



## **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

### **Second Session, 61<sup>st</sup> Legislative Assembly**

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**ORDER AND NOTICE PAPER – Sitting No. 19**  
**Thursday, December 4, 2025**

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#### **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

Prayers  
Introduction of Guests  
Statements of Condolence and Congratulation  
Statements by Members  
Oral Questions (30 minutes)  
Tabling of Documents  
Statements by Ministers  
Presentations of Petitions  
Answers to Petitions and Written Questions  
Presentations of Committee Reports  
Introduction of Bills  
Notices of Motions  
Notice of Opposition Members' Business  
Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House  
Deferred Recorded Divisions  
Orders of the Day

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#### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

## **GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS**

### **STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC POLICY**

Bill 21, An Act to Amend the Child and Youth Well-Being Act – Hon. Ms. Miles

### **COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY**

Capital Estimates 2026-2027

### **BILLS AWAITING ROYAL ASSENT**

Bill 2, An Act to Amend the Public Health Act – Hon. Mr. Dornan

Bill 3, An Act to Amend the Securities Act – Hon. Mr. Legacy

Bill 4, An Act Respecting the Agriculture Appeal Board Act and the Bee Act – Hon. Mr. Finnigan

Bill 5, An Act to Amend the Opportunities New Brunswick Act – Hon. Mr. Randall

Bill 6, An Act to Amend the University of New Brunswick Act – Hon. Mr. D'Amours

Bill 7, An Act Respecting the Early Childhood Services Act – Hon. Ms. C. Johnson

Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Order of New Brunswick Act – Hon. Mr. D'Amours

Bill 9, An Act Respecting the Emergency 911 Act – Hon. Mr. Gauvin

Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Gaming Control Act – Hon. Mr. Legacy

Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Statistics Act – Hon. Mr. Legacy

Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Commissioners for Taking Affidavits Act – Hon. Mr. Legacy

Bill 13, An Act to Amend the Wills Act – Hon. Mr. McKee, K.C.

Bill 14, Free Trade Within Canada Act – Hon. Mr. D'Amours

Bill 15, An Act Respecting Pension Benefits – Hon. Mr. Legacy

Bill 16, An Act to Amend the Liquor Control Act – Hon. Mr. Gauvin

Bill 17, An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act – Hon. Mr. Kennedy

Bill 18, Mactaquac Life Achievement Project Act – Hon. Mr. Legacy

Bill 19, An Act Respecting the New Brunswick Association of Occupational Therapists  
– Mr. Bourque

Bill 20, An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Certain Parks and Streets in The City of Fredericton  
– Ms. Vautour

## **GOVERNMENT MOTIONS**

### **CONCLUDED**

**Motion 15 by Hon. Ms. Holt.** Debated and carried November 7, 2025.

**Motion 16 by Hon. Mr. Legacy.** Debated and carried December 2, 2025.

**Motion 17 by Hon. Ms. Holt.** Carried November 19, 2025.

**Motion 20 by Mr. M. LeBlanc.** Carried December 2, 2025.

## **OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

*[Order in accordance with notice provided pursuant to Standing Rule 44(4)]*

## **OPPOSITION MEMBERS' MOTIONS**

### ***Debatable Motions***

**Motion 1 by Mr. Ames**, seconded by Mr. Hogan to propose the following resolution on Thursday, October 30, 2025:

WHEREAS drug addiction and recovery are critical public health and public safety issues that deeply impact individuals, families, small businesses and communities across New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the last report from Correctional Service Canada from 2019 estimated that 78% of offenders in correctional institutions struggled with substance use;

WHEREAS the chief of the Saint John police has attributed the 8% increase in violent crime in Saint John to illicit drugs;

WHEREAS therapeutic community models / therapeutic living units have been successfully implemented in correctional settings in North America and Europe, and have consistently demonstrated that these corrections-based programs are effective in reducing post-release criminal activity and re-incarceration rates;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to invest in developing therapeutic living units in all provincial correctional facilities in New Brunswick, complete with transition programs and follow-up supports, so inmates struggling with addiction can access the treatment that they need while incarcerated, allowing them to work toward a healthy future, free from substance-use disorder during and after their sentence.

