
Daily sitting 49

Thursday, June 6, 2024

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Holland welcomed to the House Stewart Fairgrieve, former Progressive Conservative MLA for Carleton (2015-2020).

Ms. Conroy, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Fourteenth Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

June 6, 2024

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 June 4 and 5, 2024, and had under consideration:

Bill 47, *Accessibility Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Michelle Conroy, 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. Speaker recognized Hon. Mr. Fitch to make a farewell speech in the House.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bill 47 be ordered for third reading forthwith.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 47, *Accessibility Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

On motion of Hon. Mr. G. 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, June 7, 2024, at 8.30 a.m.

Debate resumed on the amendment to Motion 56, moved by Hon. Mr. Turner, seconded by Hon. Mr. G. Savoie, on Thursday, May 16, 2024.

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

And after some further time, Mr. LePage, seconded by Mr. M. LeBlanc, moved a sub-amendment:

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to Motion 56 be amended by striking out “to continue to work” and substituting “to take meaningful actions”.

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

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

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

YEAS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. LePage
Mr. Legacy	Mr. Coon	Mr. Bourque
Ms. Holt	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Mallet
Mr. McKee	Mr. J. LeBlanc	Mr. Losier
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. M. LeBlanc
Mr. Gauvin	Mr. D'Amours	Ms. Landry

NAYS - 22

Hon. Mr. Hogan	Hon. Mr. R. Savoie	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. G. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Allain
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Austin	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Dawson
Hon. Ms. Green	Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Ames	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Turner	
Hon. Mr. Holland	Hon. Ms. Bockus	

Mr. Speaker put the question on the amendment and it was adopted on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 22

Hon. Mr. Hogan	Hon. Mr. R. Savoie	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. G. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Allain
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Austin	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Dawson
Hon. Ms. Green	Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Ames	Mr. Carr
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Turner	
Hon. Mr. Holland	Hon. Ms. Bockus	

NAYS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. LePage
Mr. Legacy	Mr. Coon	Mr. Bourque
Ms. Holt	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Mallet
Mr. McKee	Mr. J. LeBlanc	Mr. Losier
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. M. LeBlanc
Mr. Gauvin	Mr. D'Amours	Ms. Landry

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 56 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS the effective functioning of labour relations is crucial for fostering prosperity and well-being among workers and employers in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS there exist opportunities for enhancing labour relations practices within the province to foster greater cooperation and collaboration among employers, employees, and their representatives;

WHEREAS the current framework provided by the *Public Service Labour Relations Act* and the *Industrial Relations Act* could be refined through collaborative efforts to address concerns and promote mutual understanding, thereby fostering increased job satisfaction, productivity, and economic growth in New Brunswick;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly urge the government of New Brunswick to continue to work towards improving labour relations.

And the question being put, Motion 56 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Honourable Members,

On Thursday last, the Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Development moved an amendment to Motion 49. Following which, the Member for Restigouche-Chaleur rose on a point of order and submitted the amendment was out of order.

I have now reviewed the original motion and the proposed amendment and I find the amendment to be out of order for the following reasons.

The original motion discussed advertising campaigns directed at other levels of government and urged the provincial government to refrain from spending public funds on such campaigns.

The amendment proposes to remove mention of advertising campaigns directed at other levels of government from the preamble and resolution clause, and to substitute a resolution urging the government to ensure the public is informed of the actions of all levels of government. However, a reference to “such advertising expenditures” would remain in the preamble and would be rendered unintelligible by the amendment.

As stated in Beauchesne’s Parliamentary Rules and Forms 6th Edition at paragraph 568: *It is an imperative rule that every amendment must be relevant to the question on which the amendment is proposed. Every amendment proposed to be made ... should be so framed that ... the question ... would be intelligible and consistent with itself.*

If adopted, I find the wording of the motion as amended would be unclear and inconsistent with itself.

In addition, as stated in Beauchesne at paragraph 578:

- (1) *An amendment proposing a direct negative, though it may be covered up by verbiage, is out of order.*
- (2) *An amendment which would produce the same result as if the original motion were simply negated is out of order.*

When I compare the original resolution clause urging the government not to advertise regarding other levels of government, on the one hand, with the proposed amendment urging the government to ensure the public is informed of the actions of all levels of government, on the other hand, I find that, despite different terminology, it essentially amounts to a negative of the original motion.

Accordingly, I find the amendment to be out of order.

Debate resumed on Motion 49, moved by Mr. M. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Legacy, on Thursday, May 9, 2024.

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that Hon. Mr. G Savoie used unparliamentary language when he used the words “buying votes”. Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken and requested that Hon. Mr. G. Savoie withdraw the words, which he did.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 49 was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 18

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. LePage
Mr. Legacy	Mr. Coon	Mr. Bourque
Ms. Holt	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Mallet
Mr. McKee	Mr. J. LeBlanc	Mr. Losier
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. M. LeBlanc
Mr. Gauvin	Mr. D'Amours	Ms. Landry

NAYS - 21

Hon. Mr. Hogan	Hon. Mr. R. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. G. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Austin	Mr. Allain
Hon. Ms. Green	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Dawson
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Ames	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Holland	Hon. Mr. Turner	Mr. Carr

Debate resumed on Motion 12, moved by Mr. McKee, seconded by Mr. Arseneault, on Thursday, November 2, 2023.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 12 was resolved in the negative.

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