



**2018**

*Legislative  
Activities*

**Legislative  
Assembly of  
New Brunswick**

# Legislative Activities

2018



## New Brunswick

Prepared for The Honourable Daniel Guitard

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

New Brunswick





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November 29, 2019

The Honourable Daniel Guitard  
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 thirtieth annual report of *Legislative Activities*, for the year ended December 31, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Donald J. Forestell  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly







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# YEAR IN REVIEW

## *Clerk of the Legislative Assembly — Donald J. Forestell*

The 2018 calendar year was eventful for the offices of the Legislative Assembly. The fourth and final session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature concluded, the first session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature began and ended, and the second session was underway by year end. In total, the House sat for 33 days during the calendar year and committees held 49 meetings. The year included a provincial election that produced the first minority government in New Brunswick since 1920, the election of a new Speaker, a change in government, and the retirement of two Legislative Officers.

The fourth session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature, which adjourned on December 21, 2017, resumed sitting on January 30, 2018. Finance Minister Cathy Rogers delivered the government's fourth budget and the reply to the budget speech was delivered on February 1 by Opposition Finance Critic Bruce Fitch.

A total of 47 bills were introduced during the fourth session, 41 of which received Royal Assent. The House adjourned on March 16, sitting for 39 days during the session, for a total of 120 hours. This compares to 48 days during the previous session, or 176 hours. The Committee of the Whole and Standing Committee on Economic Policy spent 110 hours considering legislation, and the Committee of Supply and Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy spent the prescribed 80 hours considering estimates.

New Brunswick's Official Languages Commissioner, Katherine d'Entremont, retired from her position on July 22. She was appointed to the position in 2013 after a 32-year career serving in the public sector. On July 23, Michel A. Carrier, Q.C., was appointed Interim Official Languages Commission until the appointment of a new commissioner.

The 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature was dissolved on August 23 and a general provincial election was held on September 24. At dissolution, the standings in the House were 24 Liberals, 21 Progressive Conservatives, one Green, one independent, and two vacancies. The independent Member was Speaker Chris Collins. The two vacancies were for Donald Arseneault, who resigned as the Member for Campbellton-Dalhousie on December 1, 2017, and Madeleine (Mado) Dubé, who resigned as the Member for Edmundston-Madawaska Centre on July 1, 2018.

The 39<sup>th</sup> general election produced a Liberal minority government. The results were 21 Liberals, 22 Progressive Conservatives, three Greens, and three People's Alliance.

Led by David Coon, the Green Party was able to add two additional seats, the most seats in the party's history in the province. As well, the People's Alliance won their first seats ever, including the seat of their leader, Kris Austin.

The results in three of the 49 ridings were confirmed by judicial recounts. The closest victory was by ten votes in the riding of Saint John Harbour, followed by an 11-vote win in Memramcook-Tantramar, and a 93-vote victory in Oromocto-Lincoln-Fredericton.

Lieutenant-Governor Jocelyne Roy Vienneau presided over the swearing-in ceremony for the Members of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly on October 19. Members took their Oath of Allegiance and signed the Members' Roll in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly.

The first session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly convened in the morning of October 23 to elect a new Speaker. As only one Member allowed their name to stand for election, Liberal MLA Daniel Guitard was declared Speaker. That afternoon, the Lieutenant-Governor opened the session, delivering the first Speech from the Throne of Premier Brian Gallant's Liberal minority government. During the week, the House appointed Liberal Members Chuck Chiasson and Monique LeBlanc as Deputy Speakers.





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On October 24, a motion was adopted by the House to suspend the definition of "recognized party" in the Standing Rules for the duration of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature. Subsequently, the Green and People's Alliance caucuses (having three Members each), were granted certain rights under the Standing Rules despite not having elected the requisite five Members.

On October 25, Official Opposition Leader Blaine Higgs delivered his reply to the Speech from the Throne. At the end of his speech, he moved an amendment to the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, which stated that the present government did not have the confidence of the House.

During the Throne Speech debate on October 30, Health Minister Benoît Bourque moved a sub-amendment. The sub-amendment presented suggestions and platform commitments from other parties to be incorporated into the Throne Speech.

Premier Gallant closed debate on November 2. The Speaker then put every question necessary to dispose of the main motion. The sub-amendment was defeated, the amendment was carried, and the motion as amended was carried with the support of the Progressive Conservative and People's Alliance caucuses by recorded division (25-23), effectively declaring non-confidence in the Liberal minority government.

Premier Gallant immediately advised the House that he would be informing the Lieutenant-Governor of his resignation as Premier and requesting that she ask the Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party to form government. Later that day, the Lieutenant-Governor announced that she had accepted the Premier's resignation and had asked Blaine Higgs to form the next government. On November 9, the Lieutenant-Governor presided over the swearing-in of the new Executive Council in a ceremony held in the Legislative Assembly chamber. Blaine Higgs was sworn-in as the 34<sup>th</sup> Premier of New Brunswick, along with a Cabinet consisting of:

Robert Gauvin, Deputy Premier and Minister of Tourism, Heritage and Culture; Trevor Holder, Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; Carl Urquhart, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General; Dorothy Shephard, Minister of Social Development; Jake Stewart, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs; Ross Wetmore, Minister of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries; Sherry Wilson, Minister of Service New Brunswick; Hugh J.A. Flemming, Minister of Health; Jeff Carr, Minister of Environment and Local Government; Bill Oliver, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure; Ernie Steeves, Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board; Andrea Anderson-Mason, Minister of Justice and Attorney General; Dominic Cardy, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development; Mike Holland, Minister of Energy and Resource Development; Gregory Thompson, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs; and Mary Wilson, Minister of Economic Development and Small Business.

Other government appointments were as follows: Glen Savoie as Government House Leader; Bruce Northrup as Government Whip; and Stewart Fairgrieve as Government Caucus Chair. Official Opposition appointments included Guy Arseneault as Official Opposition House Leader; Stephen Horsman as Official Opposition Whip; and Jean-Claude D'Amours as Official Opposition Caucus Chair.

The first session prorogued on the morning of November 20, for a total of nine sitting days. The second session began that afternoon with the Speech from the Throne of Premier Blaine Higgs' Progressive Conservative minority government.

On November 22, Official Opposition Leader Brian Gallant delivered his reply to the Speech from the Throne. At the end of his speech, he moved an amendment to the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne that urged the government to continue the moratorium on hydraulic fracturing in all parts of the province.

Minister Sherry Wilson moved a sub-amendment on November 27 that would allow certain communities, who have demonstrated their support, to proceed with shale gas development.



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On November 30, Premier Higgs closed debate. The Speaker then put every question necessary to dispose of the main motion. The sub-amendment and amendment were carried, and the motion as amended was carried with the support of the Progressive Conservative and People's Alliance caucuses by recorded division (25-23), demonstrating that the Progressive Conservative government had the confidence of the House.

The House adjourned on December 14, after 12 sitting days. On December 28, Brian Gallant announced his intention to resign as Leader of the Liberal Party in 2019 prior to the resumption of the session.

Before the year ended, New Brunswick's first Integrity Commissioner, Hon. Alexandre Deschênes, Q.C., retired from his position on December 31. This closed out a remarkable career of public service. He was appointed a judge of the Court of Queen's Bench in 1982, was appointed to the Court of Appeal of New Brunswick in 2000, and was appointed the Integrity Commissioner in 2016. On January 3, 2019, the Ombud of New Brunswick, Charles Murray, was appointed Interim Integrity Commissioner.



**The Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau, New Brunswick's 31<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant-Governor, oversaw the transition of governments during an historic time in the province. Upon the defeat or resignation of a government, the Lieutenant-Governor may exercise the prerogative to appoint a new government.**

**Her leadership in performing her constitutional role provided stability during this transitional period.**



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Election of Speaker



*In keeping with a parliamentary tradition established in 1381, Premier Brian Gallant (right) and Official Opposition Leader Blaine Higgs (left) dragged a “reluctant” Guitard (centre) to the dais.*

The first session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly convened on October 23 for the purpose of electing a new Speaker. As only one Member allowed their name to stand for election, the Clerk declared MLA Daniel Guitard elected as Speaker. Speaker Guitard was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in a general election on September 24, 2014, and again in the general election of 2018 to represent the riding of Restigouche-Chaleur.

He has served as Government Caucus Chair, Deputy Government Whip, and Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Private Bills. He has also served as a member of the Legislative Administration Committee; the Standing Committees on Crown Corporations; Economic Policy; Law Amendments; Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers; and Public Accounts.

Speaker Guitard has been very active in his community as the chair of various festivals, a minor hockey and baseball team manager, a municipal councilor, and the chair of Atlas Park. He remains an active member of the Knights of Columbus council in his village.

## Mace Restoration

New Brunswick’s mace was presented to the Legislative Assembly in 1937, the coronation year of King George VI, by the Hon. Murray MacLaren, lieutenant-governor of the province. A mace is the symbol of parliamentary authority and of the Speaker’s authority as servant of the House and is present in most Commonwealth legislatures. It serves as a special reminder of the great breadth of the province’s heritage and as a link between both ancient monarchical and democratic traditions.

Made of sterling silver by the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Co., Ltd. of London, England, symbolic and decorative elements include: the Royal Arms on the top of the cushion of the crown, the Royal Monogram on both sides of the head, and purple violets, red spruce and maple leaves on the staff.

In early June, the mace was recoated with 14-carat gold and its display case was illuminated with LED light strips. The gold plating was the final phase of the mace’s 2001 and 2008 restorations, which saw the repairing of numerous cracks on the main staff and at junctions on the staff, as well as buffing and polishing.





## Audubon Book Signing



Dr. Debra J. Lindsay with a Birds of America volume.

On April 12, the Legislative Library hosted a book launch for Dr. Debra J. Lindsay's publication, *Maria Martin's World: Art and Science, Faith and Family in Audubon's America* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2018). The public and MLAs were invited to join the author and examine one of the Library's volumes of *The Birds of America* as well as her own book about Maria Martin, a remarkable woman who served first as a painter then as a researcher for John James Audubon. Her botanicals, insects and amphibians appeared in volumes two and four of *The Birds of America*.