***[Debate interrupted due to expiration of time.]***

**Motion 9 by Mr. Austin**, seconded by Mr. Ames to propose the following resolution on Thursday, October 30, 2025:

WHEREAS mental illness and addiction are not moral failings but health conditions that affect families and communities in every corner of this country, and each year in Canada, over 4,800 people die by suicide, while over 20 Canadians die every single day from toxic drug poisonings;

WHEREAS behind these statistics are loved ones — parents, children, neighbours, friends — whose suffering often unfolds in silence and desperation, leaving families and communities powerless and legally unable to intervene until it is too late;

WHEREAS in New Brunswick, suicide and overdose deaths have climbed steadily in recent years, with suicide rates among the highest in Atlantic Canada and the province seeing a more than 60% increase in suspected drug poisoning deaths since 2016, while emergency rooms and law enforcement agencies face increasing crisis calls with limited tools to respond effectively;

WHEREAS leading jurisdictions such as Portugal, Norway, and parts of Canada have shown that combining compassionate, legally safeguarded intervention with wraparound care — housing, treatment, counseling, and long-term follow-up — can reduce emergency visits, lower overdose deaths, and reconnect people with their families and communities;

WHEREAS the absence of a structured, compassionate intervention framework in New Brunswick leaves families without options, police without adequate supports, and people in crisis without a pathway to sustained recovery;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to establish a framework where individuals in severe crisis can be compassionately intervened upon — with safeguards, wraparound services, and clear oversight — ensuring dignity, safety, and the best chance for recovery.

**Motion 10 by Mr. Austin**, seconded by Mr. Savoie to propose the following resolution on Thursday, October 30, 2025:

WHEREAS collaboration with First Nations and other stakeholders is essential in fostering mutual respect, ensuring environmental stewardship, and promoting inclusive decision-making in the management of natural resources;

WHEREAS Natural Resources Canada estimates that New Brunswick sits on nearly 80 trillion cubic feet of recoverable natural gas, which the Fraser Institute estimates is worth between \$186 billion and \$221 billion at current market prices;

WHEREAS the federal government has demonstrated interest in the development and export of Canada's energy resources to our allies, as exemplified by the signing of a Joint Declaration of Intent between Canada and Germany in August 2025 to build energy partnerships and Saint John-Kennebecasis Liberal MP Wayne Long stating in September 2025 that the Holt government should restart shale gas development in New Brunswick to take advantage of the next export potential;

WHEREAS the Russian war against Ukraine has forced Europe to reassess its previous reliance on Russian natural gas imports, resulting in the European Union's REPowerEU Plan, adopted in May 2022 which seeks to eliminate all imports of Russian gas by the end of 2027, thus necessitating new import sources;

WHEREAS Europe's transition to green energy includes natural gas, as reinforced via a European Commission court ruling in September 2025;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to immediately lift the moratorium on natural gas exploration and work collaboratively with First Nations and other stakeholders to explore and develop our natural gas resources.

**Motion 5 by Mr. Monahan**, seconded by Ms. Scott-Wallace to propose the following resolution on Thursday, October 30, 2025:

WHEREAS so-called "safe injection sites" have proven to be a public policy failure;

WHEREAS there is no actual "safe injection" of illicit drugs;

WHEREAS "safe injection sites" are not designed to help individuals suffering from addictions reach recovery but instead keep them suffering in their addiction;

WHEREAS where these injection sites are found, crime rises and community standards fall;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to close any and all "safe injection sites" that are operating in the province.

