
Daily sitting 11

Thursday, December 12, 2024

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Madam Speaker rose to address the point of order raised the previous sitting day, and ruled that Mr. Hogan had used unparliamentary language when he accused the Premier of “encouraging voters to mislead themselves” and cautioned Members against using the term “mislead”.

Following Oral Questions, Madam Speaker cautioned Members against using the term “incompetent”.

At the request of Ms. M. Johnson, it was agreed by unanimous consent to replace the resolution clause in Notice of Motion 7 with the following:

“BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to conduct a study in consultation with the Ag Alliance, Circular Materials, Plaex as well as any other relevant stakeholders to find a means to determine an appropriate strategy to manage agricultural solid waste.”

Mr. M. LeBlanc, Government House Leader, announced that, with leave, it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to proceed with the vote on the Supplementary Estimates 2024-2025, Volume 1; following which, with leave, the House would revert to Introduction of Bills.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply.

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

And after some time, Madam Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. Arseneault, the Chair, after requesting that Madam 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, Madam 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, 2024-2025, Volume 1

RESOLVED, that there be granted to His Majesty sums not exceeding the following to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2025:

ORDINARY ACCOUNT	Voted (\$)
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	
Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries	25,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	
Corporate and Other Education Services	2,300,000
School Districts	6,200,000
Voted.....	8,500,000
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Medicare	33,000,000
Part III Health Services	160,000,000
Voted.....	193,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY	
Technical Safety and Corporate Services Division.....	3,200,000
Community Safety Division	1,700,000
Security and Emergencies Division	600,000
Voted.....	5,500,000
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	
Natural Resources	2,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Child Welfare and Youth Services	25,000,000
Income Security	25,000,000
Voted.....	50,000,000
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	
NEW BRUNSWICK HOUSING CORPORATION	
Public Housing - Capital Construction	29,500,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Nursing Home Services - Capital Improvements	12,500,000
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, HERITAGE AND CULTURE	
Capital Improvements.....	1,500,000

The said items were concurred in by the House.

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

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Legacy,

Bill 5, Supplementary Appropriations Act 2024-2025 (1).

Madam Speaker announced that pursuant to Standing Rule 42.3(1), Bill 5 was ordered for second and third reading forthwith.

The following Bill was read a second time:

Bill 5, Supplementary Appropriations Act 2024-2025 (1).

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 5, Supplementary Appropriations Act 2024-2025 (1).

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

Debate resumed on the amendment to Motion 5, moved by Hon. Mr. Gauvin, seconded by Hon. Mr. McKee, on Thursday, November 28, 2024.

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

YEAS - 29

Hon. Mr. Gauvin	Hon. Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Mallet
Mr. M. LeBlanc	Hon. Ms. Boudreau	Mr. Arseneault
Hon. Ms. Holt	Hon. Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Bourque
Hon. Mr. Legacy	Hon. Mr. Finnigan	Mr. J. LeBlanc
Hon. Ms. C. Johnson	Hon. Mr. Herron	Ms. Vautour
Hon. Mr. Dornan	Hon. Mr. Hickey	Ms. Sodhi
Hon. Ms. Miles	Hon. Mr. Randall	Mr. Johnston
Hon. Mr. LePage	Hon. Mr. Kennedy	Mr. Robichaud
Hon. Mr. D'Amours	Hon. Ms. Townsend	Mr. Coon
Hon. Mr. McKee	Ms. Wilcott	

NAYS - 15

Mr. Hogan	Mr. Monahan	Ms. S. Wilson
Ms. M. Johnson	Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Cullins
Mr. Savoie	Mr. Weir	Ms. Bockus
Ms. Scott-Wallace	Ms. Conroy	Mr. Lee
Mr. Austin	Mr. Oliver	Mr. Dawson

Madam Speaker put the question on Motion 5 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS New Brunswick has the second-highest Crime Severity Index east of Manitoba;

WHEREAS New Brunswick communities are experiencing significant struggles under the burden of theft, violent crime, and growing public safety concerns;

WHEREAS local police forces are overwhelmed with calls and investigations related to drug-related offences;

WHEREAS the rise in overall crime rates is directly linked to the widespread use of illicit drugs;

WHEREAS a majority of convicted inmates have a history of addiction to illicit drugs;

WHEREAS our youth are increasingly vulnerable to exploitation by drug dealers operating within our communities;

WHEREAS the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) program has been highly effective in identifying and shutting down over 250 drug houses in the past two years, contributing to safer communities and reduced drug availability;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the provincial government to:

1. Promote public awareness of the SCAN program and its impact on reducing drug-related crime;
2. Further support the closure of illegal drug operations; and
3. Commit to a sustained effort in reducing the supply of illicit drugs and tackling the root causes of drug-related crime in our communities.

And the question being put, Motion 5 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 7, Ms. Scott-Wallace moved, seconded by Mr. Savoie:

WHEREAS farm solid waste is currently not collected and disposed of by all municipal or local garbage collection services;

WHEREAS solid waste disposal represents a cost and logistical burden for farmers;

WHEREAS farmers pay property taxes for access to public services like everyone else;

WHEREAS farmers and their livelihood are essential to our health, well being, and quality of life;

WHEREAS farmers and their businesses are vital to the larger success of our economy;

WHEREAS some local governments provide solid waste collection and disposal services now, including silage wrap, and others had done so previously;

WHEREAS provincial regulations once stipulated the Minister of Local Government must provide collection and disposal service for farm properties in rural communities, regional municipalities and local service districts, including silage wrap;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to conduct a study in consultation with the Ag Alliance, Circular Materials, Plaex as well as any other relevant stakeholders to find a means to determine an appropriate strategy to manage agricultural solid waste.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Hon. Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Hon. Mr. Finnigan, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 7 be amended in the resolution clause by deleting “to conduct a study in consultation with the Ag Alliance, Circular Materials, Plaex as well as any other relevant stakeholders to find a means to determine an appropriate strategy to manage agricultural solid waste” and replacing it with “to continue working with municipalities, Regional Services Commissions, the Agricultural Alliance, Circular Materials and Plaex, as well as any other relevant stakeholders, to determine opportunities to manage agricultural plastic waste in a sustainable manner.”

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

At 4.49 p.m. the House recessed. At 4.56 p.m. the House resumed.

And after some time, Madam 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 2023-2024

Department of Social Development

December 11, 2024