Dr. Lindsay is an historian and chair of the Department of History and Politics at the University of New Brunswick.

In honour of the special occasion, a volume of the library's *The Birds of America* was taken out of the archives and put on display. The complete set of hand-coloured copper engravings of *The Birds of America* by John James Audubon, painted in the 1830s, is one of the library's most prized possessions. Purchased in 1852, it is one of only five sets in Canada.

## Book of Condolences

On August 11, a book of condolences was placed in the rotunda of the Legislative Assembly to provide people an opportunity to pay their respects to the families of the fallen Fredericton police officers who died tragically in Fredericton on August 10.

These brave officers were Constables Sara Mae Helen Burns of St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland; and Lawrence Robert (Robb) Costello of Saint John, New Brunswick. Constable Costello was a father of four and a 20-year police force veteran. Constable Burns had been on the force for two years, after serving as an auxiliary officer, and was married with three children.

The book of condolences was delivered to the families in time for the visitation at the Fredericton Convention Center on August 16. The Regimental funeral was preceded by a parade of Fredericton Police Force members in uniform, joined by several other police agencies, RCMP members, and first responders on August 18.





# MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



## ROLE OF SPEAKER

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly is elected by secret ballot by all Members of the Legislative Assembly at the opening of a new Legislature, or when a vacancy occurs. The Speaker assumes the position of highest authority in the House. As the representative of the Legislative Assembly, the Speaker is the guardian of its privileges and its presiding officer.

To facilitate the orderly flow of business, the House observes certain parliamentary rules, both written and traditional. The Speaker must ensure that these rules of procedure are observed and must protect the rights and privileges of the Assembly and its Members. The Speaker maintains order, interprets the standing rules and calls on Members to speak, ensuring a fair representation of opinion. The Speaker presides over the debates of the House with impartiality. The Speaker does not participate in debate, and does not vote except in the case of a tie.

The Speaker is the head of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and is responsible for the services, staff and facilities directly related to the Legislative Assembly. The Speaker is president of the New Brunswick Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and serves as the representative of the Legislative Assembly on ceremonial and official occasions.



*Hon. Daniel Guitard,  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly*

In addition to these responsibilities, the Speaker remains a Member of the Legislative Assembly and is expected to carry out various duties on behalf of his constituents.

## ROLE OF MEMBERS

The Parliament of New Brunswick, composed of the Crown and the elected Members, is constituted as the Legislative Assembly. The Queen of Canada, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, is the official Head of State and is represented in New Brunswick by the Lieutenant-Governor. The primary function of the Legislature, making laws, is vested jointly in the Lieutenant-Governor and the Legislative Assembly, with the Assembly passing legislation and the Lieutenant-Governor assenting to it. This follows centuries-old British tradition in which the power of the state rests with the Crown, while the exercise of that power rests with elected Members.

New Brunswick's system of government, like the federal system in Ottawa, is based on the British parliamentary system. Each of the 49 Members is individually elected to represent the voters in one constituency. Although a Member need not be affiliated with an organized political party, this has generally been the tradition in New Brunswick.



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The three main functions of the Legislature are law-making, surveillance and representation. The legislative process (law-making) claims a predominant share of the Assembly's sitting time.

Surveillance refers to holding the government accountable. The job of examining and criticizing the actions of government is primarily a task for the opposition. Oral Question period is the most visible means of surveillance.

Representation refers to serving and representing constituents. For many Members, the constituency is a defining characteristic of their job. Serving constituents is viewed by many Members as one of their primary roles and most spend a great deal of time and effort directed toward this end.

## HOUSE ACTIVITY

The term *Legislature* generally refers to the institution which exercises the legislative power. More specifically, the term is used by parliamentarians to refer to the period between two general elections. Each general election brings about a new Legislative Assembly.

The annual meeting of the Assembly is called a session. Under the *Constitution Act, 1867*, at least one session of the Legislature must be held each year. There may be any number of sessions during the life of a Legislature. The term *session* refers to the period of time between the opening of the Legislative Assembly, when the Lieutenant-Governor delivers the throne speech, and the prorogation of parliamentary work. Any business not completed before prorogation dies on the *Order and Notice Paper*. A session may also be ended by dissolution, in which case a general election would follow.

The daily meeting of the Assembly is called a sitting. A sitting is not necessarily synonymous with a calendar day. Some sittings are very brief and others have extended over more than one calendar day. A sitting is concluded by the adjournment of the House.

The ordinary sitting hours for the House are:

Tuesday	1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Friday	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The ordinary sitting hours are prescribed by the standing rules and may be varied on occasion to include evening sittings.

Each sitting day is divided into two parts: Routine Business and Orders of the Day.



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## **Routine Business**

Routine Business is devoted to both new business and to providing Members with an opportunity to bring a variety of matters to the attention of the House. The same items of business reappear daily and include:

### **Prayers**

The prayers consist of two separate invocations followed by the Lord's Prayer and are read partly in English and partly in French.

### **Introduction of Guests**

Members have an opportunity to introduce persons from their constituency or other noteworthy individuals who are present in the House.

### **Statements by Members**

Members who are not Ministers may be recognized to make a brief statement related to any matter of importance to the Member.

### **Oral Questions**

Each sitting day, 30 minutes is set aside for the purpose of asking oral questions. During Oral Questions, Members may ask concise and clear questions on matters of urgency addressed to Ministers. Ministers may respond or take the matter under advisement.

### **Tabling of Documents**

A Minister may table with the House any return, report or other paper within the administrative competence of the government. Many statutes require that certain reports and documents be laid before the House each session or year. Other documents may be tabled pursuant to a standing rule or resolution of the House.

### **Statements by Ministers**

A Minister may make a brief statement on, or explanation of, government policy or administration. Debate is not permitted on such a statement or explanation but a representative of each recognized party in opposition may comment briefly.

### **Presentations of Petitions**

The public has the right to petition the Legislature, or government, to take certain action. Individuals or groups with petitions must enlist the aid of Members to have their petitions presented in the House.

### **Answers to Petitions and Written Questions**

A Minister, on behalf of government, may table with the House a response to any petition or written question previously presented in the House.

### **Presentations of Committee Reports**

Any information to be transmitted to the House from a committee is presented in the form of a committee report. Committees submit reports on a variety of subjects, including: bills, estimates, procedural matters and subject-matter inquiries.



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## **Introduction of Bills**

Ministers and other Members have an opportunity to introduce new bills in the House and give a brief explanation as to their purpose.

## **Notices of Motions**

In order for Members to be fully prepared when matters are called for debate in the House, two days' written notice is required for important House business. Members may give such notice under this item.

## **Notice of Opposition Members' Business**

Opposition Members' Business is taken under consideration at 2.30 p.m. on Thursdays. An item of Opposition Members' Business may be considered in an order different from its order of priority or its order of presentation in the House provided that one day's notice has been given under this item.

## **Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House**

Motions moved under this item are those relating to the business of the House and are moved by the Government House Leader. The Government House Leader will also announce the scheduling and order in which the daily business of the House will be considered.

## **Deferred Recorded Divisions**

The will of the House is usually ascertained by means of a voice vote. Once debate on a motion has concluded, the Speaker puts the question and determines whether the yeas or nays have it and declares the motion carried or lost. A recorded division may be requested on any voice vote. A recorded division requires those voting in the affirmative or negative to rise so their names can be entered in the Journal. A recorded division, if requested, need not be held immediately. At the request of the Government House Leader or Whip, it may be deferred to the next sitting day under this item.

## **Orders of the Day**

This item refers to the business that is to come before the House each day, as set out in the *Order and Notice Paper*. An item of business may include consideration of bills at various stages, estimates, or motions for which notice has already been given.

























## **Condolences and Congratulations**

While no longer a part of Routine Business following the rule changes in 2015, Members have an opportunity to present a statement of condolence or extend congratulations to any person, group or association before the Speaker motions for the daily adjournment of the House.





## MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AS OF MARCH 16, 2018 Seating Arrangement

 <b>Victor Boudreau</b> Shediac- Beaubassin- Cap-Pelé	 <b>Andrew Harvey</b> Carleton-Victoria	 <b>Benoît Bourque</b> Kent South	 <b>Bill Fraser</b> Miramichi
	 <b>Gilles LePage</b> Restigouche West	 <b>Serge Rousselle</b> Tracadie-Sheila	 <b>Rick Doucet</b> Fundy-The Isles- Saint John West
 <b>Hédard Albert</b> Caraquet	 <b>Monique LeBlanc</b> Moncton East	 <b>Lisa Harris</b> Miramichi Bay- Neguac	 <b>Brian Gallant</b> Shediac Bay-Dieppe
 <b>Bertrand LeBlanc</b> Kent North	 <b>Chuck Chiasson</b> Victoria-La Vallée	 <b>Francine Landry</b> Madawaska Les Lacs-Edmundston	 <b>Cathy Rogers</b> Moncton South
 <b>Ed Doherty</b> Saint John Harbour	 <b>Bernard LeBlanc</b> Memramcook- Tantramar	 <b>Brian Kenny</b> Bathurst West- Beresford	 <b>Stephen Horsman</b> Fredericton North
	 <b>Wilfred Roussel</b> Shippagan- Lamèque-Miscou	 <b>John Ames</b> Saint Croix	 <b>Roger Melanson</b> Dieppe
	 <b>Daniel Guitard</b> Restigouche- Chaleur		 <b>Denis Landry</b> Bathurst East- Nepisiguit- Saint-Isidore



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*Note: There is one vacancy following Donald Arseneault's resignation on December 1.*



