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Daily sitting 27

Thursday, May 15, 2025

*1 o'clock p.m.*

Prayers.

Madam Speaker introduced Ève Lynn Smollett and Simon Thériault, participants in the sixth year of the Legislative Internship Program.

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Following Statements by Members, Mr. M. LeBlanc rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Cullins implied the Premier was not being truthful. Mr. Savoie spoke on the point of order. Madam Speaker cautioned Members that certain statements appeared to question the honesty of fellow Members.

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Ms. M. Wilson requested the unanimous consent of the House to speak from a desk other than her own. Mr. M. LeBlanc rose on a point of order and submitted that the request should be made from the Member's own desk. Mr. Arseneault spoke on the point of order. Madam Speaker ruled the point well taken.

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Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton Lincoln, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to implement a framework to help the unhoused navigate the healthcare system. (Petition 11)

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

May 15, 2025

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

Madam Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Economic Policy begs leave to submit this, their sixth report.

Your Committee met on May 14, 2025, and had under consideration:

Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act*;  
Bill 15, *An Act Respecting the Highway Act*;  
Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Natacha Vautour, M.L.A.  
Chair

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, 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.

Mr. J. LeBlanc gave Notice of Motion 33 that on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Doucet:

THAT in addition to the existing sitting hours prescribed in Standing Rule 29, the House may sit on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. until midnight;

THAT this Special Order shall come into effect on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, and shall remain in effect for the duration of the First Session of the 61<sup>st</sup> Legislative Assembly.

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

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns on Friday, May 16, 2025, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, May 27, 2025.

Debate resumed on the amendment to Motion 7, moved by Hon. Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Hon. Mr. Finnigan, on December 12, 2024.

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

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Hon. Mr. Gauvin	Hon. Mr. Herron	Mr. Austin
Mr. M. LeBlanc	Hon. Mr. Hickey	Mr. Monahan
Hon. Ms. C. Johnson	Hon. Mr. Kennedy	Ms. M. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Dornan	Ms. Wilcott	Mr. Coon
Hon. Ms. Miles	Mr. Mallet	Mr. Weir
Hon. Mr. LePage	Mr. Arseneault	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. D'Amours	Ms. Vautour	Mr. Oliver
Hon. Mr. McKee	Ms. Sodhi	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Ms. Thériault	Mr. Robichaud	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Hogan	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Ms. Boudreau	Mr. Savoie	Mr. Lee
Hon. Mr. Finnigan	Ms. Scott-Wallace	Ms. Mitton

Madam Speaker put the question on Motion 7 as amended as follows:

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 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.

And the question being put, Motion 7 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

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Debate resumed on Motion 15, moved by Mr. Lee, the seconder, on behalf of Ms. M. Johnson, on March 27, 2025.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 15 was resolved in the affirmative.

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Debate resumed on the sub-amendment to Motion 17, moved by Mr. Monahan, seconded by Mr. Oliver, on May 8, 2025.

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

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

Madam Speaker put the question on Motion 17 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS Canada's healthcare system is one of the most comprehensive in the world, but rural and underserved areas face a growing shortage of healthcare professionals, with over 1.2 million Canadians living in communities without access to a family doctor;

WHEREAS New Brunswick currently faces significant healthcare challenges, with rural areas of the province experiencing critical shortages of family physicians and specialists, which impact the quality and accessibility of healthcare for residents;

WHEREAS, according to Statistics Canada, as of 2021, nearly 140,000 New Brunswickers did not have access to a family doctor, contributing to longer wait times and poorer health outcomes for many in the province;

WHEREAS the implementation of financial incentives, such as tuition rebates or loan forgiveness programs, has been shown to be effective in other provinces in attracting and retaining healthcare professionals in underserved areas, including successful models in Quebec and Manitoba;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government and Department of Health to continue paying special attention to rural New Brunswick to explore financial incentives such as a tuition rebate for medical students who agree to return and practice medicine in New Brunswick.

And the question being put, Motion 17 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

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The Order being read for second reading of Bill 19, *An Act Respecting the Right to a Healthy Environment*, a debate arose thereon.

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

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