**Motion 6 by Mr. Lee**, seconded by Mr. Russell to propose the following resolution on Thursday, October 30, 2025:

WHEREAS every person deserves the dignity of a safe place to call home, yet too many New Brunswickers living with mental illness, cognitive challenges, or addictions are caught between two extremes — struggling alone without adequate supports or being institutionalized in settings that are not designed to foster independence or community connection;

WHEREAS research consistently shows that supportive housing with integrated services reduces hospital admissions, lowers emergency room visits by up to 50%, and improves recovery outcomes, giving people the stability they need to rebuild their lives;

WHEREAS in New Brunswick, a shortage of community-based housing options has left many individuals with moderate mental health or cognitive support needs in inappropriate settings — including hospitals, shelters, or correctional facilities — with no clear path to stable housing, leading to a revolving door between crisis and care;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to establish small-scale, supportive community living units with on-site staff for those who cannot live fully independently but do not require institutionalization, ensuring dignity, stability, and meaningful pathways to recovery and community participation.

**Motion 7 by Ms. Conroy**, seconded by Ms. Bockus to propose the following resolution on Thursday, October 30, 2025:

WHEREAS aftercare and transitional supports have been shown to reduce relapse;

WHEREAS all Horizon-operated mobile crisis units in the province close by 11 pm;

WHEREAS the only in-person option for after-hours treatment for overdose and other acute substance use related emergencies are often busy and crowded emergency rooms;

WHEREAS long-term stays in dedicated addiction rehabilitation facilities have been replaced by repeated short-term stays, emergency room visits, and calls for emergency services in a phenomenon called “the Revolving Door”;

WHEREAS overdoses present a critical opportunity for addiction intervention and connection to recovery services;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to extend mobile care unit hours in all areas of the province to 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and provide transitional supports, including follow-up consultations with addiction counsellors, to addicted patients leaving hospital care to stop the revolving door of substance use related emergencies and hospitalization.

**Motion 8 by Mr. Cullins**, seconded by Mr. Oliver to propose the following resolution on Thursday, October 30, 2025:

WHEREAS New Brunswick continues to face significant mental health and addictions challenges, with growing wait times and limited access to services across the province;

WHEREAS while these positions represent a positive step forward, ten trainers are not sufficient to meet the training and capacity-building needs of an entire provincial mental health and addictions system;

WHEREAS effective and compassionate recovery care requires a well-supported workforce that includes psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, counsellors, and peer support workers — all adequately trained and confident in addressing the complexities of addiction and mental health recovery;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to:

Expand workforce development initiatives beyond the ten current trainer positions to ensure adequate coverage across all health zones;

Implement a comprehensive recruitment and retention strategy for psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and peer support workers to address ongoing staffing shortages;

Ensure all mental health and addictions professionals receive continuous, evidence-based training to build confidence, consistency, and recovery-oriented care across the province.

**Motion 12 by Ms. M. Wilson**, seconded by Ms. S. Wilson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, October 30, 2025:

WHEREAS New Brunswick homeowners have experienced significant and unsustainable increases in property assessment rates since the pandemic;

WHEREAS 30 percent of New Brunswickers cited housing affordability as a top issue of concern in an Angus Reid poll conducted in September 2025;

WHEREAS the 2021 census found that nearly eight percent of New Brunswick homeowners were spending over 30 percent of their income on shelter;

WHEREAS the existing 10 percent spike protection limit still did not protect 37 percent of New Brunswick properties from receiving assessment increases in 2025 and the one-year assessment freeze for 2025-26 is not a long-term answer to providing tax relief or sustainable and predictable costs to homeowners;

WHEREAS New Brunswick tenants benefit from a three percent cap in annual rent fees that is denied to homeowners;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to reduce the spike protection mechanism from ten percent per year to three percent per year.

**Motion 13 by Ms. M. Wilson**, seconded by Ms. S. Wilson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, October 30, 2025:

WHEREAS New Brunswick homeowners have experienced significant and unsustainable increases in property assessment values since the pandemic;

WHEREAS the sharp increases in assessment values mean that the current cost of assessment fee of \$19.40 for every \$100,000 of a property's assessed value increasingly represents an unbearable cost burden for homeowners;

WHEREAS CBC News in March 2024 reported that the assessment fee doubled for homeowners in some New Brunswick communities in the previous three years;

WHEREAS 30 percent of New Brunswickers cited housing affordability as a top issue of concern in an Angus Reid poll conducted in September 2025 and the same poll found that 60 percent of New Brunswickers cited the cost of living as a top issue of concern;

WHEREAS municipalities also pay the Government of New Brunswick the cost of assessment fee;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to eliminate the "cost of assessment" fee associated with the property assessment process.