**Chris Collins**  
Speaker  
Moncton Centre




**Dorothy Shephard**  
Saint John  
Lancaster




**Glen Savoie**  
Saint John East



**Ernie Steeves**  
Moncton Northwest




**Kirk MacDonald**  
Fredericton-York




**Jeff Carr**  
New Maryland-  
Sunbury



**Sherry Wilson**  
Moncton Southwest



**Blaine Higgs**  
Quispamsis




**Hugh Flemming**  
Rothesay




**Bill Oliver**  
Kings Centre



**Madeleine Dubé**  
Edmundston-  
Madawaska Centre




**Brian Macdonald**  
Fredericton  
West-Hanwell




**Ross Wetmore**  
Gagetown-  
Petitcodiac



**Trevor Holder**  
Portland-Simonds



**Pam Lynch**  
Fredericton-  
Grand Lake



**Jake Stewart**  
Southwest  
Miramichi-Bay  
du Vin




**Stewart Fairgrieve**  
Carleton




**Jody Carr**  
Oromocto-Lincoln-  
Fredericton




**Brian Keirstead**  
Albert



**Bruce Fitch**  
Riverview



**Bruce Northrup**  
Sussex-Fundy-  
St. Martins



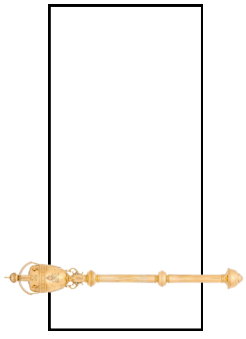
**Carl Urquhart**  
Carleton-York



**Gary Crossman**  
Hampton



**David Coon**  
Fredericton South



















Donald J. Forestell  
Clerk

Shayne Davies  
Clerk Assistant

John-Patrick McCleave  
Committee Clerk



## MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2018 Seating Arrangement

 <p><b>Bruce Northrup</b> Sussex-Fundy-St. Martins</p>	 <p><b>Ross Wetmore</b> Gagetown- Petitcodiac</p>	 <p><b>Sherry Wilson</b> Moncton Southwest</p>	 <p><b>Trevor Holder</b> Portland-Simonds</p>
 <p><b>Bruce Fitch</b> Riverview</p>	 <p><b>Mary Wilson</b> Oromocto-Lincoln- Fredericton</p>	 <p><b>Hugh Flemming</b> Rothesay</p>	 <p><b>Glen Savoie</b> Saint John East</p>
 <p><b>Stewart Fairgrieve</b> Carleton</p>	 <p><b>Jeff Carr</b> New Maryland- Sunbury</p>	 <p><b>Andrea Anderson-Mason</b> Fundy-The Isles- Saint John West</p>	 <p><b>Blaine Higgs</b> Quispamsis</p>
 <p><b>Gary Crossman</b> Hampton</p>	 <p><b>Mike Holland</b> Albert</p>	 <p><b>Robert Gauvin</b> Shippagan- Lamèque-Miscou</p>	 <p><b>Ernie Steeves</b> Moncton Northwest</p>
	 <p><b>Carl Urquhart</b> Carleton-York</p>	 <p><b>Jake Stewart</b> Southwest Miramichi- Bay du Vin</p>	 <p><b>Dorothy Shephard</b> Saint John Lancaster</p>
	 <p><b>Bill Oliver</b> Kings Centre</p>	 <p><b>Dominic Cardy</b> Fredericton West- Hanwell</p>	 <p><b>Greg Thompson</b> Saint Croix</p>



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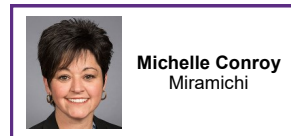
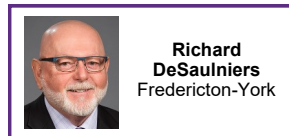
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GP




PA





**Daniel Guitard**  
Speaker  
Restigouche-Chaleur





Donald J. Forestell  
Clerk

Shayne Davies  
Deputy Clerk


John-Patrick McCleave  
Clerk Assistant and  
Committee Clerk

**Guy Arseneault**  
Campbellton-  
Dalhousie

**Jacques LeBlanc**  
Shediac-  
Beaubassin-  
Cap-Pelé

**Roger Melanson**  
Dieppe


**Benoît Bourque**  
Kent South

**Keith Chiasson**  
Tracadie-Sheila


**Brian Gallant**  
Shediac Bay-  
Dieppe

**Francine Landry**  
Madawaska Les  
Lacs-Edmundston

**Stephen Horsman**  
Fredericton North

**Lisa Harris**  
Miramichi Bay-  
Neguac


**Andrew Harvey**  
Carleton-Victoria


**Isabelle Thériault**  
Caraquet

**Cathy Rogers**  
Moncton South


**Gilles LePage**  
Restigouche West


**Gerry Lowe**  
Saint John Harbour

**Denis Landry**  
Bathurst East-  
Nepisiguit-  
Saint-Isidore


**Chuck Chiasson**  
Victoria-La Vallée


**Robert McKee**  
Moncton Centre

**Brian Kenny**  
Bathurst West-  
Beresford

**Monique LeBlanc**  
Moncton East

**Jean-Claude  
D'Amours**  
Edmundston-  
Madawaska Centre

**David Coon**  
Fredericton South

**Megan Mitton**  
Memramcook-  
Tantramar

**Kevin Arseneau**  
Kent North



## HOUSE STATISTICS

	58 <sup>th</sup> Legislature			59 <sup>th</sup> Legislature
	Second Session 2015 - 2016	Third Session 2016 - 2017	Fourth Session 2017 - 2018	First Session 2018
<i>Daily Sittings</i>				
Number of Sitting Days	40	48	39	9
Evening Sittings	0	0	0	0
<i>Government Bills</i>				
Introduced	40	56	42	2
Received Royal Assent	34	53	41	0
<i>Private Bills</i>				
Introduced	2	6	1	0
Received Royal Assent	2	5	0	0
<i>Private Members' Public Bills</i>				
Introduced	24	9	4	0
Received Royal Assent	0	1	0	0
<i>Government Motions</i>				
Total	8	14	13	5
Number debated	2	6	6	0
Number agreed to	7	12	12	5
Number withdrawn	0	0	0	0
<i>Private Members' Motions</i>				
Total	166	22	27	7
Number debated	15	18	16	2
Number agreed to	5	9	13	1
Number withdrawn	0	0	0	0
<i>Committee of Supply</i>				
In House (Days)	3	2	3	0
In Committee on Estimates	15	13	12	0
In other Committees	0	0	0	0
<i>Annual Reports Tabled</i>	56	74	59	15
<i>Petitions</i>	72	40	16	4
<i>Written Questions</i>	0	5	7	0

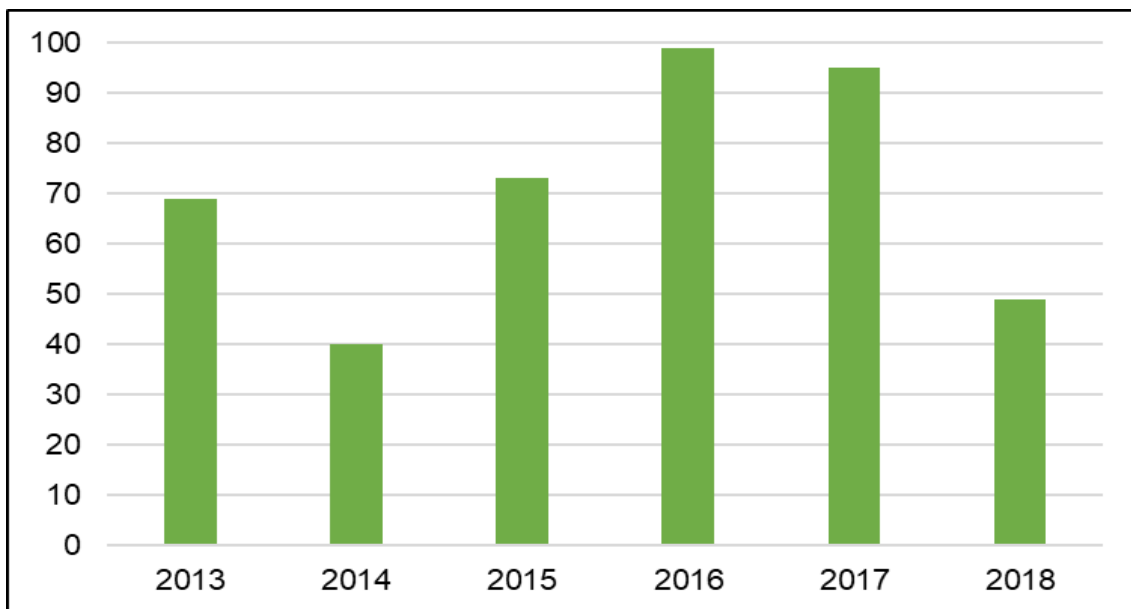


## COMMITTEE ACTIVITY



A significant amount of work is carried out by legislative committees. These committees are an extension of the House and undertake responsibilities that the Assembly as a whole would find difficult, if not impossible, to carry out. Committees exist to expedite the work of the House and to allow for more thorough study of complex or technical questions. Committees are also able to consult with the public on important matters, and travel when necessary, allowing Members to hear from people in all areas of the province.

In 2018, there were 9 standing committees and 1 select committee, which held a total of 49 meetings. Standing committees are appointed by the House and exist for the life of a Legislature. Select committees are appointed to examine specific issues and exist until the presentation of their final reports or until the dissolution of the House, whichever occurs first.



Yearly Number of Committee Meetings



The following is a list of committees, their membership, mandate and activities, as of dissolution of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature on August 23. Additional activities and changes to memberships post-election are also noted.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### Legislative Administration Committee

<b>Members</b>	Hon. Mr. Collins (C)	Mr. Albert
	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc (VC)	Mr. Guitard
	Ms. LeBlanc	Mr. Oliver
	Hon. Mr. Melanson	Mr. Fairgrieve
	Hon. Mr. Doucet	Mr. Coon

#### Mandate

The Committee is responsible for the administration and operation of the legislative buildings and grounds, and generally for all matters relating to the Legislative Assembly and its Members, including budgets, financial policies, allowances and expenses of Members, and terms and conditions of employment of officers and employees.

#### Activities

The Committee held 6 meetings, on January 11 and 18, March 14, April 9, and July 23 and 27, to discuss various issues related to the operation and administration of the Legislature. The Committee also appointed a subcommittee, which met on August 17. Following the election, the Committee, composed of new members, held 4 meetings, on October 24 and 31, November 16 and December 18. The Committee also appointed a subcommittee, which met on November 22, and December 11 and 13. On November 27, the House ratified the new membership as follows: Hon. Mr. Guitard (C), Mr. C. Chiasson, Ms. LeBlanc, Hon. Mr. Steeves, Hon. Mr. Oliver, Mr. Savoie, Mr. Fairgrieve, Mr. Arseneault, Mr. D'Amours, Mr. Coon, Mr. Arseneau, Mr. Austin and Ms. Conroy.

