr. Wetmore for Hon. Mr. Hogan.

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

And then, 11.23 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 65 Thursday, March 24, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 95),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

And after some time, on motion of Mr. Coon, the further consideration thereof was adjourned over.

And then, 10.40 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:

Annual Report 2022	
<i>Statute Repeal Act</i> , Office of the	
Attorney General	March 23, 2022
Annual Report 2020-2021	
Centre Communautaire Sainte-Anne	March 23, 2022

Daily sitting 66

Friday, March 25, 2022

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Ames, Member for Carleton-York, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to save the MacElwain Bridge in Temperance Vale. (Petition 42)

Mr. McKee, Member for Moncton Centre, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to require indoor face masking in schools. (Petition 43)

Mr. Bourque gave Notice of Motion 99 that on Thursday, March 31, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS in February 2021, Judge Yvette Finn and John McLaughlin were appointed as commissioners and asked to undertake a review of the *Official Languages Act* and find ways to improve second language learning in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the commissioners engaged in private consultations and provided recommendations to the government;

WHEREAS the commissioners presented their first report on the Review of the *Official Languages Act* to government on December 15, 2021;

WHEREAS the commissioners presented their second report on the Review of the *Official Languages Act* of New Brunswick – Report on second language learning on February 2, 2022;

WHEREAS the Higgs government has yet to respond to the report and its recommendations;

WHEREAS, in considering its recommendations, the commissioners asked decision-makers to “remain cognizant of the tremendous strain that the COVID-19 pandemic has placed on our various institutions and government departments” and urged government to “approach these recommendations cautiously” and with a “light touch”;

WHEREAS, although the report suggests that there may be measures that can be taken to improve second language learning, and makes several recommendations to this end, it recognizes that “it is never too early to begin learning another language”;

WHEREAS the report also acknowledges the success of the French immersion program citing that “Large-scale provincial assessments conducted by EECD indicate that over 90% of students who complete the French immersion program achieve at least an *Intermediate* level of French, and subject matter experts agree that this translates into a conversational level of proficiency”;

WHEREAS the commissioners acknowledge that there is a downside to setting “aspirational proficiency targets in response to a ‘raise the bar’ approach to academic excellence”;

WHEREAS the commissioners have indicated that “change must be well planned”, acknowledged the “Auditor General’s cautions about abrupt changes to the educational system”, and asserted the need to develop a new assessment program “if we are to track our province’s progress towards a new language proficiency goal”;

WHEREAS the commissioners have indicated that “a cookie-cutter approach to teaching the second official language is not appropriate in a linguistic ecosystem as complex and diverse as New Brunswick’s”;

WHEREAS the commissioners have indicated that experts understand that “frequency”, “intensity”, “extensiveness”, “meaningful communication”, and “motivation” are essential pillars to successful second language programs, and that if “any one of these pillars is missing or not fully realized, a language program will be less effective than it might be otherwise”;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government not to make major changes to the French immersion program in the Anglophone sector without these changes being supported by high quality research in French second language learning;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government that any changes to existing second language programs must represent enhancements to these programs and must be properly weighed, assessed, and funded prior to being implemented.

Mr. Bourque gave Notice of Motion 100 that on Thursday, March 31, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. C. Chiasson:

WHEREAS, as a result of the pandemic, students in the primary and secondary school system have missed many in school education days;

WHEREAS, although there has been at home instruction, there are concerns that it has not adequately delivered the educational programming that would have been available through in school instruction;

WHEREAS many students have been educationally disadvantaged by living in areas without adequate high-speed internet to support remote learning;

WHEREAS many students who require specialized in class support have been unable to obtain the level of support they have been able to access in the past;

WHEREAS many parents are worried that the educational limitations brought on as a result of the pandemic have caused their children's educational progress to be negatively impacted;

WHEREAS it is necessary to ensure that children do not fall behind educationally;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to immediately bring forward a plan to measure the educational impact of the lessened instructional opportunities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to bring forward a comprehensive plan to ensure children will not be educationally disadvantaged by the instructional limitations of the pandemic.

Ms. Landry gave Notice of Motion 101 that on Thursday, March 31, 2022, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Bourque:

WHEREAS Bill 61, *An Act to Amend the Human Tissue Gift Act*, was introduced on May 11, 2021, debated at second reading on May 13, 2021, and referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments;

WHEREAS there was widespread support for the Bill and the government agreed to bring it back to the Legislature;

WHEREAS the Bill has not yet been considered by the Standing Committee on Law Amendments;

WHEREAS the two commissioners appointed to undertake a review of the *Official Languages Act* and second language learning have filed two reports, the latest of which was filed on February 2, 2022;

WHEREAS the government has yet to respond to the findings and recommendations of the commissioners;

WHEREAS there have been motions passed by the Legislative Assembly that the government has yet to respond to;

WHEREAS the actions of the government in ignoring the will of the Members of the Legislative Assembly show a contempt for its authority and the will of the people;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to respond in a timely manner to motions and legislation passed in the Legislative Assembly and outline a plan for implementing the measures and initiatives supported which includes regular reporting and progress updates;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to respond in a timely manner to reports that have been commissioned by the government.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, deferred third reading of several Bills to Tuesday, March 29, 2022, and announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the Budget.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 95),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

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

Annual Report 2019-2020 New Brunswick Lotteries and Gaming Corporation	March 24, 2022
Annual Report 2018-2019 Cannabis Management Corporation	March 24, 2022
Annual Report 2019-2020 Cannabis Management Corporation	March 24, 2022

Daily sitting 67

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that Hon. Mr. Allain referred to a Member by name and not by riding or title. Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken.

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 29, 2022.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmits a Bill entitled *Special Appropriation Act 2022*, and having been informed of the subject matter of the Bill, recommends the same to the House.

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

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 86, *Special Appropriation Act 2022*.

Bill 87, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*.

Bill 88, *An Act to Amend the Financial and Consumer Services Commission Act*.

Bill 89, *An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act*.

By Hon. Ms. Shephard,

Bill 90, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act*.

Bill 91, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Hogan,

Bill 92, *An Act to Amend the Plumbing Installation and Inspection Act*.

Bill 93, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*.

Bill 94, *An Act to Amend An Act to Amend the Police Act*.

By Hon. Ms. M. Wilson,

Bill 95, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations Act*.

Bill 96, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*.

By Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace,
Bill 97, *An Act Respecting the Beaverbrook Auditorium.*
By Hon. Mr. Flemming, Q.C.,
Bill 98, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Court Act.*
By Hon. Mr. Holland,
Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act.*
By Hon. Mr. Savoie,
Bill 100, *An Act Respecting the Appointment Process.*

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 29, 2022.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmits the *Supplementary Estimates 2020-2021, Volume II*, 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. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the Budget.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 69, *Intimate Images Unlawful Distribution Act.*
Bill 72, *An Act Respecting the Modernization of Legislation Governing Limited Liability Partnerships.*
Bill 73, *An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act.*
Bill 74, *An Act to Amend the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 75, *An Act to Amend the Mining Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for third reading be amended by deleting all the words after the word “that” and substituting the following:

“the House decline to give third reading to Bill 75, *An Act to Amend the Mining Act*, as the bill has serious implications to farmers and all rural landowners, since it overturns the Mining Commissioner’s decision from May 2021 that states that mining companies cannot start exploring for minerals on private land without first obtaining consent from landowners.”

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

At 2.44 p.m. the House recessed. At 2.56 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Mitton
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Legacy
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Ms. Landry	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Mallet
Mr. Guitard	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Mr. Coon	Mr. D’Amours	Mr. Arseneau

NAYS - 21

Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Holland	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Ms. S. Wilson

Debate resumed.

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

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for third reading be amended by deleting all the words after the word “that” and substituting the following:

“Bill 75, *An Act to Amend the Mining Act*, be not now read a third time but that the order for third 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.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it 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 - 17

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Mitton
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Legacy
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Ms. Landry	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Landry
Mr. Guitard	Mr. LePage	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Coon	Mr. D’Amours	

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 79, *An Act Respecting the Retail Sale of Cannabis*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, Bills 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99 and 100 would be called for second reading.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 95),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

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 68

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker acknowledged the 105th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge and the distribution of commemorative pins to Members.

With leave of the House, Mr. Coon moved, seconded by Ms. Mitton: (Motion 102)

THAT the Legislative Assembly offer official condolences to the families of New Brunswickers who have passed away due to COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic.

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

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, March 31, 2022, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 96 and 99.

At the request of Hon. Mr. Savoie, it was agreed by unanimous consent that the House meet at 7 a.m. on Friday, April 1, 2022.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the Budget.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 95),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

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

Mr. Landry rose on a point of order and submitted that the House should adjourn due to lack of quorum. Madam Deputy Speaker ruled that a quorum was present.

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

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

And then, 6 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 2021

Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance March 29, 2022

Daily sitting 69

Thursday, March 31, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Ms. Bockus, from the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship, presented the Second Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

March 31, 2022

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 Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship.

The report is the result of your Committee's deliberations on the renewal of New Brunswick's Climate Change Action Plan.

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank those individuals and organizations who appeared before the Committee. 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. :) Kathy Bockus, M.L.A.
Chair

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship begs leave to submit this, their Second Report of the session.

On November 30, 2021, the Committee met and agreed to invite subject matter experts and Indigenous representatives to share their expertise on climate change and any recommendations for actions to be included in a renewed Climate Change Action Plan for the Province. The Committee agreed to prepare a report to the House, following the presentations, setting out what it heard. The report does not include submissions and recommendations from the public that were sent directly to the Climate Change Secretariat.

On December 7, 2021, the Committee received a briefing from the Climate Change Secretariat regarding the process for renewing the Climate Change Action Plan.

On January 13, 14, 18, 19 and 20, and February 10, 2022, the Committee met and heard presentations, beginning with an update from the Climate Change Secretariat regarding implementation of the existing Climate Change Action Plan and the context in which a renewed plan will be developed. This was followed by presentations from invited subject matter experts, stakeholders, and Indigenous representatives.

The Committee met again on March 24, 2022, to consider the input received during the consultation process and to formulate a report to the House.

The Committee wishes to express its appreciation to the presenters who appeared before the Committee.

The following summarizes what the Committee heard, including the recommendations made to the Committee for actions to be included in a renewed Climate Change Action Plan.

OVERVIEW

New Brunswick's current Climate Change Action Plan, *Transitioning to a Low-Carbon Economy*, was released in December 2016. The *Climate Change Act* requires that the Climate Change Action Plan be reviewed every five years. The Climate Change Secretariat within the Department of Environment and Local Government initiated the review which will form the basis of a renewed Action Plan.

In its presentation to the Committee, the Climate Change Secretariat explained that the government has committed to completing 75% of the 118 actions in the existing plan by March 2022.

The Secretariat outlined the provincial, national and international context in which a renewed plan is being developed, including the global effort to limit warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, and federal policies aimed to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to net-zero by 2050. Net-zero means reducing emissions to as close to zero as possible and offsetting any remaining emissions.

The Secretariat also outlined progress to date, and future opportunities and challenges, in two broad categories that will need to be addressed in the renewed plan: mitigation (reducing GHG emissions) and adaptation (preparing for a changing climate).

Mitigation

New Brunswick's target GHG emission reduction for 2030 is 10.7 Mt, which is 47% below 2005 levels. Its current 2050 target is 5 Mt. As of 2019, New Brunswick was emitting 12.4 Mt annually.

Pathways to meet the 2030 reduction target include: clean electricity and coal phase out, regulating emissions from large industry (Output-Based Pricing System), electric vehicles, energy efficiency, carbon neutral government, and landfill gas capture.

Pathways to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 require transformative measures and new technologies. These include: biofuels, biogas and hydrogen production; carbon capture, utilization and storage; direct air capture; clean electricity production, such as small modular reactors (SMRs); and enhanced natural sequestration through forest and wetland management.

Adaptation

Impacts of climate change on New Brunswick include the effects of warmer temperatures, extreme precipitation, extreme weather, and rising sea levels.

The Secretariat outlined progress toward understanding and communicating climate risks and opportunities, as well as future opportunities and challenges, including raising awareness of projected impacts, conducting a provincial risk assessment and implementing adaptation measures.

Progress toward planning and taking action has included: adoption of adaptation plans by 50% of municipalities; resilience-building in several sectors; increasing focus on natural infrastructure and nature-based solutions; and incorporating climate change considerations into infrastructure decision-making.

Opportunities and challenges for planning and taking action include: moving from planning to implementation; broadening vulnerability assessments across all sectors; linking adaptation and community health and wellbeing; intersection of biodiversity, protected areas and climate adaptation; diversity, inclusion, and vulnerable populations; collaboration across all sectors; and nature-based solutions.

After hearing from the Climate Change Secretariat, the Committee heard from climate change adaptation specialists, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), electric and natural gas utilities, energy consultants, business councils, municipal leaders, members of the agricultural and waste management sectors, and Indigenous representatives.

While presenters focused on different aspects of climate change, all communicated a sense of urgency and the need for clear and coordinated action.

The engagement process centred around five key themes:

1. Planning and Governance
2. Partnerships and Collaboration
3. Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction
4. Adaptation
5. Education and Public Engagement

The following summarizes what the Committee heard. The actions that were recommended to the Committee are grouped under each theme.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PRESENTERS

Theme 1: Planning and Governance

Clear Strategies

Several presenters discussed the need for the Province to create a robust climate change strategy. They said while there are challenges to shifting established patterns of behaviour, the climate crisis presents an opportunity to embrace change and to grow the economy. They emphasized that the strategy should take all sectors into account, including energy, business, agriculture, and waste management. The strategy should also ensure that all members of society are addressed and included in action items, as some are more vulnerable to climate change than others.

The Committee heard that the adaptation component of the climate change strategy for the Province should be based on a provincial climate risk assessment, which would identify geographic areas at most risk of environmental damage and provide focus for adaptation and mitigation plans to protect people and infrastructure. The risk assessment would also result in the development of clear policies, such as prohibiting development or alternatively, allowing municipalities to ban development projects in high-risk areas, and protect coastal systems that provide natural buffers. Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador have already undertaken similar initiatives and the federal government released its own adaptation strategy in January of 2022. The recommendations on this subject presented to the Committee are as follows:

- 1) Assemble appropriate planning and governing bodies to create an accountability framework. These could include:
 - a) A climate change advisory council; and
 - b) A stakeholder advisory committee.

- 2) Create a comprehensive climate change strategy that considers current assets and resources, economic growth opportunities, and inclusive practices for vulnerable populations. The strategy would also include:
 - a) Performance metrics, including a GHG reduction commitment, an annual work plan, and a mandate to report on progress;
 - b) Clear directives for electrification in the Province, as well as alternate heat and energy sources;
 - c) Comprehensive renewable energy plans for specific sectors such as agriculture and waste management;
 - d) The application of a climate lens, which considers impacts and emissions, to government spending and procurement; and
 - e) Statements of public interest indicating which climate considerations are most important to New Brunswick residents.
- 3) Appoint a senior officer who would lead the development of a provincial or regional integrated risk assessment plan, in coordination with municipalities, consultants, the Climate Change Secretariat, and government departments. The risk assessment plan would:
 - a) Prioritize natural infrastructure and conservation to lower risks and help hold carbon (e.g., 30% by 2030);
 - b) Build on existing coastal and city vulnerability assessments; and
 - c) Outline provincial adaptation strategies that are in line with the federal Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

Changes to Legislative and Regulatory Frameworks

Several presenters expressed the need to change legislation, policies, or regulations to ensure that a variety of power generation options can be pursued in New Brunswick with fewer obstacles. The Committee heard that one of the key challenges for energy utilities and communities at the present time is the inability to develop new (renewable) energy products due to caps on net-metering and embedded (local) generation in the *Local Governance Act* and the *Electricity Act*. The presenters suggested that amendments to these Acts would allow for a mechanism resembling a commercial agreement between supplier and user. This would remove some of the perceived economic risk of having a single agreement with NB Power, allow for the development of cleaner energy sources, and ultimately lead to more economic growth in the Province.

Presenters also highlighted the need to apply appropriate economic instruments to new energy projects at both the provincial and regional levels, and to do so within a predictable regulatory environment that would attract private investment and incite investor confidence. The recommendations on this subject presented to the Committee are as follows:

- 4) Amend sections 72 and 73 of the *Electricity Act* (as well as the provincial energy policy) to allow for a mix of public-, private-, and community-owned power generation options to meet the growing demand for electricity.
- 5) Amend the *Local Governance Act* to enable municipalities to accrue revenues from clean energy production and capitalize on new projects year over year.
- 6) Amend other relevant legislation, policies, and frameworks to:
 - a) Set new targets for energy efficiency;
 - b) Set new targets for renewables;
 - c) Incorporate regional plans and goals;
 - d) Prepare for federal clean electricity standards and the phase-out of fossil fuel power;
 - e) Increase the cap on net-metering and allow virtual net-metering for municipalities;
 - f) Increase the total cap on renewable power procurement;
 - g) Ensure NB Power's Power Purchase Agreement model is feasible for those proposing renewable energy projects;
 - h) Allow individual electricity generation units to be connected to the electricity distribution network (embedded generation); and
 - i) Deliver renewables under the Locally Owned Renewable Energy Projects that are Small Scale Program (LORESS).
- 7) Create a central economic development agency.
- 8) Modify LORESS, which is currently regulated under the *Electricity from Renewable Resources Regulation*, so that it includes three tiers: under 3MW, 3MW to 10MW, and over 10MW.
- 9) Create a Community Feed-In Tariff program or a community-based Power Purchase Agreement.
- 10) Within the agricultural sector, mandate the adoption of Beneficial Management Practices, which include conservation cropping and cover crop systems; enhanced forage production models; improved nitrogen efficiency; preservation and enhancement of carbon rich landscapes; and on-farm renewable energy models.

Appropriate Funding Mechanisms

The Committee heard that appropriate funding mechanisms will be essential to the success of New Brunswick's renewed Climate Change Action Plan. If the Province is to meet targets, actions should be quick, organized, and sustainable, with both short- and long-term benefits. Funding entities should support projects with various timelines and be rigorous in the selection process so that the right projects are chosen at the right time.