**Motion 14 by Mr. Ames**, seconded by Ms. Scott-Wallace to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 6, 2025:

WHEREAS the current drought has severely affected water availability for households, livestock, and agricultural production;

WHEREAS many communities and individual farmers are experiencing extreme hardship due to dried-up water sources and cannot afford the high costs of drilling new wells or rehabilitating existing ones;

WHEREAS access to clean, reliable water is essential for sustaining livelihoods, protecting public health, and ensuring food security;

WHEREAS the Department of Public Safety's Disaster Financial Assistance Program provides recovery support for natural disasters that result in sudden, unexpected, and uninsurable losses, such as flooding, but currently does not address the impacts of drought, which represent a crisis of too little water rather than too much;

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

Establish an emergency financial assistance program to subsidize or fully fund the drilling, equipping, and rehabilitation of wells in drought-affected areas;

Prioritize support for farmers, small business owners, and residents of rural communities who are most severely impacted by the drought;

Partner with licensed water drilling contractors, local authorities, and community organizations to ensure transparent, efficient, and equitable implementation of the assistance program; and

Develop long-term water management strategies, including sustainable water conservation education, improved groundwater management, and rainwater harvesting initiatives, to mitigate the impacts of future droughts.

**Motion 18 by Ms. Mitton**, seconded by Mr. Coon to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 4, 2025:

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.

**Motion 19 by Mr. Coon**, seconded by Ms. Mitton to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 11, 2025:

WHEREAS the conservation of New Brunswick's Crown forests and waters is essential to the well-being of our environment, biodiversity, and the overall health of our communities;

WHEREAS the April 2014 forest management deal signed with JD Irving under Premier David Alward significantly increased the annual allowable cut and broadly deregulated conservation measures;

WHEREAS the Department of Natural Resources is projecting a 20% increase in annual allowable cut between 2027 and 2031;

WHEREAS JD Irving's License 7 represents a third of the Crown land in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS JDI is proposing that the area of forest converted to tree plantations on Licence 7 increase by 33% in 2027 and every year thereafter through 2031;

WHEREAS JDI is requesting to increase the annual volume of spruce and fir to be logged by 34%, which will mean a 17% increase in the area of conservation forest being logged;

WHEREAS the dramatic increase in conversion of forest to plantations and the replanting of harvested plantations will increase the spraying of glyphosate and decrease forest biodiversity;

WHEREAS there is increasing scientific evidence of the risk glyphosate poses to the health of our forest ecosystems and wildlife;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to replace clearcut logging of Crown land with ecologically-based harvesting practices;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ban the spraying of herbicides, including glyphosate, on Crown land.

## CONCLUDED

**Motion 2 by Mr. Weir.** Debated and carried as amended October 30, 2025.

**Motion 3 by Mr. Weir.** Debated and carried as amended November 20, 2025.

**Motion 4 by Ms. M. Johnson.** Debated and carried as amended November 20, 2025.

**Motion 11 by Ms. S. Wilson.** Debated and defeated November 6, 2025.

## PETITIONS

Petition 1: Ms. Mitton, October 22, 2025.

(Response, November 6, 2025)

Petition 2: Ms. Conroy, October 24, 2025.

(Response, November 14, 2025)

Petition 3: Hon. Ms. Landry, October 29, 2025.

(Response, November 17, 2025)

Petition 4: Ms. Mitton, November 5, 2025.

(Response, November 24, 2025)

Petition 5: Mr. Weir, December 3, 2025.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Standing Committee on Economic Policy

First Report, November 5, 2025

Second Report, November 6, 2025

Third Report, November 18, 2025

Fourth Report, November 20, 2025

Fifth Report, December 2, 2025

Standing Committee on Private Bills

First Report, December 2, 2025

Shayne Davies  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly