



2009



Legislative Activities

Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick

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New Brunswick

Prepared for The Honourable Roy Boudreau

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick

Cover Photograph: **Province Hall** *circa* 1860-1870.

Source: Livrary and Archives Canada

On November 29, 2000, a plaque designating the present Legislative Assembly Block as a provincial historic site was unveiled.

Over the past 200 years, the Members of the New Brunswick Legisalture have met in a variety of locations.

It was in the City of Saint John's Mallard House Tavern on January 3, 1786, that the first Legislature met. Governor Thomas Carleton insisted that Fredericton should become the capital, primarily, because Fredericton was less vulnerable to attack from the United States.

In Fredericton, the Legislature met in the Mansion House, the official residence of the Governor, located on the site of Old Government House on the Woodstock Road, and later in the British American Coffee House on Queen Street (demolished in 1961 to make way for the Playhouse) while a commission designed a suitable building to house both the Legislature and the courts of justice.

By the early 1800s, the Assembly was meeting in a new building known as Province Hall which sat on the site of the present day Legislative Building. A wooden structure, it consisted of a main portion and two wings for the Assembly, Council and the Supreme Court, an east wing for judges and the Law Library and a west wing of committee rooms and the Clerk's Office. Described as a "commodious plain wooden structure," there were increased requests for a larger, more elegant parliament building and in the late 1870s the government held a competition for the design of a new Legislative Building. Coincidentally, two weeks after the design was chosen in 1880, Province Hall caught fire and was destroyed.

The stone buildings on either side of Province Hall were not destroyed and the one on the left, known as the Old Education Building, now houses a second story and has been home to the Official Opposition for several decades.

The office of the Surveyor General (later the Crown Lands Department) can be seen on the far right. The Departmental Building, built in 1888, now stands on the site formerly occupied by the Surveyor General and houses the Office of the Government Members, Hansard and the Legislative Press Gallery.

August 17, 2010

The Honourable Roy Boudreau
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Room 31, Legislative Building
Fredericton, New Brunswick
E3B 5H1

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have the honour of submitting this, the twenty-first annual report of
Legislative Activities, for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,



Loredana Catalli Sonier
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

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Year in Review

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly — Loredana Catalli Sonier

The 2009 calendar year was a busy one for Members and staff of the Legislative Assembly. During the course of the calendar year, one session was completed, a new session was started, the province's first Aboriginal Lieutenant-Governor was installed, a new member was sworn in, a member was appointed to the Senate, a cabinet shuffle took place and the restoration of the Legislative Building and grounds continued on schedule.

The Third Session of the 56th Legislative Assembly (which opened on November 25, 2008) resumed March 17, 2009 and sat until June 19 before adjourning until November 24. The House was reconvened one week earlier on the morning of November 17 and the Third Session, which lasted 64 days, was formally prorogued. At 3 o'clock p.m. of the same day, the Fourth Session of the 56th Legislative Assembly was formally opened and sat until December 18. In total, the House sat 67 days in 2009 compared to 64 in 2008. Parliamentary committees remained active during the periods of adjournment of the House sitting a total of 47 days as compared to 76 days in 2008.

The Office of the Legislative Assembly is the administrative arm of the Legislative Assembly. In 2009, staff of the Office continued to provide professional non-partisan support services to all members of the Legislative Assembly. Staff in each branch of the Office met or exceeded the primary goal



*His Honour Graydon Nicholas, Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, inspecting the Honour Guard on November 17, 2009, the day of the Official Opening of the fourth Session of the fifty-sixth Legislature.
Photo courtesy of Harry Mullin.*

of the Office, which is to assist elected members in carrying out their roles as legislators. This includes ensuring that the necessary support services are available to members during the sittings of the House and the committees and that special projects and events proceed on schedule and in an efficient manner. The dedicated work of each staff member contributed significantly in maintaining a high level of service to Members during the sessional and intersessional periods.

On January 2, 2009, Percy Mockler was appointed to the Senate of Canada. At the time of his appointment, Mr. Mockler was the MLA for Restigouche-la-Vallée. A Progressive Conservative Member, Mr. Mockler was first elected in 1982. He was re-elected in a 1993 by-election and in 1995, 1999, 2003 and 2006.

On March 24, Premier Graham introduced newly-elected MLA Burt Paulin. Mr. Paulin, a Liberal, was elected in a March 9 by-election in Restigouche-la-Vallée following the resignation of Percy Mockler. Mr. Paulin represented the electoral district of Restigouche West from 2003 to 2006.

On April 17, 2009, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the *Official Languages Act* of New Brunswick, the Assembly passed a resolution moved by Premier Shawn Graham, seconded by Opposition Leader David Alward, reiterating and reaffirming the Assembly's support and advocacy for and of the principles of linguistic equality, which have characterized New Brunswick since 1969.

On June 22, 2009, Premier Graham announced a cabinet shuffle. Two ministers traded responsibilities with Victor Boudreau being named Minister of Business New Brunswick and Greg Byrne becoming Minister of Finance. Roland Haché moved from the Environment portfolio to Education and Kelly Lamrock moved from Education to Social Development with additional responsibilities for Housing. Mary Schryer moved from Social Development to become Minister of Health and Minister responsible for the Status of Women. Michael Murphy, formerly in Health, was named Minister of Justice and Consumer Affairs and Attorney General. He remained Government House Leader. T.J. Burke, who had served as Minister of Justice and Attorney General since 2006, assumed the Environment portfolio, but stepped down shortly

thereafter to resume his law practice. He continued to represent the riding of Fredericton-Nashwaaksis. On July 24, Rick Miles, the Member for Fredericton-Silverwood, was sworn in as a member of the Executive and appointed Minister of the Environment.

Graydon Nicholas of Tobique First Nation was installed as the province's thirtieth Lieutenant-Governor at a ceremony held on the grounds of Government House on September 30. Premier Shawn Graham noted Nicholas' important accomplishments, as well as the significance of being the province's first Aboriginal Lieutenant-Governor. The Premier stated that New Brunswickers are grateful for His Honour's outstanding contributions to society as a provincial court judge, an advocate on behalf of First Nations, a community leader, and a proponent of Aboriginal and human rights. "This day is a milestone in the story of our province, a day that will always be remembered proudly by all New Brunswickers, especially the members of our First Nations." The appointment was supported by Opposition Leader David Alward who noted that Graydon Nicholas was a person of integrity with a wonderful history to bring to the role of Lieutenant-Governor.

The former Lieutenant-Governor, Herménégilde Chiasson, was thanked for his six years of dedicated service to the people of New Brunswick. It was noted that through his tireless work to promote the social and cultural advancement of the province, he had left a distinctive and permanent stamp on the office that will serve as an inspiration to his successor and to all who follow in his footsteps in the coming years.

On October 29, 2009, Premier Shawn Graham and Québec Premier Jean Charest met in Fredericton to sign a memorandum of understanding between the governments of New Brunswick and Québec. Under the terms of the proposed agreement, Hydro-Québec would acquire most of the assets of NB Power for an amount equivalent to NB Power's debt, \$4.75 billion. It was announced that the proposed regulatory framework spelled out in the memorandum of understanding would be referred to a legislative committee for review and feedback.

The proposed sale of NB Power to Hydro-Quebec dominated question period, members and ministers' statements and floor debates during the four weeks the House sat in November and December. A record 90 petitions were introduced during the fall session, the

majority of which dealt with the proposed sale of NB Power.

The year 2009 marked the first full year that Question Period was made available on-line, on a same-day or next-day basis, as audio and video-on-demand webcasts. A total of 71,357 people made use of this new service. Question Period is available simultaneously in the original language, English interpreted, and French interpreted feeds, similar to live proceedings and other special events such as the Throne and Budget speeches. In addition, the Question Period video is searchable in either official language, by session, name of speaker, key topics or original spoken word. The new service, which commenced following the Opening of the Third Session in November of 2008, was made possible with the technical assistance of the Web Services Branch, Communications New Brunswick.

Work on the restoration of the exterior of the Legislative Assembly Building continued on schedule. The 2009 restoration work, which commenced in May, is the fourth phase of a planned five phase restoration program to be completed by 2011. The 2009 work included restoration of the foundation wall masonry, dismantling and reconstruction of new granite steps, installation of new copper roofing, and fabrication of copper ornamentation and decorative cast iron railings to replicate existing detail. For the first time in recent memory, the main Legislative Building was closed to visitors during the summer tourist season due to the ongoing restoration.

Late in 2008, the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) began to wind down Caterplan, the food service division that operated cafeterias and catering facilities in the four Atlantic provinces, including the Legislative Cafeteria for Members and staff. The company was created in 1928 to generate revenue for CNIB programs and as a means of employment for people living with vision loss. Caterplan did not generate sufficient revenue to support CNIB services and programs and CNIB announced it would renew its focus on the business of providing services, support and advocacy for Canadians living with vision loss. After operating the Legislature's Cafeteria for nearly three decades, CNIB officially closed its operations April 30, 2009. Dianne MacKay, a long-time employee of CNIB and the former manager of the Centennial Building's Caterplan facilities, officially opened

Dianne's Café on May 1st, 2009. Members and staff express their appreciation to CNIB for the excellent services provided to the Assembly and wish them success as they re-focus their priorities on vision rehabilitation services, public education, research and advocacy.

As part of its efforts to promote wellness, the Legislature joined with the executive branch of the provincial government in reiterating the guidelines provided by the World Health Organization for preventing respiratory illnesses like influenza and in making H1N1 vaccines and seasonal influenza vaccines available to Members and to staff.

Prior to the opening of the Fourth Session, as part of the restoration of the first floor lobbies, the Assembly implemented a December 14, 2006 decision of the Legislative Administration Committee that portraits of

the province's Premiers be placed on permanent display in the main lobbies. Portraits of the province's 30 Premiers since Confederation hang in the corridor adjacent to the main entrance of the Assembly Chamber.

Beginning with the Opening of the Fourth Session in November 2009, the Parliamentary Channel (Channel 70) began to rebroadcast all House proceedings on a daily basis. Broadcasts are repeated each day one-half hour following the adjournment of the House except on Fridays, when the proceedings are repeated the following Monday at 10 o'clock a.m. The addition of new technology to record the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly allows the Parliamentary Channel more flexibility as it incorporates additional features.



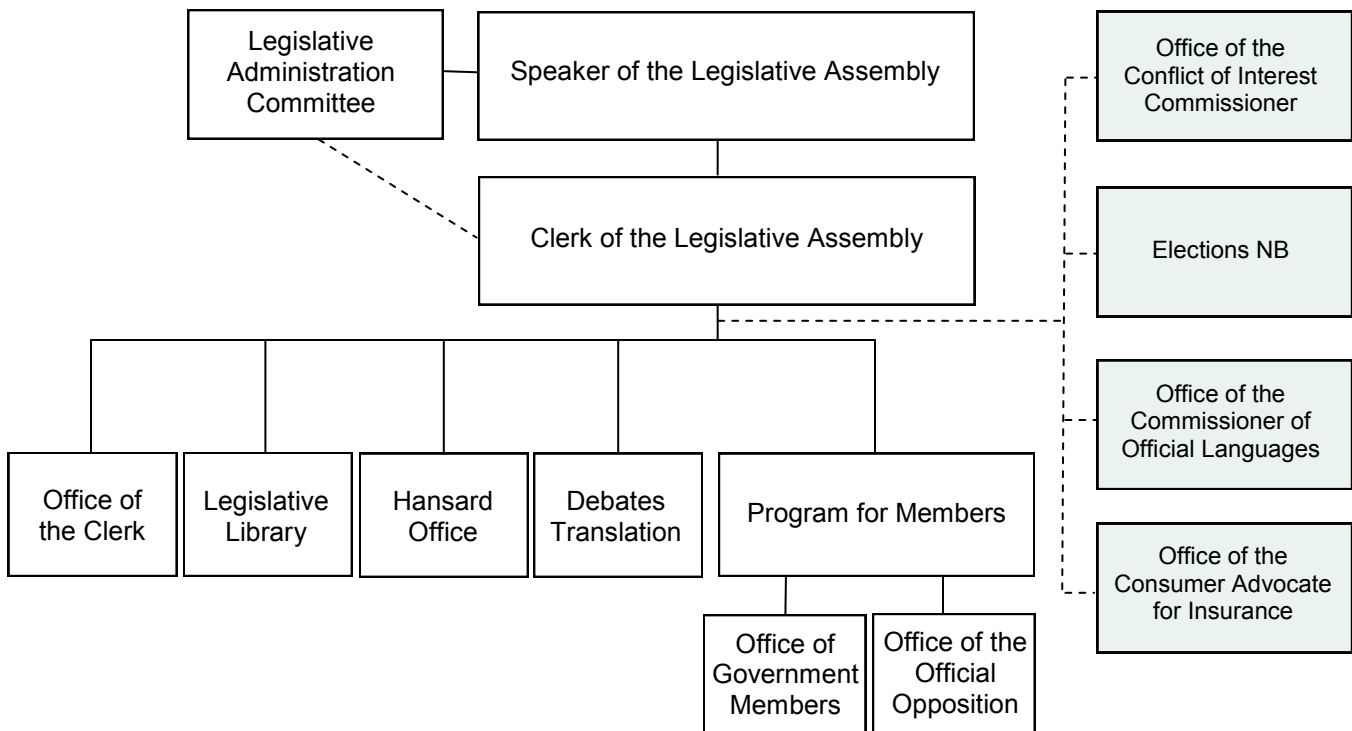
*His Honour Graydon Nicholas delivering his first Speech from the Throne on November 17, 2009.
Photo courtesy of Harry Mullin.*

Office of the Legislative Assembly

Mission Statement

1. To assist the Legislative Assembly in fostering respect for the institution and privileges of parliamentary democracy.
2. To provide assistance and support to all Members of the Legislative Assembly, their staff and the public.
3. To provide impartial and confidential service to all Members of the Legislative Assembly.
4. To record the proceedings and maintain the records of the Legislative Assembly.
5. To provide public education and information services on behalf of the Legislative Assembly.
6. To provide administrative, financial, and human resources to certain statutory offices reporting to the Legislative Assembly.

Organizational Chart



Functional Statements

1. *Clerk of the Legislative Assembly*

- The Clerk is the chief procedural advisor to the Speaker and to the Members and acts as Secretary to the Legislative Administration Committee. Appointed by resolution of the House, the Clerk is responsible for a wide range of administrative and procedural duties relating to the work of the House and its Committees. The Clerk of the Legislature is the Speaker's chief administrative deputy and has authority and responsibility similar to that of a Deputy Minister of a government department.

2. *Office of the Clerk*

- Produces the Journal, Orders of the Day and maintains the official permanent records of the Assembly.
- Provides advice to the Speaker and members on questions of parliamentary law, procedure, and interpretation of the rules and practices of the House.
- Provides procedural advice and support services to the chairs and members of committees of the Legislative Assembly.
- Provides public education and information services to Members, to government, and to the private sector.
- Provides administrative support to the Legislative Assembly.
- Provides financial and human resource management services to the Legislative Assembly.
- Provides administrative, financial and human resources support to the Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages for New Brunswick, Elections New Brunswick, and the Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance.

3. *Legislative Library*

- Provides information and reference services to Members of the Legislative Assembly.

4. *Hansard Office*

- Records and transcribes House proceedings (Hansard) for the Members of the Legislative Assembly and for publication; records and transcribes legislative committee proceedings for Members of the Legislative Assembly.

5. *Debates Translation*

- Translates House proceedings (Hansard) and the Journal for Members of the Legislative Assembly and for publication; translates speeches and statements for Members of the Legislative Assembly, reports for legislative committees, and procedural and administrative material for the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

6. *Sergeant-at-Arms*

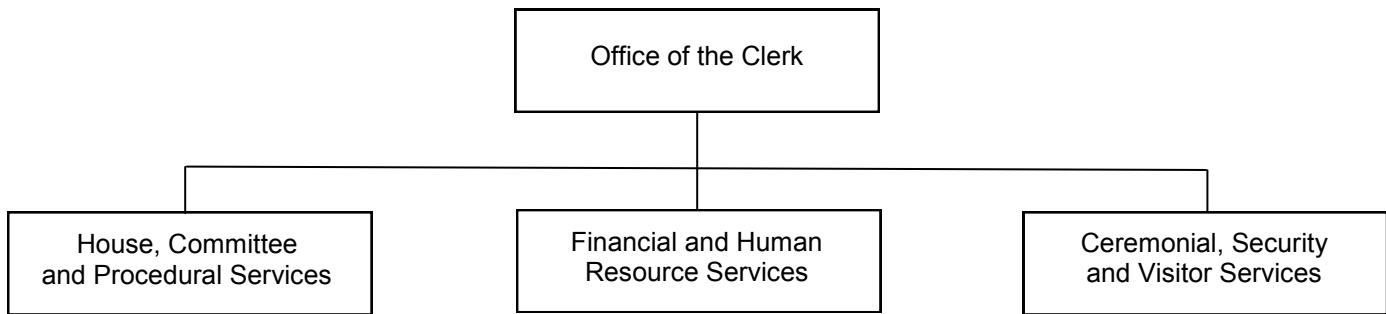
- Provides security services to the Legislative Assembly.
- Provides page and messenger services to the Assembly.
- Provides visitor information services to the public.
- Provides building maintenance and custodial services.

7. *Program for Members*

- Provides financial and administrative support to the backbench Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Office of the Clerk

Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees — Donald J. Forestell



House, Committee, and Procedural Services

House Sittings and Activity

During 2009 the Legislative Assembly and its committees placed a heavy demand for services on all branches of the Clerk's Office. The House sat for 69 days during the calendar year, with legislative committees holding a total of 47 meetings.

The Third Session of the 56th Legislature, which adjourned on December 19, 2008 after sixteen sitting days, did not resume sitting until March 17, 2009. Legislative committees, however, maintained an active schedule during the period of adjournment.

The Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, chaired by Rick Miles, held eleven meetings in January and February, to review various provincial Crown corporations and agencies. Organizations which appear before the Committee include NB Power, NB Liquor, WorkSafe NB and the New Brunswick Energy and Utilities Board.

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts, chaired by John Betts, was also very active during the period of adjournment, holding a total of 13 meetings. The Committee reviews the past year's expenditures by the government through the Public Accounts and the Report of the Auditor General. The Auditor General, the Comptroller, Deputy Ministers and other senior officials appear before the Committee to answer questions. The committee has a majority of government Members but has an Opposition Chair.

The Standing Committee on Law Amendments, chaired by Thomas J. Burke, Q.C., held three meetings in January and February to consider Bill 28, *Limitation of Actions Act* and the discussion paper *Health Care Directives*. In addition, the Legislative Administration

Committee held two meetings in February to consider matters relating to the administration of the House.

The Third Session of the 56th Legislature resumed sitting March 17, 2009, with the presentation of the Budget by Finance Minister Victor Boudreau. The Leader of the Official Opposition, David Alward, delivered his response to the Budget on March 19, the second of six days of debate. Premier Shawn Graham closed the debate on March 27.

The Third Session adjourned on June 19, 2009 and was subsequently prorogued on November 17. A total of 95 Bills were introduced during session, 80 of which received Royal Assent. The House sat for 65 days during the Third Session, for a total of 324 hours. This compares to 64 sitting days during the previous session, or 362.5 hours. A total of 55.25 hours were spent considering legislation in Committee of the Whole and 82.25 hours considering estimates in Committee of Supply. Other statistics for the Third Session include: 580 Member's Statements; 122 Minister's Statements; and 1247 oral questions.

The Fourth Session of the 56th Legislature opened at 3 o'clock p.m. on November 17, 2009, when His Honour Graydon Nicholas, the Lieutenant-Governor, delivered his first Speech from the Throne. A total of 26 Bills were introduced during the fall session, prior to the adjournment of the House on December 18.

Office of the Clerk

Members are supported in their parliamentary functions by services administered by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. The Clerk is the senior permanent officer of the Legislative Assembly, with the rank and status of a Deputy Minister. As the chief procedural adviser, the

Clerk's responsibilities include advising the Speaker and Members on questions of parliamentary law, procedure, and interpretation of the rules and practices of the House. The Clerk is also responsible for the overall administration of the Legislative Assembly and is Secretary of the Legislative Administration Committee. The Clerk serves all Members equally, regardless of party affiliation, and must act with impartiality and discretion. The Clerk's Office supports the activities of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

The Clerks Assistant serve as senior officers in the Assembly providing advice to Members and presiding officers on parliamentary procedure and House operations. The Clerk and Clerks Assistant are lawyers and are active members of the Law Society of New Brunswick. In addition to their duties as Table Officers they serve as Law Clerks in the House. The Clerks Assistant assist the Clerk in the interpretation and application of the *Legislative Assembly Act* and other legislation, in the drafting and review of floor amendments, Private Member's Public Bills and Private Legislation.

Procedural Services

During the course of the year, the Clerks-at-the-Table met regularly with the Speaker and other presiding officers, providing an overview of the Standing Rules, precedents and procedures of the House. Procedural staff provided advice as required, drafted rulings and prepared procedural documentation. In addition, the Clerks met with newly appointed and existing committee Chairs to advise on committee procedure, arrange meetings and public hearings, prepare documentation and reports to the House.

The Machinery and Process of New Brunswick Government Seminar was held at the Wu Conference Centre on November 25, 2009. The Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees attended on behalf of the Legislative Assembly, giving a detailed presentation to government officials on the role of the Legislative Branch, the functioning of the Legislative Assembly and the role of Members. The Clerks-at-the-Table have participated annually in the seminars, organized by the Office of Human Resources. The seminars are intended to educate civil servants and new government employees on the functioning of the provincial government.

Association of Clerks-at-the-Table in Canada

The Association of Clerks-at-the-Table in Canada is an organization composed of the Table Officers from every provincial and territorial legislature in Canada, as well as the House of Commons and the Senate. The objects of the Association include:

- to advance the professional development of its members by enabling them to heighten their knowledge of the foundations and principles of the parliamentary system and parliamentary procedure in Canada;
- to heighten their knowledge and mastery of administrative practices that can ensure an effective governance of the human and material resources essential to the smooth operation of the institution of Parliament;
- to foster the sharing of professional experiences and the discussion of subjects of common interest as well as consultation and collaboration among the Clerks-at-the-Table of the several Legislative Assemblies in Canada;
- to encourage the communication to its members of such measures for parliamentary reform as may be undertaken by other Legislative Assemblies in Canada;
- to contribute to the vitality of the two major parliamentary associations in which Canada participates, namely the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the *Assemblée internationale des parlementaires de langue française*, as well as to maintain close ties with American representatives and colleagues in the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries;
- to contribute to a broader dissemination of knowledge about the institution of Parliament and parliamentary procedure in Canada.

The Association of Clerks-at-the-Table list server (CATS) was launched in April 1998, to allow an open exchange of view points and information among members by using Internet e-mail. CATS is used by members of the Association to contribute information, pose questions, conduct surveys and to seek advice on a wide variety of procedural and administrative issues. To capture these contributions for future reference, a CATS message archive is maintained. In 2009 the Clerks-at-the-Table responded to more than 40

inquiries posted to the CATS system. Topics canvassed during 2009 included such diverse matters as: privilege and the courts; the cost of Parliament; confidence motions; video conferencing; e-petitions; interim supply Bills; chamber time clocks; official prayer; oversight of statutory offices; implementation of a sitting calendar; and new Members' Orientation.

Student Legislative Seminar

Clerk's Office staff organized the 20th annual Student Legislative Seminar, held at the Legislative Assembly from April 24 to 26, 2009. More than fifty students representing both Anglophone and Francophone high schools throughout the province attended. The seminar is a non-partisan program whose objectives are: to provide a comprehensive understanding of the functions and operations of government; to encourage the use of the model parliament forum in high schools; to promote positive relations between Anglophone and Francophone students in New Brunswick; and to develop informed and responsible Canadian citizens. Selection of participants is based upon leadership qualities, scholastic record, responsibility, interest in community and current affairs, and willingness to share experiences with others. Students are recommended by school principals, guidance councillors and teachers.

The students were welcomed to the Legislative Assembly by Speaker Roy Boudreau. Throughout the weekend, the students attended various lectures which focussed on the three branches of government: legislative, executive and judicial. Students gained first-hand knowledge from a number of guest speakers, including Premier Shawn Graham; Leader of the Opposition, David Alward; Minister of Education, Kelly Lamrock; Hon. Michael McKee, Judge of the Provincial Court of New Brunswick; and Vicky Deschênes, communications officer with the Government of New Brunswick.

The students attended numerous workshops led by the Clerks-at-the-Table, in preparation for the highlight of the weekend, a model Parliament held within the Legislative Assembly's historic Chamber. Students sat in the seats normally occupied by their MLAs and had use of the Legislative Assembly's simultaneous interpretation system. The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly presided over the model Parliament as students used the information gained through the workshops to proceed through periods of oral questions and Members' statements. The participants also debated and voted on numerous motions and pieces of

legislation, all of which they had written themselves around topics of concern.

Private Members' Public Bills

During 2009, the Clerks-at-the-Table assisted in processing numerous Private Members' Public Bills for introduction in the House. Private Members' Public Bills relate to matters of public policy and are introduced by a Private Member. A total of twelve Private Members' Public Bills were introduced by the Official Opposition during the Third Session. One such Bill, introduced by Jody Carr, received the support of both sides of the House and was given Royal Assent on June 19. Bill 85, *An Act to Amend the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act*, increases the maximum allowable fines and penalties for the abuse, mistreatment, or neglect of animals. Two Private Members' Public Bills introduced by the Leader of the Opposition, David Alward, were referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments for review: Bill 53, *Lobbyists Registration Act*, and Bill 60, *An Act to Amend the Family Services Act*. Four Private Members' Public Bills were introduced by the Opposition during the Fourth Session prior to the Christmas recess.

Private Legislation

The Clerk's Office processed eight applications for Private Bills for introduction during the 2009 calendar year. Private Bills are those relating to private or local matters or for the particular interest or benefit of any person, corporation or municipality. Applications for Private Bills are reviewed by the Clerks-at-the-Table to ensure compliance with advertising requirements and other stipulations as set out in the Standing Rules. Eight Private Bills were introduced during the 2009 spring sitting, seven of which received Royal Assent on June 19. In addition, one Private Bill which was introduced during the 2008 fall sitting also received Royal Assent on June 19, 2009.

Television

In 2009, the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service continued live, long-form broadcasting of the daily proceedings of the Legislative Assembly. With the addition of a MAXX-2400 Image Server to the broadcast equipment room, the Television Service was able to play back daily proceedings for repeat showings. The server, installed by Applied Electronics Inc. in October, was ready for the start of the fall session. The broadcast of repeat proceedings commenced with the Speech from the Throne on

November 17. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, repeats were scheduled to begin at the nearest 30-minute mark following the adjournment of the House, usually at 6:30 p.m. after the House adjourns at 6 o'clock. Reprising the full length of the sitting day, the repeats fill the evening and late night hours. Friday proceedings were scheduled to be repeated during the day on the following Monday, starting at 10 a.m.

The server is also used for the recording of proceedings for archival purposes. It has the capability of simultaneously recording 2 audio-video streams, one of them with on-screen text and translation for use in the repeats, and the other with clean (i.e. textless) video and floor (i.e. untranslated) audio to be archived. After repeat broadcast is done, the material on the text-and-translation audio-video stream is deleted; the other audio-video stream is stored in the server, to eventually be downloaded to an archival digital tape system. DVD remains in use, but solely for the providing of copies of the proceedings to MLAs and to the media.

Also new to the Legislature television channel in 2009 was a biographical sequence on female MLAs from 1967 to present, joining similar sequences for Premiers and Speakers that had been added to the channel in 2008. Session review and committee meeting information sequences were also shown at those times when the House was not sitting. In addition, a new video introduction to the day's broadcasts was created and approved for use in early 2010.

Information Technology

The Information Technology section, headed by Bruce Mather, Information Systems Administrator, continued ongoing technology upgrades within the Legislative Assembly complex. Assisted by Jeff Quinn, Help Desk Analyst, the IT section strived to fulfill the computer and smartphone needs of Members and staff. During the year staff assisted in the installation of a new 360 Systems Maxx 2400 media server in the broadcast room, allowing both the recording (video/audio) and subsequent re-broadcasting of the daily proceedings. Other new equipment purchases included an HP ProLiant DL 380 that works as a virtual host running Windows 2008 64-bit R2. The Assembly is using Hyper-V as its virtual software and currently hosts three virtual servers on it (LEG-SCCM, LEG-WSUS, and LEG-EPO).

Two new servers were installed, including LEG-PPM which runs the Perspective software which is used for incident reporting by the Legislative Assembly Security Service. The other new server, LEG-APP, hosts a number of Legislative Assembly related applications used by Hansard and the Library. A number of switches were upgraded from Cisco Catalyst 2950S to Cisco Catalyst 2960G which allow computers to run at 1GB speeds. The servers were moved to a separate VLAN (virtual local area network) to allow for better segmentation and security. Most of the servers can now communicate at 1GB speeds.

The Legislature moved to the new GNB WAN (wide area network). GNB controls the Legislature's edge switch and all the configuration that goes with it. The Legislature's IT staff can then control its VLAN structure on their own Cisco Catalyst 3560G switch.

Journals and Publications

During 2009, the Researcher and Journals Clerk compiled 69 unrevised Journals making up the spring and prorogation sittings of the Third Session of the 56th Legislature (March 17 to November 17, 2009 or 49 daily sittings) and the Opening and fall sitting of the Fourth Session (November 17 to December 18, 2009 or 20 daily sittings). The *Journals* of the House are the official record of matters considered and decisions taken by the House. Unrevised *Journals* are posted online as soon as they are available in both official languages. At the conclusion of a session, unrevised editions of the *Journal* are finalized, indexed and published. Publication of the official permanent record of the votes and proceedings meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences – Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48-1984.

The 2007 bound version of the *Journals of the Legislative Assembly, First Session, Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly*, was indexed, finalized, submitted for tender, and published.

First Reading Bills continued to be published online in PDF format. Since March 30, 2004, the online pdf version of a First Reading Bill has been the official version. During the 2009 calendar year, more than 90 Bills were introduced. The Status of Legislation, which tracks the progress of Bills as they proceed through the various stages in the House, was produced and regularly updated.

The Assembly increased its archived online proceedings. The 2009-2010 Budget Speech and Reply thereto, the Premier's Closure of the Budget Debate, the November 17 Throne Speech and Reply thereto, and the Premier's Closure of the Throne Speech Debate were all archived to the Web site.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were live broadcast daily on the New Brunswick Parliamentary Channel, Rogers Cable Channel 70. The proceedings were also webcast live on the Legislative Assembly Web site at <<http://www.gnb.ca/legis>>.

Biographical information and photographs of Members of the Legislature were updated throughout the year. Changes to the Executive Council, the Shadow Cabinet and seating plans were reflected in published and online updates. The twentieth annual report of the Legislative Assembly, *Legislative Activities 2008*, was published, distributed and posted online. The Legislature's Calendar was updated to reflect Daily Sittings or Special Events. Order Papers continued to be distributed to Members and posted online. Committee membership was updated when necessary, reports were posted, and certain committees mandated to hold public hearings provided a web site with relevant public information and a web address which could receive electronic submissions. With the assistance of Communications New Brunswick, Oral Questions continued to be archived online, allowing viewers to view the daily Question Period online, either live or as video-on-demand webcasts.

Interparliamentary Relations

In addition to regular duties, staff of the Clerk's Office prepared itineraries and coordinated business session topics for Members attending the Annual Presiding Officers Conference, the Canadian Regional Council of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), the Atlantic Provinces Parliamentary Conference, the CPA Canadian Regional Conference, the CPA Canadian Regional Seminar, the Council of State Governments/ Eastern Regional Conference, conferences of l'Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie, the Commonwealth Parliamentary

Association Conference and the Canadian Council of Public Accounts Committee Conference.

Clerk's Office staff also continued their participation in the House of Commons Page Recruitment Program. Interviews for the Page Program take place in the federal, provincial and territorial capitals between mid-February and the end of March. Legislative Assembly staff will conduct interviews in Fredericton with New Brunswick students who have applied to work as a Page at the House of Commons during the upcoming academic year. Staff will then make recommendations to Commons officials.

The Clerks-at-the-Table, together with the Researcher and Journals Clerk, prepared quarterly submissions to the *Canadian Parliamentary Review*. The publication was founded in 1978 to inform Canadian legislators about activities of the federal, provincial and territorial branches of the Canadian Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and to promote the study of and interest in Canadian parliamentary institutions. The Office of the Clerk ensures that a summary of legislative activities in New Brunswick is included in each addition under the Legislative Reports section. The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick is the current Chair of the Editorial Board of the *Canadian Parliamentary Review*.

The Table Officers attended the annual Professional Development Seminar of the Association of Clerks-at-the-Table in Canada. The Seminar was held in St. John's, Newfoundland from August 3 to 6. Participants from all Canadian Parliaments, United Kingdom Parliament, Scottish Parliament and Australian parliaments were present. Sessions included: Interesting Developments in Conflict of Interest; the Implications for Privilege in the United Kingdom Parliament of the Parliamentary Standards Act; Parliamentary Reform at the National Assembly; Independent Officers of the Assembly; and Reconciling Parliamentary Privilege with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Activities of Standing and Select Committees

Clerk Assistant and Committee Clerk — Shayne Davies

I. Introduction

Legislative committees have existed in New Brunswick since the meeting of the first Legislative Assembly in 1786. Parliamentarians realized early on the need to entrust some of their work to committees made up of their own Members. Since that time, the role and importance of committees has increased dramatically. Much of this is due to the greater volume of work coming before the Legislature, the complexity of which necessitates that work be delegated to committees. It is also due to the ability and experience of persons elected to public office, who have sought a more meaningful role for themselves in the legislative process to better utilize their diverse talents and abilities.

Legislative committees are an extension of the House and the makeup of a committee will generally reflect the overall distribution of seats in the Assembly. Proceedings in committee are often more informal and collegial than in the House itself, providing an atmosphere that is more conducive to collaborative thought and cooperation. Reports to the House are often agreed to unanimously, providing constructive recommendations that have received the support of all parties.

Committees are able to carry out work that the Assembly as a whole would find difficult, if not impossible, to undertake. Committees are able to consult with the public on important matters in order to hear the views and suggestions of concerned citizens, and are able to travel when necessary, allowing Members to hear from citizens in all areas of the province.

In 2009 the majority of committee work was undertaken by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, which were busy reviewing annual reports, public accounts, and other matters referred to their respective Committees.

The following chart presents a breakdown of the various committees and the number of days each committee met during 2009:

COMMITTEE	NO. OF MEETINGS
Crown Corporations	12
Estimates	0
Law Amendments	6
Legislative Administration	8
Legislative Officers	0
Life Long Learning	0
Private Bills	2
Privileges	0
Procedure	1
Public Accounts	18
TOTAL	47

II. Standing Committees

Standing Committee on Crown Corporations

The Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, chaired by Rick Miles (Fredericton-Silverwood), remained active with 12 committee meetings in 2009. The Committee met on January 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, February 26 and 27 to review the activities and financial statements of the following Crown corporations and agencies for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008:

Algonquin Properties Limited;
Atlantic Lottery Corporation;
Forest Protection Limited;
Lotteries Commission of New Brunswick;
New Brunswick Crop Insurance Commission;
New Brunswick Energy and Utilities Board;
New Brunswick Farm Products Commission;
New Brunswick Forest Products Commission;
New Brunswick Investment Management Corporation;
New Brunswick Legal Aid Services Commission;
New Brunswick Liquor Corporation;
New Brunswick Power Group;
New Brunswick Research and Productivity Council;
New Brunswick Securities Commission;
Provincial Holdings Ltd.;
Regional Development Corporation;
Service New Brunswick.

On February 17 the Committee met in a special joint session with the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to receive and review the *Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, 2008, Volume 1*. A second joint session was held on March 24 to receive and review the *Report of the Auditor General of New*

Brunswick, 2008, Volume 2. The Auditor General briefed Members on the nature of the work undertaken during the year and the contents and findings of the Reports.

Standing Committee on Estimates

In an effort to expedite the review of the main estimates of certain departments, the Legislature may refer these estimates to the Standing Committee on Estimates for its consideration. The Committee, chaired by Abel LeBlanc (Saint John Lancaster), did not meet in 2009.

Standing Committee on Law Amendments

On occasion bills introduced in the Legislative Assembly do not receive second reading, but instead are referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments for review. This referral is often made to allow for public consultation in order to receive input from interested stakeholders, groups and individuals.

The Committee, chaired by Thomas J. Burke, Q.C. (Fredericton-Nashwaaksis), held 6 meetings in 2009 and considered the following items:

Bill 28, *Limitation of Actions Act*;
Bill 53, *Lobbyists Registration Act*;
Bill 60, *An Act to Amend the Family Services Act*;
Bill 82, *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*;
Discussion paper *Health Care Directives Legislation*;
Discussion paper *Personal Health Information Access and Privacy Legislation*;
Document entitled *Commentary on Bill 28: Limitation of Actions Act*.

The discussion paper *Health Care Directives Legislation* was filed with the Office of the Clerk on September 29, 2008 and pursuant to Motion 85, adopted June 3, 2008, referred to the Committee. By resolution of the House, Bill 28 was referred to the Committee on December 17, 2008. The *Commentary on Bill 28: Limitation of Actions Act* was filed with the Office of the Clerk on January 20 and pursuant to Motion 34, adopted December 18, 2008, referred to the Committee.

On January 21 the Committee met to consider Bill 28, and the discussion paper *Health Care Directives Legislation*. The Committee agreed to hold public hearings on Bill 28, which occurred on February 24, and to solicit written submissions on the health care

directives issue. The Committee also reviewed the input it received from the public consultation held in the Fall of 2008 with respect to Bill 82 and the discussion paper *Personal Health Information Access and Privacy Legislation*.

The Committee held further deliberations on Bill 82 and the two discussion papers on February 18. The Committee presented its First Report to the Legislature on April 3, which contained a summary of its findings and recommendations with respect to Bill 82 and the discussion paper *Personal Health Information Access and Privacy Legislation*.

On April 29 the Committee held further deliberations on Bill 28 and the health care directives issue. The Committee presented its Second Report to the Legislature on May 12, which contained a summary of its findings and recommendations with respect to Bill 28 and the discussion paper *Health Care Directives Legislation*.

By resolution of the House, Bills 53 and 60 were referred to the Committee on June 11 and June 18 respectively. The Committee met to consider Bills 53 and 60 on October 8 and agreed to hold public hearings on the Bills, which occurred on November 9.

Legislative Administration Committee

The Legislative Administration Committee is chaired by the Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Rule 104(2), the Committee is responsible for the administration and operation of the Legislative Buildings, grounds and such other lands, buildings and facilities connected with the Legislative Assembly; and generally for all matters relating to the Legislative Assembly and to the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

In accordance with the provisions of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, the Committee reviews and approves the budget for the Legislative Assembly, including the budgets of the caucus offices; determines and regulates the pay and other terms and conditions of employment of officers and employees of the Legislative Assembly; establishes allowances in respect of expenses for Members' extra duties and committee meetings; establishes rules and directives with respect to allowances, disbursements and other payments to Members; issues directives in respect to caucus allowances; and establishes financial policy for the administration of the Legislative Assembly.

The Committee also considers any matter necessary for the efficient and effective operation and management of the Legislative Assembly. In 2009 the Committee held 8 meetings on the following dates: February 12, 25, March 26, July 9, September 30, October 7, November 4 and December 2. Among the matters considered by the Committee were: ongoing historic masonry restoration and new copper roofing; construction of temporary access ramp; MLA accommodation and meal allowances; implementation of 5% budgetary reduction and identification of other cost cutting measures; disclosure of expense claims on the internet; closure of CNIB Caterplan; smoking on grounds of Legislative Building; constituency office advertising expenses; sponsorships, donations or contributions to charitable organizations or groups; controlled access parking for MLAs; architectural lighting of Legislative Assembly Building; building continuity plan to deal with H1N1 pandemic; and changes to *Political Process Financing Act*.

Standing Committee on Legislative Officers

Pursuant to Standing Rule 91, all reports to the House of Legislative Officers stand permanently referred to the Standing Committee on Legislative Officers. The current list of Legislative Officers includes the Auditor General, Chief Electoral Officer, Commissioner of Official Languages, Conflict of Interest Commissioner, Consumer Advocate for Insurance, Ombudsman and Child and Youth Advocate. The vice-chair of the Committee is Cheryl Lavoie (Nepisiguit). The Committee did not meet in 2009.

Standing Committee on Private Bills

Pursuant to Standing Rule 115, Private Bills introduced in the Legislative Assembly are referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills after First Reading. Any person whose interests or property may be affected by a Private Bill may appear before the Committee to express their concerns.

In 2009 the Committee, chaired by Larry Kennedy (Victoria-Tobique), considered the following Private Bills:

- Bill 29, *An Act Respecting the New Brunswick College of Dental Hygienists*;
Bill 34, *An Act to Provide for the Amalgamation of the Trustees of Certain Presbyterian Churches in Saint John, New Brunswick*;
Bill 37, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate The New Brunswick Registered Barbers' Association*;

- Bill 42, *An Act Respecting The Roman Catholic Bishop of Saint John*;
Bill 51, *An Act Respecting Respiratory Therapists*;
Bill 63, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting the Law Society of New Brunswick*;
Bill 64, *An Act to Incorporate Les Religieux de Sainte-Croix d'Acadie*;
Bill 65, *An Act to Amend the Pension Plan for Employees of the City of Moncton Act*;
Bill 84, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting the New Brunswick Medical Society and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New Brunswick*.

The Committee met on May 7 and in a report to the House on May 12 recommended Bills 42 and 51 to the favourable consideration of the House. The Committee also recommended Bills 29 and 34 to the favourable consideration of the House with certain amendments, and reported progress on Bill 37. The Committee met again on June 2 and in a report to the House on the same day recommended Bills 63, 64, 65, and 84 to the favourable consideration of the House, and reported progress on Bill 37. The recommended Bills received Royal Assent on June 19.

Standing Committee on Privileges

Pursuant to Standing Rule 9(2), the House may, by resolution, refer a matter or question directly concerning the House, a Committee or Member to the Standing Committee on Privileges. The Committee, chaired by Stuart Jamieson (Saint John-Fundy), did not meet in 2009.

Standing Committee on Procedure

Pursuant to Standing Rule 92, all Standing Rules and practices of the House, together with any matter referred by the Speaker, stand permanently referred to the Standing Committee on Procedure. The Committee, chaired by the Speaker, met on June 4 to consider the matter of electronic petitions and to consider changes to update and improve the terminology contained in the Standing Rules.

On May 19 Deputy Speaker Bill Fraser (Miramichi-Bay du Vin) ruled that an electronic petition presented in the House did not conform to the rules respecting petitions. In his ruling, Mr. Fraser referred the matter of electronic petitions to the Standing Committee on Procedure. In a report to the House on June 18, the Committee advised that a complete review and evaluation of an electronic petitions system would

extend beyond the current session as the introduction of electronic petitions has significant consequences for the Legislative Assembly in terms of public expectations, information technology and staffing costs.

The report of June 18 also recommended a number of housekeeping amendments to the Standing Rules to modernize the language of the Rules, to make it consistent with the *Legislative Assembly Act* and other public Acts, and to make a number of revisions to the French version of the Rules. As a result of the Committee report being adopted by the House, the Standing Rules of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, adopted provisionally in 1985 and then permanently in 1986, were repealed and a revised version substituted.

Standing Committee on Public Accounts

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts, chaired by John Betts (Moncton Crescent), remained active with 18 committee meetings in 2009. The Committee met on January 27, 28, 29, 30, February 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, May 5, 6, November 12 and 13 to review the annual reports and financial statements of the following government departments and offices for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2008:

Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat;
Communications New Brunswick;
Department of Agriculture and Aquaculture;
Department of Business New Brunswick;
Department of Education;
Department of Energy;
Department of Environment;
Department of Finance;
Department of Fisheries;
Department of Health;
Department of Intergovernmental and International Relations;
Department of Justice and Consumer Affairs;
Department of Local Government;
Department of Natural Resources;
Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour;

Department of Public Safety;
Department of Social Development;
Department of Supply and Services;
Department of Tourism and Parks;
Department of Transportation;
Department of Wellness, Culture and Sport;
Executive Council Office;
Labour and Employment Board;
Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission;
New Brunswick Advisory Council on the Status of Women;
New Brunswick Advisory Council on Youth;
Office of the Attorney General;
Office of the Auditor General;
Office of the Comptroller;
Office of Human Resources;
Office of the Premier;
Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons.

On February 17 the Committee met in a special joint session with the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations to receive and review the *Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, 2008, Volume 1*. A second joint session was held on March 24 to receive and review the *Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, 2008, Volume 2*. The Auditor General briefed Members on the nature of the work undertaken during the year and the contents and findings of the Reports.

III. Select Committees

Select Committee on Life Long Learning

The Select Committee on Life Long Learning was appointed on July 5, 2007, in recognition of the continuing need to maintain a highly skilled and educated workforce in New Brunswick and to ensure that all citizens have the skills required to participate fully in society. The Committee has jurisdiction to examine and report on all aspects of the education system in the province. The Committee, chaired by Joan MacAlpine-Stiles (Moncton West), did not meet in 2009.

House Statistics

56th Legislature

	<i>First Session 2007</i>	<i>Second Session 2007 - 2008</i>	<i>Third Session 2008 - 2009</i>
<i>Daily Sittings</i>			
Number of Sitting Days	79	64	65
Evening Sittings	28	18	0
<i>Government Bills</i>			
Introduced	72	66	74
Received Royal Assent	71	64	71
<i>Private Bills</i>			
Introduced	3	4	9
Received Royal Assent	3	4	8
<i>Private Members' Public Bills</i>			
Introduced	10	16	12
Received Royal Assent	0	0	1
<i>Government Motions</i>			
Total	10	15	14
Number debated	3	5	5
Number agreed to	10	13	14
Number withdrawn	0	1	0
<i>Private Members' Motions</i>			
Total	74	74	58
Number debated	15	12	14
Number agreed to	14	10	9
Motions for returns	50	62	43
<i>Committee of Supply</i>			
In House (Days)	39	26	25
In Committee on Estimates	0	0	0
<i>Annual Reports Tabled</i>			
	51	61	70
<i>Petitions</i>			
	52	39	111
<i>Written Questions</i>			
	0	0	0

Financial and Human Resource Services

Director — Peter Wolters, CA

The Director of Finance and Human Resources is accountable for the proper and effective management of the financial and human resource support systems of the Legislative Assembly.

The provision of a high standard of support services to the Members, the Offices of the Legislative Assembly and a number of Statutory Offices is a priority and, to that end, staff attended professional development, information and training sessions such as the following:

- Human Resources Information System’s training sessions and seminars on payroll and benefits programs and purchase card and vendor payment administration.
- Professional development seminars entitled “What should be the future role of Financial Officers in the Public Service”, “InConfidence: Annual Update and Briefing”, “The Talent Crunch in Finance & Accounting”, “Accounts Payable: Balancing Risk and Internal Controls” and “Privacy Issues within a Legislative Environment”, that covered areas such as current issues in the area of human resources, purchasing, accounting and auditing in government, protection of personnel information and financial planning and budgeting.

The impacts of the ongoing repair and renovation in and around the Legislative Assembly Building have been significant and ongoing during the year. This necessitated changes to building access, office locations within the building and work processes and procedures to accommodate fumes, dust and construction. The Finance and Human Resources section benefitted from the increased efficiency and effectiveness that had been realized with limited turnover of the employees during the last three years, enabling employees to gain familiarity with their duties and responsibilities.

Development of Business Continuity Plans for the Legislative Assembly took on a much higher priority due to the ongoing repairs and renovations, the 2008 Spring Flood and the potential H1N1 Flu Pandemic. Procedures and processes were documented and alternate methodologies and work locations were identified in order to ensure continuous support and services to the Members, the Offices of the Legislative Assembly and Statutory Offices.

The Finance and Human Resources section continued to provide financial and human resources administration support to the following statutory offices: Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance for New Brunswick, Office of the Ombudsman and Child and Youth Advocate, Office of the Auditor General and the Elections New Brunswick office.

I. Financial Services

Overview

Financial Services include the following responsibilities:

Payroll and Benefits (Ministers, Members, public service and casual employees)

- Ensure timely and accurate payment of (and provision of information relating to) salaries and benefits.

Members’ and Committee Expenses

- Ensure timely and accurate payment of expenses based on legislation and decisions of Legislative Administration Committee.

Purchasing of and Payment for Goods and Services

- Ensure compliance with the various Acts and Regulations of the Province. Ensure all transactions are properly recorded for financial statement presentation and safeguarding of assets. Ensure proper record keeping and storage for future reference purposes.

Financial Analysis and Projections

- Review financial position of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and the responsibility sections within the Legislative Assembly. Advise individual managers of changes in expenditure status using customized reports and specialized reports when required.

Budget Process

- Coordinate the budget process, prepare the budget submission and liaise with the related central agencies of the Province of New Brunswick.

Financial Services Highlights

For the fiscal year ending March 31, 2009 the Legislative Assembly met budgetary objectives and maintained a reasonable level of services to the Members and staff. The accompanying financial

statement shows actual expenditure savings amounting to \$110,300 on a total budget of \$14,509,200 for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. This includes \$7,100 in the Members Allowances, Committees and Operations program, \$90,700 in the Office of the Legislative Assembly and \$12,500 in the Offices of Leaders and Members of Registered Political Parties.

The House sat a total of 59 days during the 2008-2009 fiscal year, compared to 79 during 2007-2008 and 66 in 2006-2007. The annual budget of the Legislative Assembly provides for expenses and allowances associated with approximately 40 sitting days during the fiscal year and thus additional funding was required for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. Supplementary Estimates in the amount of \$405,000 were approved to fund the additional sitting days for the 2008-2009 fiscal year and expenses associated with the Spring 2008 Flood. The Legislative Assembly was required to remove and store assets from the basement of the buildings and relocate staff to temporary off-site facilities due to rising flood waters and potential disruption of services to Members. In addition to the \$1,975,000 capital budget approved in the Capital Account of the Department of Supply and Services for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, an additional \$558,000 was approved to cover costs associated with the repair and restoration of the Legislative Assembly Building.

The budgetary process for the Legislative Assembly's 2009-2010 fiscal year provided major challenges to achieve a five percent (5.0%) budgetary reduction for operational budget expenditures, and to obtain funding for the repair and restoration of the Legislative Assembly Building. The budgetary reduction combined with the increased expenses and the level of activities in areas such as translation and interpretation, televising and recording of House proceedings, and Legislative Committees, means the Legislative Assembly will be challenged to maintain a reasonable level of services to the Members, legislative staff, and the public, as well as providing support services to the statutory officers reporting to the Assembly. A total operating budget of \$14,429,000 was approved for the Legislative Assembly for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. A Capital budget of \$2,766,000 to continue the repair and renovation of the Legislative Assembly Building was also approved and included in the 2009-2010 Capital Account of the Department of Supply and Services.

II. Human Resource Services

Overview

Human Resource Services include the following responsibilities:

Personnel Administration

- Participate in recruitment process and ensure proper classification, compensation and benefits through maintenance of payroll and personnel records.
- Update and communicate changes in the areas of policies and benefits to all employees.

Human Resource Development

- Facilitate staff training to enable employees to develop professionally and use their capabilities to further both organizational and individual goals.

Personnel Policies

- Develop, maintain and document personnel policies in accordance with the Administration Manual of the Province, Legislative Administration Committee decisions and the unique environment of the Legislative Assembly. Ensure proper communication of personnel policies to all employees.

Human Resource Services Highlights

In accordance with the provisions of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, normally the annual indexation of the indemnity of Members is based on the three-year average change in the "Average Weekly Earnings of New Brunswick Employees". Similar provisions are included in the *Executive Council Act*, requiring a similar adjustment in the salary paid to Members of the Executive Council, effective January 1, 2009. However Bill 94, *An Act Respecting Expenditure Restraint*, was introduced in the House on June 2, 2009, and approved during the 2008-2009 session effectively freezing the indemnities and salaries paid under the two Acts until December 31, 2010.

The staff's workload was significantly increased due to the election of a Member in a by-election and a cabinet shuffle effective June 22, 2009 that resulted in fourteen changes involving seven Ministers. At year end staff were involved in planning and administering the impending resignation of two Members. Among other things, these events resulted in administration and oversight of constituency office closures and openings, staffing changes and implementation of payroll changes.

In addition staff administered the responsibilities associated with GNB Infosource, the online government directory. The responsibilities include maintaining and updating the listings and database of Members and employees of the Legislative Assembly and employees in the Offices of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, the Consumer Advocate for Insurance for New Brunswick, and the Commissioner of Official Languages. Much of the data is similar to that utilized for human resources and payroll purposes and must be disseminated in accordance with the *Protection of Personal Information Act*.

The Clerk's Office provides a payroll service for Members' constituency office staff whereby constituency office employees of Members are being paid bi-weekly using the Province of New Brunswick's Human Resources Information System. The Finance and Human Resources section of the Clerk's Office is responsible for commencements, bi-weekly payments, terminations and related documentation, along with the subsequent financial chargebacks to the Constituency Office Allowances of the individual Members. During 2009 an average of thirty-eight constituency office staff were paid using this Payroll Service Program for Members.

A total of twenty-two students and other individuals were employed under the Student Employment and Experience Development (SEED) program and other

programs administered by the Finance and Human Resources section. Responsibilities included coordination of the employment programs and the commencement (payroll setup and notices of hiring), payment (weekly time sheet input) and subsequent termination (removal from payroll and issuance of ROE) of each of the related employees. The students employed included thirteen Pages for the 2008-2009 session. The ongoing construction and renovations required the closure of the Legislative Assembly building to the public, so no Tour Guides were required for the 2009 tourism season.

Employees of the Legislative Assembly shadow the pay scales used for Management and Non-Union employees of the Province and effective April 1, 2009 a two-year wage freeze was implemented for this pay scale. Thus no cost of living increases were processed during 2009 for the seventy-four employees under administration during the year. Finance and Human Resources section staff did process annual merit increases for the employees and any applicable position reclassifications, and assisted in the interviewing and hiring process for the twelve new full-time staff, and thirteen Pages for the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

Financial Summary — Legislative Assembly
For the Year Ended March 31, 2009
(in \$ 000s)

	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Actual</i>
<i>Members' Allowances and Committees</i>		
Allowances to Members	8,885.0	9,054.4
Legislative Committees	270.0	97.4
Subtotal	9,155.0	9,151.8
<i>Office of the Legislative Assembly</i>		
Legislative Library	432.0	431.0
Office of the Clerk (includes Speaker's Office)	1,513.0	1,503.1
Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner	362.0	315.9
Hansard Office	589.0	582.4
Debates Translation	716.0	719.6
Subtotal	3,612.0	3,552.0
<i>Offices of the Members of Registered Political Parties</i>		
Office of Government Members	651.0	636.6
Office of the Official Opposition	1,011.0	1,003.0
Subtotal	1,662.0	1,639.6
<i>Total : Legislative Assembly</i>	14,429.0	14,343.4

Human Resources Summary — Legislative Assembly

	Permanent	Elected	Sessional	Wages	Payroll Services Program
<i>Office of the Clerk</i>					
House and Committee Support	5	0	0	0	0
General Administration	3	0	0	3	0
Finance and Human Resources	5	0	0	0	0
Technology	2	0	0	0	0
Sergeant-at-Arms and Security	3	0	8	11	0
Speaker's Office	2	0	0	0	0
<i>Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner</i>					
Commissioner	4	0	0	0	0
<i>Legislative Library and Research Services</i>					
Services	7	0	0	2	0
<i>Hansard Office</i>					
Hansard Office	10	0	0	0	0
<i>Debates Translation</i>					
Debates Translation	11	0	0	0	0
<i>Office of Government Members</i>					
Office of Government Members	8	0	0	3	0
<i>Office of the Official Opposition</i>					
Office of the Official Opposition	14	0	0	2	0
<i>Pages and Tour Guides (students)</i>					
Pages and Tour Guides (students)	0	0	13	0	0
<i>Members</i>					
Members	0	55	0	0	38
<i>Total</i>	74	55	21	21	38

Ceremonial, Security and Visitor Services

Sergeant-at-Arms — Daniel Bussières

The restoration of the exterior of the Legislative Assembly Building continued on schedule in 2009. The Third Session of the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly was well underway when work on Phase 4 of the Historic Masonry Restoration and New Copper Roofing commenced in early May. Work on the building envelope is part of a planned five-phase restoration program to be completed by 2011. The 2009 work included masonry restoration to the southwest and southeast building elevations, restoration of the foundation wall masonry, dismantling and reconstruction of granite steps at the main entrance and supporting cement structures, restoration of the window wells, installation of new copper roofing, and fabrication of copper ornamentation and decorative cast iron railings to replicate existing detail.

Unforeseen circumstances delayed the start-up of the main entrance stair rebuilding until the end of September. On November 18, the day after the Opening of the House, Speaker Roy Boudreau noted that significant work had taken place to the building's exterior during the course of the year and that the restoration was nearing completion. He commended Heather & Little Ltd. for its continued work on the copper roofing, noting that the work involved intricate detailing and the fabrication of extensive copper ornamentation. He noted that Heather & Little had remained dedicated to the project and had demonstrated why the company is a leader in this field. The company has been awarded the prestigious North American Copper in Architecture Award (NACIAA) for their work on the restoration of the Legislative Building's ornate 41-metre diameter copper-clad roof and second empire mansard roofs, and the Library of Parliament's magnificent copper roof. The NACIAA recognizes and promotes North American building projects for their outstanding use of architectural copper and copper alloys. The award highlights craftsmanship, attention to detail, and architectural vision. Historically, copper has long been used in national landmarks because of its great natural beauty and finish, its performance and durability, and its long service life and recyclability. Today, copper remains a superior building material, adapted and utilized for a wide variety of contemporary and cutting edge applications. Heather & Little has won other awards for its work on other historic buildings throughout Canada and the US.

The Speaker also commended Peter McAllister and Maverick Construction Ltd. for their work preparing the Legislative Building for the Opening of the House and for completing the main entrance access ramp in record time.

In particular, Speaker Boudreau thanked the staff of Jones Masonry Ltd. of Harvey Station, N.B., whose staff met the tight deadline ensuring that required masonry work and supporting cement structures of the main entrance stair rebuild were completed for the Opening of the House. For several weeks leading up to the November 17 opening, Jones Masonry personnel worked day and evening shifts, installing special lighting, in an effort to complete the work on time and to the highest of standards. Speaker Boudreau stated that "Jones Masonry is to be commended for its dedication and professionalism".

The 20th annual Student Legislative Seminar took place April 24, 25 and 26. A total of 56 students from New Brunswick high schools participated. Students heard from various guest speakers, including the Premier, the Leader of the Opposition and the Minister of Education. The students participated in workshops led by the Clerks-at-the-Table, drafting their own legislation, resolutions and motions. On the final day, the students participated in a model parliament, presided over by Speaker Roy Boudreau. Also assisting were the Sergeant-at-Arms, Pages, Hansard staff and interpreters. The program is open to grade 11 and 12 high school students in New Brunswick.

Following the adjournment of the House on June 19, the Legislative Assembly building was closed to the public for ongoing restoration. As part of this work, the main front steps of the building underwent extensive repair and restoration. While the steps were dismantled, a soldered copper time capsule was placed under the granite slabs. Numerous photos and documents relevant to the Legislative Assembly were placed in the box, with the hope that it would not be removed for several decades.

Although the doors were closed for the summer, the work continued inside. Visitor Services, with the help of Communications New Brunswick, produced six large interpretive panels for use when tour guides are



Copper time capsule fabricated in September 2009, by Brian Marshall, an employee from of Heather & Little Ltd. The copper used to fabricate the time capsule is the same copper used to restore the Legislative Building roof.

not available, as well as for use in outreach programs. The panels provide detailed historical and factual information on the Legislative Assembly Building, the Assembly Chamber, the Council Chamber, the Mace, the spiral staircase and the government anteroom. The panels were used during a reception celebrating the Beaverbrook Art Gallery's 50th Anniversary Gala at the Crowne Plaza.

The first event held after the building reopened in the fall was the annual Queen's Counsel Ceremony, which took place in the Legislative Assembly Chamber on November 14, 2009. Queen's counsel is awarded to experienced lawyers in recognition of their commitment to the principles of the legal profession and contributions to their communities. Eleven prominent lawyers were awarded the distinction. Recipients were: Catherine Berryman, Craig Carleton, Sharon Cupples, Heather Maynes, Henry Murphy, David Nicholson, Gerald O'Brien, Guy Richard, Lucie Richard, Pierre Roussel and Douglas Young.

The annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony took place on the front grounds of the Legislative Assembly on December 4. Hundreds of people turned out to enjoy musical entertainment, refreshments and a visit from Santa Claus. Among those participating were Lieutenant-Governor Graydon Nicholas, Premier Shawn Graham, Speaker Roy Boudreau, York MLA Carl Urquhart and Chaplain Keith Joyce. Hot apple

cider and hot chocolate were prepared by Dianne MacKay and Brenda O'Donnell of the Legislative Cafeteria. The refreshments were served by the Epsilon Y's Men's and Epsilon Y's Menette's. The Golden Club Singers and the Nashwaaksis Middle School Show Choir and Concert Choir provided the entertainment. Following a countdown, the 9-metre (30-foot) balsam fir tree was lit by Tabitha Evans from Park Street Elementary School.

The number of visitors to the Legislative Assembly increased during the year, due in part to the Provincial Capital Commission's new educational travel program "Capital Encounters", which started April 1. The program offers travel subsidies to New Brunswick schools that have students traveling to the capital region. One criteria is that the students visit the Legislative Assembly. Consequently, in April 2009 the number of visitors to the Assembly increased by 32% over the previous year. The numbers in May were up by 42% and December saw an increase of 45%.

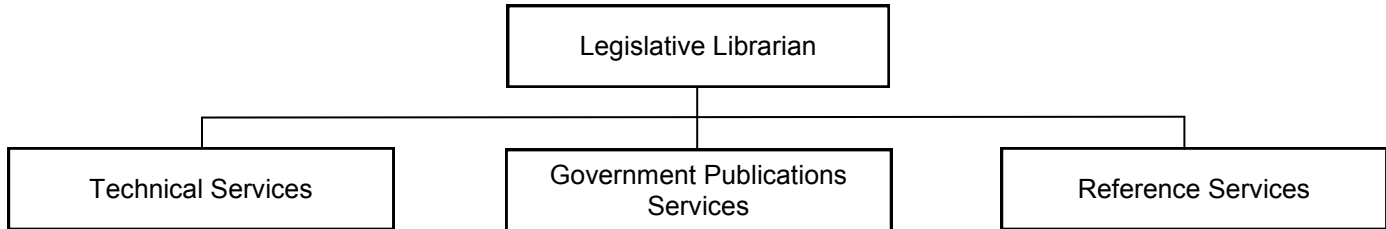
Special Visitors

The Legislative Assembly received numerous dignitaries during the year, including:

- H.E. Smail Benamara, Ambassador of Algeria to Canada
- H.E. Eugenio Ortega, Ambassador of Chile to Canada and Mr. Patricio Victoriano, the Consul General of Chile in Montreal
- H.E. Dr. Georg Witschel, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Canada
- H.E. Tomaž Kunstelj, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to Canada
- The Honorable David C. Jacobson, United States Ambassador to Canada
- Mr. Hiroaki Isobe, Consul General of Japan at Montreal and Mr. Hiroki Sugiyama, Vice-Consul
- Ms. Svetlana Shevchenko, Deputy Governor, and Director of the Department of Labour and Social Welfare of the Yamal-Nenets, Russia

Legislative Library

Legislative Librarian — Kenda Clark-Gorey



Mandate

According to the *Legislative Library Act*, the Legislative Library shall operate primarily for the use of the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the members of departments in order that they may better serve the people of New Brunswick. The Legislative Library may acquire by gift, bequest, loan or purchase any book, periodical, newspaper, film or any publication that may serve the Members of the Legislative Assembly or the departments in the performance of their duties.

The Legislative Library is designated as the official library for the deposit of New Brunswick government publications. The Queen's Printer is required to deposit with the Legislative Library four copies of every government publication printed by that Office. Subject to the government publications deposited by the Queen's Printer, all departments are required to deposit with the Legislative Library four copies of every government publication printed by it or under its authority within thirty days after its printing.

The Legislative Library has broadened its mandate to automatically receive all "online" or "born digital" New Brunswick government publications. An e-repository for New Brunswick electronic government publications has been established whereby selective publications will be downloaded for long-term preservation and better access. It should be noted that the library also still maintains a print collection of all government documents. A significant challenge over the past few years has been adapting to the increasing complexity of library work due to the rapid expansion of electronic information resources. As the official library for the deposit of New Brunswick government publications, the Legislative Library continues to stress the importance of producing print copies, as well as Internet versions of government publications. The Library advocates that print copies should continue to be made available for future generations and for today's public that might not own a computer.

The Library strives to serve Members, staff, civil servants and the public in an efficient and accommodating manner. All requests for information are handled in confidence and in a non-partisan fashion. Twenty-four hour access is available through phone, e-mail and fax. The Library is open from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., five days a week. When the House is in session, the Library remains open in the evening until the House rises.

Highlights

Due to the ongoing renovations, the Legislative Assembly building was closed to the public throughout the summer until the House opening in November. This meant that the Legislative Library was also closed to patrons. Arrangements were made with patrons to go to the government documents building and requested materials were brought to them from the main library. This created a great deal more work for staff and increased the amount of research that otherwise would have been done by patrons themselves. It also involved ensuring that materials were properly and safely transported to the government documents building in all types of weather as many of the items requested belonged to special collections.

On November 19th, the library hosted a reception for MLAs and legislative staff to mark the beginning of the Fourth Session of the 56th Legislature. Once again the event was well attended.

During 2009, the library staff answered approximately 2000 reference and Hansard questions. This was an increase over the previous year. Most noticeable was the increase in research type questions as opposed to ready reference questions. Many questions took a great deal of research to answer and at times several staff members were required to work together to cover all of the resources needed to answer the questions. Over 4000 items were borrowed and used in-house by patrons and by staff answering patrons' questions.

During the year numerous requests were made by authors for help researching materials for upcoming books they were working on. Many of the resources used were from the library's New Brunswick Collection.

Collection Development

The Legislative Library is very receptive to suggestions regarding books and other materials that might be acquired to enhance its collections. During the past year, numerous acquisitions were made as a result of insightful suggestions from Members of the Legislative Assembly and the public.

The Legislative Library's New Brunswick Collection is an important part of New Brunswick's heritage and is an incredible resource for the province. In 2009, New Brunswick publishers were once again approached to donate their books, as were numerous authors of privately published material. In many instances, the Library was able to issue tax receipts for such donations. Many authors and publishers were receptive to the idea. Donations of books were also received from patrons of the library and from various associations.

The Legislative Library is grateful to the following individuals, publishers and associations who donated books during the past year:

Individuals

Johanna Bertin
Hon. Roy Boudreau (Speaker of the House)
Joy Crosby
Shawn DeLong
Carole Dick
Diane Mercier-Allain
Louis J. Robichaud
Jean M. Weissenhorn DeLong

Publishers/Associates

Alberta Law Reform Institute
Association Acéricole du Nouveau-Brunswick Inc.
Belton Group
Conservation Council of New Brunswick
Department of Natural Resources, New Brunswick
DreamCatcher Publishing
Goose Lane Editions
'Democracy 250'
La Grande Marée
Legislative Assembly of Alberta, Office of the Speaker
Legislative Assembly of Ontario, Legislative Library

National Film Board of Canada
New Brunswick Federation of Labour
Protocol Office
Saint John Board of Trade
Sport NB
Yukon Legislative Assembly, Office of the Speaker

The serials collection continues to be a heavily used collection of the library. 2009 was a difficult year for newspaper and magazine publishers. A few titles completely ceased publishing, while a few others decided to publish fewer issues per year. The library did, however, add a few new titles to its collection. These titles included; *Windspeaker*, *This Magazine*, *Counterpoint*, *Canadian Gardening*, and *étoile*.

Reference

The reference team kept busy throughout the year answering numerous questions and helping patrons. The types of reference questions were wide ranging along with the more usual ones of tracing acts, amendments and regulations. Once again the process that directed all Hansard requests through the library increased the number of demands on reference staff. The library subscribes to several electronic databases that are used on a daily basis. *Infomart* has proven to be invaluable for finding specific newspaper articles for patrons. It is also useful in finding everything written on a particular topic in certain newspapers. The *Ebsco* databases which are searchable full text periodical sources are also very useful when doing topical searches for patrons on a specific subject or searching in a particular periodical title. In 2009 the library decided to subscribe to *Political Science Complete* instead of *Academic Search Elite*.

The databases that were created in-house continued to be used on a daily basis by library staff and patrons. The effort to keep them up to date is well worth the time spent. These databases include MLA biographies, Women MLA biographies, Maiden Speeches, Election history, news clippings and reference questions.

Marketing/Outreach

The Library has continued to work towards raising its profile and fostering closer relations with its most important clients, New Brunswick's 55 MLAs. Many Members regularly stop by in the morning to catch up with the newest issue of their local newspaper before the daily sitting. Others stop by briefly to borrow periodicals or other material. Numerous Members and

staff have made use of the Library's reference service to assist them in their research on current issues before the House.

Over the past year, the Legislative Library mounted fewer displays than usual due to the building being closed for an extended period of time. Among the displays featured were: Heritage Week – “Be transported” – a history of aviation in New Brunswick; Organic Gardening; and Audubon biographies. The book displays usually generated interest in the topic by visitors and resulted in discussions and questions about the materials. The materials from the displays were often requested for loan once the displays had been dismantled.

The library's published documents still remain one of the most used methods of outreach. In terms of publishing, the Legislative Library has several publications that are produced on a regular basis and sent out to MLAs and other government employees.

The *Government Documents Checklist* is available in PDF format on the library's Web site at: <http://www.gnb.ca/legis/leglibbib/Special_Projects/GovPubCheckListIndex.asp>.

The *Selected Accessions List* is distributed to Members and Legislative staff in a paper copy format four times a year. Electronic copies of this list of new books are also provided by e-mail to all New Brunswick government employees. These copies contain added notes or “updates” highlighting a particular service provided by the Legislative Library (e.g. government publications), or some aspect of its collection (e.g. biographies). The quarterly list can be found on the library's Web site at: <http://www.gnb.ca/legis/leglibbib/Special_Projects/saccessionsIndex.asp>.

The *Periodical Contents* publication is distributed to Members ten times a year. It includes a cover sheet specifying particular articles on the contents pages of its periodical collection, alerting the reader to the themes in the periodical literature. The feedback has been positive with many requests being made for the articles mentioned.

The Legislative Library's Web site includes a virtual bookshelf. Every month, new books are chosen to be on the bookshelf. The covers of these books are scanned onto the Web site. By running the cursor over a book cover a patron can see details about the book

and link directly to the catalogue for more details and to request it, if desired.

Government Documents

The library continues to request that departments send the library the required number of copies as stated under the *Legislative Library Act* but it has become increasingly difficult to obtain print copies of certain government documents as many departments are only publishing electronically.

The library continues to catalogue electronic documents and add them to the electronic repository. In 2009, 143 titles were added to the repository.

Selective weeding of the library's large, uncatalogued, and now ‘static’, federal Canadian document collection continues. When possible these materials are being sent to other libraries to fill in gaps they have in their collections or to replace worn copies.

Initiatives

This year the Library began and continued working on a number of electronic projects and initiatives intended to allow staff to be more productive and give patrons access to additional information electronically. These projects were as follows:

Development of a new Web site for the Library is ongoing with an intended launch date of late summer/early fall 2010. The new site will feature easier access to electronic materials and databases as well as utilizing new Web 2.0 features. A new administration back-end will enable Library staff to update content such as library news, the virtual bookshelf and electronic documents without the need to know HTML. The New Brunswick government is also launching a new Web platform come late fall 2010 and the Library is monitoring its development to see if features from it can be incorporated into the Library's new site.

In preparation for the launch of the Library's Web site, work has also continued on completing the New Brunswick Elections database, including verifying results and testing staff tools to manage future updates and additions. Initially the database will contain election results from 1984-2010, with earlier election results being added soon thereafter. Users will have the ability to view the results of each riding in an election, view the election history for a particular riding or select a candidate and see their results for any election they participated in.

In September the Library proceeded with an upgrade to its Horizon system moving from Horizon 7.3 / HIP 3.06 to Horizon 7.4.2 / HIP 3.10. The upgrade went smoothly and was good preparation for the server upgrade planned for spring 2010.

The next version of the Library's in-house database and services tool, DataBrowser, was completed with a large number of updates including a new unified look and feel, better database searching capabilities, integration with the Library's internal blog and wiki as well as migration to a new MSSQL 2008 database back-end.

Space/Storage

Accommodation of the collections continues to provide challenges especially in the main library. The Legislative Library continues to accept material from various departmental libraries and government agency libraries that are closing or weeding their collections.

Staffing

The Legislative Library has not had any changes to the full time staff in 2009. The Library was staffed with seven full-time permanent employees: Kenda Clark-Gorey, Legislative Librarian; Janet McNeil, Government Documents Librarian; Kathleen Gaudet, Reference and Outreach/Continuous Learning Librarian; Anthony Lovesey, Automation Specialist;

Jonathan Bowie, Government Documents/ Reference Services Assistant; Tom Stillwell, Head of Circulation and Reference Services Assistant; Jean Weissenhorn Delong, Technical Services.

The Legislative Library also benefited this past summer from the work of two summer students: Joëlle Richard and Ashley Burke. The students worked on a variety of projects including: inputting information into new databases, inventory, creating pamphlet file folder lists and shelf reading.

Continuing Education

Library staff continued to participate in professional development opportunities including second language training.

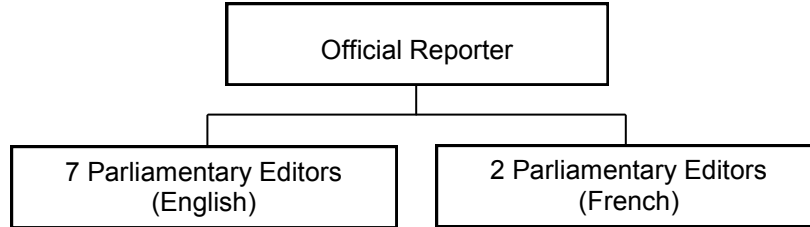
Memberships

The Legislative Librarian is a member of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, the Canadian Library Association, the Special Libraries Association and the Association of Parliamentarian Librarians in Canada.

Janet McNeil and Kenda Clark-Gorey are members of the Association des bibliothécaires professionnel(le)s du Nouveau-Brunswick/Association of Professional Librarians of New Brunswick.

Hansard Office

Official Reporter — Linda Fahey



Mandate

The Hansard Office records and publishes both print and electronic versions of the proceedings of the House, “Hansard”, in both official languages. The office also records the proceedings of the committees of the Legislative Assembly and responds to inquiries related to recorded proceedings.

Recording and Console Operation

VIQ Solutions Inc. equipment and software is used to record digitally the sittings and special events associated with the Legislature. Hansard staff routinely perform sound and equipment checks and maintain a schedule of events in the Multiple Unit Recording Facility (MURF) and in the backup recording system, which are resident in the Hansard Office. Each sitting day, the schedule of events is verified and the recording systems are monitored to ensure correct and continual recording. The digital recordings are segmented into five-minute takes, which are accessed for transcription by staff through software on Hansard computers.

Mobile digital recording software, housed in a laptop computer, was newly implemented in 2009 to record off-site meetings. Sound files are captured in the mobile unit by plugging it into the recording equipment of the audio provider at the meeting. Those files are later downloaded to the MURF so that five-minute takes can be accessed and transcribed in the usual manner. Utilization of the mobile unit has eliminated the repair expenses and storage issues associated with the previously used transcription machines and cassette tapes.

The Hansard staff who are present at the console during sittings operate the microphones, closely following the directives of the Speaker or Chair. Using the console microphone, the operator dubs the names of speakers and makes explanatory comments that will be useful during transcript preparation. The console operator also creates electronic logs that are posted on the Legisdoc directory of the Legislative Assembly intranet, which is accessible from all network computers in Parliament

Square. The console operator seeks out and collects documentation and information from MLAs and guests and is in contact with the Hansard Office through e-mail to alert the office regarding proceedings and to respond to questions from office staff.

Throughout 2009, Hansard staff recorded and logged 441 hours of proceedings: 326 hours during 69 sittings of the House and 115 hours during 33 committee meetings. Four staff underwent console operation training, and the console operation training manual was reviewed and updated.

Transcripts

During session. As the last words of prayer are recited by those gathered in the House, Hansard staff are poised to begin the transcription, research, and editing required to complete the transcripts of the first portion of the sitting: condolences and messages of sympathy, introduction of guests, messages of congratulation and recognition and, oftentimes, Speaker’s rulings, statements, and messages. Work continues on this segment of the sitting until the announcement of question period, when staff turn to the completion of those transcripts.

Oral questions transcripts are distributed by e-mail and posted on Legisdoc within two to three hours of the Speaker announcing the conclusion of question period. Throughout 2009, an electronic transcript for each of the 58 question periods was posted on Legisdoc and e-mailed to 478 individuals. The number of hard copies distributed for each question period was reduced to just one. Upon completion of the oral questions transcripts, staff return to the message transcripts, the majority of which are posted on Legisdoc on the day of delivery in the House.

When message and oral questions transcripts have been completed, staff work on unfinished portions of the daily sittings of the current session and post the transcripts, called “blues”, on Legisdoc. The blues are individual transcripts that have had only a first edit.

These transcripts can be identified by their bl file extensions (.bl). A final edit is done later.

Outside session. Upon the adjournment of a session, some staff continue to complete the blues of the latest session and other staff finalize the recent sessions. Finalization involves compiling and editing the complete daily sitting and attaching a table of contents and introductory pages. When possible, work is done on the backlog of transcripts that developed in the nineties. The remaining backlogged sessions are 2002-03 and 2003-04.

In 2009, the blues transcripts of 84 daily sittings were completed:

Dailies 1 to 16, fourth session, 56th legislature, 2009-10;
 Dailies 2, 4, 6, 7, 9-64, third session, 56th legislature, 2008-09;
 Dailies 2, 4-10, first session, 55th legislature, 2003-04.

In 2009, 54 daily sittings were finalized:

Dailies 1-25, 27, second session, 56th legislature, 2007-08;
 Dailies 50, 53, 56-79, first session, 56th legislature, 2007, completing the session;
 Dailies 70 and 71, fourth session, 54th legislature, 2001-02, completing the session.

In addition to the work on the six sessions listed above, some transcription on the backlogged sessions was completed in 2009. Throughout the 2009 calendar year,

Hansard staff transcribed and edited in excess of 3.05 million words of House proceedings.

The table below shows transcription statistics of the past five full sessions and the 2009 portion of the 2009-10 session.

Standing Committee on Estimates transcripts were appended to House transcripts in 2004-05 and 2005-06.

Request Transcripts. Transcripts of House proceedings are provided upon request. In 2009, Hansard staff continued to collaborate with Legislative Library staff on the handling of Hansard research and request transcripts, with the library being the initial point of contact for clients. Library staff search for transcripts on Legisdoc and contact the Hansard Office regarding only those requests for which transcripts cannot be found. The library staff furnish Hansard staff with the pertinent information for locating the takes to be transcribed for the requested material. With Hansard staff free of some of the research obligations generated by requests, more time can be devoted to transcript production; thus, the collaboration with the library has further increased access to transcripts and shortened the turnaround time for requests. During the 2009 fall sitting, the average turnaround time for a House transcript requested from the Hansard Office was 0.46 of a workday.

Records Management

In an ongoing effort to reduce the time spent on maintaining employee records and House statistics, work continued on establishing and improving several

House Transcription Word Counts			
Session	English	French	Total
55-2 (2004-05: 58 days, 319 hours*)	1 609 598 (71 %)	646 720 (29 %)	2 256 318
55-3 (2005-06: 54 days, 310 hours**)	1 494 012 (74 %)	527 373 (26 %)	2 021 385
56-1 (2007: 79 days, 477 hours)	2 524 185 (73 %)	929 210 (27 %)	3 453 395
56-2 (2007-08: 64 days, 363 hours)	1 978 333 (70 %)	847 493 (30 %)	2 825 826
56-3 (2008-09: 65 days, 324 hours)	1 918 890 (81 %)	455 111 (19 %)	2 374 001
56-4 (2009 portion: 18 days, 70 hours)	259 127 (71 %)	107 064 (29 %)	366 191

*Includes 34 hours and 392 five-minute takes of the Standing Committee on Estimates, June 2005.

**Includes 22.75 hours and 283 five-minute takes of the Standing Committee on Estimates, June 2006.

electronic databases. All databases were designed and developed by Anthony Lovesay, Automation Specialist at the Legislative Library.

Sign-out records database. In November 2009, Hansard staff began recording take numbers and word counts on the electronic sign-out database. With the installation of a 23-inch monitor on the central database computer, staff can easily view daily sittings and quickly determine their status. This database also enables users to compile various statistical reports regarding daily sittings, entire sessions, or specific time frames: number of hours sat, number of takes recorded, time spent in committees, and transcription word counts.

With the transition from the paper sign-out sheet system to the electronic system, there has been a reduction in the use of paper and in the need for storage space to house the binders containing the sessional sign-out sheets for both House and committees. There has been the additional benefit of being able to generate statistical reports almost instantaneously.

Request transcript database. This database was converted from a desktop application to a Web-based application so that updates could be made and errors fixed without reinstalling the application on each computer. The database continued to be a valuable tool in the recording, prioritizing, and archiving of requests. It has a useful cloning feature that allows users to recall and modify requests previously entered, and it quickly generates statistical reports.

Staff production database. Planning commenced for the creation of a database to replace the paper transcription work logs, monthly production reports,

and monthly performance feedback forms. This database will eliminate the manual calculation of monthly statistics, including transcription word counts, as well as the need for printing and photocopying the forms.

Staff

Throughout 2009, the Hansard Office staff was comprised of 9 full-time employees and 3 part-time outsourced professionals. In addition, as a result of a competition, 2 casual employees were hired in late November 2009 for the upcoming session.

Training on console operation; transcription, editing, and research techniques; and office procedures was provided by staff members for both the two new casual employees and the two full-time employees who were hired in late December 2008.

Special Events

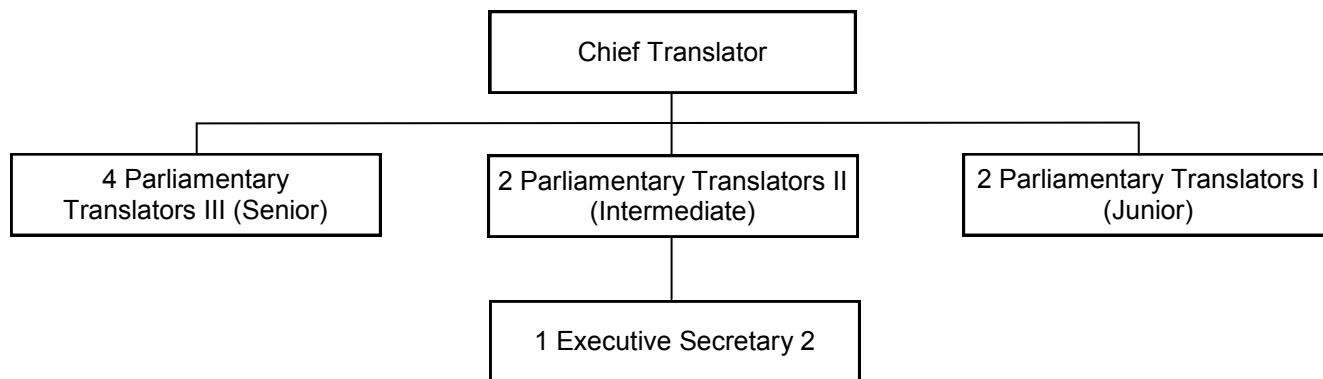
Hansard Office staff operated the console equipment for various events, such as the Student Legislative Seminar; the Atlantic Parliamentary Conference; swearing-in ceremonies; and the annual Queen's Counsel ceremony.

Hansard Association of Canada

In 2009, the New Brunswick Hansard Office continued to have an active presence in the Hansard Association of Canada by contributing to its newsletter, responding to queries relayed through its LISTSERV, and participating in its annual conference.

Debates Translation

Chief Translator — Aurella Losier-Vienneau



Mandate

Under section 8 of the *Official Languages Act* of New Brunswick, “The records, journals and reports of the Legislative Assembly and its committees shall be printed and published in English and French”. This requirement is enshrined in subsection 18(2) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*: “The statutes, records and journals of the legislature of New Brunswick shall be printed and published in English and French and both language versions are equally authoritative.”

More specifically, Debates Translation translates statements and speeches delivered by members in the House, the daily Journal, the proceedings of the House (“Hansard”), committee reports, and other material for the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

Calendar Year 2009

Highlights

- In mid-February, the New Brunswick Translation Bureau invited staff to attend workshops offered by the federal Translation Bureau. Workshops were offered on rewording, anglicisms and choosing the right term to use, and difficulties of the English language. Staff members very much appreciated this opportunity for professional development.
- Over the course of the year, the construction of platforms in Edgcombe House offices was completed. These platforms were required to solve problems stemming from uneven floors. The ability of the carpenters to complete the work with minimum disruption to staff was greatly appreciated.

- In May, the Clerk met with staff to make the acquaintance of new employees she had not yet met and to answer some questions. Staff members very much appreciated this visit.
- Promotions were granted to deserving staff members during the year.
- There were 69 daily sittings in 2009, including 49 daily sittings in the third session of the 56th legislature and 20 daily sittings in the fourth session of the 56th legislature.
- During 2009, production reached more than 2 million words, which represents an increase of 22% over the preceding year.
- During the year, more than 1 152 translation requests were processed, not including requests for prompt translation made by telephone or e-mail.

House

Objective: to translate the records and journals of Legislative Assembly proceedings, as well as motions introduced in the House.

Translation of Hansard accounted for close to 63% of the workload, 6% more than in 2008. Almost 24% of Hansard translation was into English.

Table 2 provides comparative statistics on the number of words for the past five sessions.

The translation of the daily Journal represented more than 8% of the workload, an increase of more than 2%

over 2008; translation is usually completed shortly after the session ends. The Order Paper and notices of motion accounted for more than 10% of the workload; they are translated the same day.

Members of the Legislative Assembly

Objective: to translate, as resources allow, statements and speeches delivered in the House by members, including Cabinet ministers and opposition members. Translation for Members of the Legislative Assembly accounted for almost 14% of the total workload. The number of words translated increased by 2% over the preceding year.

During the 69 sitting days of the year under review, 365 requests for translation of speeches and statements were processed, representing 1 293 pages. These included the 2009-10 budget speech, the speech from the throne for the fourth session of the 56th legislature, and the 2010-11 budget speech, as well as 321 statements and 43 speeches given in the House by ministers or private members. The average speech length was 17.7 pages. Translation for Cabinet ministers accounted for 92% of the workload. Approximately 94% of translation was into French.

During intersession, written translation services provided for both government and opposition members include correspondence and press releases. During this intersession period, the Office of the Official Opposition was our only client. Translation requests by Members of the Legislative Assembly usually receive same-day or next-day service, as resources allow.

Committees

Objective: to translate reports, agendas, and notices of meetings for standing and select committees of the Legislative Assembly.

Translation for committees represented almost 1% of the total workload.

Office of the Legislative Assembly

Objective: to translate material of a procedural and administrative nature for the Speaker's Office, the Clerk's Office, and the Legislative Library.

Translation for the Office of the Legislative Assembly represented more than 7% of the total workload.

**Table 1: Debates Translation Output, in words
2009 Calendar Year
(rounded figures)**

HOUSE	
Notices of Motions and Order Paper	201 000
Journal	166 000
Hansard ¹	1 255 000
MEMBERS	
Speeches and Statements	216 000
Correspondence and press releases	58 000
COMMITTEES	15 000
OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY	89 000
TOTAL²	2 000 000

- 1 Includes a carryover of about 1.2 million words (47% of 2001-02 Hansard and Sittings 3 and 11 of 2009-10 Hansard) from the previous year.
- 2 Excludes a carryover of approximately 21.92 million words (33% of 2001-02 Hansard, 100% of 2002-03 Hansard, 100% of 2003-04 Hansard, 100% of 2004-05 Hansard, 100% of 2005-06 Hansard, 100% of 2007 Hansard, 100% of 2007-08 Hansard, 100% of 2008-09 Hansard, and Sittings 1 to 20 or 2009-10 Hansard) into the next year.

Table 2: Comparative Statistics for Sessions

	2004-05	2005-06	2007	2007-08	2008-09
Days	58	54	79	64	65
Words	2 377 000*	2 240 000	4 121 000*	3 072 000*	2 706 000*

* Estimate

Special Project

Special Project Officer — Valmond LeBlanc

Background

When Debates Translation was established in 1977, its mandate was to translate House proceedings (“Hansard”) before the next session. This differs from other legislatures in Canada, where proceedings are usually made available within 24 to 48 hours. A translation backlog of Hansard developed in the early nineties, and the Legislative Administration Committee approved in September 1997 a strategy to address the issue. This strategy had three components.

The first component was to seek outside funding to assist catch-up efforts. During the year in review, no outside funding for translation outsourcing was received.

The second component was internal funding for translation outsourcing. During the year in review, an amount of \$57 096 was spent from the Debates Translation budget for outsourcing.

The third component was designation of a senior staff member as Special Project Officer, reporting to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, to focus full-time on reducing the translation backlog. Duties also included updating the *Directory of New Brunswick and National Organizations* and leadership in setting standards and quality control.

The special project has three objectives.

Objective 1: Maintain the Hansard translation workflow.

Results

- Hansard translation demand was 2.48 million words, a decrease of 13% over the 2.81 million words for the previous year.
- Hansard translation output totaled 1.26 million words, compared to 0.93 million words in the previous year, an increase of 36%.
- During the year in review, demand exceeded output by 1.22 million words. Over the past three years, demand has exceeded output by an average 2.07 million words per year.

Objective 2: Provide translation of daily sittings at an earlier date.

Results

- Online translation of Hansard dailies was made available on the Legislative Assembly network 13.08 years earlier than the published volumes.

- At year’s end, translation of dailies up to April 28, 2002, was posted on the internal network of the Legislative Assembly.
- A total of 440 Hansard dailies in dual-column and PDF format are available for the 1993 to 2001-02 sessions. These finalized, translated dailies can be viewed, printed, and are fully searchable electronically.

Objective 3: Reduce the Hansard translation backlog to 12 months.

Results

- The Hansard translation backlog rose by 1.22 million words, compared to 1.88 million words during the previous year, a drop of 54%.
- During the year in review, 69 new daily sittings occurred, while translation of 31 sitting days was completed, for a net backlog increase of 38 sitting days, compared to an increase of 36 sitting days in the previous year.
- Hansard translation was trailing by 92 months (or 479 dailies), compared to 84 months (or 441 dailies) at the end of the previous year.

Quality Control

The *Directory of New Brunswick and National Organizations* was updated on a more or less monthly basis during the year. It serves as a repository of over 32 000 research findings that pertain mostly to national and provincial organizations and programs. All entries are fully referenced, and some provide hyperlinks. The *Parliamentary Stylebook* was also updated.

Both the stylebook and directory are available for consultation and download at <<http://www.gnb.ca/legis/publications/publications-e.asp>>.

Conclusion

Translation of House proceedings is conducted in concert with the 9 other parliamentary translators and the executive secretary at Debates Translation as well as 5 professional translators in the private sector, in close cooperation with staff at the Hansard Office. Efforts will continue to offer a product that not only meets high-quality standards but that is also provided on a more timely basis for members and staff of the Legislative Assembly, government departments, and New Brunswickers.

Program for Members

Program for Members

The other components or branches of the Legislative Assembly Office are the Government Members' Office and the Office of the Official Opposition.

Each party grouping or caucus of elected Members is a branch of the Legislative Assembly Office. The Speaker has authority over the administration of each caucus office; however, for obvious reasons, these branches operate with considerable autonomy.

Both branches received financial, administrative and personnel services, as well as other support services from other branches of the Legislative Assembly Office under the direction of the Clerk.

Funding

Under the Program for Members, the Private Members of the Legislative Assembly are provided with furnished offices in the Legislative Complex in Fredericton.

Under the authority of subsection 29(5) of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, the Legislative Administration Committee approves annual funding for Private Members for secretarial, research and other assistance incidental to the performance of their duties. Members of each political party combine this funding to obtain and share research, secretarial and receptionist personnel.

Under subsections 29(1) and (3) of the Act, funding is approved annually for the leaders of registered political parties represented in the House (Leader of the Opposition and third party leaders) to be used for

salaries of staff, salary and expenses of the leaders, and other expenses related to the operation of the respective Offices.

Research and Administrative Support

The staff of each office provides primary and secondary research support with respect to topics and issues of interest to the Members. The Office helps handle correspondence relating to Members' legislative and public duties and provides many other support functions.

Office of Government Members

The eight permanent staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, secretarial and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Government Caucus.

Members and staff of this Office occupy the second and third floors of the Departmental Building (West Block).

Office of the Official Opposition

The staff of this office is comprised of 14 permanent positions and includes a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, policy development, secretarial and receptionist duties in support of the elected Members of the Official Opposition Caucus.

The offices of the Members and staff of the Official Opposition are located in the Old Education Building and in the Jewett House.

Tributes

Lewis Charles Ayles

On November 26, 2009, Mr. Olscamp noted the passing of Lewis Charles Ayles, MLA for the City of Campbellton (Progressive Conservative, 1967-1970), who died October 21 at the age of 82.

Born in Atholville, New Brunswick, on August 28, 1927, he was the son of the late Clifford and Evelyn Ayles (Landry). Lewis had a long and distinguished career. Admitted to the bar in 1952, he practiced law in the city of Campbellton until 1971. He was elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly for the constituency of Campbellton in 1967 and served in that capacity until 1970.

He was appointed to the Provincial Court in 1971. In 1983, he was appointed to the Court of Queen's Bench Family Division, and in 1985, he was appointed to the Court of Appeal of New Brunswick, where he sat until he retired in 2002. He also served as the first chairman of the Insurance Board of New Brunswick, having been named to that position in 2004. He served in that capacity for 18 months. In November 2004, he was appointed Queen's Counsel.

Daniel (Danny) Ernest Cameron

Danny Cameron, a former Leader of the Opposition and a Member of the House for York South (Confederation of Regions, 1991-1995), died April 12, 2009, at the age of 85. On April 14, 2009, Premier Shawn Graham paid tribute to his memory:

Mr. Cameron was a veteran of World War II, serving in the RCAF. He was a founder of Atlantic Rentals Ltd., and he was a former Leader of the Official Opposition, from 1991 to 1995. He enjoyed traveling, hunting, fishing, coin and art collecting, and restoring horse-drawn buggies. He was also a member of the Fredericton Society of St. Andrews, the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #4 and the Legion choir, the Golden Club, and St. Andrews Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Cameron was extremely well-regarded and respected in all political circles. He was a man who was passionate in his beliefs and represented his constituents with a true sense of pride.

Léonide Honoré Cyr

On November 18, 2009, Hon. Mr. Murphy paid tribute to the memory of the former MLA Léonide Honoré Cyr (Liberal, Moncton City) who died November 4, 2009:

Léonide Cyr, age 83, passed away this month. He was a graduate of St. Francis Xavier University and Dalhousie Law School. Married to the late Laetitia Thériault, he was the father of four children, all of whom are greatly accomplished: Michel, Myriam, Christine, and Isabelle. "Ned", as he was affectionately known, was a distinguished lawyer and accomplished the designation of Queen's Counsel.

He was born April 19, 1926, in Edmundston, New Brunswick. He practiced law in Sydney, Nova Scotia, Grand Falls and Moncton, New Brunswick. He served two terms as a member of the Moncton City Council and as president of the New Brunswick Cancer Society.

Mr. Cyr sat one term as an MLA (1967-1970) and, during that time, served as Deputy Speaker of the House.

R. Gordon L. Fairweather

Robert Gordon Lee Fairweather, the first Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, and founding Chairperson of the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, died on December 24, 2008, at the age of 85. He was born in Rothesay, New Brunswick, and he was educated at Rothesay Collegiate. He served as Lieutenant Commander in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve during World War II from 1941 to 1945. He obtained a Bachelor of Civil Law degree from the University of New Brunswick and a Doctorate of Law from Osgoode Hall.

From 1952 to 1962, he was a Member of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick (Progressive Conservative, Kings) and he served as provincial Attorney General from 1958 to 1960. He was elected to the House of Commons as representative for Royal in 1962, 1963 and 1965, and, as representative for Fundy-Royal, in 1968, 1972 and 1974.

In 1977, he was appointed the first Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission and held that position until 1987. He was an official observer of elections in Zimbabwe, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Malaysia and headed the Canadian delegation at the U.N. Commission on Human Rights in Geneva on three occasions. In 1978, he was made an Officer of the Order of Canada. From 1989 to 1992 Mr. Fairweather chaired the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada.

Douglas Arnold Flower

Douglas Arnold Flower, a former MLA for Sunbury (Liberal, 1967-1970) passed away July 30, 2009. Born in New Zion, New Brunswick, he was the son of the late Charles and Cora (Robinson) Flower. Following graduation from Minto High School and the Fredericton Business College, he began working in the coal mining industry with W. Benton Evans. He had a lifelong commitment to the coal mining industry in New Brunswick; to his church; to his community as a Village Councillor and as Deputy Mayor, and to the province of New Brunswick.

Roméo LeBlanc

On June 24, 2009, Premier Shawn Graham noted the death of former Governor General Roméo LeBlanc:

Mr. LeBlanc was a seminal figure in the Acadian renaissance and a senior voice for New Brunswickers of all backgrounds throughout Canada and the world.

Born and raised in Memramcook, Mr. LeBlanc studied at his hometown Collège St.-Joseph and the Université de Paris before returning to New Brunswick to work as a teacher and then as a journalist for Radio-Canada in Ottawa, the United Kingdom and the United States. He entered the political realm as press secretary for former Prime Ministers Lester Pearson and Pierre Trudeau.

He was first elected to the House of Commons (Liberal, Westmorland-Kent) in 1972. He was Minister of Fisheries and Oceans from 1974 to 1982. He was responsible for introducing Canada's 320-km territorial limit and for introducing fishery management and conservation to the industry to curb overfishing and overexpansion.

He was appointed to the Senate in 1984 and he served as Speaker until 1994 when he was appointed Canada's 25th Governor General. He was the first Acadian and first Maritimer to serve in this post.

He was passionate about Canadian history and the rights and heritage of Aboriginal Canadians, proclaiming the first National Aboriginal Day in 1996 and instituting awards in the teaching of history and the arts. In 1999, he presided over the creation of the new territory of Nunavut.

Roméo LeBlanc was a proud New Brunswicker and a proud Acadian whose vision, leadership and compassion made a significant difference to his home province and the entire nation.

Publications and Electronic Resources

Debates Translation

Listing of Definitions in Legislation, 1993- / Recueil de définitions législatives, 1993

Sauvageau, Alain. *Parliamentary Translation Forms, 1995- / Formules pour la traduction parlementaire, 1995-*

Hansard Office

Journal of Debates (Hansard). Second Session, 56th Legislature, 2007-08. Finalized daily sittings: Nos. 1 to 25, 27, completing the session.

Journal of Debates (Hansard). First Session, 56th Legislature, 2007. Finalized daily sittings: Nos. 50, 53, 56 to 79, completing the session.

Journal of Debates (Hansard). Fourth Session, 54th Legislature, 2001-02. Finalized daily sittings: Nos. 70 and 71, completing the session.

Journal of Debates (Hansard). Fourth Session, 56th Legislature, 2009-10. Dailies in unrevised (blues) format: Nos. 1 to 16.

Journal of Debates (Hansard). Third Session, 56th Legislature, 2008-09. Dailies in unrevised (blues) format: Nos. 2, 4, 6, 7, 9 to 64.

Journal of Debates (Hansard). First Session, 55th Legislature, 2003-04. Dailies in unrevised (blues) format: Nos. 2, 4 to 10.

Console Notes. Third Session, 56th Legislature, March 17, 2009, to November 17, 2009, 49 logs. Fourth Session, 56th Legislature, November 17, 2009, to December 18, 2009, 20 logs.

Statistics, Committee of Supply. Third Session, 56th Legislature, 2008-09.

Note: All of the following are available on the Legislative Assembly intranet under the Legisdoc directory.

Legislative Library

The Development of the New Brunswick Legislative Library, 1841-1991.

Elections in New Brunswick, 1784-1984.

*Index to the Private Acts of New Brunswick, 1929-2006.***

Locating Maiden Speeches by Party, Member, or Constituency, 1834 / 35-1837, 1850-1861, 1882-2006.

NB Government Periodical Titles.

*New Brunswick Government Documents Annual Catalogue.**

New Brunswick Legislative Library Handbook, 1999. Periodicals Contents (monthly).

*Selected Accessions (quarterly).**

Office of the Clerk

Legislative Activities 2008

*Journals (Unrevised): Legislative Assembly: Province of New Brunswick, Third Session, Fifty-Sixth Legislature (49 issues).**

*Journals (Unrevised): Legislative Assembly Province of New Brunswick: Fourth Session, Fifty-Sixth Legislature (20 issues).**

*Order and Notice Paper, November 17, 2009, to December 18, 2009, 20 issues.**

*Order and Notice Paper, March 17, 2009, to November 17, 2009, 49 issues.**

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Seating Arrangement, Fourth Session, 56th Legislature.

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*Status of Legislation Introduced during the Fourth Session of the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly.**

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* Internet: <<http://www.gnb.ca/legis>>

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LeBlanc, Valmond. *Directory of New Brunswick and National Organizations* [online in PDF, updated regularly]. 1979-, <http://www.gnb.ca/legis/publications/publications_e.asp>.

———. *Parliamentary Stylebook* [online in PDF, updated regularly]. 2001-, <http://www.gnb.ca/legis/publications/publications_e.asp>.

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