Some presenters expressed that the Climate Change Fund established under the *Climate Change Act* could be more efficient and effective. At present, they said most funds are directed to government departments to carry out climate-related projects rather than disbursed at the community level. They suggested that there are opportunities for the funds to be directed more strategically toward projects that will have greater impact. The recommendations on this subject presented to the Committee are as follows:

- 11) Create or revise a funding mechanism that supports multi-year projects, with a focus on supporting pilot projects that have already proven to be successful.
- 12) Amend the *Local Governance Act* to support efficiency financing to bridge the gap between federal funding models and provincial billing systems.
- 13) Review the funding structure of the Climate Change Fund to ensure that the awarding of funds aligns with the overall climate strategy for the Province. The distribution of funds should focus on:
 - a) Mitigation and adaptation programs to secure deep retrofits to transportation and infrastructure;
 - b) Municipal projects that are in the development stage (funding to hire consultants and to investigate new projects); and
 - c) Support for businesses to improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon footprints; hire and train climate or energy managers; and provide funds for research and development.
- 14) Create an interdepartmental team to vet and prioritize clean energy economic development opportunities already underway through Opportunities New Brunswick.
- 15) Rebalance public investments and tax incentives to mobilize private investment in future-ready projects and companies.

Theme 2: Partnerships and Collaboration

A key topic that arose during the consultation process was the need for more coordination and collaboration toward common climate change objectives within the Province and across the Atlantic region. This includes coordinated efforts to integrate climate change solutions into all projects undertaken and funded by the Province, and increased collaboration within government departments, with industry, small business, NGOs, municipalities, and Indigenous communities. Presenters said that collaboration will lead to less duplication of efforts, promote knowledge-sharing and help address the urgent need to build capacity in order to meet the Province's and the region's climate change objectives. The recommendations on this subject presented to the Committee are as follows:

- 16) At the regional level:
 - a) Commit to interjurisdictional collaboration across Atlantic Canada on broad climate change issues that have a direct impact on citizens and the economy (e.g., the Chignecto Isthmus); and
 - b) Create a regulatory modernization task force for Atlantic Canada consisting of representatives from all four provincial governments, the Government of Canada, the region's energy utilities and NGOs. The task force would:
 - i) Focus specifically on regulatory clarity, efficiency, and transparency, as well as regional regulatory alignment; and
 - ii) Be mandated to explore the opportunity to facilitate greater integration of the region's electricity markets and systems operation.

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- 17) At the provincial level:
 - a) Embed climate risks (and resilience benefits) throughout government decision-making;
 - b) Add new capacity and expertise in government departments to work on clean growth opportunities and sectoral strategies for the low carbon economy; and
 - c) Develop safety measures to protect the most vulnerable.
 - 18) At the local government level:
 - a) Provide support for Community Energy Planning (CEP) Coordinators; and
 - b) Establish a program to train energy managers and technical advisors.
 - 19) With Indigenous communities:
 - a) Embrace the belief that good decision-making considers outcomes now and for seven generations to come;
 - b) Provide support for a province-wide Indigenous Knowledge Study, and incorporate this knowledge and Two-Eyed Seeing in the Environmental Impact Assessment process;
 - c) Ensure there is Indigenous representation on the Climate Change Advisory Committee and Indigenous engagement with other working groups; and
 - d) When the land of Indigenous communities is lost to the effects of climate change, ensure additional lands are made available.

Theme 3: GHG Reduction Strategies

Reducing GHG emissions is central to combatting climate change. The Committee heard from the Climate Change Secretariat that New Brunswick is leading the country in emissions reduction (38% below 2005 levels) and is on track to meet or exceed its 2020 target (total output of 14.8 Mt). However, to meet the federal 2030 and 2050 targets, New Brunswick's leaders will need to better understand all sources of GHG emissions so they can create clear strategies to reduce them. Having a clear plan of action will also help ensure the Province manages the transition, positioning itself to take advantage of new opportunities presented by decarbonization and other forms of GHG reduction.

The presenters acknowledged that while achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 may seem daunting due to the sheer scope and scale of the task, it is possible by focusing on:

- Setting clear and measurable targets with appropriate timelines;
- Implementing “quick fixes” that have immediate or short-term impact;
- Embracing the transition phase; and
- Investing in innovative solutions to GHG reduction.

Clear and Measurable Targets

The Committee heard that there is a need to set clear targets with timelines that reflect current federal and global policy. It was suggested that the 2030 target should be a reduction of 60% below 2005 emission levels, with progressively higher targets every 5 years after 2030 leading to a target of net-zero emissions in 2050. The methods to achieve these goals should be included in the Province's climate change strategy, outlined in the Planning and Governance section of this report.

Several presenters said that while the Belledune generating station is an important resource for NB Power, particularly for meeting baseload generation needs, its use of coal presents a problem as the federal GHG reduction strategy is clear that coal must be phased out by 2030. While renewable energy sources and new technologies may eventually be able to cover these needs, during the transition phase, Belledune remains a key resource and for this reason, presenters stressed that there is an urgent need to investigate alternative fuels. Presenters noted that the window of time for the research phase is 18 to 24 months, with conversion of the facility taking approximately 2 to 5 years. The recommendations on this subject presented to the Committee are as follows:

- 20) Using the federal GHG reduction strategy as a guideline, set clear and measurable targets for emission reductions and offsets, with the goal of transitioning to net-zero by 2050.
- 21) Steadily increase the stringency of carbon pricing and regulations across the economy.
- 22) Recognizing the urgency of phasing out coal by 2030, immediately undertake research into alternative sources of power for the Belledune generating station.

Solutions with Immediate or Short-term Impact

The Committee heard that New Brunswick would benefit from enhanced energy education, awareness, and literacy efforts to ensure that New Brunswick residents, who are the primary energy users of the Province, understand the transformation that needs to take place in the region's energy sector in order to reduce GHG emissions. As this report discusses in greater detail in the Education and Public Engagement section, information programs help ensure that people are able to make informed and effective short-term and longer-term energy decisions. In addition to public education and awareness, the Committee heard that the appropriate infrastructure, such as charging stations for electric vehicles, should be in place so that making more energy efficient choices is easy.

The presenters emphasized that immediate and short-term goals should have scope beyond the reduction of GHG emissions. Targets should also be set for increased use of proven low-emission or renewable energy sources, the purchase of electric vehicles, and the adoption of the most recent building codes. The Committee heard that creating incentive programs will be an important part of reaching these goals. The recommendations on this subject presented to the Committee are as follows:

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- 23) Information and Public Awareness:
- a) Review the Select Committee on Climate Change's report *New Brunswickers' Response to Climate Change* to see if recommendations relating to electricity that were not included in the original Climate Change Action Plan should be adopted in the renewed Plan.
 - b) Conduct a public education and awareness campaign that identifies how individual choices regarding energy consumption can benefit the environment.
- 24) Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution:
- a) Support and grow the smart grid innovation ecosystem and enable near real-time access to information related to the provincial demand for electricity.
 - b) Ensure that incentives for rooftop solar and net-metering do not exclude third parties (e.g. renewable energy cooperatives).
 - c) Require, in the *Community Planning Act*, that all land use plans and zoning bylaws in New Brunswick include minimum and better energy efficiency standards.
 - d) Require municipalities to use the permitting process to ensure, incentivize, and track building energy performance.
 - e) Provide municipalities (and municipal utilities) explicit authority to establish an efficiency financing program or create a provincial program to offer low cost loans for efficiency retrofits.
 - f) Manage winter peak demand aggressively.
- 25) Electric Vehicles:
- a) Ensure that electric vehicle incentives are clearly communicated to the public.
 - b) Explore options for an incentive program aimed at getting high-emitting older vehicles off the road.
 - c) Work with municipalities to develop anti-idling programs or policies.
 - d) Implement an emissions-based vehicle registration fee; use revenues to reinvest in zero-emission vehicle supports.
 - e) Undertake strategic planning for public transportation at the regional and intercity levels to create a variety of travel options aimed at reducing GHG emissions.
 - f) Continue to build infrastructure to ensure that electric vehicle charging stations are as simple and easy to use as gas stations.
- 26) Buildings:
- a) Update the Green Building Policy and adopt the most recent National Energy Code for Buildings.
 - b) Ensure that government works with industry to provide mandatory up-to-date National Building Code training to all builders, renovators and building officials.
 - c) Create an incentive program for builders to build high performance homes.
 - d) Regulate net-zero and retrofit codes, as well as carbon disclosure and performance requirements.
 - e) Create a net-zero loan program for builders to cover additional construction costs associated with energy efficient homes.
 - f) Increase the promotion of heat pumps for residential use.

Embracing the Transition Phase

The Committee heard that public buy-in will help ensure the success of the transformational projects required to transition to a low-carbon future. The transition phase will affect a wide variety of industries and sectors – agriculture, waste management, and energy utilities as well as small- and medium-sized businesses. The Province should apply a competitive economic lens to policy making and government investment decisions during the transition to a low-carbon economy, so that cost competitiveness, taxes, investment incentives, and other supports are comparable to other jurisdictions in Canada and internationally. The Committee heard that there is also a need to collaborate with the other Atlantic provinces and the Government of Canada to develop transitional support programs that are geared specifically to the issues and challenges facing this region.

The economic and public reliance on refined petroleum products will not shift overnight. It will be a transition over time. Atlantic Canada's oil and gas sector continues to innovate and reduce its carbon footprint, with the introduction of low-carbon transportation and sustainable fuels, including low-emission hydrogen. Also, the Committee heard that clean heating sources like natural gas and wood pellets are safe, reliable, and affordable. These, and other mid-term energy options can serve as bridges between the reliance on fossil fuels and the development of larger-scale innovations that are only now in the exploration stage.

The recommendations on this subject presented to the Committee are as follows:

- 27) Create transitional support programs to ensure that there are incentives for businesses that wish to reduce emissions and invest in clean technologies, such as alternative energy generation, transportation solutions, and automation.
- 28) Within the agricultural sector, create a new agency to address the needs of farmers as they transition to better GHG reduction practices.
- 29) Amend the *Gas Distribution Act* and the *Energy and Utilities Board Act* to encourage investments in renewable gaseous energy and other gas innovations.
- 30) Ensure that the management of the energy efficiency program for the Province is independent rather than focused solely on electricity.
- 31) Create a renewable heat strategy for the Province which would include:
 - a) A renewable heat incentive;
 - b) GHG reduction performance-based program for oil and natural gas elimination;
 - c) Equity with other technologies on capital supports;
 - d) Equity on Industrial Decarbonization Studies;
 - e) Acceleration in sector bioheat procurement; and
 - f) District energy system feasibility studies.

Investing in Innovative Solutions

The Committee heard that the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26, held in Glasgow in 2021) culminated with commitments to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 from countries representing 90% of the global GDP. This means global demand will be shifting as countries and consumers seek out cleaner energy products and services. The presenters said these shifts will only become more pronounced in the future and now is the time for early investment as many large-scale companies are pivoting to meet these global targets. The Committee heard that New Brunswick has the advantage of having energy infrastructure and logistical connections already in place. The presenters suggested that with strategic investments now, the Province could attract international investment.

Regarding the Province's own GHG reduction targets, particularly for 2050, the Committee heard that there is a need for the Province to invest in new technologies. There were differing opinions about small modular reactors among presenters. Some argued that SMRs should be integral to the climate change strategy for the Province, and others said that they are a new technology whose risks and benefits require further study. Overall, the Committee heard that New Brunswick will need to investigate alternate sources of energy to meet its longer-term objectives, but any new technologies adopted must prove to be safe, reliable, affordable and clean. The recommendations on this subject presented to the Committee are as follows:

- 32) Work closely with the Climate Change Secretariat to identify new technologies and investigate potential companies for partnership.
- 33) Continue to investigate alternative fuel sources like green hydrogen and biofuels.
- 34) Continue to investigate SMRs for New Brunswick, while taking many perspectives of this new technology into account.
- 35) Investigate opportunities to use biomass in New Brunswick, rather than exporting it.
- 36) Investigate innovations in various sectors, including agriculture and waste management, to see how new technologies or methods of practice can contribute to a circular economy that derives energy from renewable sources.
- 37) Endorse the Port of Belledune as a Green Energy Hub.
- 38) In addition to the new recommendations, one presenter also recommended that the government continue to implement the following from the original Action Plan:
 - a) Action 42 – The provincial government will support the uptake of increased renewables for both electricity generation and residential/business heating in New Brunswick, through financial incentives, policy and legislation.
 - b) Action 43 – The provincial government will investigate and remove existing barriers to achieving greater implementation of renewable power generation, distributed energy generation, and net metering.

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- c) Action 44 – The provincial government will review the outcomes of the small-scale community renewable energy program upon completion and expand or modify the program accordingly.

Theme 4: Adaptation Strategies

The Committee heard that due to the irreversibility of climate change, adaptation measures are crucial components of the renewed Action Plan for the Province. While 29 of the 118 actions listed in the original plan focused on adaptation components, the Committee heard that only 30% of funding was directed to adaptation measures, and more focus should be placed in this area moving forward. The presenters suggested that in order to coordinate adaptation efforts for the Province, a clear strategy must be formed, appropriate leadership must be in place, and collaboration between municipal, regional, and Indigenous communities must occur. While regional collaboration is important, the Committee also heard that the next iteration of the plan should reflect New Brunswick's unique socio-economic and environmental attributes.

The Committee received a great deal of input regarding what should be included in the adaptation strategy for the Province. Many presenters focused on the need for a flood prevention plan for the Province, with river flooding posing an immediate risk to many communities. Other presenters emphasized the need to focus adaptation efforts in coastal areas, due to the projected sea level rise and consequent increases in erosion and storm activity. Among these, some stressed the need to implement a system of natural infrastructure development that works with elements already present in nature. The recommendations on this subject presented to the Committee are as follows:

- 39) Create a chief resiliency officer position that would report to the Premier or Minister of Environment and Climate Change. This position would coordinate efforts and document progress.
- 40) Create a task force between the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development, the Department of Environment and Local Government, and Opportunities New Brunswick to ensure environmental decisions coordinate with economic development.
- 41) Consult with municipal, regional, and Indigenous leaders to identify key risks and priority areas for adaptation in the Province with the goal of creating a New Brunswick Adaptation Strategy, which should align with the federal adaptation strategy. The New Brunswick Adaptation Strategy would:
 - a) Invest in modelling or analysis to understand the Province's competitive advantages to inform supports, mitigation strategies and sectoral opportunities;
 - b) Consider the role natural systems (e.g., dunes, wetlands, and forests) play in adaptation and in risk-reduction to communities and prioritize protection and restoration;
 - c) Include a definition of natural infrastructure;
 - d) Review land management practices with the goal of flood prevention;

- e) Include a comprehensive review of the Province's dyke system, taking the age and efficacy of the existing system into account;
- f) Ensure that flood risk maps are up to date and accessible to the public;
- g) Ensure that appropriate funding mechanisms are in place for priority projects;
- h) Include a commitment to report publicly on successes and challenges;
- i) Build social capital and strong institutions to respond to crises; and
- j) Identify specific measures to respond to flood threats, which include launching home and business flood protection programs and developing and distributing municipal flood protection guidelines.

Theme 5: Education and Public Engagement

The Committee heard that the path toward climate resiliency will only be successful if New Brunswickers make behavioral changes like reducing energy consumption. Presenters went on to describe this as a fundamental culture shift. This shift begins with educating the Province's youngest energy consumers, is infused into post-secondary education programs, and is carried out through public engagement and awareness initiatives. It was suggested that people often do not understand the link between their own actions and climate change solutions. It was recommended that government engage the public early and often to communicate the urgency of the climate crisis.

One of the barriers to education and public engagement identified by presenters is the current level of data transparency. At present, the Committee heard that there is a lack of standardized climate data collection, which leads to a duplication of efforts among various research groups, government organizations and community groups. By developing and promoting a central point of climate knowledge for the general public to access, the Province will ensure that individuals have greater literacy around climate change impacts, risk, resiliency and adaptation. The recommendations on this subject presented to the Committee are as follows:

- 42) Create a Centre of Excellence or, at least, a full-time position to provide climate change information to students and teachers in the public school system.
- 43) Make changes to public school curricula to increase students' climate change literacy.
- 44) Engage with post-secondary students and community groups to gather statements of public interest.
- 45) Include students and youth in advisory bodies.
- 46) Explore the possibility of engaging youth through a new group akin to a "NB Youth Climate Corps."
- 47) Increase consumer education of the benefits of high-performance homes through increased social media and other advertising media.
- 48) Collaborate with and continue to fund environmental non-governmental organizations (ENGOS), big and small, in pursuing climate action.

- 49) Support capacity-building initiatives and education (NGOs and Department of Education) through investment.
- 50) Engage in less performative consultation and instead, foster more participatory engagement with stakeholders.
- 51) Create or increase the capacity of existing data facilitators to provide accurate and up-to-date climate information.
- 52) Ensure that Climate Change Action Plan studies are publicly available.
- 53) Update and maintain regionally scaled climate projections (flood hazard maps, sea level rise maps, temperature, precipitation projections, etc.).
- 54) Ensure that information is easy to access and available in multiple formats to ensure accessibility.
- 55) Create a data-driven system that tracks decarbonization goals and outcomes by sector and energy use.
- 56) Equip citizens and business enterprises with the ability to track their carbon footprint and decarbonization efforts.
- 57) Establish a provincial database, standard process, or web portal for capturing community energy and GHG emissions data annually. Ensure hourly electricity emissions associated with generation are available.
- 58) Consult the expertise and resources from the Science and Engineering Research Support Center (SERSC).

CONCLUSION

The Committee wishes again to express its thanks to all those who provided input and recommendations on the renewal of New Brunswick's Climate Change Action Plan. The Committee recommends that the government consider the information outlined in this report as it develops a renewed Climate Change Action Plan for the Province.

Ordered that the report be received, and leave granted.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Cardy moved, seconded by Mr. Bourque: (Motion 103)

WHEREAS the term "Holodomor" means extermination by means of starvation, and is based on the Ukrainian words "holod", which means hunger, starvation or famine, and "moryty", which means to induce suffering, to kill or to exterminate;

WHEREAS the Holodomor refers to an act of genocide and a campaign of deliberate starvation against the Ukrainian people committed by the Soviet state in 1932 and 1933;

WHEREAS the purposes of this motion are to recognize the millions of Ukrainians and others who perished during the Holodomor and to provide an opportunity to reflect on the enduring lessons of the Holodomor and other crimes against humanity;

WHEREAS the fourth Saturday in November has, in past years, been proclaimed Holodomor Memorial Day in other Canadian Provinces with reference to the Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (“Holodomor”) *Memorial Day Act* (Canada), this motion would allow the day to be memorialized by the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly declare Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial Day the fourth Saturday in November throughout New Brunswick.

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

Mr. Arseneau gave Notice of Motion 104 that on Thursday, April 7, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Coon:

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Commission on Legislative Democracy, established in 2003 by PC Premier Bernard Lord, designed and recommended a mixed-member proportional representation system for New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the 2017 Commission on Electoral Reform recommended that consideration be given to some form of proportional representation during the process of considering the redistribution of electoral boundaries;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to direct the Electoral Boundaries and Representation Commission to propose options for proportional representation as part of its review of New Brunswick’s electoral boundaries before the next scheduled provincial election in 2024.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 105 that on Thursday, April 7, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneau:

WHEREAS the majority of trees are harvested on Crown land by clearcutting;

WHEREAS the scientific evidence is clear that clearcutting and the conversion of clearcut areas to plantations has caused massive habitat loss for the 54 most common forest bird species in New Brunswick and that habitat loss is associated with significant population declines, with the loss of between 33 million and 104 million forest birds in our region since 1985;

WHEREAS the extent of clearcutting has left forests in the Northwest Miramichi and Nepisiguit watersheds unable to effectively regulate water flow, increasing the risks of erosion and sedimentation;

WHEREAS the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship, in its first report to the Legislative Assembly, dated November 2, 2021, recommended that remaining old hardwood, mixed wood, and softwood forest be maintained through ecologically based forestry;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Development to replace clearcut harvesting in the remaining areas of old hardwood, mixed wood, and softwood forests on Crown land with ecologically based harvesting practices in order to retain their ecological and economic value.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 106 that on Thursday, April 7, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

WHEREAS intermunicipal and interprovincial transit are important parts of transportation networks for many New Brunswickers and Atlantic Canadians;

WHEREAS existing intermunicipal and interprovincial transit services in the Atlantic Provinces are often limited or struggle to remain sustainable;

WHEREAS intermunicipal and interprovincial transit are essential public services, and governments must play a strong role in ensuring they are accessible and affordable;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly support in principle the creation of a regional solution to intermunicipal and interprovincial transit in collaboration with the Atlantic Provinces, federal and municipal governments, and industry partners;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to put forward the creation of a regional working group on intermunicipal and interprovincial transit at the next meeting of the Council of Atlantic Premiers.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the Budget until the completion of the current speaker's remarks; following which the House would consider an adjournment motion; following which the House would resume the adjourned debate on the Budget; following which, with leave, Opposition Members' Business would be considered from 1.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to consider Opposition Members' Business from 1.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 95),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that pursuant to the orders of the day, the House would consider an adjournment motion.

Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns on Friday, April 1, 2022, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 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.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

Debate resumed on Motion 95.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

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

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 96, Mr. Melanson moved, seconded by Mr. D'Amours:

WHEREAS the Emergency Order was lifted as of March 14, 2022;

WHEREAS governments at all levels will undoubtedly reflect on the pandemic as it applies to preparedness, public health and safety measures implemented, communications and accountability, programs to support individuals and businesses and other related matters;

WHEREAS there is tremendous benefit that can be gained from undertaking an extensive COVID-19 review which could examine which measures were effective and how additional measures might have assisted in reducing the transmission of the virus;

WHEREAS such a review would provide an opportunity to obtain information, advice and ideas that might assist in future emergency preparedness;

WHEREAS a review could look at vulnerabilities and best practices and use that knowledge for planning, policy development and protocols to assist in dealing with future public health threats;

WHEREAS a review would also provide the opportunity to hear from front line workers, health professionals and other subject matter experts;

WHEREAS the Liberal Opposition has called for a complete independent review to be undertaken of the response by the provincial government to the COVID-19 health crisis;

WHEREAS the government has indicated that it now sees the benefit of undertaking a review of its response to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS there is a need to ensure that such a review is independent of government and is adequately resourced;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to request that the Auditor General undertake a review of the response by the provincial government to the COVID-19 pandemic;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to the powers provided for under the *Auditor General Act*, the Auditor General shall have the powers prescribed pursuant to the *Inquiries Act* including the power to subpoena documents and compel witnesses to testify;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Auditor General be provided any additional financial resources required to carry out the review;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the alternative, should the Auditor General be unable to undertake this review, then an independent individual or entity be engaged to do so.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 96 was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 38

Hon. Mr. Savoie	Ms. Bockus	Ms. Landry
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Mr. Cullins	Mr. Guitard
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Ms. Anderson-Mason	Mr. Coon
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Turner	Mr. LeBlanc
Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Ames	Mr. K. Chiasson
Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Austin	Mr. C. Chiasson
Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Carr	Mr. Bourque
Hon. Mr. Cardy	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. LePage
Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Ms. Conroy	Ms. Mitton
Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Legacy
Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. Thériault	Mr. Mallet
Hon. Mr. Hogan	Mr. Melanson	Mr. Landry
Mr. Wetmore	Mr. McKee	

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 99, Mr. Bourque moved, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS in February 2021, Judge Yvette Finn and John McLaughlin were appointed as commissioners and asked to undertake a review of the *Official Languages Act* and find ways to improve second language learning in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the commissioners engaged in private consultations and provided recommendations to the government;

WHEREAS the commissioners presented their first report on the Review of the *Official Languages Act* to government on December 15, 2021;

WHEREAS the commissioners presented their second report on the Review of the *Official Languages Act* of New Brunswick – Report on second language learning on February 2, 2022;

WHEREAS the Higgs government has yet to respond to the report and its recommendations;

WHEREAS, in considering its recommendations, the commissioners asked decision-makers to “remain cognizant of the tremendous strain that the COVID-19 pandemic has placed on our various institutions and government departments” and urged government to “approach these recommendations cautiously” and with a “light touch”;

WHEREAS, although the report suggests that there may be measures that can be taken to improve second language learning, and makes several recommendations to this end, it recognizes that “it is never too early to begin learning another language”;

WHEREAS the report also acknowledges the success of the French immersion program citing that “Large-scale provincial assessments conducted by EECD indicate that over 90% of students who complete the French immersion program achieve at least an *Intermediate* level of French, and subject matter experts agree that this translates into a conversational level of proficiency”;

WHEREAS the commissioners acknowledge that there is a downside to setting “aspirational proficiency targets in response to a ‘raise the bar’ approach to academic excellence”;

WHEREAS the commissioners have indicated that “change must be well planned”, acknowledged the “Auditor General’s cautions about abrupt changes to the educational system”, and asserted the need to develop a new assessment program “if we are to track our province’s progress towards a new language proficiency goal”;

WHEREAS the commissioners have indicated that “a cookie-cutter approach to teaching the second official language is not appropriate in a linguistic ecosystem as complex and diverse as New Brunswick’s”;

WHEREAS the commissioners have indicated that experts understand that “frequency”, “intensity”, “extensiveness”, “meaningful communication”, and “motivation” are essential pillars to successful second language programs, and that if “any one of these pillars is missing or not fully realized, a language program will be less effective than it might be otherwise”;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government not to make major changes to the French immersion program in the Anglophone sector without these changes being supported by high quality research in French second language learning;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government that any changes to existing second language programs must represent enhancements to these programs and must be properly weighed, assessed, and funded prior to being implemented.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And then, 5 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 70

Friday, April 1, 2022

7 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 95),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 95 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 - 27

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Turner
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Austin
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Wetmore	Ms. Conroy

NAYS - 19

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. Melanson	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Mallet
Mr. McKee	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Landry
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Guitard	Mr. D'Amours	
Mr. Coon	Ms. Mitton	

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 Ms. S. Wilson in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Ms. S. Wilson, 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 she was directed to ask leave to sit again.

Ms. S. Wilson 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.

Hon. 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.

Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT, pursuant to Standing Rule 109, the *Main Estimates 2022-2023*, the *Capital Estimates 2022-2023*, and the *Supplementary Estimates 2020-2021, Volume II*, be referred to the Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Royal Assent take place.

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 69, *Intimate Images Unlawful Distribution Act*.

Bill 72, *An Act Respecting the Modernization of Legislation Governing Limited Liability Partnerships*.

Bill 73, *An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*.

Bill 74, *An Act to Amend the Electrical Installation and Inspection Act*.

Bill 79, *An Act Respecting the Retail Sale of Cannabis*.

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, 7.58 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 71

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace offered condolences to the family of the late LeRoy Armstrong, former Liberal MLA for Kings East (1995-1999, 2003-2006).

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker reminded Members that supplementary questions must relate to the original question.

Mr. Arseneau, Member for Kent North, laid upon the table of the House a petition in support of a ban on the spraying of glyphosate in Crown forest management. (Petition 44)

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to halt the construction and operation of quarries in the village of Calhoun. (Petition 45)

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

May 10, 2022

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

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy begs leave to submit this, their Second Report.

Your Committee met in the Legislative Assembly Chamber on April 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28 and 29, to consider the estimates referred to your Committee by resolution of the House adopted April 1, 2022.

Your Committee wishes to report that they have passed all estimates referred to them and outlined in this report. Your Committee recommends that these estimates be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Ross Wetmore, M.L.A.
Chair

The following are the items that were passed by the Committee:

MAIN ESTIMATES, 2022-2023

RESOLVED, that there be granted to Her Majesty sums not exceeding the following to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2023:

ORDINARY ACCOUNT	Voted (\$)
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	
Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries	45,451,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	45,404,000
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	
Corporate and Other Education Services	92,768,000
School Districts.....	1,252,306,000
Early Childhood Development	227,554,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	1,572,581,000
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
Corporate Services and Community Funding.....	2,244,000
Policy, Public Education and Engagement	1,118,000
Local Government	151,117,000
Assessment and Planning Appeal Board	317,000
Authorizations and Compliance.....	7,120,000
Environmental Science and Protection	4,155,000
Climate Change Secretariat.....	1,585,000
Less amounts authorized by law	94,000
Voted.....	167,562,000
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE	
Office of the Clerk, Chief Operating Officer and Head of the Public Service and Executive Council Secretariat ...	3,498,000
Corporate Communications	6,802,000
Office of the Lieutenant-Governor	455,000
Women’s Equality Branch.....	4,639,000
Voted.....	15,394,000
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND TREASURY BOARD	
Budget and Financial Management	851,000
Corporate Services	5,601,000
Treasury Management and Fiscal Policy	2,692,000
Office of the Chief Human Resources Officer.....	4,777,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer.....	7,396,000
Office of the Comptroller.....	3,054,000
Revenue Administration	5,413,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	29,737,000

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
Aboriginal Affairs.....	7,157,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	7,110,000
Commissions Paid to Collectors of Pari-Mutuel Taxes....	455,000
Enterprise Resource Planning.....	31,619,000
Equal Employment Opportunity Program	688,000
Intergovernmental Affairs.....	8,027,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	7,980,000
Legislated Pension Plans, Benefit Accruals, Subsidies, and Supplementary Allowances	85,630,000
Less amounts authorized by law	180,000
Voted.....	85,450,000
Natural Gas Distribution Program	14,000,000
Pension and Employee Benefits Plan	344,723,000
Less amounts authorized by law	2,000
Voted.....	344,721,000
Provision for Losses.....	14,200,000
Revenue Sharing Agreements with First Nations.....	65,300,000
Service New Brunswick.....	194,061,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	194,014,000
Supplementary Funding Provision.....	289,031,000
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Corporate and Other Health Services	210,001,000
Medicare	747,850,000
Drug Programs.....	238,238,000
Part III Health Services.....	2,004,867,000
Provincial Health Plan	38,430,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	3,239,339,000
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY	
Technical Safety and Corporate Services Division.....	17,282,000
Community Safety Division	191,354,000
Security and Emergencies Division.....	47,336,000
Office of the Attorney General	21,981,000
Justice Services Division	25,468,000
Legal Aid	10,855,000
Less amounts authorized by law	94,000
Voted.....	314,182,000

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY	
Members' Allowances, Committees and Operations.....	9,162,000
Less amounts authorized by law	4,272,000
Voted.....	4,890,000
Office of the Legislative Assembly	4,065,000
Office of the Auditor General	3,408,000
Offices of Leaders and Members of Registered	
Political Parties.....	2,247,000
Less amounts authorized by law	95,000
Voted.....	2,152,000
Elections New Brunswick.....	12,699,000
Office of the Ombud	1,790,000
Office of the Child, Youth and Senior Advocate.....	1,398,000
Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages.....	735,000
Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance	601,000
Office of the Integrity Commissioner	330,000
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	
Administration	8,031,000
Natural Resources	84,425,000
Energy and Mines	6,547,000
Land Management	2,728,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	101,684,000
OFFICE OF THE PREMIER	
Administration	1,516,000
Less amounts authorized by law	67,000
Voted.....	1,449,000
OPPORTUNITIES NEW BRUNSWICK	
Administration and Business Development Services	15,272,000
Financial Assistance	25,000,000
Population Growth.....	9,843,000
Strategic Investments - Productivity /	
Global competitiveness.....	5,000,000
Voted.....	55,115,000
OTHER AGENCIES	
Consolidated Entities	398,151,000
Less amounts authorized by law	398,151,000
Voted.....	0
Council of Atlantic Premiers	642,000
Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation	2,802,000
Labour and Employment Board.....	655,000

New Brunswick Police Commission	671,000
New Brunswick Women's Council	468,000
Premier's Council on Disabilities	304,000
DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Labour and Strategic Services	12,134,000
Post-Secondary Affairs	483,833,000
WorkingNB.....	137,325,000
New Brunswick Public Library Service	15,674,000
Apprenticeship and Occupational Certification	7,449,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	656,368,000
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	
Development Projects and Operations.....	50,637,000
SERVICE OF THE PUBLIC DEBT	
Service of the Public Debt	634,000,000
Less amounts authorized by law	629,100,000
Voted.....	4,900,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Corporate and Other Services	11,056,000
Seniors and Long Term Care	860,463,000
Child Welfare and Youth Services	155,484,000
Income Security	246,995,000
Housing Services	120,132,000
Other Benefits	73,443,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	1,467,526,000
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, HERITAGE AND CULTURE	
Administration	2,957,000
Parks and Trails	12,551,000
Culture, Heritage and Sport	35,803,000
Tourism.....	17,433,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	68,697,000
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Administration	15,193,000
Policy and Legislative Affairs, Strategic Partnerships and Trade Corridors.....	1,783,000
Maintenance.....	90,438,000
Winter Maintenance.....	73,967,000
Bridge and Highway Construction.....	3,011,000
Buildings Group.....	138,709,000
New Brunswick Highway Corporation.....	26,800,000
Less amounts authorized by law	24,809,000
Voted.....	325,092,000

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	
Capital Equipment	65,000
Strategic Infrastructure	400,000
Voted.....	465,000
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	
Public Schools – Capital Equipment.....	1,745,000
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
Local Service Districts.....	1,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Public Hospitals – Capital Equipment	27,050,000
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	
Mine Reclamation.....	250,000
Musquash Watershed Infrastructure –	
Capital Improvements	6,920,000
Sentier NB Trail Infrastructure	750,000
Voted.....	7,920,000
DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Deferred Maintenance Program	2,000,000
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	
Canada - New Brunswick Integrated Bilateral Agreement...	16,500,000
Strategic Infrastructure Initiative	18,500,000
Voted.....	35,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Nursing Home Services - Capital Improvements	9,000,000
Nursing Home Services - Capital Maintenance	3,000,000
Voted.....	12,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, HERITAGE AND CULTURE	
Capital Improvements.....	4,400,000
Strategic Infrastructure	4,620,000
Voted.....	9,020,000
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Bridges	60,886,000
Highways	181,125,000
Municipal Designated Highway Program.....	15,000,000
Federal-Provincial Cost-Shared Program	81,834,000
Vehicle Management Agency.....	22,000,000
Public Works and Infrastructure	289,749,000
Less amounts authorized by law	26,970,000
Voted.....	623,624,000

 LOANS AND ADVANCES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	
New Brunswick Agricultural Insurance Commission	1,600,000
Loan Programs	9,500,000
Voted.....	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 Development Loans Program	5,000,000
Financial assistance under the New Brunswick Small Business Emergency Working Capital Loan Program.....	5,000,000
Voted.....	10,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Housing.....	3,224,000

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 2020-2021, Volume II

RESOLVED, that there be granted to Her Majesty sums not exceeding the following to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2021:

ORDINARY ACCOUNT	Voted (\$)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
Provision for Losses.....	1,040,520.67
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY	
Law Enforcement and Inspections Division.....	882,869.66
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	
Energy and Mines	5,431,654.03
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Public Hospitals – Capital Equipment	3,533,284.69

 LOANS AND ADVANCES

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	
New Brunswick Small Business Working Capital	
Loan Program.....	168,208.96

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.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
 Bill 101, *Appropriations Act 2022-2023*.
 Bill 102, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (2)*.

Mr. Speaker announced that pursuant to Standing Rule 42.3(1), Bills 101 and 102 were ordered for second and third reading forthwith.

The following Bills were read a second time:

Bill 101, *Appropriations Act 2022-2023*.
 Bill 102, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (2)*.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 101, *Appropriations Act 2022-2023*.
 Bill 102, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (2)*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
 Bill 103, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*.
 By Hon. Ms. Shephard,
 Bill 104, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act*.
 By Hon. Ms. Green,
 Bill 105, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act*.
 Bill 106, *An Act to Amend the Marshland Infrastructure Maintenance Act*.
 By Hon. Mr. Savoie,
 Bill 107, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*.
 Bill 108, *An Act to Amend the Accountability and Continuous Improvement Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Cardy,
Bill 109, *An Act Respecting the Early Childhood Services Act*.
By Hon. Mr. Allain,
Bill 110, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform, 2022*.
By Hon. Mr. Holder,
Bill 111, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*.
Bill 112, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*.
By Hon. Mr. Hogan,
Bill 113, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, 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.
May 10, 2022.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, having been informed of the subject matter of Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, recommends the Bill to the House in accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution Act, 1867*.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 99, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98 and 100 be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, Bills 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112 and 113 would be called for second reading.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 99 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity 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 86, *Special Appropriation Act 2022*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 86 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 86, *Special Appropriation Act 2022*, 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 87, *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 87 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 87, *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 being read for second reading of Bill 88, *An Act to Amend the Financial and Consumer Services Commission Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 88 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 88, *An Act to Amend the Financial and Consumer Services Commission 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 89, *An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 89 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 89, *An Act to Amend the Real Property 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 being read for second reading of Bill 90, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 90 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 90, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug 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 91, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 91 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 91, *An Act to Amend the Public Health 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 92, *An Act to Amend the Plumbing Installation and Inspection Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 92 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 92, *An Act to Amend the Plumbing Installation and Inspection 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 93, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 93 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 93, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention 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 94, *An Act to Amend An Act to Amend the Police Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 94 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 94, *An Act to Amend An Act to Amend the Police 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 95, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations 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, 6 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:

Response to Petition 41	April 7, 2022
Response to Petition 42	April 13, 2022
Annual Report 2020-2021	
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	April 19, 2022
Response to Petition 43	April 19, 2022
Annual Report 2020-2021	
New Brunswick Human Rights Commission	April 21, 2022
Atlantic Provinces' Joint Follow-up of Recommendations to the Atlantic Lottery Corporation, Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, April 2022	April 26, 2022
Annual Report 2020-2021	
Kings Landing Corporation	April 29, 2022
Report to the Legislative Assembly: Issues and Recommendations Arising from the Decision of the Department of Health and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to Lift Certain COVID-19 Restrictions in New Brunswick Schools, Kelly A. Lamrock, Q.C., Child, Youth and Seniors' Advocate for New Brunswick, April 21, 2022	May 3, 2022

Daily sitting 72

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, May 12, 2022, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 99 and 75.

Hon. Mr. Holder, Acting Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 95, 96, 97, 98, 100, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112 and 113 be called for second reading.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 95, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations Act*, be now read a second time.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 95 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 95, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations 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 96, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, a debate arose thereon.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 96 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 96, *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 97, *An Act Respecting the Beaverbrook Auditorium*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 97 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 97, *An Act Respecting the Beaverbrook Auditorium*, 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 98, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Court Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 98 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 98, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Court 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 100, *An Act Respecting the Appointment Process*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 100 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 100, *An Act Respecting the Appointment Process*, 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 103, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 103 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 103, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income 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 being read for second reading of Bill 104, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 104 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 104, *An Act to Amend the Public Health 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 105, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 105 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 105, *An Act to Amend the Highway 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 106, *An Act to Amend the Marshland Infrastructure Maintenance Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 106 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 106, *An Act to Amend the Marshland Infrastructure Maintenance 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 107, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 107 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 107, *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 108, *An Act to Amend the Accountability and Continuous Improvement Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 108 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 108, *An Act to Amend the Accountability and Continuous Improvement 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 109, *An Act Respecting the Early Childhood Services 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, 6 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 2020-2021

Cannabis Management Corporation

May 9, 2022

Daily sitting 73

Thursday, May 12, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Hon. Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that when Mr. Coon was not participating in the debate, he used unparliamentary language by accusing the Premier of “misleading the House”. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 109, 110, 111, 112 and 113 be called for second reading.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 109, *An Act Respecting the Early Childhood Services Act*, be now read a second time.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 109 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 109, *An Act Respecting 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 110, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform, 2022*, a debate arose thereon.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 110 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 110, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform, 2022*, 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 111, *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 111 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 111, *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 112, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 112 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 112, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards 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 113, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 113 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 113, *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.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to consider Opposition Members' Business forthwith.

Debate resumed on Motion 99, moved by Mr. Bourque, seconded by Mr. McKee, on Thursday, March 31, 2022.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 99 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 - 35

Hon. Mr. Savoie	Mr. Turner	Mr. Guitard
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Mr. Ames	Mr. C. Chiasson
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Coon
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Ms. S. Wilson	Ms. Mitton
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Carr	Mr. LeBlanc
Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Conroy	Mr. Bourque
Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Cullins	Mr. Legacy
Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Gauvin
Hon. Mr. Allain	Ms. Thériault	Mr. Arseneau
Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Melanson	Mr. Mallet
Hon. Mr. Hogan	Mr. McKee	Mr. Landry
Mr. Austin	Ms. Landry	

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 75, Mr. Bourque moved, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS District Education Councils are the voices of our communities;

WHEREAS the elected members should be congratulated for selflessly putting their names forward to serve for the betterment of the education system;

WHEREAS DEC members play a key role in education at the district level;

WHEREAS, according to the *Education Act*, the DECs are tasked with crucial responsibilities like developing and monitoring education plans and budget expenditures, setting district and governance policy, establishing objectives and expectations, and monitoring performance, to name just a few;

WHEREAS these dedicated volunteers know their communities, know their schools, and are best able to provide invaluable input and guidance;

WHEREAS, in the past, the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development has shown contempt for the role of the District Education Councils, has lacked respect for their members, and has threatened to disband them when their members did not agree with him;

WHEREAS, despite the fact that we have just elected the members of the District Education Councils, the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development is once again musing about disbanding the District Education Councils;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to commit to maintaining the District Education Councils with their duly elected members.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 75 was resolved in the negative.

And then, 4.49 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 74

Friday, May 13, 2022

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Members,

I am sure that all of us have seen a list of unparliamentary words that are not acceptable for use in the Legislature.

Yesterday, I advised the House that I would review the tapes to determine if one of those words was used during Question Period. Following the end of the sitting, I had an opportunity to listen to the tapes and definitely heard the word “misleading” used by one of our Members.

Unfortunately, I could not determine who that person was who spoke the word, so I cannot rule any further. However, the floor is open to anyone who would like to step forward and withdraw the remarks.

I caution Members that words are our currency here in the Legislature and we should be respectful in our use of them.

Mr. Speaker interrupted Oral Questions and requested that Mr. D’Amours withdraw the words “did not want to say it honestly” in reference to the Premier, which he did.

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 107 that on Thursday, May 19, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers are feeling the strain of trying to cope with rising prices for many goods and services;

WHEREAS fuel prices have risen significantly, and, unlike many other provinces, the Higgs government has decided to keep the carbon tax revenue and not give its citizens a rebate;

WHEREAS fuel price increases have provided an additional windfall to government through HST, which is charged on gasoline and heating fuels, but, again, this government is keeping those additional revenues and not sharing them with New Brunswickers in need;

WHEREAS there is a housing crisis in New Brunswick with a lack of affordable housing that this government has not addressed;

WHEREAS tenants in New Brunswick are facing the highest rental rate increases in the country;

WHEREAS the government eliminated the home energy rebate program which provided much needed financial support for over 33,000 low-income families;

WHEREAS the government is planning to increase the premiums for prescription and catastrophic drugs;

WHEREAS property assessments are increasing at alarming rates, leaving many New Brunswickers struggling to pay increased property taxes;

WHEREAS many residents, especially rural residents, are worried that, when the province implements local government reform, it will download the costs of many services to the new local entities and people will see dramatic increases in property taxes;

WHEREAS, despite the struggles faced by many businesses and individuals throughout the pandemic, this government provided very little support in comparison to the support programs that other provinces were offering to support their citizens;

WHEREAS the government is boasting about having record surpluses;

WHEREAS, instead of providing additional financial support programs to help New Brunswickers in need, this government is obsessing about its bottom line and wants to make even deeper spending cuts;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to bring forward a comprehensive program of support measures to help New Brunswickers in need.

Mr. Arseneault requested leave of the House to move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Landry: (Motion 108)

WHEREAS over 400 New Brunswickers have lost their lives to COVID-19;

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers believe that the province should have an annual day to remember all those who have died as a result of the pandemic;

WHEREAS the restrictions in place throughout the pandemic have made it difficult for many families to grieve their losses;

WHEREAS an annual day of remembrance will provide an opportunity for reflection for all those touched by the virus, especially those who have lost a loved one;

WHEREAS a day of remembrance will also allow New Brunswickers to acknowledge the health care workers who made many personal sacrifices while working to keep people safe;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to designate an annual day of remembrance for the victims of COVID-19.

Leave to dispense with notice of Motion 108 was denied. Accordingly, notice was given for Thursday, May 19, 2022.

And then, 10.02 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 75

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Turner, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Twenty-first Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

May 17, 2022

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 twenty-first report.

Your Committee met on May 13, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 92, *An Act to Amend the Plumbing Installation and Inspection Act*;
Bill 93, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*;
Bill 94, *An Act to Amend An Act to Amend the Police Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 90, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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, from the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

May 17, 2022

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 during the period of December 10, 2020, to March 3, 2022, which took place during the First Session of the 60th Legislative Assembly.

In addition, the report contains a Mission Statement and Guiding Principles to increase the efficacy of the work that the Committee has been mandated to do.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Chuck Chiasson, M.L.A.
Chair

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Pursuant to Standing Rule 99, the Clerk convened a meeting of the Committee on December 10, 2020, and presided over the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair.

On motion of Mr. McKee, Ms. Lisa Harris was elected Chair of the Committee.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Savoie, Mr. Jake Stewart was elected Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Meetings – February 2021

The Committee held meetings on February 9, 10, 11, 23, 24, 25 and 26. The Auditor General appeared on February 9 and 23 to present the offices latest reports. The following entities appeared and answered questions concerning the years under review and Auditor General recommendations:

February 9, 2021

Office of the Auditor General

Under Review: *Report of the Auditor General 2020, Volume I – Performance Audit.*

Volume I presented a performance audit report concerning the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and school districts, the Department of Health and EM/ANB Inc., and the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development.

February 10, 2021

WorkSafeNB

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2018, Volume II, Chapter III;*
Report of the Auditor General 2018, Volume I, Chapter II;
Annual Report 2018.

Department of Environment and Local Government

Under review: *Annual Report 2019-2020;*
Annual Report 2018-2019.

February 11, 2021

Regional Development Corporation

Under review: *Annual Report 2018-2019.*

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2020, Volume I, Chapter II;*
Annual Report 2018-2019.

February 23, 2021

Office of the Auditor General

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2020, Volume III –*
Financial Audit;
Report of the Auditor General 2020, Volume II –
Performance Audit.

Volume II presented performance audit reports on the Electronic Medical Record Program in the Department of Health, NB Power Corporation Debt Challenges, and an update on Nursing Home Planning and Aging Strategy in the Department of Social Development. The volume also presented information on how the Auditor General's access to Vestcor is significantly limited and outlines the results of the follow-up on recommendations from prior years' performance audits.

Volume III focused on 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. Issues discussed and information provided upon included: financial relief programs relating to the Covid-19 global pandemic and the risk of radon contamination in public housing units.

February 24, 2021

Department of Health

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General, 2020, Volume I, Chapter III;*
Report of the Auditor General 2019, Volume I, Chapter II;
Annual Report 2018-2019.

Extra-Mural/Ambulance New Brunswick

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2020, Volume I, Chapter III;*
Annual Report 2019-2020;
Annual Report 2018-2019.

The following motion was carried during the meeting:

THAT Vestcor present themselves before the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to answer pertinent questions that have arisen as a result of the Auditor General Report 2020 - Volume II - Performance Audit.

THAT the Public Accounts Committee supports the implementation of the following recommendation found in the Auditor General Report 2020 – Volume II, Chapter 5:

5.13 include Vestcor (and all related entities) as one of the entities who are regularly called to appear before the Committee.

February 25, 2021

Department of Finance and Treasury Board

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2019, Volume III, Chapter VI;*
Report of the Auditor General 2019, Volume I, Chapter IV;
Annual Report 2018-2019, Department of Finance;
Annual Report 2018-2019, Treasury Board.

Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2020, Volume I, Chapter IV;*
Annual Report 2019-2020;
Annual Report 2018-2019.

February 26, 2021

Department of Social Development

Under review: *Annual Report 2019-2020.*

Orientation

Auditor General Kim Adair-MacPherson held an orientation on February 16, 2021, on the principles of an effective Public Accounts Committee. The orientation was held online via the Zoom platform and open to all Members and additional support staff such as researchers and the New Brunswick Legislative Interns. The session covered topics such as cross-party collaboration, the role of the Public Accounts Committee and asking effective questions.

Resignation of Chair and Vice-Chair and Election

At the commencement of the meeting on September 14, 2021, the Committee was informed of the resignation of the Chair, Ms. Harris, on August 16, and of the Vice-Chair, Mr. Stewart, on August 18. Both Members had resigned to run in the Canadian federal election.

On motion of Mr. McKee, Mr. Chuck Chiasson was elected Chair.

On motion of Mr. Hogan, Mr. Ross Wetmore was elected Vice-Chair.

Meetings – September to October 2021

The Committee held meetings on September 14, 15, 16 and 17 and October 7. The Auditor General appeared on October 7 to present the office's latest report. The following entities appeared and answered questions concerning the years under review and Auditor General recommendations:

September 14, 2021

Aboriginal Affairs

Under review: *Annual Report 2019-2020;*
Annual Report 2018-2019.

New Brunswick Forest Products Commission

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2020, Volume I, Chapter IV;*
Annual Report 2019-2020;
Annual Report 2018-2019.

September 15, 2021

New Brunswick Power Corporation

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2020, Volume II, Chapter III;*
Annual Report 2020-2021;
Annual Report 2019-2020.

Horizon Health Network

Under review: *Annual Report 2020-2021;*
Annual Report 2019-2020.

September 16, 2021

Service New Brunswick

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2020, Volume III, Chapter IX;*
Annual Report 2019-2020;
Annual Report 2018-2019.

Vitalité Health Network

Under review: *Annual Report 2020-2021;*
Annual Report 2019-2020.

September 17, 2021

Vestcor Inc.

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2020, Volume II, Chapter V;*
Annual Report 2020;
Annual Report 2019.

October 7, 2021

Office of the Auditor General of New Brunswick

Under Review: *Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick 2021,*
Volume I – Performance Audit.

Volume I presented performance audit reports on funding for rural internet in the Regional Development Corporation and Opportunities New Brunswick, and Covid-19 funding relating to the New Brunswick Workers' Emergency Income Benefit in the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour. The volume also

presented the results of audit work on the Executive Council Office's role in Government's oversight of Crown agencies. The volume was presented by Janice Leahy, Acting Auditor General.

Appointment of Auditor General

Auditor General Kim Adair-MacPherson announced that she would start a new position as Nova Scotia's Auditor General in May 2021. Adair-MacPherson was appointed Auditor General in 2010 for a 10-year term. Janice Leahy, Deputy Auditor General, was appointed as Acting Auditor General effective May 3 to perform the duties while an independent process selected a replacement.

On December 8 the House recommended the appointment of Paul Martin as Auditor General for a term of ten years. Martin worked for Grant Thornton LLP for over 30 years and was the Comptroller for the Government of New Brunswick since 2014.

Meetings – February to March 2022

The Committee held meetings on February 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24 and 25 and March 3. The Auditor General appeared on February 24 to present the offices latest report. The following entities appeared and answered questions concerning the years under review and Auditor General recommendations:

February 15, 2022

New Brunswick Health Council

Under review: *Annual Report 2020-2021;*
Annual Report 2019-2020.

Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2021, Volume I, Chapter III;*
Annual Report 2020-2021;
Annual Report 2019-2020.

February 16, 2022

Department of Finance and Treasury Board

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2020, Volume III, Chapter VII;*
Annual Report 2020-2021;
Annual Report 2019-2020.

Executive Council Office

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2021, Volume I, Chapter IV;*
Fiscal year 2020-2021;
Fiscal year 2019-2020.

February 17, 2022

Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture

Under review: *Annual Report 2020-2021;*
Annual Report 2019-2020;
Annual Report 2018-2019.

New Brunswick Human Rights Commission

Under review: *Annual Report 2019-2020;*
Annual Report 2018-2019.

February 18, 2022

Department of Justice and Public Safety

Under review: *Annual Report 2020-2021, Department of Justice and Public Safety;*
Annual Report 2019-2020, Department of Justice and Office of the Attorney General;
Annual Report 2019-2020, Department of Public Safety;
Annual Report 2018-2019, Department of Justice and Office of the Attorney General.

February 22, 2022

Department of Transportation and Infrastructure

Under review: *Annual Report 2020-2021;*
Annual Report 2019-2020.

February 23, 2022

Department of Social Development

Under review: *Annual Report 2020-2021.*

February 24, 2022

Office of the Auditor General

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2021, Volume III;*
Report of the Auditor General 2021, Volume II.

Volume II presented performance audit reports on the Residential Energy Efficiency Program in NB Power and the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development, Crown agency salary and benefits practices and a follow up on prior years' performance audits.

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. The report also discussed issues and provided information on: Federal funding relating to the Covid-19 global pandemic and the implementation of the new Oracle Fusion system.

February 25, 2022

Opportunities New Brunswick (ONB)

Under review: *Report of the Auditor General 2021, Volume I, Chapter II;*
Annual Report 2020-2021;
Annual Report 2019-2020.

March 3, 2022

Department of Health

Under review: *Annual Report 2020-2021.*

The following was proposed by Committee Chair Chuck Chiasson and adopted by the Committee on February 25. The Mission Statement and Guiding Principles will be used to increase the efficacy of the work that the Committee has been mandated to do.

Mission Statement and Guiding Principles

Mission Statement

The mission of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts is to scrutinize public expenditures in a nonpartisan manner to ensure that New Brunswick taxpayers are getting value for their tax-dollar investments. To meet its mission, the Committee will use the annual reports referred to it, reports of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, recommendations from the Auditor General's Office, and Committee recommendations in order to examine the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of program delivery and performance measures as well as the adherence to government policies, directives and standards.

Guiding Principles

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts offers nonpartisan oversight to assure that public funding is invested efficiently and effectively so that services are delivered to New Brunswickers and that taxpayers are getting value for their tax-dollar investments.

As such, Members of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts shall adhere to the following four guiding principles in their work with the Committee: collaboration, respect, purpose, and reporting.

1. Collaboration

To effectively scrutinize public expenditures, Members of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts should remember their responsibility to collaborate in a nonpartisan way with their fellow Committee Members. The following are reminders for Members:

- a. Members should focus on examining the expenditures of the entity before them and not use the Committee as a platform to engage in political rhetoric.
- b. Members should engage in meaningful lines of questions and avoid leading or ingratiating questions.

2. Respect

To effectively scrutinize public expenditures, Members of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts must demonstrate respect for one another and extend that respect to persons appearing before the Committee. The following are reminders for Members:

- a. Members should never speak over their fellow Committee Members or make comments or judgements on another Member's line of questions.
- b. Members should respect the time allotted to them for questions and avoid asking lengthy questions at the end of their allocated time with the prescribed rotation.
- c. Members should be succinct in their questions and avoid prolonged preambles to their questions.
- d. Members should direct any points of order or objections to the Chair.

3. Purpose

To effectively scrutinize public expenditures, Members of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts are tasked with conducting themselves in a manner that demonstrates the seriousness with which the Committee takes the Province's finances. The following are reminders for Members:

- a. Members should focus their questions on an entity's mandate, management and operation, and any past recommendations from the Committee or the Auditor General to elicit specific actions and commitments from the entity in question.
- b. Members should use their time wisely by keeping their questions focused and ensuring the person appearing before the Committee fully answers their questions. Members should encourage the person appearing before the Committee to focus on answering their questions straightforwardly. Should the person appearing before the Committee take the Member's question under advisement, the Member should establish a timeline for receiving the answer.

4. Reporting

To foster an accountable and open environment, the Standing Committee on Public Accounts should present a report to the Legislative Assembly, with key observations and recommendations where necessary.

Ordered that the report be received, and leave granted.

And then, 2.03 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:

Easier to Build: A Review and Call for Urgency
in Child Welfare Services in New Brunswick,
New Brunswick Child and Youth Advocate

May 13, 2022

Daily sitting 76 Wednesday, May 18, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Turner, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Twenty-second Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

May 18, 2022

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 twenty-second report.

Your Committee met on May 17, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 90, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act*;

Bill 91, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Fitch,
Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act*.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, May 19, 2022, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Third Party item, Motion 101.

Mr. Arseneau gave notice that the Third Party item would be Motion 104.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Thursday, May 19, 2022, Bill 114 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 92, 93 and 94 be called for third reading.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 92, *An Act to Amend the Plumbing Installation and Inspection Act.*

Bill 93, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act.*

Bill 94, *An Act to Amend An Act to Amend the Police Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

And then, 10.59 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 77

Thursday, May 19, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. C. Chiasson, Member for Victoria-La Vallée, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to suspend the proposed education governance reform until consultations are held. (Petition 46)

Mr. Turner, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Twenty-third Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

May 19, 2022

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 twenty-third report.

Your Committee met on May 18, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 86, *Special Appropriation Act 2022*;
Bill 87, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*;
Bill 88, *An Act to Amend the Financial and Consumer Services
Commission Act*;
Bill 97, *An Act Respecting the Beaverbrook Auditorium*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 89, *An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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 Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Ames,
Bill 115, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate the Cosmetology Association of New Brunswick.*

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Mr. Carr requested leave of the House to move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Bockus: (Motion 109)

WHEREAS the Leader of the Official Opposition publicly stated that the Premier “can take the amount generated through this carbon tax and just give it to New Brunswickers for a period of four months if he wants”;

WHEREAS more weight will be given to this motion by the federal government if given full support by all Members of this Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Federal Government for permission to eliminate the federal carbon tax of 11 cents per litre of gasoline and diesel to provide immediate relief at the pump.

Leave to dispense with notice of Motion 109 was denied. Accordingly, notice was given for Wednesday, June 1, 2022.

Mr. Melanson requested leave of the House to move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee: (Motion 110)

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers are struggling financially because of the high price of gasoline;

WHEREAS New Brunswickers need and deserve relief to cope with high gas prices;

WHEREAS it is within the authority of the Province of New Brunswick to lower the provincial tax on gasoline;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to eliminate the 10.87¢ per litre of provincial tax on gasoline for a period of four months commencing at midnight on Friday, May 20, 2022;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to provide a payment of \$500.00 to all New Brunswickers earning less than \$25,000.00 a year.

Leave to dispense with notice of Motion 110 was denied. Accordingly, notice was given for Thursday, May 26, 2022.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that the House consider an adjournment motion; following which Bill 114 would be called for second reading; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 90, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act.*

Bill 91, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns on Friday, May 20, 2022, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, May 31, 2022.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the motion, it 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. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Austin	Mr. Cullins

NAYS - 16

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. Gauvin
Ms. Thériault	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Melanson	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Mallet
Mr. McKee	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Mr. Guitard	Mr. Bourque	
Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. D'Amours	

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Mr. Gauvin, seconded by Mr. McKee, 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 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being 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.”

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

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed with Mr. Speaker in the chair.

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

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 104, Mr. Arseneau moved, seconded by Mr. Coon:

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Commission on Legislative Democracy, established in 2003 by PC Premier Bernard Lord, designed and recommended a mixed-member proportional representation system for New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the 2017 Commission on Electoral Reform recommended that consideration be given to some form of proportional representation during the process of considering the redistribution of electoral boundaries;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to direct the Electoral Boundaries and Representation Commission to propose options for proportional representation as part of its review of New Brunswick's electoral boundaries before the next scheduled provincial election in 2024.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 104 was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 3

Mr. Coon

Ms. Mitton

Mr. Arseneau

NAYS - 35

Hon. Mr. Holder

Mr. Austin

Ms. Landry

Hon. Mr. Savoie

Ms. Bockus

Mr. Guitard

Hon. Ms. Shephard

Mr. Ames

Mr. C. Chiasson

Hon. Mr. Fitch

Mr. Wetmore

Mr. LeBlanc

Hon. Ms. M. Wilson

Ms. Anderson-Mason

Mr. K. Chiasson

Hon. Mr. Crossman

Mr. Carr

Mr. LePage

Hon. Mr. Holland

Ms. Conroy

Mr. Bourque

Hon. Ms. Dunn

Mr. Cullins

Mr. D'Amours

Hon. Mr. Cardy

Mr. Arseneault

Mr. Gauvin

Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace

Ms. Thériault

Mr. Mallet

Hon. Mr. Allain

Mr. Melanson

Mr. Landry

Hon. Ms. Johnson

Mr. McKee

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 101, Ms. Landry moved, seconded by Mr. Bourque:

WHEREAS Bill 61, *An Act to Amend the Human Tissue Gift Act*, was introduced on May 11, 2021, debated at second reading on May 13, 2021, and referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments;

WHEREAS there was widespread support for the Bill and the government agreed to bring it back to the Legislature;

WHEREAS the Bill has not yet been considered by the Standing Committee on Law Amendments;

WHEREAS the two commissioners appointed to undertake a review of the *Official Languages Act* and second language learning have filed two reports, the latest of which was filed on February 2, 2022;

WHEREAS the government has yet to respond to the findings and recommendations of the commissioners;

WHEREAS there have been motions passed by the Legislative Assembly that the government has yet to respond to;

WHEREAS the actions of the government in ignoring the will of the Members of the Legislative Assembly show a contempt for its authority and the will of the people;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to respond in a timely manner to motions and legislation passed in the Legislative Assembly and outline a plan for implementing the measures and initiatives supported which includes regular reporting and progress updates;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to respond in a timely manner to reports that have been commissioned by the government.

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.

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 45

May 18, 2022

Daily sitting 78

Friday, May 20, 2022

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to support the name "Pont Petigotiag Bridge" for the new bridge between Moncton and Riverview. (Petition 47)

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Ms. Anderson-Mason, Q.C.,
 Bill 116, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate The New Brunswick Registered Barbers' Association.*

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bill 114 be called for second reading until 11 a.m.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 86, *Special Appropriation Act 2022.*

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 87, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, the motion for third reading was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 40

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Guitard
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Mr. C. Chiasson
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Mr. Austin	Mr. Coon
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Ms. Bockus	Ms. Mitton
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Mr. Ames	Mr. K. Chiasson
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. LePage
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. Anderson-Mason	Mr. Bourque
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Legacy
Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Carr	Mr. Gauvin
Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. Conroy	Mr. Arseneau
Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Cullins	Mr. Mallet

Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Landry
Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. McKee	
Hon. Mr. Allain	Ms. Landry	

Accordingly, Bill 87, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 88, *An Act to Amend the Financial and Consumer Services Commission Act*.

Bill 97, *An Act Respecting the Beaverbrook Auditorium*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act*, be now read a second time, moved by Mr. Gauvin, seconded by Mr. McKee, on May 19, 2022.

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

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

And then, 11 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 79

Tuesday, May 31, 2022

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Turner, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Twenty-fourth Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

May 31, 2022

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 twenty-fourth report.

Your Committee met on May 20, 24, 25 and 26, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 95, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations Act*;
Bill 100, *An Act Respecting the Appointment Process*;
Bill 107, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*;
Bill 109, *An Act Respecting the Early Childhood Services Act*;
Bill 111, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*;
Bill 112, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 104, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 96, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*;
Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*;
Bill 108, *An Act to Amend the Accountability and Continuous Improvement Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Cullins, from the Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the Fifth Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

May 31, 2022

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

Mr. Speaker:

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

Your Committee met on May 27, 2022, in the Legislative Council Chamber and had under consideration the following Bills:

Bill 78, *An Act Respecting The United Church of Canada*;
Bill 116, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate The New Brunswick
Registered Barbers' Association*;

which it recommends to the favourable consideration of the House.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 115, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate the Cosmetology
Association of New Brunswick*;

which it recommends to the favourable consideration of the House with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

I move, seconded by the Member for Carleton-York, that the report be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Ryan Cullins, M.L.A.
Chair

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

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

May 31, 2022

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 61, *An Act to Amend the Human Tissue Gift Act*, the subject matter of which was referred to your Committee for consideration.

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank those who appeared before the Committee. 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. Hugh J. Flemming, Q.C., M.L.A.
Chair

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

On May 11, 2021, Bill 61, *An Act to Amend the Human Tissue Gift Act*, was introduced in the Legislative Assembly.

The purpose of Bill 61 is to provide for presumed consent (also known as "deemed consent") to organ and tissue donation after death. The proposed legislation establishes a registry in which individuals may express their consent or refusal to donate all, or specified, organs and tissues after death. It provides that in the absence of an express consent or refusal recorded in the registry, an individual is presumed by law to have consented to donate organs and tissues after death for therapeutic purposes. Exceptions to presumed consent include minors, individuals lacking capacity for a significant time before death, those not ordinarily resident in the Province, and where a substitute decision-maker provides information that the individual would have made a different decision. The Bill also requires medical practitioners to check the registry before undertaking transplantation activities.

On May 13, 2021, by resolution of the House, consideration of the subject matter of Bill 61 was referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments.

On October 5, 2021, your Committee heard from the Department of Health, including a representative from the New Brunswick Organ and Tissue Program (NBOTP); the New Brunswick Medical Society; and an individual organ transplant recipient. Following these presentations, the Committee met to consider the input received and to formulate recommendations to the House.

The following is a summary of the input received on the issues raised by Bill 61, with recommendations to the House.

Department of Health

The Department of Health supports the intent of Bill 61. Officials provided information on the status of the current organ and tissue donation program in New Brunswick, and recommendations on additional matters that should be addressed in legislation.

New Brunswick's Current Model

The Department advised that New Brunswick currently has an *opt-in* model for post-mortem organ and tissue donation, requiring individuals' express consent. Under the current model, as of June 2021, 82% of New Brunswickers have already registered their intention regarding organ and tissue donation after death, whether yes (46%) or no (36%). Only 18% of New Brunswickers have not registered their intention: these are the additional potential donors who would be added to the pool under a presumed consent (*opt-out*) model.

There is a need for more organ donors to help New Brunswickers waiting for an organ transplant receive one sooner. There are currently 125-150 New Brunswickers waiting for a transplant. For example, there is currently a 3.6-year wait time to receive a kidney transplant from a deceased donor, and a 2-year wait time to receive a kidney transplant from a living donor.

The Department views presumed consent legislation as one key element that, in combination with others, could contribute to a higher-performing system for deceased donation. However, to be effective in increasing donation rates, the legislation must be accompanied by appropriate public awareness and logistical support.

Nova Scotia's Role and its Experience with Presumed Consent

The Department advised that the NBOTP works closely with the Province of Nova Scotia. A team of Halifax-based professionals with the Multi-Organ Transplant Program (MOTP) travels to New Brunswick to retrieve

organs and performs most organ transplants for New Brunswickers. Lung transplants are performed in Ontario and Quebec. There is no New Brunswick-based organ retrieval or transplant team. The NBOTP does have nurses on call based in New Brunswick who work with health care teams and approach family members regarding potential donations. Harvesting of tissues, such as corneas, bones, and tendons, is performed in New Brunswick by New Brunswick-based practitioners.

The Province of Nova Scotia enacted a presumed consent model for organ and tissue donation effective in January 2021. It was the first jurisdiction in North America to do so. This was achieved by a new Act that entirely replaced Nova Scotia's previous organ donation legislation, and which governs both living donation and donation after death. While Nova Scotia is supportive of New Brunswick's implementing a presumed consent model, the MOTP would need time to prepare for the increased referrals expected to result.

Based on preliminary data from Nova Scotia, after less than one year under the presumed consent model, the NBOTP expects referrals of potential donors could double if the model is implemented in New Brunswick.

In sharing its experience with the Department, Nova Scotia recommended that sufficient time – perhaps two to three years – be allowed to prepare implementation of a presumed consent model before the legislation is brought into force. This would include educating the public and preparing health care providers for bedside engagement with family members.

Role of Family Members

The Department emphasized how important it is that New Brunswickers discuss their wishes regarding organ and tissue donation with family members. Even under a presumed consent model such as Nova Scotia's, family members of the potential donor may consent or refuse consent even if the potential donor expressly indicated otherwise in a registry or was presumed to consent.

Department's Recommendations

The Department noted that if the *Human Tissue Gift Act* is amended in relation to presumed consent for donation after death, legislators should consider taking the opportunity to clarify certain other matters in the existing Act common to donation after death and living donation. As public support for organ donation is critical to increasing rates, clarity and transparency regarding the process is key.

The Department made several recommendations as to additional matters that should be addressed in legislation on this subject matter, which may be summarized as follows:

1. Add definitions, similar to those contained in Nova Scotia's legislation, to add clarity to New Brunswick's current *Human Tissue Gift Act* and the proposed changes.
2. Clarify which organs and tissues the *Human Tissue Gift Act* does not apply to (similar to Nova Scotia: blood or blood constituents, zygotes, oocytes, embryos, sperm, semen, or ova).
3. Rearrange the existing legislation and repeal certain sections to remove redundancies and make the legislation internally consistent.
4. Add to the proposed cascading list of substitute decision-makers "an enduring power of attorney under the *Enduring Powers of Attorney Act*", which provides for health care directives, similar to Nova Scotia's legislation.
5. Ensure that a consent to donation after death may be restricted to the donation of specified organs and tissues. This is similar to Nova Scotia's practice for its registry. New Brunswickers could specify which organ and/or tissue would be subject to donation.
6. Address the need to make changes to determination of death to also encompass donation after cardiocirculatory death since organ donation after death in New Brunswick is no longer restricted to neurological death.
7. Add a section about required referrals since mandatory referral of all potential donors is the provision that will have the greatest impact on increasing the organ donation rate. Mandatory referral means all hospital deaths or imminent deaths are reported for consideration for organ and/or tissue donation (for the NBOTP to determine whether the organs and tissues of the individual may be medically suitable).
8. For ethical reasons, add a section similar to Nova Scotia's legislation pertaining to pre-death transplantation optimizing interventions. These interventions are actions intended either to enhance planned donations or preserve the opportunity of donation (which would not be administered if donation was not considered). This will require independent, informed consent that is separate from consent for donation. It is generally accepted that such interventions require this separate, differentiated form of consent.
9. Add that only individuals with capacity to do so may consent or refuse consent.

New Brunswick Medical Society

The New Brunswick Medical Society also expressed its support for the intent of Bill 61. It explained that the number of life-saving organ transplants needed vastly exceeds the donations received each year. The Society reported that 142 New Brunswickers are waiting for an organ transplant. Approximately 280 Canadians die each year waiting for a transplant.

The Society referred to Nova Scotia's presumed consent model, which ensures every individual is a potential donor unless they opt out. Studies have shown that in jurisdictions with similar opt-out models, and where there is also a robust transplant infrastructure, donation rates are much higher than in jurisdictions employing an opt-in model. It pointed out that the current opt-in process in New Brunswick creates a barrier to citizens, as they must contact Service New Brunswick to indicate on their Medicare card that they are interested in becoming an organ donor.

The Society believes that a presumed consent model, coupled with strengthening the health system's transplant program, will help reduce the wait time for New Brunswickers who need a transplant. This change would save lives. When combined with patient education, presumed consent could convert into potential donors the 18% of New Brunswickers who have not indicated an intention regarding organ donation, as well as the 36% who have to date indicated "no". This would represent approximately 419,000 more potential donors. A single donor can save or improve the lives of 80 people.

Transplant Recipient

The Committee also heard from an individual New Brunswicker who is a recipient of multiple organ transplants. He, too, supports the intent of Bill 61. He welcomed the public discussion of organ and tissue donation created by the introduction of the Bill.

He described his experience on the waiting list for a heart and double-lung transplant after being told he had only 18 months to live. As lung transplants are not performed in the Atlantic region, he had to relocate to Toronto to be on the waiting list. He was not given a high likelihood of finding a match. However, in 2002, he received a set of heart and lungs that became available due to a donation. Since then, he has advocated for measures to increase donation rates.

He pointed out that presumed consent legislation is part of an overall solution, but it will not fix the problem on its own. A holistic approach should include more resources for logistical support for transplantation, as there are potential donors whose organs are not able to be used because retrieval does not occur in time. It should also include public education about the need for organ donation. While only a small fraction of hospital deaths are suitable candidates for organ donation, every single donation has a ripple effect which can save and improve multiple lives.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee strongly supports the intent of Bill 61, which is to increase organ and tissue donation rates in New Brunswick by instituting presumed consent to donation after death, with an option for individuals to opt out. The Committee also supports and adopts as its own the recommendations provided by the Department of Health regarding additional matters that should be addressed in legislation to effectively achieve this policy objective. Accordingly, the Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. THAT Bill 61, *An Act to Amend the Human Tissue Gift Act*, not be proceeded with in its current form.
2. THAT the government consider the recommendations of the Department of Health, as outlined in the Committee's report, in developing proposed legislation for presumed consent to organ and tissue donation for the Legislative Assembly's consideration.

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 on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 25

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Mr. Hogan	
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	

NAYS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Ms. Mitton	Mr. D'Amours
Mr. Melanson	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. McKee	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Arseneau
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Mallet
Mr. Guitard	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Landry

Hon. Mr. Flemming, from the Standing Committee on Law Amendments, presented the Second Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

May 31, 2022

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

Mr. Speaker:

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

On May 27, 2022, your Committee met in the Legislative Council Chamber and had under consideration the subject matter of Bill 28, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act*.

After receiving a presentation from representatives of the Department of Environment and Local Government, your Committee agreed to make the following recommendation:

That Bill 28, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act*, not be proceeded with in its current form.

Your Committee also agreed to make the following recommendation regarding Bill 75, *An Act to Amend the Mining Act*:

That Bill 75, *An Act to Amend the Mining Act*, not be proceeded with in its current form.

Your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd. :) Hon. Hugh J. Flemming, Q.C., 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 on a recorded division to which, with unanimous consent of the House, the result of the previous division was applied.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
Bill 117, *An Act Respecting Heavy Industrial Property*.

By Hon. Mr. Holder,
Bill 118, *Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions Act*.

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Cullins,
Bill 119, *An Act to Amend the Engineering Technology Act*.

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Wednesday, June 1, 2022, Bills 117 and 118 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bill 114 be called for second reading until 4 p.m.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act*, be now read a second time, moved by Mr. Gauvin, seconded by Mr. McKee, on May 19, 2022.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

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

And then, 4 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:

Response to Petition 44	May 25, 2022
Legislative Analysis: Bill 114, <i>Child and Youth Well-Being Act</i> , Submitted by the Child and Youth Advocate	May 30, 2022

Daily sitting 80

Wednesday, June 1, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Hon. Mr. Savoie rose and submitted that Mr. Arseneau used unparliamentary language when he used the term “that’s not true”. Mr. Arseneau withdrew the remark.

Mr. Turner, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Twenty-fifth Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

June 1, 2022

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 twenty-fifth report.

Your Committee met on May 31, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 98, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Court Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 110, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform, 2022*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, June 2, 2022, Opposition Members’ Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 101, 108 and 110.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Private Bills 78, 115, and 116 be called for second and third reading; following which Bills 117, 118 and 114 would be called for second reading until 2 p.m.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 95, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for third reading be amended by deleting all the words after the word "that" and substituting the following:

"Bill 95, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations Act*, be not now read a third time but that the order for third 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 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 17

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. D'Amours
Ms. Thériault	Mr. Coon	Mr. Gauvin
Mr. Melanson	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. McKee	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Mallet
Ms. Landry	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Mr. Guitard	Mr. Bourque	

 NAYS - 25

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Austin	
Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Turner	

And the question being put that Bill 95 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 95, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 100, *An Act Respecting the Appointment Process*.

Bill 107, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 109, *An Act Respecting the Early Childhood Services Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

Business Plan 2022-2023, Auditor General
of New Brunswick

May 30, 2022

Daily sitting 81

Thursday, June 2, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Turner, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Twenty-sixth Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

June 2, 2022

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 twenty-sixth report.

Your Committee met on June 1, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 106, *An Act to Amend the Marshland Infrastructure Maintenance Act*;
Bill 110, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform, 2022*;
Bill 113, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 105, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Turner gave Notice of Motion 111 that on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Cullins:

THAT, notwithstanding the Standing Rules of the Legislative Assembly, following the adoption of this motion, there shall be 50 hours allocated for the proceedings at all stages of the passage of Bills 89, 96, 99, 103, 105, 106, 108, 110, 113, 114, 117 and 118 which shall include the hours spent considering said Bills from May 10, 2022, and onward, and at the expiration of the said 50 hours, unless sooner concluded, the Speaker, or the Chair of the Standing Committee on Economic Policy as the case may be, shall interrupt the proceedings and put every question necessary to dispose of the order for second reading of the said Bills; the order for consideration of the said Bills in committee and report of the Bills to the House; and the order for third reading and passage of the said Bills; and where necessary, the said Bills shall be allowed to advance more than one stage in one day;

THAT, notwithstanding the expiry of the said 50 hours, there shall be, if necessary, 20 minutes allocated at committee stage for the consideration of any of the said Bills, if requested by the Government House Leader.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that Motion 111 was out of order as it was introduced by a Private Member which would reduce the opportunity for debate and further submitted that such a motion should be limited to one bill and stage. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Private Bills 78, 115 and 116 be called for second and third reading; following which Bills 117, 118 and 114 would be called for second reading; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 98, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Court Act.*

Bill 104, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act.*

Bill 109, *An Act Respecting the Early Childhood Services Act.*

Bill 111, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act.*

Bill 112, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The following Private Bills were read a second time:

Bill 78, *An Act Respecting The United Church of Canada.*

Bill 115, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate the Cosmetology Association of New Brunswick.*

Bill 116, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate The New Brunswick Registered Barbers' Association.*

Pursuant to Standing Rule 121, Mr. Speaker ordered Private Bills 78, 115 and 116 for third reading forthwith.

The following Private Bills were read a third time:

Bill 78, *An Act Respecting The United Church of Canada.*

Bill 115, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate the Cosmetology Association of New Brunswick.*

Bill 116, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate The New Brunswick Registered Barbers' Association.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 117, *An Act Respecting Heavy Industrial Property*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 117 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 117, *An Act Respecting Heavy Industrial Property*, 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 118, *Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions Act*, a debate arose thereon.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. Arseneau, 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 118, *Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions 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.”

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 118 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 118, *Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions 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 amendment to the motion that Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act*, be now read a second time, moved by Mr. Gauvin, seconded by Mr. McKee, on May 19, 2022.

And after some time, Ms. S. Wilson took the chair.

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

Debate resumed on Motion 101, moved by Ms. Landry, seconded by Mr. Bourque, on May 19, 2022.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 101 was resolved in the negative.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 108, Mr. Arseneault moved, seconded by Ms. Landry:

WHEREAS over 400 New Brunswickers have lost their lives to COVID-19;

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers believe that the province should have an annual day to remember all those who have died as a result of the pandemic;

WHEREAS the restrictions in place throughout the pandemic have made it difficult for many families to grieve their losses;

WHEREAS an annual day of remembrance will provide an opportunity for reflection for all those touched by the virus, especially those who have lost a loved one;

WHEREAS a day of remembrance will also allow New Brunswickers to acknowledge the health care workers who made many personal sacrifices while working to keep people safe;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to designate an annual day of remembrance for the victims of COVID-19.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason resumed the chair.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 108 was resolved in the affirmative.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 110, Mr. Melanson moved, seconded by Mr. McKee:

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers are struggling financially because of the high price of gasoline;

WHEREAS New Brunswickers need and deserve relief to cope with high gas prices;

WHEREAS it is within the authority of the Province of New Brunswick to lower the provincial tax on gasoline;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to eliminate the 10.87¢ per litre of provincial tax on gasoline for a period of four months commencing at midnight on Friday, May 20, 2022;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to provide a payment of \$500.00 to all New Brunswickers earning less than \$25,000.00 a year.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

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

Daily sitting 82

Friday, June 3, 2022

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. C. Chiasson, Member for Victoria-La Vallée, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to suspend the proposed education governance reform until consultations are held. (Petition 48)

Mr. D'Amours gave Notice of Motion 112 that on Thursday, June 9, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Legacy:

WHEREAS the Minister of Health said that 10% of 800 000 New Brunswickers, which means about 80 000 New Brunswickers, are waiting for a family doctor;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Nurses' Union has indicated that, as of February 2022, there were 1 000 registered nursing positions and 300 practical nursing positions unfilled;

WHEREAS the Minister of Health promised in April 2021 to provide a primary caregiver for all New Brunswickers waiting for a doctor within 6 months and has failed to do so;

WHEREAS, in February 2022, four highly reputable retired family physicians who are concerned about the lack of care available for New Brunswickers weighed in with a plan to provide primary care to every New Brunswicker;

WHEREAS the Minister of Health did not heed this advice and the primary care shortage persists;

WHEREAS surgical wait lists in New Brunswick are amongst the longest in Canada;

WHEREAS New Brunswick has one of the highest COVID counts in the country and had over 400 COVID-19-related deaths in May 2022;

WHEREAS, as a result of political decision-making trumping public health advice, the minister has failed miserably in keeping New Brunswickers safe throughout the pandemic;

WHEREAS, with a flagrant dismissal of the need for public transparency, the Minister of Health has tried to muzzle the CEOs of the regional health authorities;

WHEREAS the Minister of Health again showed a blatant disregard for transparency and protecting the health of New Brunswickers by failing to advise the public of the emergence of a new COVID-19 variant;

WHEREAS the minister's continued failures have resulted in a loss of confidence in the minister by New Brunswickers;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Premier to establish accountability and performance measurement frameworks for the Minister of Health and make the improvement of health care delivery in New Brunswick a top priority.

Mr. LePage gave Notice of Motion 113 that on Thursday, June 9, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Legacy:

WHEREAS New Brunswick has an aging demographic and, over the next decade, about 120 000 New Brunswickers will retire;

WHEREAS New Brunswick is in the midst of a labour crisis and many employers are having difficulty finding trained labour with shortages in healthcare, long-term care, childcare, transportation, construction, education, trades, information technology, manufacturing, and tourism, to name a few;

WHEREAS we are also in the midst of a health crisis based on a shortage of nurses which threatens the delivery of health services;

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Higgs government eliminated the free tuition program that made postsecondary education accessible for many New Brunswickers who saw tuition costs as a barrier to entry;

WHEREAS New Brunswick does not provide tuition incentives or relief from student debt for students in targeted programs where labour shortages exist;

WHEREAS, as a result of labour shortages, other provinces and the federal government are stepping up to announce programs to tackle the issue head on;

WHEREAS the other provinces are offering incentives for students to enter targeted professions like health and social services, education, engineering, childcare services, information technologies, trades, construction, and other fields where labour shortages exist;

WHEREAS other provinces are also announcing programs such as those to cut tuition fees for overseas students as a further incentive to address the labour shortages and programs to attract and assist young people to pursue careers in the trades;

WHEREAS New Brunswick lacks a comprehensive strategy to deal with the labour shortages;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to develop a series of targeted labour incentive programs to address New Brunswick's labour shortages.

Mr. Turner, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Twenty-seventh Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

June 3, 2022

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 twenty-seventh report.

Your Committee met on June 2, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 89, *An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act*;
Bill 103, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 96, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bill 114 be called for second reading until 11 a.m.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 105, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 105 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 105, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 106, *An Act to Amend the Marshland Infrastructure Maintenance Act*.

Bill 110, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform, 2022*.

Bill 113, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion that Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act*, be now read a second time, moved by Mr. Gauvin, seconded by Mr. McKee, on May 19, 2022.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 16

Mr. Arseneault	Ms. Mitton	Mr. D'Amours
Mr. McKee	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Arseneau
Ms. Landry	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Mallet
Mr. Guitard	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Bourque	
Mr. Coon	Mr. Legacy	

NAYS - 25

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Austin	
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	

And the question being put that Bill 114 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being 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, 10.52 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 83

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Carr, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Twenty-eighth Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

June 7, 2022

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 twenty-eighth report.

Your Committee met on June 3, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 117, *An Act Respecting Heavy Industrial Property*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 118, *Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Cullins, from the Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the Sixth Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

June 7, 2022

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

Mr. Speaker:

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

Your Committee met on June 7, 2022, in the Legislative Council Chamber and had under consideration the following Bill:

Bill 119, *An Act to Amend the Engineering Technology Act*;

and reports that it has made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

I move, seconded by the Member for Carleton-York, that the report be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Ryan Cullins, M.L.A.
Chair

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 89, 96 and 103 be called for third reading.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 89, *An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 96, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 96 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 96, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 103, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

And then, 2.36 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 47

June 3, 2022

Daily sitting 84

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Carr welcomed to the House Pam Lynch, former Progressive Conservative MLA for Fredericton-Fort Nashwaak (2010-2014) and Fredericton-Grand Lake (2014-2018) and Carl Urquhart, former Progressive Conservative MLA for York (2006-2014) and Carleton-York (2014-2020).

Mr. Turner, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Twenty-ninth Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

June 8, 2022

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 twenty-ninth report.

Your Committee met on June 7, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 108, *An Act to Amend the Accountability and Continuous Improvement Act*;
Bill 118, *Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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.

With leave of the House, Hon. Ms. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Coon: (Motion 114)

WHEREAS the British Parliament abolished slavery in the British Empire as of August 1, 1834, by enacting Chapter 73 of the Acts of 3 & 4 William IV, *An Act for the Abolition of Slavery Throughout the British Colonies; for promoting the Industry of the manumitted Slaves; and for compensating the Persons hitherto entitled to the Services of such Slaves* (U.K.), on August 28, 1833;

WHEREAS slavery existed in British North America prior to its abolition in 1834;

WHEREAS abolitionists and others who struggled against slavery, including those who arrived in Upper and Lower Canada by the Underground Railroad, have historically celebrated August 1 as Emancipation Day;

WHEREAS racist structures and institutional practices have resulted in the inability of Black New Brunswickers to access and enjoy many of the benefits of Canadian society, notably in areas such as education, housing, health, business, the justice system and community development;

WHEREAS Black Lives Matter;

WHEREAS the Government of Canada announced on January 30, 2018, that it would officially recognize the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent to highlight the important contributions that people of African descent have made to Canadian society, and to provide a platform for confronting anti-Black racism;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick declare August 1 of every year as Emancipation Day in New Brunswick.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 114 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 - 39

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Melanson
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Ms. Landry
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Mr. Austin	Mr. Guitard
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Ms. Bockus	Mr. C. Chiasson
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Mr. Turner	Mr. Coon
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Ames	Ms. Mitton
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. LeBlanc
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Anderson-Mason	Mr. LePage
Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Bourque
Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Carr	Mr. Legacy
Hon. Mr. Cardy	Ms. Conroy	Mr. Arseneau
Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Cullins	Mr. Mallet
Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Landry

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 115)

THAT notwithstanding the Standing Rules and established mandates of committees, the Legislative Assembly authorize and instruct the Standing Committee on Economic Policy to identify and invite four presenters to appear before the Committee in person at public hearings on Wednesday, June 8, and Thursday, June 9, 2022, in the Legislative Council Chamber to discuss Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act*;

THAT the House dispense with Opposition Members' Business on said Thursday to allow the Committee to hold the public hearings;

THAT the sole purpose of the said hearings is to receive input from and pose questions to the invited presenters on the subject matter of Bill 114 and they are not intended to be a forum to move amendments to the Bill or other substantive motions;

THAT any proposed amendments to the Bill and the vote to report the Bill to the House take place on the floor of the House with the Minister responsible for the Bill present, with staff, to defend the Bill, as is the established practice of the Committee when it considers legislation.

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

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 99 and 117 be called for third reading.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, a debate arose thereon.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 99 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 117, *An Act Respecting Heavy Industrial Property*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

And then, 2.17 p.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 85

Thursday, June 9, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

With leave of the House, Mr. Coon moved, seconded by Mr. Arseneau:
(Motion 116)

WHEREAS New Brunswick is situated on the unceded and traditional homelands of the Wolastoqiyik, Mi'kmaq and Peskotomuhkatiyik Nations;

WHEREAS, over the course of more than 100 years, some 150,000 Indigenous children were ripped from their families and forced to attend church - and government-run residential schools, where many suffered physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual abuse, malnutrition, and neglect;

WHEREAS the Government of Canada recognizes September 30 as the annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour survivors of residential schools, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process;

WHEREAS the provincial governments of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba, and British Columbia have recognized September 30 as a provincial Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly designate September 30 of every year as the "Day for Truth and Reconciliation" in New Brunswick.

At 11.02 a.m. the House recessed. At 12.01 p.m. the House resumed.

At 12.02 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Hon. Ms. Dunn, seconded by Hon. Mr. Cardy, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 116 be amended by striking out the first and second whereas clauses and substituting the following:

“WHEREAS New Brunswick is the historical homelands of the Wolastoqiyik, Mi’kmaq and Peskotomuhkatiyik Nations;

WHEREAS the Federal Government of Canada adopted a residential school system in provinces across Canada other than New Brunswick which has been the subject of the National Truth and Reconciliation Commission tireless work to consider and report on the damage of the Federal Government’s policies which have led to inter-generational harm to First Nations;”

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

At 1.08 p.m. the House recessed. At 1.13 p.m. the House resumed.

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

YEAS - 23

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Allain	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Austin	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	

NAYS - 17

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. Legacy
Ms. Thériault	Ms. Mitton	Mr. D’Amours
Mr. Melanson	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Gauvin
Ms. Landry	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Guitard	Mr. LePage	Mr. Mallet
Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Bourque	

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 116 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS New Brunswick is the historical homelands of the Wolastoqiyik, Mi’kmaq and Peskotomuhkatiyik Nations;

WHEREAS the Federal Government of Canada adopted a residential school system in provinces across Canada other than New Brunswick which has been the subject of the National Truth and Reconciliation Commission tireless work to consider and report on the damage of the Federal Government's policies which have led to inter-generational harm to First Nations;

WHEREAS the Government of Canada recognizes September 30 as the annual National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour survivors of residential schools, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process;

WHEREAS the provincial governments of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba, and British Columbia have recognized September 30 as a provincial Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly designate September 30 of every year as the "Day for Truth and Reconciliation" in New Brunswick.

And the question being put, Motion 116 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 108 and 118 be called for third reading.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 108, *An Act to Amend the Accountability and Continuous Improvement Act*.

Bill 118, *Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

And then, 1.30 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:

Through Their Eyes, The Lives of Children and
Youth Living in the Care of the Province,
Office of the Child and Youth Advocate

June 8, 2022

Daily sitting 86

Friday, June 10, 2022

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker interrupted Statements by Members and directed Mr. Arseneau to be seated as the Member was attempting to divulge in-camera proceedings and had accused fellow Members of illegal activity.

Mr. D'Amours, Member for Edmundston-Madawaska Centre, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to restore funding allocated to the LSD of Rivière-Verte. (Petition 49)

Mr. Arseneau, Member for Kent North, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to include the LSD of Chiasson-Savoie in Entity 16. (Petition 50)

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

June 10, 2022

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 thirtieth report.

Your Committee met on June 8 and 9, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that, with leave, Bill 114 be called for third reading; following which the House would consider an adjournment motion; following which Royal Assent would take place.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bill 114 be ordered for third reading forthwith.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 114 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act*, was read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, October 4, 2022, 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.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

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 78, *An Act Respecting The United Church of Canada.*
Bill 86, *Special Appropriation Act 2022.*
Bill 87, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act.*
Bill 88, *An Act to Amend the Financial and Consumer Services Commission Act.*
Bill 89, *An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act.*
Bill 90, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act.*
Bill 91, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act.*
Bill 92, *An Act to Amend the Plumbing Installation and Inspection Act.*
Bill 93, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act.*
Bill 94, *An Act to Amend An Act to Amend the Police Act.*
Bill 95, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations Act.*
Bill 96, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act.*
Bill 97, *An Act Respecting the Beaverbrook Auditorium.*
Bill 98, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Court Act.*
Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act.*
Bill 100, *An Act Respecting the Appointment Process.*
Bill 102, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (2).*
Bill 103, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act.*
Bill 104, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act.*
Bill 105, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act.*
Bill 106, *An Act to Amend the Marshland Infrastructure Maintenance Act.*
Bill 107, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act.*
Bill 108, *An Act to Amend the Accountability and Continuous Improvement Act.*
Bill 109, *An Act Respecting the Early Childhood Services Act.*
Bill 110, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform, 2022.*
Bill 111, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act.*
Bill 112, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act.*
Bill 113, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act.*
Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act.*
Bill 115, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate the Cosmetology Association of New Brunswick.*

Bill 116, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate The New Brunswick Registered Barbers' Association.*

Bill 117, *An Act Respecting Heavy Industrial Property.*

Bill 118, *Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions 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.

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 2022-2023*. (Bill 101)

Her Honour replied:

It is the Queen's wish. La reine le veut.

To this Bill, Her Honour's assent was announced by the 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.

And then, 11.27 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 87 Tuesday, October 4, 2022

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Pursuant to the provisions of the *Elections Act*, Mr. Speaker laid upon the table of the House the returns of votes polled in the electoral districts of Miramichi Bay-Neguac and Southwest Miramichi-Bay du Vin in the by-election held June 20, 2022.

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

RESOLVED, that the returns be entered in the Journals of the House.

And it is as follows:

SUMMARY OF THE RETURNS OF THE BY-ELECTION FOR
MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD ON
THE 20TH DAY OF JUNE 2022

Subsection 96(5) of the *Elections Act*

MIRAMICHI BAY-NEGUAC # 9

Réjean Savoie	PC	2286 E
Shawn Wood	L	1753
Chad Duplessie	PVNBGP	772
Tom L'Huillier	PANB	172
Richard (Hoss) Sutherland	IND	99

Cyril Donahue
Returning Officer

SOUTHWEST MIRAMICHI-BAY DU VIN # 11

Mike Dawson	PC	2542 E
Hannah Fulton Johnston	L	1737
Julie Guillemet-Ackerman	PVNBGP	223
Larry Lynch	PANB	363

Peter Parker
Returning Officer

Mr. R. Savoie, member-elect for the electoral district of Miramichi Bay-Neguac, and Mr. Dawson, member-elect for the electoral district of Southwest Miramichi-Bay du Vin, having previously taken the oath and signed the Roll, were introduced by the Honourable the Premier and took their seats in the House.

Mr. Speaker recognized the Party Leaders for statements regarding the passing of Queen Elizabeth II.

Mr. McKee welcomed to the House Ms. Susan Holt, the newly elected Leader of the Liberal Party. The Honourable the Premier and Mr. Coon joined in this regard.

Mr. Guitard rose on a point of order and submitted that the Congratulatory Statement by Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace should have been delivered during Statements by Ministers. Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that Hon. Mr. Allain used unparliamentary language when he accused Mr. LeBlanc of making “falsehoods”. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Mr. Speaker laid upon the table of the House the *Independent Auditor’s Report on the financial statements of the Office of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022*.

Mr. Arseneau, Member for Kent North, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to upgrade Cails Mills and Emerson Roads. (Petition 51)

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

October 4, 2022

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

Mr. Speaker:

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

Your Committee met on September 27, 2022, in the Legislative Council Chamber and had under consideration the following Bill:

Bill 119, *An Act to Amend the Engineering Technology Act*;

which it recommends to the favourable consideration of the House with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

I move, seconded by the Member for Carleton-York, that the report be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Ryan Cullins, M.L.A.
Chair

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

Hon. Mr. Allain, Minister of Local Government and Local Governance Reform, 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.
October 4, 2022.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmits a Bill entitled *An Act Respecting Community Funding*, and having been informed of the subject matter of the Bill, recommends the same to the House.

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

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Allain,
Bill 120, *An Act Respecting Community Funding*.

With leave of the House, the Honourable the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. McKee: (Motion 117)

THAT a humble address be presented to His Majesty The King, to convey our most profound condolences on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II; and to those ends that the following address be adopted:

To The King's Most Excellent Majesty

We, as Members of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, beg leave to convey to Your Majesty the deep sorrow the people of this province feel at the death of Queen Elizabeth II, and to express to you, and to all members of the Royal Family, our most sincere sympathy.

Her Majesty devoted her whole life to her people. She was the embodiment of faith, sacrifice, duty, and service.

Her Majesty the Queen was a force of stability, continuity, and tradition. She was Queen to several generations of New Brunswickers. In New Brunswick, 12 Lieutenant Governors and 12 Premiers served during her reign.

Over her 70-year reign, she managed to uphold traditions while also adapting the Crown to an ever-changing world.

We fondly remember Her Majesty and her many visits to our Province, with His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip, and the special efforts they made to meet with New Brunswickers from all walks of life who strive to make valuable contributions to their communities.

Her Majesty will be deeply mourned, and her legacy will continue throughout the ages in those whose lives were impacted by the example she set through her faith, loyalty, service and love for Canada and Canadians. She will forever have a unique place in our hearts and memories. May she rest in peace.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

Mr. Turner gave Notice of Motion 118 that on Friday, October 7, 2022, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Carr:

THAT, notwithstanding the Standing Rules of the Legislative Assembly, following the adoption of this motion, there shall be 10 hours allocated for the proceedings at all stages of the passage of Bill 120 which shall include the hours spent considering said Bill from October 5, 2022, and onward, and at the expiration of the said 10 hours, unless sooner concluded, the Speaker, or the Chair of the

Standing Committee on Economic Policy as the case may be, shall interrupt the proceedings and put every question necessary to dispose of the order for second reading of the said Bill; the order for consideration of the said Bill in committee and report of the Bill to the House; and the order for third reading and passage of the said Bill; and where necessary, the said Bill shall be allowed to advance more than one stage in one day;

THAT, notwithstanding the expiry of the said 10 hours, there shall be, if necessary, 20 minutes allocated at committee stage for the consideration of the said Bill, if requested by the Government House Leader.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that Motion 118 was out of order as it allowed the advancement of multiple stages in one day and was undemocratic. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie gave notice that on Wednesday, October 5, 2022, Bills 119 and 120 would be called for second reading.

And then, 2.49 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

2021 Recycle NB	June 30, 2022
2021 New Brunswick <i>Firefighters' Compensation Act</i> Disability Fund	July 6, 2022
2021 WorkSafe NB	July 6, 2022
2021-2022 Horizon Health Network	July 8, 2022
2021-2022 Office of the Public Intervener, A Unit of the Office of the Attorney General	July 12, 2022
2021-2022 Vitalité Health Network	July 15, 2022
2021-2022 Financial and Consumer Services Commission	July 28, 2022
2021-2022 New Brunswick Credit Union Deposit Insurance Corporation	July 28, 2022
2021-2022 New Brunswick Health Council	August 16, 2022
2021 Vestcor Inc.	August 22, 2022
2021-2022 Midwifery Council of New Brunswick	August 25, 2022
2019-2020 Regional Development Corporation	August 31, 2022

2020-2021 New Brunswick Lotteries and Gaming Corporation	September 1, 2022
2021-2022 Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation	September 8, 2022
2021-2022 New Brunswick Power Corporation	September 8, 2022
2021-2022 Cannabis NB	September 15, 2022
2021-2022 New Brunswick Liquor Corporation	September 15, 2022

Others

Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume I, Performance Audit, 2022	June 23, 2022
Under the provisions of the <i>Fees Act</i> , information regarding fee changes for Crown timber royalty rates under the <i>Crown Lands and Forests Act</i>	June 30, 2022
Under the provisions of the <i>Fees Act</i> , information regarding the introduction of a new fee under the General Regulation, <i>Cannabis Retailers Licensing Act</i>	June 30, 2022
Management Discussion and Analysis and Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes, 2021, WorkSafe NB	July 6, 2022
New Brunswick Power Corporation, Consolidated Financial Statements, March 31, 2022	July 15, 2022
Under the provisions of the <i>Fees Act</i> , information regarding fee changes and the introduction of new fees under <i>Regulation 89-65, Special Permits Fees Regulation</i> under the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i>	August 2, 2022
New Brunswick Energy and Utilities Board, Financial Statements, March 31, 2022	August 22, 2022
Report on Performance 2021-2022, Auditor General of New Brunswick	September 20, 2022
Air Quality Monitoring Results, 2020, Department of Environment and Local Government	September 29, 2022
Public Accounts for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022, Volume 1, Consolidated Financial Statements	September 29, 2022

Petitions

Response to Petition 46	June 15, 2022
Response to Petition 48	June 22, 2022
Response to Petitions 49, 50	July 19, 2022

Daily sitting 88

Wednesday, October 5, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker rose to address the point of order raised the previous sitting day, and ruled that the term “falsehoods” used by Hon. Mr. Allain was unparliamentary language and requested that the Minister withdraw the term, which he did.

Mr. Ames, Member for Carleton-York, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to keep the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure’s Canterbury depot open all year. (Petition 52)

Mr. Arseneau requested leave of the House to move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Coon: (Motion 119)

THAT notwithstanding the Standing Rules and established mandates of committees, the Legislative Assembly authorize and instruct the Standing Committee on Economic Policy to identify and invite presenters to appear before the Committee in person at public hearings to discuss Bill 120, *An Act Respecting Community Funding*;

THAT the sole purpose of the said hearings is to receive input from and pose questions to the invited presenters on the subject matter of Bill 120 and they are not intended to be a forum to move amendments to the Bill or other substantive motions;

THAT any proposed amendments to the Bill and the vote to report the Bill to the House take place on the floor of the House with the Minister responsible for the Bill present, with staff, to defend the Bill, as is the established practice of the Committee when it considers legislation.

Leave to dispense with notice of Motion 119 was denied. Accordingly, notice was given for Thursday, October 13, 2022.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, October 6, 2022, Opposition Members’ Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 112, 11 and 107.

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 120 and 119 be called for second reading.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 120, *An Act Respecting Community Funding*, a debate arose thereon.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie requested the unanimous consent of the House to allow Bill 120 to receive committee consideration forthwith, following second reading.

At 2.13 p.m. the House recessed. At 2.26 p.m. the House resumed.

Unanimous consent was denied.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 120 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 25

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. G. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Allain	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Austin	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	Mr. Dawson
Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Turner	Mr. R. Savoie
Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Ames	
Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Wetmore	

NAYS - 13

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. Mallet
Mr. Gauvin	Ms. Mitton	Mr. D'Amours
Mr. McKee	Mr. Guitard	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Legacy	Mr. LeBlanc	
Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. LePage	

Accordingly, Bill 120, *An Act Respecting Community Funding*, 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 Private Bill 119, *An Act to Amend the Engineering Technology Act*, a debate arose thereon.

Hon. Mr. Flemming rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Guitard was divulging in-camera proceedings. Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken and advised that matters pertaining to a conflict of interest should be directed to the Integrity Commissioner.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 119 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 23

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. G. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Austin	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. Bockus	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Turner	Mr. Dawson
Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Ames	Mr. R. Savoie
Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Wetmore	

NAYS - 16

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. Mallet
Mr. Gauvin	Ms. Mitton	Mr. D'Amours
Mr. McKee	Mr. Guitard	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Legacy	Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Landry
Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. LePage	
Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Bourque	

Accordingly, Bill 119, *An Act to Amend the Engineering Technology Act*, was read a second time and, five Members having stood in their places, ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House pursuant to Standing Rule 121.

And then, 3.12 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2020-2021 Premier's Council on Disabilities	October 3, 2022
An Implementation Report on the Advocate's Youth Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Reports, Office of the Child and Youth Advocate	October 3, 2022
Report of the Independent Committee Established to Review and Make Recommendations on the Salaries and Benefits of Members of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, September 29, 2022	October 3, 2022

Daily sitting 89

Thursday, October 6, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House recess until 2.30 p.m., at which time Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

At 10.56 a.m. the House recessed. At 2.30 p.m. the House resumed.

At the request of Mr. McKee, it was agreed by unanimous consent to remove all whereas clauses in Motion 112.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 112, Mr. McKee moved, on behalf of Mr. D'Amours, seconded by Mr. Legacy:

THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the Premier to establish accountability and performance measurement frameworks for the Minister of Health and make the improvement of health care delivery in New Brunswick a top priority.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 112 was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 16

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. D'Amours
Mr. Gauvin	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. McKee	Mr. Guitard	Mr. Landry
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Landry
Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. LePage	
Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Mallet	

NAYS - 21

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Allain	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Austin	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. Bockus	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Ames	Mr. Dawson
Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. R. Savoie

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 11, Mr. LePage moved, seconded by Mr. Mallet:

WHEREAS there are many areas within New Brunswick that do not have adequate access to high-speed Internet;

WHEREAS access to high-speed Internet is crucial for many businesses and the lack of high-speed Internet creates an economic disadvantage for them in communities where it is not available;

WHEREAS access to high-speed Internet is also vital for individuals and communities;

WHEREAS the previous Liberal government invested \$10 million in high-speed Internet and 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 in our regular school program have had to access learning programs remotely, and there is a risk that, in the event of a further outbreak requiring the closure of schools, they and probably more students may have to do so again;

WHEREAS parents of students living in areas without access to high-speed Internet have expressed concern about the educational disadvantage faced by their children;

WHEREAS many post-secondary institutions have moved to an online platform to deliver their education and training programs and postsecondary students require access to high-speed Internet;

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers are now asked to work from home and thus need access to high-speed Internet;

WHEREAS many health services, including doctors' visits, are increasingly being delivered virtually as a result of the health and safety restrictions associated with the pandemic;

WHEREAS individuals, businesses, and communities in mostly rural areas of the province deserve access to high-speed Internet;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to make access to high-speed Internet for all areas of the province a top priority;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to invest in the necessary infrastructure to ensure access to high-speed Internet.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

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

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

Daily sitting 90

Friday, October 7, 2022

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House take into consideration Motion 118.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Honourable Members,

I will now rule on the point of order raised by the Opposition House Leader on October 4 with respect to Motion 118.

The Opposition House Leader argued that Motion 118, which is a time allocation motion, was out of order primarily because it allowed for consideration of more than one stage in one day, and was undemocratic.

The wording of Motion 118 is almost identical to the wording of previous time allocation motions ruled to be in order by previous Speakers. All have allowed for consideration of more than one stage in one day.

As I stated in December of 2021, this very matter has been ruled on twice by previous Speakers, this will be the fourth ruling in nine years, and the previous rulings have all found that the use of time allocation motions, in this manner, is acceptable and not contrary to the practices, conventions and Standing Rules of this House.

Accordingly, I find motion 118 to be in order and will allow it to proceed.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 118, Mr. Turner moved, seconded by Mr. Carr:

THAT, notwithstanding the Standing Rules of the Legislative Assembly, following the adoption of this motion, there shall be 10 hours allocated for the proceedings at all stages of the passage of Bill 120 which shall include the hours spent considering said Bill from October 5, 2022, and onward, and at the expiration of the said 10 hours, unless sooner concluded, the Speaker, or the Chair of the

Standing Committee on Economic Policy as the case may be, shall interrupt the proceedings and put every question necessary to dispose of the order for second reading of the said Bill; the order for consideration of the said Bill in committee and report of the Bill to the House; and the order for third reading and passage of the said Bill; and where necessary, the said Bill shall be allowed to advance more than one stage in one day;

THAT, notwithstanding the expiry of the said 10 hours, there shall be, if necessary, 20 minutes allocated at committee stage for the consideration of the said Bill, if requested by the Government House Leader.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 118 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. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. G. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Allain	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Austin	Mr. Dawson
Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus	Mr. R. Savoie

NAYS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Bourque
Mr. Gauvin	Mr. Coon	Mr. Mallet
Mr. McKee	Ms. Mitton	Mr. D'Amours
Mr. Legacy	Mr. Guitard	Mr. Arseneau
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Landry
Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. LePage	Ms. Landry

And then, 10.45 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 91

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House recess for approximately 80 minutes; following which Bill 120 would be called for third reading; following which the House would resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 119; following which, with leave, Bill 119 would be called for third reading; following which the House would consider an adjournment motion; following which Royal Assent would take place.

At 1.59 p.m. the House recessed. At 3.30 p.m. the House resumed.

Mr. Turner, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Thirty-first Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

October 11, 2022

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 thirty-first report.

Your Committee met on October 6, 7 and 11, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 120, *An Act Respecting Community Funding*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, 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 Order being read for third reading of Bill 120, *An Act Respecting Community Funding*, the motion for third reading was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 25

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. G. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Mr. Austin	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Ms. Bockus	Mr. Dawson
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Turner	Mr. R. Savoie
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Ames	
Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Wetmore	

NAYS - 16

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. D'Amours
Mr. Gauvin	Mr. Coon	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. McKee	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Landry
Mr. Legacy	Mr. LeBlanc	Ms. Landry
Ms. Thériault	Mr. LePage	
Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Mallet	

Accordingly, Bill 120, *An Act Respecting Community Funding*, was read a third time and passed.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole with Ms. Anderson-Mason in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Chair, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported:

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

Bill 119, *An Act to Amend the Engineering Technology Act*.

And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

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. G. Savoie requested the unanimous consent of the House to proceed to third reading of Bill 119, and unanimous consent was denied.

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

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, October 25, 2022.

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 a Bill 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 title of the Bill as follows:

Bill 120, *An Act Respecting Community Funding*.

Her Honour signified Her Assent as follows:

It is the King's wish. Le roi le veut.

To this Bill, Her Honour's assent was announced by the Clerk in the following words:

In His Majesty's name, Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor assents to this Bill, enacting the same and ordering it to be enrolled.

Her Honour then retired and Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

And then, 4.10 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:

Pursuant to the *Private Occupational Training Act*,
the audited financial statements of the
Training Completions Fund for the
2021-2022 fiscal year

October 7, 2022

Daily sitting 92

Wednesday, October 12, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, Royal Assent would take place.

The following Private Bill was read a third time:

Bill 119, *An Act to Amend the Engineering Technology Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

At 10.56 a.m. the House recessed. At 11.30 a.m. the House resumed.

Her Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, was announced, and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne.

Madam Deputy Speaker addressed Her Honour as follows:

May It Please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick has passed a Bill 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 Law Clerk then read the title of the Bill as follows:

Bill 119, *An Act to Amend the Engineering Technology Act*.

Her Honour signified Her Assent as follows:

It is the King's wish. Le roi le veut.

To this Bill, Her Honour's assent was announced by the Clerk Assistant in the following words:

In His Majesty's name, Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor assents to this Bill, enacting the same and ordering it to be enrolled.

Her Honour then retired and Madam Deputy Speaker resumed the chair.

And then, 11.37 a.m., the House adjourned.

Daily sitting 93

Tuesday, October 25, 2022

11 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

The Honourable Brenda Murphy, Lieutenant-Governor, was announced, and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne.

Her Honour was pleased to close the session with the following speech:

We have gathered this morning for the prorogation of the first session of the 60th Legislative Assembly. With the closure of this session comes the appreciation of all that has been accomplished over the past two years to overcome the challenges arising from the global pandemic.

I encourage you to continue your efforts on behalf of all New Brunswickers during the session that begins this afternoon.

I would like to start by thanking you for your public service and dedication to the well-being of the people of our province. Political life pushes you to make a number of sacrifices in your personal lives. As sitting members of the Legislative Assembly, you are often separated from your loved ones for long periods.

Despite being members of different political parties, you have a number of common goals. Most notably, you are all here to improve our province and the quality of life of those who live in it. I urge you to put aside partisanship when you debate important issues and make decisions that affect New Brunswickers. Do not forget that they are the ones who have chosen you to represent them in this Assembly.

The people who have chosen you to be here to make decisions on their behalf have high expectations that you will serve them well, and having assumed these positions, you now also serve as role models. Trust in our democratic institutions and in our elected leaders is key to a healthy and prosperous society.

I urge you to take the time to listen to each other; to respect different points of view and debate those views with an open mind. Collaboration and compromise are often needed to achieve substantive and sustainable progress. Combined, your 49 voices represent all New Brunswickers. You have the ability to be actors of change and difference-makers for your constituents.

As community builders and community leaders, we must continue to push for more inclusion and equity in all aspects of society. You have been given great responsibility to look after the best interests of New Brunswick. You are stewards of the land, the resources, and, most importantly, the welfare of people from all walks of life.

The decisions you make here will have effects on the quality of life for New Brunswickers, not only for today, but for generations to come. Do not take this responsibility lightly. I am confident that, as we open the second session of the 60th Legislative Assembly, you will reflect the dignity of this historic Chamber in your actions, your decisions, and your decorum.

Now, with the completion of the business of the first session of this 60th Legislative Assembly, it is my responsibility – and my privilege – to issue the command of His Majesty, King Charles the Third, King of Canada, that this Legislature stand prorogued.

May Divine Providence continue to guide and bless the people of New Brunswick.

The Clerk Assistant of the Legislative Assembly, John-Patrick McCleave, then said:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

It is Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's will and pleasure that the Legislative Assembly be prorogued until 1 o'clock p.m. today, and this Legislative Assembly is hereby prorogued accordingly.

The House prorogued at 11.12 a.m.

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:

New Brunswick Economic and Social Inclusion Plan 2020-2025, Progress Report, October 2022	October 17, 2022
Annual Report 2021-2022 New Brunswick Energy and Utilities Board	October 18, 2022

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Accountability and Continuous Improvement Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 108. First reading, 389; second reading debated, carried, 396; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 424; agreed to, 451; third reading, 457. R.A., 460.

Appointment Process,

An Act Respecting the, Bill 100. First reading, 351; second reading debated, carried, 395; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 424; third reading, 436. R.A., 460.

Appropriations Act 2021-2022,

Bill 59. First reading, second reading carried on division, 175; third reading, 176. R.A., 246.

Appropriations Act 2022-2023,

Bill 101. First reading, second reading, third reading, 389. R.A., 461.

Assessment Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 4. First reading, 41; second reading debated, carried, 68; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 92; third reading, 99. R.A., 109.

Assessment Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 5. First reading, 42; second reading debated, carried, 68; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 86; third reading, 93. R.A., 109.

Beaverbrook Auditorium,

An Act Respecting the, Bill 97. First reading, 351; second reading debated, carried, 394; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 416; third reading, 423. R.A., 460.

Bee Act,

Bill 58. First reading, 175; second reading debated, carried, 206; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Beverage Containers Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 70. First reading, 266; second reading debated, carried, 270; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 297; agreed to, 308; third reading, 325. R.A., 335.

Building Code Administration Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 83. First reading, 298; second reading debated, carried, 312; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 328; third reading, 330. R.A., 335.

Business Corporations Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 95. First reading, 350; second reading debated, adjourned, 393; debated, carried, 394; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 424; third reading debated, amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, debated, defeated on division, 435; motion carried, 436. R.A., 460.

Child and Youth Well-Being Act,

Bill 114. First reading, 414; second reading debated, amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, 419; debated, adjourned, 419, 423, 433, 440; debated, defeated on division, 446; motion carried, 447; Economic Policy Committee agreed to as amended, 458; third reading debated, carried, 459. R.A., 460.

Climate Change Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 2. First reading, 41; second reading debated, carried, 59; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 92; third reading, 99. R.A., 109.

Combat Sport Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 41. First reading, 138; second reading debated, carried, 148; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Community Funding,

An Act Respecting, Bill 120. First reading, 464; second reading debated, 468; carried on division, 469; Economic Policy Committee agreed to as amended, 476; third reading carried on division, 477. R.A., 478.

Construction Remedies Act,

Bill 12. First reading, 42; second reading debated, carried, 58; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 99; third reading, 107. R.A., 109.

Construction Remedies Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 68. First reading, 261; second reading debated, 267; carried, 268; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 314; third reading, 325. R.A., 335.

Coroners Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 10. First reading, 42; second reading debated, carried, 57; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 65; third reading, 73. R.A., 109.

Early Childhood Services Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 3. First reading, 41; second reading debated, carried, 57; Economic Policy Committee agreed to as amended, 111; third reading, 136. R.A., 166.

Early Childhood Services Act,
An Act Respecting the, Bill 109. First reading, 390; second reading debated, 396; adjourned, 397; debated, carried, 398; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 424; third reading debated, adjourned, 436, motion carried, 438. R.A., 460.

Electrical Installation and Inspection Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 74. First reading, 270; second reading debated, carried, 272; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 340; third reading, 351. R.A., 381.

Electricity Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 24. First reading, 66; second reading debated, carried, 75; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 99; third reading, 108. R.A., 110.

Electricity Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 77. First reading, 278; second reading debated, amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, debated, defeated on division, 283; motion carried, 284; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 297; agreed to, 308; third reading debated, amendment proposed, debated, defeated on division, 325; motion carried on division, 326. R.A., 335.

Electricity Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 99. First reading, 351; second reading debated, carried, 390; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 424, 445; agreed to as amended, 448; third reading debated, carried, 454. R.A., 460.

Employment Standards Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 112. First reading, 390; second reading debated, carried, 399; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 424; third reading, 438. R.A., 460.

Empowering the School System,

An Act Respecting the, Bill 35. First reading, 128; second reading debated, adjourned, 181, 184; debated, amendment proposed, debated, adjourned, 190, 197, 210; debated, amendment defeated, debated, amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, debated, 211; adjourned, 212; debated, amendment defeated on division, 213; motion carried on division, 214; Economic Policy Committee agreed to as amended, 230; third reading debated, carried on division, 231. R.A., 245.

Enduring Powers of Attorney Act and the Wills Act,

An Act Respecting the, Bill 14. First reading, 42; second reading debated, carried, 69; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 105; third reading, 108. R.A., 110.

Executive Council Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 8. First reading, 42; second reading debated, carried, 57; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 99; third reading, 107. R.A., 109.

Executive Council Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 107. First reading, 389; second reading debated, carried, 396; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 424; third reading, 436. R.A., 460.

Executive Council Act and the Legislative Assembly Act,

An Act Respecting the, Bill 43. First reading, 138; second reading debated, carried, 150; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 228; third reading, 231. R.A., 245.

Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions Act,

Bill 118. First reading, 432; second reading debated, amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, 439; debated, amendment defeated, motion carried, 440; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 448; agreed to, 451; third reading, 457. R.A., 461.

Family Income Security Act,

An Act Respecting the, Bill 65. First reading, 261; second reading debated, carried, 267; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 282; third reading, 287. R.A., 335.

Family Law Act,

Bill 6. First reading, 42; second reading debated, adjourned, 59; debated, carried, 69; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 99; third reading, 107. R.A., 109.

Family Law Act,

An Act Respecting the, Bill 7. First reading, 42; second reading debated, carried, 69; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 99; third reading, 107. R.A., 109.

Financial and Consumer Services Commission Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 88. First reading, 350; second reading debated, carried, 391; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 416; third reading, 423. R.A., 460.

Fire Prevention Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 93. First reading, 350; second reading debated, carried, 392; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 405; third reading, 415. R.A., 460.

Fish and Wildlife Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 37. First reading, 128; second reading debated, carried, 186; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Gaming Control Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 50. First reading, 175; second reading debated, carried, 198; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 32. First reading, 128; second reading debated, adjourned, 141, 145; carried, 180; Economic Policy Committee agreed to as amended, 208; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 87. First reading, 350; second reading debated, carried, 391; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 416; third reading carried on division, 422. R.A., 460.

Gunshot and Stab Wound Mandatory Reporting Act,

Bill 9. First reading, 42; second reading debated, carried, 57; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 65; third reading, 73. R.A., 109.

Heavy Industrial Property,

An Act Respecting, Bill 117. First reading, 432; second reading debated, carried, 439; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 448; third reading, 454. R.A., 461.

Highway Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 36. First reading, 128; second reading debated, adjourned, 194, 197; debated, carried, 212; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 228; third reading, 231. R.A., 245.

Highway Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 105. First reading, 389; second reading debated, 395; carried, 396; Economic Policy Committee agreed to as amended, 437; third reading debated, carried, 446. R.A., 460.

Image-capturing Enforcement Systems,

An Act Respecting, Bill 51. First reading, 175; second reading debated, adjourned, 199, 200; debated, carried, 204; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading debated, carried on division, 225. R.A., 245.

Industrial Relations Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 21. First reading, 66; second reading debated, 73; amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, debated, adjourned, 74; debated, defeated on division, 77; motion carried, 78; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 92; third reading, 99. R.A., 110.

Insurance Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 33. First reading, 128; second reading debated, carried, 151; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Intimate Images Unlawful Distribution Act,

Bill 69. First reading, 261; second reading debated, carried, 268; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 340; third reading, 351. R.A., 381.

Limitation of Actions Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 49. First reading, 175; second reading debated, carried, 198; Economic Policy Committee agreed to as amended, 208; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Liquor Control Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 22. First reading, 66; second reading debated, carried, 74; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 105; third reading, 108. R.A., 110.

Loan Act 2021,

Bill 47. First reading, 175; second reading debated, carried, 186; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 195; agreed to, 207; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Local Governance Reform,

An Act Respecting, Bill 82. First reading, 295; second reading debated, adjourned, 298; amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, 302; debated, adjourned, 303, 307; debated, 312; defeated, motion carried, 313; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 328; agreed to, 331; third reading, 332. R.A., 335.

Local Governance Reform, 2022,

An Act Respecting, Bill 110. First reading, 390; second reading debated, carried, 398; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 434; agreed to, 437; third reading, 446. R.A., 460.

Marshland Infrastructure Maintenance Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 106. First reading, 389; second reading debated, carried, 396; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 437; third reading, 446. R.A., 460.

Medical Consent of Minors Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 56. First reading, 175; second reading debated, carried, 205; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 224; third reading, 229. R.A., 245.

Miscellaneous Statutes Amendment Act,

Bill 42. First reading, 138; second reading debated, amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, 148; debated, 149; defeated, motion carried, 150; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 225; agreed to, 228; third reading, 231. R.A., 245.

Modernization of Legislation Governing Limited Liability Partnerships,

An Act Respecting the, Bill 72. First reading, 266; second reading debated, 270; carried, 271; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 340; third reading, 351. R.A., 381.

Motor Vehicle Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 13. First reading, 42; second reading debated, carried, 58; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 105; third reading debated, amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, 107; debated, defeated on division, motion carried, 108. R.A., 110.

Motor Vehicle Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 113. First reading, 390; second reading debated, carried, 399; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 437; third reading, 446. R.A., 460.

Municipal Elections Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 23. First reading, 66; second reading debated, amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, 74; debated, defeated, motion carried, 75; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 92; agreed to, 99; third reading, 108. R.A., 110.

Municipal General Elections in 2021,

An Act Respecting, Bill 45. First reading, 138; second reading debated, carried, 146; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 152; third reading, 155. R.A., 166.

New Brunswick Income Tax Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 34. First reading, 128; second reading debated, carried, 180; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

New Brunswick Income Tax Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 48. First reading, 175; second reading debated, 186; adjourned, 187; debated, carried on division, 197; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading, 225. R.A., 245.

New Brunswick Income Tax Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 103. First reading, 389; second reading debated, carried, 395; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 445; third reading, 450. R.A., 460.

Notaries Public Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 15. First reading, 42; second reading debated, carried, 59; Economic Policy Committee agreed to as amended, 111; third reading, 136. R.A., 166.

Nursing Homes Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 80. First reading, 294; second reading debated, carried, 296; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 308; agreed to, 314; third reading, 327. R.A., 335.

Occupational Health and Safety Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 111. First reading, 390; second reading debated, carried, 398; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 424; third reading, 438. R.A., 460.

Operation of the Order Relating to COVID-19 under the Emergency Measures Act,
An Act Respecting the, Bill 54. First reading, 175; second reading debated, carried, 205; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Opportunities New Brunswick Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 40. First reading, 138; second reading debated, carried, 148; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 175; agreed to as amended, 195; third reading, 204. R.A., 245.

Pension Benefits Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 71. First reading, 266; second reading debated, carried, 270; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 282; third reading, 287. R.A., 335.

Plumbing Installation and Inspection Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 92. First reading, 350; second reading debated, carried, 392; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 405; third reading, 415. R.A., 460.

Police Act,
An Act Respecting the, Bill 53. First reading, 175; second reading debated, carried, 205; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading debated, carried on division, 226. R.A., 245.

Police Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 84. First reading, 298; second reading debated, carried, 312; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 328; third reading, 330. R.A., 335.

Police Act,
An Act to Amend An Act to Amend the, Bill 94. First reading, 350; second reading debated, carried, 393; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 405; third reading, 415. R.A., 460.

Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 90. First reading, 350; second reading debated, carried, 392; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 405; agreed to, 414; third reading, 418. R.A., 460.

Procurement Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 67. First reading, 261; second reading debated, carried, 267; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 297; third reading, 307. R.A., 335.

Provincial Court Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 98. First reading, 351; second reading debated, carried, 395; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 434; third reading, 438. R.A., 460.

Provincial Offences Procedure Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 52. First reading, 175; second reading debated, carried, 204; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Public Health Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 91. First reading, 350; second reading debated, carried, 392; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 414; third reading, 418. R.A., 460.

Public Health Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 104. First reading, 389; second reading debated, carried, 395; Economic Policy Committee agreed to as amended, 424; third reading, 438. R.A., 460.

Public Trustee Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 44. First reading, 138; second reading debated, carried, 186; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Queen's Counsel and Precedence Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 11. First reading, 42; second reading debated, 57; carried, 58; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 65; third reading, 73. R.A., 109.

Real Property Tax Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 89. First reading, 350; second reading debated, carried, 391; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 416; agreed to, 445; third reading, 449. R.A., 460.

Regulatory Accountability and Reporting Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 57. First reading, 175; second reading debated, carried, 206; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 207; third reading, 222. R.A., 245.

Residential Tenancies Act,

An Act to Amend The, Bill 66. First reading, 261; second reading debated, carried, 267; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 297; third reading debated, carried on division, 306. R.A., 335.

Residential Tenancies Act,
An Act to Amend The, Bill 96. First reading, 350; second reading debated, carried, 394; Economic Policy Committee progress reported, 424; agreed to as amended, 445; third reading debated, carried, 449. R.A., 460.

Retail Sale of Cannabis,
An Act Respecting the, Bill 79. First reading, 294; second reading debated, carried, 295; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 340; third reading, 353. R.A., 381.

Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 73. First reading, 270; second reading debated, carried, 272; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 340; third reading, 351. R.A., 381.

Service New Brunswick Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 38. First reading, 128; second reading debated, carried, 147; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 174; third reading, 183. R.A., 245.

Special Appropriation Act 2022,
Bill 86. First reading, 350; second reading debated, carried, 391; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 416; third reading, 422. R.A., 460.

Supplementary Appropriations Act 2018-2019 (1),
Bill 30. First reading, second reading, 96; third reading, 97. R.A., 110.

Supplementary Appropriations Act 2019-2020 (1),
Bill 60. First reading, 175; second reading, third reading, 176. R.A., 245.

Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (1),
Bill 31. First reading, second reading, 96; third reading, 97. R.A., 110.

Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (2),
Bill 102. First reading, second reading, third reading, 389. R.A., 460.

Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 55. First reading, 175; second reading debated, carried, 205; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 224; third reading, 229. R.A., 245.

Workers' Compensation Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 19. First reading, 66; second reading debated, carried, 73; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 111; third reading, 136. R.A., 166.

Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission and Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 20. First reading, 66; second reading debated, carried, 73; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 111; third reading, 136. R.A., 166.

Government Public Bills [Not Passed]

Mining Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 75. First reading, 270; second reading debated, 272; carried, 273; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 340; third reading debated, 351; amendment proposed, debated, defeated on division, 352; amendment proposed, refer to Law Amendments Committee, debated, carried on division, 353; Second Report of Law Amendments Committee, 432.

Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 76. First reading, 278; second reading debated, carried, 282.

Private Bills [Passed]

Certain Restrictive Covenants on Title to Certain Lands in The City of Saint John vested in Plazacorp Property Holdings Inc.,
An Act to Remove, Bill 25. First reading, referred to Private Bills Committee, 71; reported favourably, 87; second reading, third reading, 93. R.A., 110.

Cosmetology Association of New Brunswick,
An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate the, Bill 115. First reading, referred to Private Bills Committee, 417; reported favourably with amendments, 425; second reading, third reading, 439. R.A., 460.

Engineering Technology Act,
An Act to Amend the, Bill 119. First reading, referred to Private Bills Committee, 433; progress reported, 449; reported favourably with amendments, 463; second reading debated, 469; carried on division, 470; Committee of the Whole agreed to as amended, 477; third reading carried, 479. R.A., 479.

Keystone General Insurance Company,
An Act to Amend An Act Respecting, Bill 62. First reading, referred to Private Bills Committee, 185; reported favourably, 208; second reading debated, carried, 222; third reading, 223. R.A., 246.

New Brunswick Registered Barbers' Association,
An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate The, Bill 116. First reading, referred to Private Bills Committee, 422; reported favourably, 425; second reading, third reading, 439. R.A., 461.

Podiatry,

An Act to Amend An Act Respecting, Bill 64. First reading, referred to Private Bills Committee, 225; reported favourably, 286; second reading, third reading, 293. R.A., 335.

Saint John Transit Commission Act,

An Act to Amend the, Bill 27. First reading, referred to Private Bills Committee, 84; reported favourably with amendments, 112; second reading, third reading, 136. R.A., 166.

United Church of Canada,

An Act Respecting The, Bill 78. First reading, referred to Private Bills Committee, 286; reported favourably, 425; second reading, third reading, 439. R.A., 460.

Private Members' Public Bills [Passed]*Tobacco and Electronic Cigarette Sales Act,*

An Act to Amend the, Bill 63. First reading, 209; second reading debated, amendment proposed, ruled out of order, motion carried, 215; Economic Policy Committee agreed to, 224; third reading, 232. R.A., 246.

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