

Daily sitting 28

Friday, May 16, 2025

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Madam Speaker advised Members that two bee hives were placed on the roof of the Departmental Building for the production of honey and in support of the parliamentary pollination project.

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

May 16, 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 seventh report.

Your Committee met on May 15, 2025, and had under consideration:

Bill 10, *An Act Respecting Motorcycle Safety*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 17, *An Act Respecting Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

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.

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

By Mr. J. LeBlanc,
Bill 36, *Osteopathy Act*.

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Ms. Mitton gave Notice of Motion 34 that on Thursday, May 29, 2025, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Coon:

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers struggling with addiction and mental health issues often have trouble finding a way to get the treatment they need;

WHEREAS the Department of Health only funds 67 detox beds and 34 rehab beds for adults, youth, and children with substance use disorders through the Regional Health Authorities;

WHEREAS the limited availability of public treatment options in New Brunswick has resulted in prolonged waiting times, leaving vulnerable individuals without timely access to essential care and support;

WHEREAS privately run rehab centres have proliferated to fill in the gap created by the overstretched publicly funded facilities;

WHEREAS private addiction treatment centres are unregulated in New Brunswick, which raises concerns about the quality of care and treatment provided, potentially jeopardizing the well-being of those seeking assistance;

WHEREAS a comprehensive and compassionate approach to addressing addiction and mental health issues requires increased investment in public detox and rehab facilities, coupled with robust regulation to ensure the highest standards of care;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to take immediate action to establish and enforce regulations for all private rehab centres, ensuring transparency, accountability, and the provision of high-quality care for individuals seeking treatment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to increase its investment in public detox and rehab facilities to reduce the waiting list for those seeking treatment.

Ms. Scott-Wallace gave Notice of Motion 35 that on Thursday, May 29, 2025, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Austin:

WHEREAS, in January, a neighbouring province adopted legislation declaring domestic violence an epidemic;

WHEREAS organizations such as White Ribbon Fredericton, Survivors United Against Violence, the New Brunswick Federation of Labour, and more than 20 local community agencies have called on the government of New Brunswick to make a similar declaration;

WHEREAS these calls have so far gone unanswered, despite the urgent need for action;

WHEREAS New Brunswick has the third highest rate of intimate partner violence in Canada and the highest in Atlantic Canada;

WHEREAS incidents of abuse in the province have risen by 39% over the last 12 years, with rural communities being particularly affected;

WHEREAS acknowledging domestic violence as an epidemic would help to bring necessary attention, resources, and coordinated action to address this growing crisis;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick urge the government to formally declare domestic violence an epidemic in the province and commit to coordinated, sustained efforts to prevent and respond to intimate partner violence in all communities.

Mr. M. LeBlanc, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bills 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 23, 33, 20, 22, 24 and 35 be called for second reading until 12 p.m.; at which time the House would adjourn.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 7, *An Act Respecting Travel Nurses*.

Bill 8, *An Act Respecting the Degree Granting Act*.

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

Bill 13, *An Act Respecting the Firefighters' Compensation Act and the Workers' Compensation Act*.

Bill 15, *An Act Respecting the Highway Act*.

Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 25, *An Act Respecting Subordinate Judicial Officials*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 25 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 25, *An Act Respecting Subordinate Judicial Officials*, 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 26, *An Act to Amend the Atlantic Provinces Harness Racing Commission Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

And then, 12 p.m., the House adjourned.