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### Standing Committee on Crown Corporations

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Chiasson (C)	Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc
	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc	Mr. Fitch
	Mr. Doherty	Mr. K. MacDonald
	Ms. LeBlanc	Mr. Savoie
	Mr. Boudreau	Mr. Wetmore
	Mr. Guitard	Mr. Coon
	Mr. Roussel	

#### Mandate

The Committee reviews the annual reports of provincial agencies, boards and commissions.

#### Activities

The Committee held a meeting on June 12 to review the Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, 2018, Volume I. Following the election, on November 27, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Mr. Savoie (C), Mr. Northrup (VC), Mr. Fairgrieve, Mr. Crossman, Mr. Bourque, Mr. Kenny, Mr. LePage, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Arseneau and Mr. Austin. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on December 11.



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## Standing Committee on Economic Policy

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Chiasson (C)	Mr. Doherty
	Mr. Boudreau (VC)	Mr. K. MacDonald
	Mr. Albert	Ms. Dubé
	Mr. Guitard	Mr. Stewart
	Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc	Mr. Coon
	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc	

### Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain government legislation related to economic policy.

### Activities

The Committee held 8 meetings, on January 9, 10, 11, 12, 16 and 17, and February 7 and 27. The Committee presented reports to the House on January 31 and March 13. Following the election, on November 27, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Mr. Crossman (C), Mr. Fairgrieve (VC), Mr. Savoie, Mr. Northrup, Mr. C. Chiasson, Mr. K. Chiasson, Mr. Lowe, Ms. Rogers, Mr. Arseneau and Mr. Austin. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on December 6. The Committee presented a report to the House on December 11.

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## Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc (C)	Mr. Chiasson
	Mr. Boudreau	Mr. Fitch
	Mr. Albert	Mr. B. Macdonald
	Mr. Doherty	Ms. Shephard
	Ms. LeBlanc	Mr. Steeves
	Mr. Roussel	

### Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review the estimates of certain government departments and related entities.

### Activities

The Committee held 12 meetings, on February 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 28, and March 1, 2 and 13. The Committee presented a report to the House on March 14. Following the election, on November 27, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Mr. Savoie (C), Mr. Crossman (VC), Mr. Fitch, Mr. Northrup, Mr. Bourque, Ms. Harris, Mr. Harvey, Ms. Landry, Mr. Coon and Mr. DeSaulniers. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on December 11.





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## Standing Committee on Law Amendments

<b>Members</b>	Hon. Mr. Rousselle, Q.C. (C)	Ms. LeBlanc
	Mr. Albert (VC)	Mr. Flemming, Q.C.
	Mr. Doherty	Mr. Fairgrieve
	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc	Mr. Holder
	Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc	Mr. Wetmore
	Mr. Chiasson	

### Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain bills prior to second reading. This referral is often made to allow for public consultation.

### Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2018 prior to the dissolution of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature. Following the election, on November 27, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason, Q.C. (C), Mr. Northrup (VC), Hon. Mr. Stewart, Mr. Fitch, Mr. K. Chiasson, Mr. Landry, Ms. Landry, Mr. McKee, Ms. Mitton and Mr. DeSaulniers. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on December 11.

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## Standing Committee on Private Bills

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Roussel (C)	Ms. LeBlanc
	Mr. Guitard (VC)	Mr. Jeff Carr
	Mr. Chiasson	Mr. Crossman
	Mr. Doherty	Mr. Northrup
	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc	Ms. Wilson
	Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc	

### Mandate

The Committee reviews all private bills prior to second reading. Any person affected by a private bill may appear before the Committee.

### Activities

The Committee held a meeting on February 27 and presented a report to the House on March 15. Following the election, on November 27, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Mr. Crossman (C), Mr. Northrup (VC), Hon. Mr. Carr, Hon. Ms. S. Wilson, Mr. Landry, Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. McKee, Ms. Thériault, Ms. Mitton and Ms. Conroy. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on December 11.

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## Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Albert (C)	Ms. LeBlanc
	Hon. Mr. Doucet	Ms. Dubé
	Hon. Mr. Rousselle, Q.C.	Mr. Northrup
	Mr. Guitard	Mr. Jody Carr
	Mr. Boudreau	Mr. Savoie
	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc	



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## Mandate

All standing rules and practices of the House, together with any matter referred by the Speaker, stand permanently referred to the Committee. The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to consider a matter or question of privilege concerning the House, a committee or Member. The Committee also reviews reports of Legislative Officers.

## Activities

The Committee held a meeting on June 20 to review the annual report of the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages for New Brunswick. Following the election, on November 27, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Mr. Fairgrieve (C), Mr. Savoie (VC), Hon. Mr. Thompson, P.C., Mr. Fitch, Mr. Kenny, Mr. LePage, Ms. LeBlanc, Mr. Melanson, Mr. Coon and Mr. DeSaulniers. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on December 11.

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## Standing Committee on Public Accounts

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Holder (C)	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc
	Mr. Chiasson (VC)	Mr. Roussel
	Mr. Doherty	Mr. Jeff Carr
	Mr. Guitard	Mr. Crossman
	Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc	Mr. B. Macdonald
	Mr. Boudreau	Mr. Coon
	Mr. Albert	

## Mandate

The Committee reviews Auditor General reports, Public Accounts, and annual reports of government departments.

## Activities

The Committee held a meeting on June 12 to review the Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, 2018, Volume I. Following the election, on November 27, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Mr. Melanson (C), Mr. Fairgrieve (VC), Mr. Northrup, Mr. Savoie, Mr. Crossman, Ms. Harris, Mr. LeBlanc, Ms. Rogers, Ms. Mitton and Mr. Austin. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on December 11.

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## Standing Committee on Social Policy

<b>Members</b>	Ms. LeBlanc (C)	Mr. Roussel
	Mr. Chiasson	Ms. Shephard
	Mr. Albert	Mr. Keirstead
	Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc	Mr. Steeves
	Mr. Doherty	Mr. Stewart
	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc	

## Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain government legislation related to social policy.



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## Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2018 prior to the dissolution of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature. Following the election, on November 27, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Mr. Northrup (C), Mr. Crossman (VC), Mr. Fairgrieve, Mr. Savoie, Mr. C. Chiasson, Mr. Harvey, Ms. LeBlanc, Ms. Thériault, Ms. Mitton and Ms. Conroy. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on December 11.

## SELECT COMMITTEES

### Select Committee on Public Universities

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Chiasson (C)	Mr. Roussel
	Mr. Boudreau (VC)	Mr. Holder
	Ms. LeBlanc	Mr. Steeves
	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc	Mr. Coon

### Mandate

The Committee was appointed by the House on March 15 to invite representatives of New Brunswick's publicly funded universities to appear before the Committee to discuss and provide insight into university administration, programming, performance measurement, accountability and transparency.

### Activities

The Committee held 3 meetings, on April 25, and June 6 and 7. The Committee heard from the four public universities in the province and the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour.



## CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT



## VISITORS AND TOURS

Parliament Square, which includes the Legislative Assembly, the Departmental Building, and the Old Education Building, was officially declared a protected historic site under the *Historic Sites Protection Act* in November 2000. The present Legislative Assembly in Fredericton has been the seat and symbol of democracy in New Brunswick since 1882, when it replaced a building destroyed by fire two years earlier.

The historic value of the site is shared with tourists, students, official visitors, and internal and external conference delegations. Tours of the building are offered year-round and focus on the craftsmanship of the structure, artifacts and artwork on the site, and the functioning of New Brunswick's parliamentary system.

Throughout the year, but particularly during the summer months, the Legislative Assembly Building and grounds attract visitors from all corners of the province and from all Canadian provinces and territories. In addition, international visitors are welcomed daily. Guided tours are available in both official languages or guests can enjoy self-guided tours throughout the historic building.

On March 27, the Legislative Assembly received and displayed a photograph of the Chaleur Bay that Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada, took during her participation in the STS-96 mission to the International Space Station in 1999. Her Excellency gifted the photograph to New Brunswick on the occasion of her first official visit to the province as Governor General on November 7, 2017.

In May, four students began their summer employment as tour guides. They offered daily tours until September. Since 2013, the Legislative Assembly offers tours seven days per week during the summer months.





Partners from the Annual Conference of the Governor General, Lieutenant Governors and Territorial Commissioners were welcomed to the Legislative Assembly for a tour on June 18.



*His Honour Ronald Vienneau in the Speaker's office with partners from the Annual Conference of the Governor General, Lieutenant Governors and Territorial Commissioners.*

Her Honour the Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau hosted the 2018 conference at Government House from June 17 to 19. The governor general, lieutenant governors and territorial commissioners meet annually to discuss matters of mutual interests and how they can better serve Canadians from coast to coast to coast.

First-year students from the University of New Brunswick's Faculty of Law received a tour of the Legislative Assembly on September 21. Approximately 80 students from the Constitutional Law classes were greeted by the Deputy Clerk and given a special presentation in the Chamber. As an alumnus, the Deputy Clerk explained how his legal training guides him in his advisory role to the Speaker regarding parliamentary procedures and privileges, as well as how to best defend the rights and immunities of parliament to carry out its proper

constitutional role. He also answered questions from the students regarding the interpretation and drafting of legislation and amendments to bills, the interpretation and revision of the Standing Rules of the Legislative Assembly, his research role in parliamentary procedure, practice, and privilege, and how Speaker's rulings are drafted when issues arise during the course of a sitting.

In recognition of Take Our Kids to Work Day, the Departments of Finance; Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; Social Development; and Service New Brunswick organized a visit to the Legislative Assembly by grade 9 students on November 14. A special tour on the functioning of the legislative institution was organized by these departments in order for students to learn about the roles of the legislative branch of government and the civil service. Take Our Kids to Work Day is organized by The Learning Partnership, a national nonprofit organization that advocates a strong public education system in Canada. New Brunswick joined the program in 1996 and, since 1998, the program has been held nationally, with all provinces and territories taking part.



## SPECIAL EVENTS AND CEREMONIES

The outdoor lighting system of the Legislature permits special illuminations of the building. In recognition of Alzheimer's Awareness Month, the Legislative Assembly lit its portico in blue on January 29 and 30 to bring awareness to dementia. The Legislature was also bathed in blue from March 15 to 19 to celebrate Wish Month, an annual fundraising month for the Children's Wish Foundation, which seeks to grant wishes to Canadian children between the ages of three and 17 who are diagnosed with a life-threatening illness.

The Legislative Assembly highlighted Purple Day, an annual international grassroots event held March 26 that is dedicated to increasing awareness about epilepsy worldwide, by lighting the portico in purple. From April 2 to 9, the Legislative Assembly participated in the Light It Up Blue campaign for World Autism Awareness Day.

In solidarity with other prominent Canadian buildings, the Legislature was lit in green from April 9 to 13 following the April 6 tragedy in Humboldt, Saskatchewan, where a semi-trailer unit collided with a passenger bus carrying members of the Humboldt Broncos' minor hockey team.



*Light It Up Blue Illumination from April 2 to 9, 2018.*

For World Lyme Day on May 1, the Legislature was awash in green until May 7 to generate awareness for the prevention of tick-borne illnesses while supporting those affected. The 15<sup>th</sup> annual World Lupus Day observance occurred on May 10 with the illumination of the Legislature's portico in purple. World Lupus Day focuses on the need for heightened awareness, improved patient healthcare services, increased research into the causes of and a cure for lupus, and enhanced physician diagnosis and treatment of lupus.

For World MS Day on May 30, the Legislature was illuminated in red. World MS Day is a global campaign to raise awareness of multiple sclerosis (MS), which is a progressive disease of the nervous system.

The Legislative Assembly joined over 225 landmarks worldwide by lighting the portico in red on July 20 in celebration of the Special Olympics' 50-year anniversary. For World Pancreatic Cancer Day on November 15, the Legislature participated in the Purple Lights campaign. An initiative of Pancreatic Cancer Canada, this campaign saw the Legislature illuminated with a purple lighting scheme.

The Legislature was also lit red from November 24 to December 1 in recognition of National AIDS Awareness Week and World AIDS Day on December 1. The illumination of the building was an opportunity to increase awareness and knowledge about HIV/AIDS and address the stigma associated with the disease that may interfere with prevention, care and treatment.

Various award ceremonies took place at the Legislative Assembly during 2018, including the Canada Cord Ceremony on October 27, which is an annual award ceremony of the Girl Guides of Canada; the New Brunswick Council of Scouts Canada's annual Chief Scout Awards on November 3; and the Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award Ceremony on November 24. Traditionally, the Lieutenant-Governor presides over all three ceremonies.



The annual Queen's Counsel Ceremony was held in the Legislative Assembly Chamber on October 29. The distinction of Queen's Counsel is bestowed upon experienced lawyers in the province. The eleven recipients this year were: Anik Bossé, Edmundston; Linda Boudreau, Shippagan; Scott Andrew Brittain, Saint John; Guy Dumas, Balmoral; Robert M. Dysart, Moncton; William C. Kean, Saint John; Edward W. Keyes, Saint John; Anne Warner La Forest, Fredericton; Grant Ogilvie, Fredericton; Deloras M. O'Neill, Moncton; Lyne Raymond, Campbellton.

The annual Provincial Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony took place on November 30 in front of the Legislative Assembly. Special guests included Lieutenant-Governor Jocelyne Roy Vienneau; Speaker Daniel Guitard; Premier Blaine Higgs; Member for Fredericton North, Stephen Horsman; Member for Fredericton South, David Coon; Member for Fredericton York, Rick DeSaulniers; Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Donald Forestell; and Chaplain Father Peter Melanson. Hot apple cider and hot chocolate were served to the public by Epsilon Y's Men and Epsilon Y's Menettes. The evening's entertainment was provided by the Gibson-Neill Memorial Elementary School Choir and the St. Anthony's Folk Choir. Following the tree lighting, a procession led by Santa Claus and the Fredericton Concert and Marching Band proceeded along Queen Street to continue the festivities at Fredericton City Hall for the city's tree lighting ceremony.



**The 7.6 meter Christmas Tree was illuminated on November 30 after a countdown from the Lieutenant-Governor.**



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## STUDENT LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR

The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Legislative Seminar was held April 13 to 15. A total of 49 students from Francophone and Anglophone high schools participated, representing all areas of the province. The seminar is a non-partisan program open to grade 11 and 12 students. The objectives of the seminar 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 counselors and teachers.

Throughout the weekend, the students attended various lectures which focused on the three branches of government: legislative, executive, and judicial.

Former Lieutenant-Governor Hon. Graydon Nicholas shared his life story with participants, focusing on the strength, determination and support he received throughout difficult times in his life from his community. He urged participants to share their talents with their own communities and support one another throughout their endeavours. Dr. Thomas Bateman, Associate Professor at St. Thomas University, spoke on the relationship between political parties and parliamentary government; David Owens, Assistant Chief Electoral Officer, spoke on the electoral process in New Brunswick in anticipation of the general election in September; Hon. Leslie Jackson, Judge of the Provincial Court of New Brunswick, spoke on the role of the judicial branch.

The students attended various workshops led by the Clerks-at-the-Table in preparation for the highlight of the weekend: a model Parliament held in 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 Deputy 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 legislation, all of which they had written themselves around topics of concern.



**Participants of the 2018 Student Legislative Seminar**





## PAGE PROGRAM

A Page has a valued and integral role in the functioning of the Legislative Assembly. A prevalent belief is that Canada's use of Pages, which dates back to the mid-1800s, was based on the practice in the United States, where the word "runner" was in use as early as 1827. The designation of "House Page" first appeared in Canada in 1841. By the time of Confederation in 1867, the position of Page in Canadian legislative institutions was well established.

Today, Pages are young people selected to serve as messengers of the House and to perform various duties to assist Members and staff of the Legislative Assembly. Pages are post-secondary students who express an interest in the legislative process.

The presence of Pages in the Legislative Assembly is required for all regular sitting days, and for various meetings of standing and select committees. Prior to the commencement of proceedings, Pages distribute the daily *Order and Notice Paper* to Members and legislative staff. While the House is sitting, Pages deliver documents on behalf of Members and staff to the Speaker, the Clerks, and to other Members, as requested.

To serve as a Page offers an opportunity to learn about the political and legislative processes. Persons interested in working as a Page may download an application form from the Legislative Assembly website.



*The following individuals served as Pages during the spring 2018 sitting: (first row)  
Julie Roberge, Natasha Williamson, Alex Robichaud (Head Page),  
Gilles Côté (Sergeant-at-Arms), Sarah Albert-Bélanger, and Ellen Hiltz.*

*In the second row, Phoebe Marmura Brown, Erik Arsenault, Matt Thompson,  
Brandon Robinson, Jarrod Ryan, Deepigha Shree Vittal Babu, and Drew McConnell.  
(Austin Henderson and Corben Parker not pictured)*

The Pages who served during the fall 2018 sittings were Sarah Albert-Bélanger, Andrea Amaya, Erik Arsenault, Maria Córdova, Brittany Fracker, Curtis Kelly, Jane Landry, Corben Parker, Julie Roberge, Alex Robichaud (Head Page), Fabiana Rosado, Jarrod Ryan, Alexis Sacobie, Dorcas Tshimenga, William Bliss White, and Natasha Williamson.



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## BROADCASTING AND WEBCASTING

The Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick has been televising its proceedings since 1988. New Brunswick was among the first Canadian provinces to bring video cameras into its Legislature. In 1988, the Legislature televised the previously recorded Routine Proceedings of each sitting day on a community-access channel. Coverage of the proceedings went live in 1989.

In the 1990s, the live coverage was expanded to include almost an entire sitting day. In 2006, the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service was launched to provide gavel-to-gavel television coverage of all sitting days on a channel dedicated solely to the broadcast of legislative proceedings.

The Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service broadcasts the daily proceedings each sitting day in both official languages. In 2018, the proceedings continued to be televised on Rogers cable channel 70 in New Brunswick communities served by the company. On channel 70 in Fredericton, Moncton, Saint John, Miramichi, and surrounding communities, English, whether spoken on the floor of the House or translated from French, was the primary audio feed. On channel 70 in Bathurst, Edmundston and surrounding communities, French was the primary audio feed. Secondary Audio Programming is also available in all communities.

In 2018, Rogers continued to televise daily Question Period on various community channels. In addition, repeats of the daily proceedings were televised on the dedicated channel, usually commencing within 30 minutes after the adjournment of the House each sitting day.

Bell Aliant also continued to broadcast the daily proceedings of the Legislature in both official languages as a video on-demand on Bell Aliant's community television channel 1 and 401. In 2018, the channels were available to all New Brunswickers with access to Bell Aliant, as well as those individuals with access throughout Atlantic Canada.

The proceedings of the Standing Committees on Economic Policy and Estimates and Fiscal Policy were also broadcast on Rogers channel 70 and Bell Aliant channel 1 and 401 in 2018, as they took place in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly.

In 2018, the proceedings of the Legislature continued to be streamed live on the Internet. In addition, the audio of meetings of the Select Committee on Public Universities and the various standing committees was streamed live on the Internet.

With the assistance of iSi Live, the Legislature began to permanently archive online its proceedings in 2018. This included the swearing-in of Members of the 59th Legislature and the swearing-in of the executive council. Going forward, the audio and video of all House sittings and the audio and video, when available, of all public committee meetings will be permanently archived on-line and easily accessible to Members and the public.

In 2018, various equipment was purchased for the production room, including a production switcher, amplifier, multiplexer and control panel. These purchases completed the upgrade of the original broadcast equipment.

When the Legislature was not in session, a graphics computer generated a rotating sequence of messages on sitting schedule; tour information; upcoming events; and the Legislature's function, history and traditions. A photograph of each Member was shown with accompanying party affiliation, ministerial portfolio (where applicable), riding and contact information.

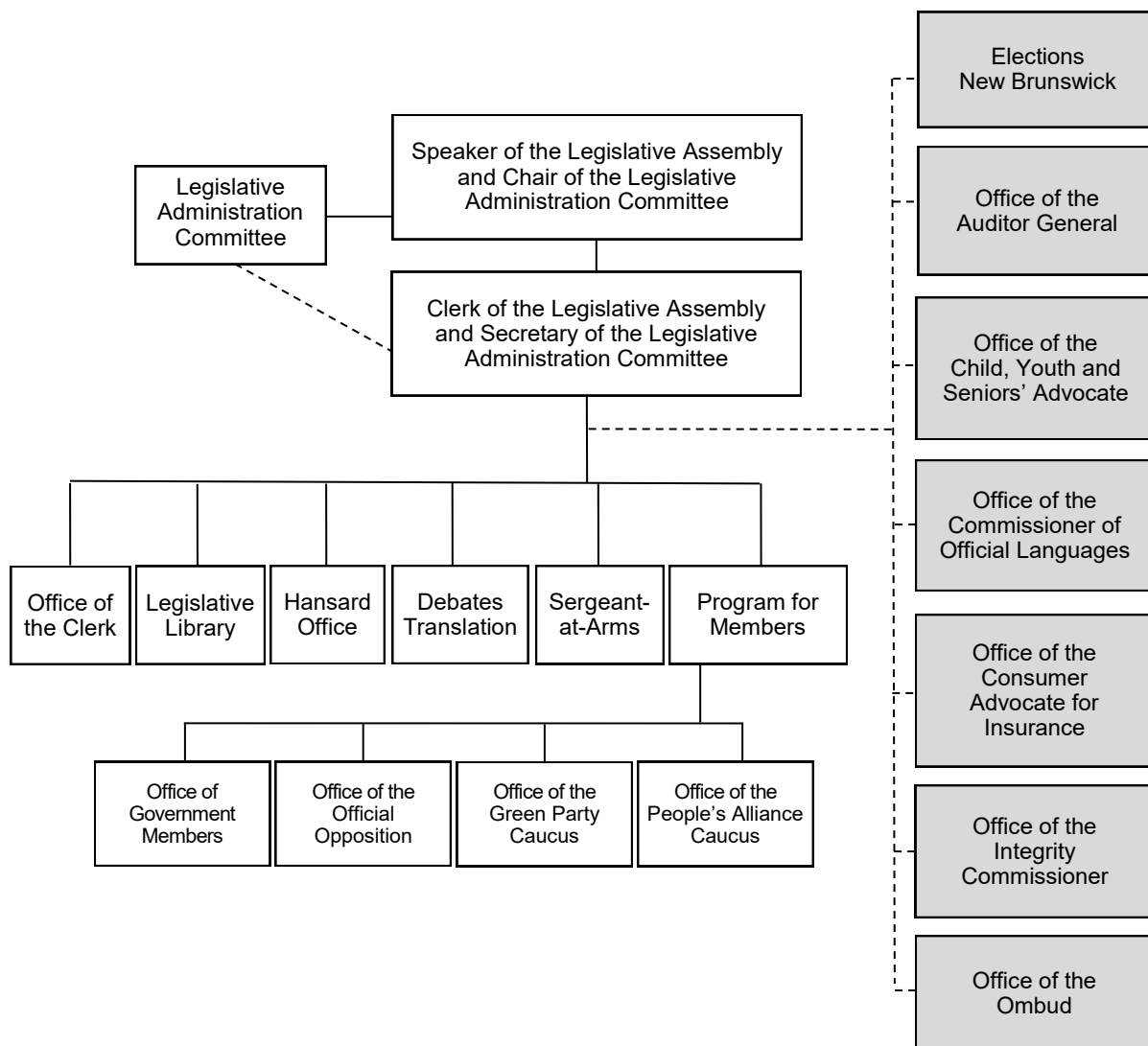


# OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





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## FUNCTIONAL STATEMENTS

### 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.

### 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 Elections New Brunswick; Office of the Auditor General; Office of the Child, Youth and Seniors' Advocate; Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance; Office of the Integrity Commissioner; and Office of the Ombud.

### Legislative Library

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

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

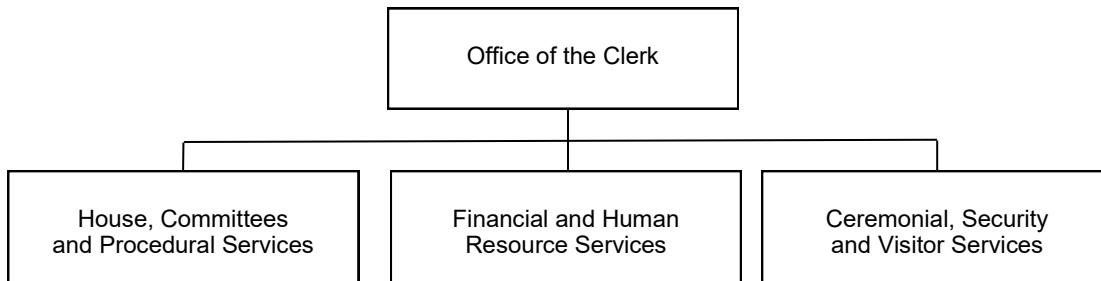
### Program for Members

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



## OFFICE OF THE CLERK

*Deputy Clerk — Shayne Davies*



In 2018, the dedicated staff of the Office of the Clerk met the primary goal of the office: to assist Members in carrying out their parliamentary functions as legislators and representatives of their constituents.

### Procedural Services

Members were supported in their parliamentary functions by services administered with impartiality by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. As the senior permanent officer of the Legislative Assembly and chief procedural adviser, the Clerk advised the Speaker and Members on administrative matters, questions of parliamentary law and procedure, and the interpretation of the Standing Rules, precedents and practices of the House.

The Office of the Clerk and its staff supports the activities of the Clerk. The Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Clerk Assistant served as Table Officers and Law Clerks in the House. They assisted Members with the interpretation and application of the *Legislative Assembly Act* and other applicable legislation, and drafted or reviewed floor amendments, private Members' public bills and private legislation.

During the course of the year, the Clerks met regularly with the Speaker and other presiding officers to provide advice as required, draft rulings and prepare procedural documentation. In addition, the Clerks met with committee Chairs to advise on committee procedure, arrange meetings and public hearings, and prepare documentation and reports to the House.

### Journals and Publications

In 2018, the Journals Clerk compiled 33 unrevised journals. 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 journals are finalized, indexed and published. The 2016-2017 bound version of the *Journals of the Legislative Assembly* was published in 2018.

First reading bills continued to be published online. During the 2018 calendar year, 18 bills were introduced. The online status of legislation, which tracks the progress of bills as they proceed through various stages in the House, was produced and regularly updated.

Biographical information and photographs of Members of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature were updated during the year. Following dissolution, the information was removed online and archived. Biographical information and photographs of the newly elected Members of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature were prepared and posted online following the election. Changes to the executive council, shadow Cabinet and seating plans were reflected in published and online updates. The



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Legislature's calendar was updated to reflect daily sittings and special events. Committee memberships were also updated when necessary and reports were posted online.

## **Renovations and Security Initiatives**

In 2018, on the initiative of Speaker Chris Collins and with the assistance of local indigenous Wolastoqey artist Charlie Gaffney, room 47-48 in the Legislative Assembly building was renovated. The room is used for committee meetings and government caucus meetings when the House is in session. In addition to a new table top and flooring, traditional and contemporary aboriginal artwork produced by indigenous Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq artists and craft persons from the Atlantic region was installed in the room to reflect an understanding and sensitivity of the Atlantic region. These works of art and their artists included: a porcupine quill work on birch bark (Tim Hogan); a coat created (Natasha Martin-Mitchell); two wooden masks (Charlie Gaffney); traditional Mi'kmaq pottery with contemporary designs (Valérie Jean); a traditional fancy ash basket (Sandra Racine); a traditional Mi'kmaq wampum with contemporary designs (Trish Barlow-Arcaro); and two traditional Wolastoqey canoe paddles (Charlie Gaffney).

Phase one of the restoration of the Coat of Arms located in the Chamber of the Assembly, facing the Speaker's chair, commenced in July with a professional cleaning application and the commission of a conservation evaluation report. For security initiatives, access cards were updated and the security registration system was upgraded with new software. As well, in March, former Sergeant-at-Arms Daniel Bussi eres was presented with his ceremonial sword by Speaker Collins in recognition of his years of service with the Legislature.

## **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 Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), which included meetings of the Canadian Regional Council and Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP); the CPA Canadian Regional Seminar; the annual meeting and regional policy forum of the Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference; conferences of the Assembl ee parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF); and the annual meeting of the Canadian Council of Public Accounts Committees.

## **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 objective of the Association is to advance the professional development of its members by enabling them to expand their knowledge of the foundations and principles of the parliamentary system and procedure in Canada.

The Association of Clerks-at-the-Table list server (CATS) allows an open exchange of ideas and information. CATS is used by members of the Association to contribute information, pose questions, conduct surveys and seek advice on a wide variety of procedural and administrative issues.

In 2018, Clerks responded to numerous inquiries posted to CATS. Topics canvassed during the year included: recorded votes, Member per diems, youth parliaments, public gallery access, harassment policies, proxy voting, lobbyist access, moments of silence, social media, pairing, and internship programs.



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## **Canadian Parliamentary Review**

Staff of the Clerk's Office prepared quarterly submissions to the *Canadian Parliamentary Review*. The purpose of the publication is to inform Canadian legislators about the activities of the various branches of the Canadian Region of the CPA and to promote interest in Canadian parliamentary institutions. In 2018, staff ensured that a summary of legislative activities in New Brunswick was included in each edition under the "Legislative Reports" section.

### **Tributes**

Five former Members passed away in 2018:

**Reginald Alexander MacDonald** (Liberal) on January 13. Mr. MacDonald was elected in a November 5, 1979, by-election to represent the riding of Bay du Vin. He was re-elected in 1987 and 1991, and again in 1995 to represent the riding of Southwest Miramichi. During his time at the Legislature he served as Minister of State for Seniors, Deputy Speaker, and was a member on several standing and select committees.

**Dennis Jerome Furlong** (Progressive Conservative) on March 9. Dr. Furlong was elected on June 7, 1999, to represent the riding of Dalhousie-Restigouche East. During his time at the Legislature he served as Minister of Health and Community Services, Minister of Health and Wellness, Minister of Education, and Minister responsible for the Culture and Sport Secretariat.

**Keith Ashfield** (Progressive Conservative) on April 22. Mr. Ashfield was elected on June 7, 1999, to represent the riding of New Maryland-Sunbury West. He was re-elected in 2003 and 2006. During his time at the Legislature he served as Minister of Natural Resources and Deputy Speaker.

**J. Raymond Frenette** (Liberal) on July 13. Mr. Frenette was elected on November 18, 1974, to represent the riding of Moncton East. He was re-elected in 1978, 1982, 1987, 1991 and 1995. During his time at the Legislature, he served as Interim Leader of the Liberal Party, Leader of the Opposition, Minister of Health and Community Services, Chairman of the New Brunswick Electric Power Corporation, Deputy Premier, President of the Executive Council, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, and Premier of New Brunswick.

**Frank Richard Branch** (Liberal, Independent) on October 22. Mr. Branch was elected on October 26, 1970, to represent the riding of Gloucester County. He was re-elected in 1974, 1978, 1982, 1987, 1991 to represent the riding of Nepisiguit-Chaleur and again in 2003 to represent the riding of Nepisiguit. During his time at the Legislature he served as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly from March 1988 until September 1991.



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## FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

### *Director, Finance and Human Resources — Katie Hill, CPA, CA*

The Finance and Human Resources Branch is accountable for the proper and effective management of the financial and human resource services of the Legislative Assembly. In addition, the Branch provides financial and human resources support to the following statutory offices: Elections New Brunswick; Office of the Auditor General; Office of the Child, Youth and Seniors' Advocate; Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance; Office of the Integrity Commissioner; and Office of the Ombud.

### **Financial Services Overview**

Financial Services include the following responsibilities:

- Members' and Committee Expenses
  - Ensure timely and accurate payment of expenses.
  - Provide advice on the application of various rules and guidelines for eligible expenses for members.
- Purchasing of and Payment for Goods and Services
  - Ensure compliance with Acts and Regulations.
  - Ensure transactions are properly recorded for financial statement presentation.
- Financial Analysis and Expenditure Projections
  - Review the financial position of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and its various offices.
  - Advise clients of various issues related to expenditures.
- Budget Process
  - Coordinate budget process, prepare budget submissions and liaise with related departments or agencies.
- Reporting
  - Prepare quarterly and annual expenditure reports as prescribed by the *Legislative Assembly Act* and Department of Finance.

### **Financial Services Section**

The House sat a total of 48 days during the 2017-2018 fiscal year, compared to 55 days in 2016-2017 and 53 days in 2015-2016. Since the annual budget of the Legislative Assembly only provides for expenses and allowances associated with approximately 40 sitting days in a fiscal year, additional funding was required for 2017-2018. In total, supplementary estimates in the amount of \$120,000 were approved to fund expenditures associated with the additional sitting days.

The accompanying Financial Summary shows total actual expenditures of \$13,870,300 based on a revised total budget of \$14,009,500 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year (excluding statutory officers). This compares with total actual expenditures of \$13,211,800 based on a budget of \$13,389,000 for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.





**Financial Summary—Legislative Assembly**  
**For the Year Ended March 31, 2018**  
**(in \$ 000s)**

	Budget	Actual
<i>Members' Allowances, Committees and Operations</i>		
Allowances to Members	8 781.2	8 641.1
Legislative Committees	231.0	322.2
Subtotal	<u>9 012.2</u>	<u>8 963.3</u>
<i>Office of the Legislative Assembly</i>		
Legislative Library	435.2	410.9
Office of the Clerk (includes Speaker's Office)	1 628.6	1 616.3
Hansard Office	591.6	590.7
Debates Translation	723.3	684.9
Subtotal	<u>3 378.7</u>	<u>3 302.8</u>
<i>Offices of the Members of Registered Political Parties</i>		
Office of Government Members	514.9	506.6
Office of the Official Opposition	947.6	947.4
Office of the Green Party	156.1	150.2
Subtotal	<u>1 618.6</u>	<u>1 604.2</u>
<i>Total : Legislative Assembly</i>	14 009.5	13 870.3

Total expenditures for capital repair and restoration of the Legislative Assembly Buildings were approximately \$158,261 in 2017-2018. Major projects included: continuation of the multi-phased roll-out of fire suppression and fire alarm systems upgrades throughout the legislative complex; and the general maintenance and preservation of legislative buildings.

The operating budget for the Legislative Assembly was increased by \$286,000 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year (net of special appropriations in 2017-2018 of \$1,011,500). Of the total increase, \$240,000 relates to funding for research services in an election year as mandated by the *Fiscal Transparency and Accountability Act* and \$46,000 relates to economic increases. A total operating budget of \$13,284,000 was approved for the Legislative Assembly for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

Pursuant to the *Auditor General Act*, a qualified auditor is appointed annually by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly to audit the accounts of the Office of the Auditor General. Finance and Human Resources staff facilitated this process for the financial statements of the 2017-2018 fiscal year, including inviting and reviewing a proposal from the audit firm, coordinating the audit process with the auditor and officials from the Office of the Auditor General, and ensuring receipt of the auditor's report by the Speaker.

Pursuant to decisions of the Legislative Administration Committee, the Legislative Assembly provides direct payment service of constituency office rent, Bell Aliant and Bell Mobility services on behalf of all Members.



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## Human Resource Services Overview

Human Resource Services provide services to Ministers, Members, and employees of the Legislative Assembly and Statutory Offices. The responsibilities include:

- Payroll and Benefits
  - Ensure timely and accurate payment of salaries and benefits.
  - Provide payroll and benefit orientation to all new Members and employees.
  - Administer and track employee leave.
- Personnel Administration
  - Assist in recruitment process.
  - Ensure proper classification, compensation and benefits of staff.
  - Maintain payroll and personnel records.
  - Communicate policies and benefits.
- Human Resource Development
  - Facilitate staff training for both professional and personal development.
  - Administer and promote the Employee and Family Assistance Program.
- Personnel Policies
  - Develop, maintain and document personnel policies in accordance with the Administration Manual of the Province and the Legislative Administration Committee.

## Human Resource Services Highlights

In 2018, staff coordinated and participated in the recruitment process for 14 permanent competitions of statutory and legislative offices. In total, staff administered the commencement of 21 full-time employees and the termination arrangements for 23 employees who either retired, resigned or otherwise ceased to be employees of the Legislative Assembly.

The 2018 provincial general election resulted in the election of 18 new Members, the defeat of 8 Members, 9 Members who did not reoffer, two transitions within government, the creation of a fourth party Members Office, and a large turnover of employees in the offices of the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Finance and Human Resources staff processed the workload associated with the Members not re-elected including finalizing their payroll, expenses and benefits as an elected Member, closing their constituency offices, and terminating constituency staff. In addition, staff administered the payroll, expenses and benefits of newly elected Members, as well as opening their constituency offices and commencing constituency staff. Subsequently, staff administered the changes in members of the Executive Council (including Premier), Speaker, Deputy Speakers, Leaders of the Official Opposition and Third and Fourth Parties, Caucus Chairs, Whips, and House Leaders.

Economic increases were processed for employees during 2018. The Members and Ministers indemnities and salaries were not adjusted during the same period. Eligible employees received merit increases depending on employee anniversary date, performance and current salary level.

The section continued to provide a payroll service on behalf of Private Members for their constituency office staff. Constituency office employees of Private Members are paid bi-weekly using the Province's Human Resources Information System (HRIS). Constituency Office employees are paid from the Constituency Office Allowance as prescribed in the *Legislative Assembly Act*.

Throughout the year, a total of 63 students and other individuals were employed under various casual or term employment 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 a Record of Employment) of each of the related employees.

In 2018, the section continued to host employee wellness sessions provided by the Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP). Staff also participated in various professional development sessions offered by UNB, GNB, the Human Resources Association of New Brunswick, and the Financial Management Institute, as well as French second language training to facilitate financial and human resource services in both official languages.

### Human Resource Summary—Legislative Assembly

	<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>Sessional</i>	<i>Casual</i>	<i>Payroll Constituency Offices</i>
<i>Office of the Clerk</i>					
House and Committee Support	5	0	0	0	0
General Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Finance and Human Resources	5	0	0	3	0
Technology	2	0	0	0	0
Sergeant-at-Arms	3	0	0	4	0
Speaker's Office	2	0	0	0	0
<i>Legislative Library</i>	7	0	0	2	0
<i>Hansard Office</i>	9	0	0	3	0
<i>Debates Translation</i>	9	0	0	3	0
<i>Office of Government Members</i>	4	0	0	5	0
<i>Office of the Official Opposition</i>	8	0	0	3	0
<i>Office of the Green Caucus</i>	3	0	0	2	0
<i>Office of the People's Alliance Caucus</i>	2	0	0	1	0
<i>Pages and Tour Guides (students)</i>	0	0	15	4	0
<i>Members</i>	0	49	0	0	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>



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## LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY

### *Legislative Librarian — Kenda Clark-Gorey*

According to the *Legislative Library Act*, the Legislative Library shall operate primarily for the use of the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the staff of departments of government 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 publication that may serve the Members and staff 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 and each government department are required to deposit with the Library four copies of every government publication issued under its authority within 30 days of its printing date. The Library has broadened its mandate to receive all "online" or "born digital" New Brunswick government publications. A repository for electronic government publications has been established whereby selected publications will be downloaded for long-term preservation and better access. It should be noted that the Library still maintains a print collection of all government documents. A significant challenge has been adapting to the rapid expansion of electronic information resources. The Library continues to stress the importance of producing print copies, as well as electronic versions, of government publications for future generations and for members of today's public.

The Library strives to serve Members, Legislative Assembly staff, civil servants and the public in an efficient and accommodating manner. All requests for information are handled in confidence and in a nonpartisan fashion. The Library is open from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday. When the House is in session, the Library remains open in the evening until the House rises.

### **Events in the Library**

A book launch was held in the Library on April 12 for *Maria Martin's World : Art and Science, Faith and Family in Audubon's America* by Debra Lindsay. Martin painted botanicals and insects which appeared in volumes two and four of John James Audubon's *The Birds of America*. One of the Library's volumes of *The Birds of America* was placed on display for the event.

### **Collection Development**

The Legislative Library's New Brunswick Collection is an important part of New Brunswick's heritage and an incredible resource for the province. In 2018, several publishers and individuals donated materials to the Library. The Legislative Library is grateful to the following who donated books during the past year:

#### **Publishers and Groups**

Bouton d'or Acadie Inc., Goose Lane Editions, La Grande Marée, and the Tantramar Heritage Trust.

#### **Individuals**

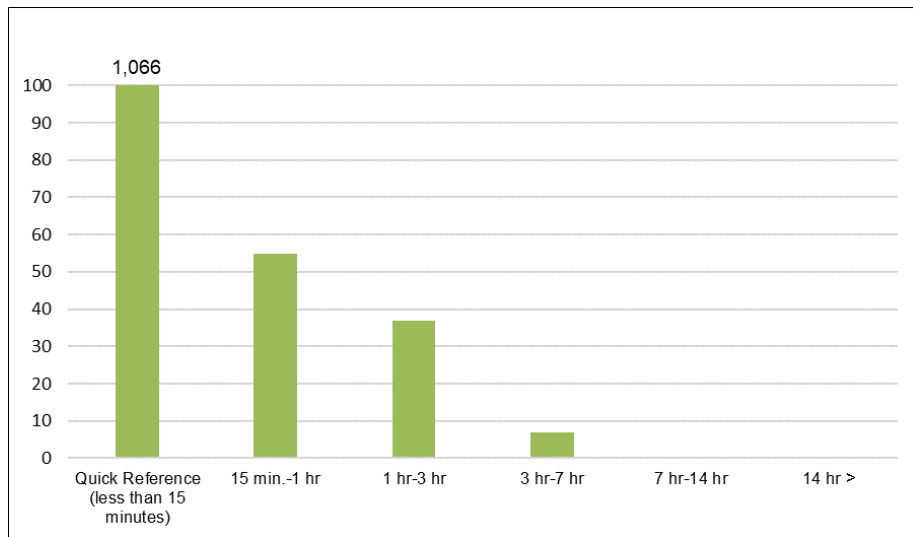
Chuck Chiasson, George William Allan Cockburn, Debra J. Lindsay, Dawn Bell Logan, Walter R. Long, Anne McCluskey, Neill McKay, Diane Mercier-Allain, Brian Moore, Margie Parker, Helen Petchey, and Frederick Toner.



## Reference, Library Services and Outreach

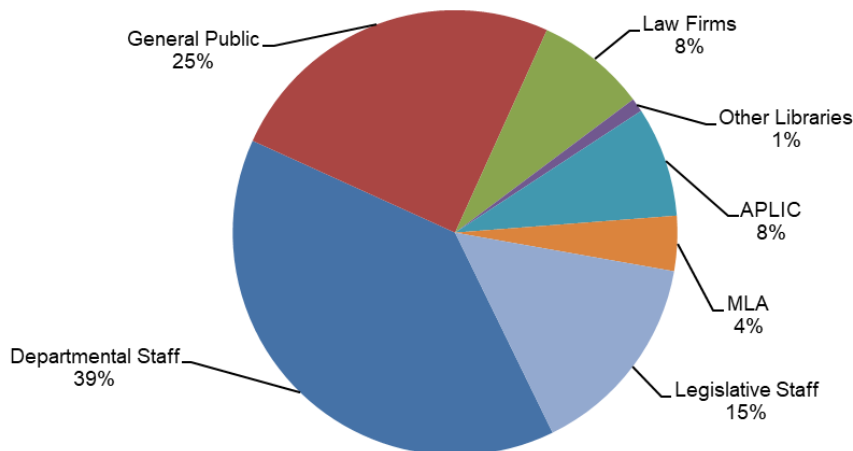
The summer of 2018 was very busy for the Legislative Library. A research team was assembled in order for the Library to meet its responsibilities under the *Transparency in Election Commitments Act*. This Act required that the Legislative Library staff provide research to all registered political parties to enable them to cost their election promises.

Reference staff answered numerous questions throughout the year. Several of the questions were complex and required numerous hours to answer. The Library's statistics reporting system allows staff to record the amount of time spent to answer each question. The following graph shows the number of questions corresponding to various time ranges. It should be noted that none of the questions received from the registered political parties requesting costing research in connection with the *Transparency in Election Commitments Act* are included in these numbers.



**Number of Questions Per Time Range**

The following chart shows a breakdown of the types of patrons requesting information from the Library, in person or otherwise, in 2018.



**Patron Types Requesting Information**



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The inter-library loan service the Library offers was active in 2018. A total of eleven requests were sent to other libraries requesting material on behalf of our patrons. The Library received two loan requests from other libraries to borrow our material.

The Library's display case in the rotunda was changed several times throughout the year. The themes included; History through Memoir and Diary, History of Sport in New Brunswick, History of Black settlers in New Brunswick, Molly and Bruno Bobak – War Time Artists, and Christmas Traditions in New Brunswick.

## **Government Documents**

The New Brunswick Government Publications collection is housed separately in a small building located across the street from the main Library. Documents staff manage a physical collection of catalogued print items numbering over 8,000, as well as a large collection of uncatalogued print materials including duplicate copies. In addition, staff also manage the electronic repository of New Brunswick documents. During 2018, a total of 199 electronic government documents, including both monographs and annual reports, were added to the repository. To date, over 2,800 documents are available.



## HANSARD OFFICE

### *Official Reporter — Linda Fahey*

The official reports of the debates of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick, the *Journal of Debates*, are referred to as “Hansard”, following the custom of most British Commonwealth jurisdictions. The name originated with Thomas Hansard, who published the debates of the British Parliament in the early 1800s under the title Hansard’s Parliamentary Debates.

The New Brunswick Hansard Office produces transcripts of the House sittings and committee meetings of the Legislative Assembly in both official languages and provides audio and recording services in advance of and during proceedings and special events. In 2018, the office transcribed and edited 158 complete transcripts of House sittings and committee meetings, produced and posted 64 years’ worth of digitized historical Hansard, and provided audio support for 78 events.

### Hansard Transcript Production

To prepare for a change in transcription recording software, a focus of the office throughout the year was the completion of all blues (first-edit) transcripts remaining from committee meetings of previous years. Thus, the staff completed the blues of 52 full House sittings and 106 full committee meetings, transcribing and editing a total of 3.39 million words, of which committee transcripts comprised 64%, as displayed in the table that follows.

TRANSCRIPTION AND EDITING WORD COUNT		
Transcript Source	Word Count	Percent of Total
Legislative Assembly	1,204,941	36%
Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy*	503,678	15%
Standing Committee on Economic Policy*	515,181	15%
Other Standing and Select Committees**	1,163,103	34%
TOTAL WORD COUNT	3,386,903	100%

\*These committee transcripts are appended to the House transcripts.

\*\*The committees were Crown corporations, public accounts, private bills, social policy, public universities, law amendments, cannabis, climate change, and procedure, privileges and legislative officers.

During House sittings, the priority transcripts—question periods, messages, and requests—were completed and posted first, followed by the remaining daily sitting transcripts, which were completed sequentially. The next table displays the priority transcripts produced during the year.

PRIORITY TRANSCRIPTS PRODUCED			
Question Periods	Messages	Requests	Total
23	328	284	635

During question period, the opposition posed 416 questions, of which the most frequent topics were related to health care, government finances, and hydraulic fracturing. Each full transcript was routinely completed, distributed and posted within three hours of question period concluding.



Message transcripts included 70 introductions, 114 congratulations, and 144 condolences. All message transcripts were completed and posted to the Assembly network on either the day of delivery in the House or the following day.

The office completed and distributed 124 requested House transcripts and 160 requested committee transcripts, and 137 of these transcripts were completed and delivered on the date requested. Requested transcripts varied in length from excerpts to full sittings and meetings.

## Historical Hansard

Over several decades, the office has been collecting and saving prior years' Hansard volumes with the view to making the historical Hansard available electronically. The office acquired scanning software, developed a work plan and, in May 2018, commenced the digitizing process. By mid-October, the staff had posted to the Assembly network 64 years' worth of searchable pdfs, from 1928 to 1992, and had completed quality control inspection on 20 years' worth of the images. Staff will resume this work during the next summer recess.

Many of the Hansard volumes, which dated from 1881 to 1992, were in fragile condition. The office is most appreciative of the care taken by Laurel Bradley, Service New Brunswick Printing Services, who removed the bindings from all the volumes so that the pages could be scanned.

## Audio and Recording Operations

The Hansard Office provided audio and recording support for legislative proceedings and special events, trained and scheduled staff to work in the Chambers, carried out audio testing and equipment checks to ensure start-time readiness, and undertook recordkeeping during and after each event. The 78 events attended to by staff throughout the year included 33 House sittings, 34 committee meetings, and 11 special events. The statistics in the table that follows indicate the work hours expended by the office to carry out tasks related to audio and recording operations.

AUDIO AND RECORDING HOURS				
Hours of Console Operation			Related Tasks	Total Hours
House	Committees	Special Events		
109	138	24	172	443

## Professional Activities

The New Brunswick Hansard Office is a member of the Hansard Association of Canada, whose role is to enhance the expertise of those who produce Hansard, to serve as a channel of communication among reporting services across Canada and the Commonwealth, to assist regarding Hansard production, and to inform and educate others about Hansard. The office was active in the association by contributing to its newsletter, responding to queries from other jurisdictions, and participating in its annual conference.

The office is also one of the more than 50 members of the Commonwealth Hansard Editors Association, which provides a wide network of Hansard contacts and another avenue for information and education with respect to Hansard operations. The association publishes an annual newsletter and hosts a triennial conference, after which it issues a full transcript so that all members can benefit from the conference presentations.





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## Human Resources and Activities

Staff attended professional development courses that were held in-house as well as language training and writing software courses that were offered through the Université de Moncton. Staff participated in the orientation session held for legislative pages and in the Bring Your Kid to Work Day. As well, staff organized and carried out training for new employees; provided guidance and feedback to colleagues with respect to the in-year transition to Office 365, transcript production, console operations, and the historical Hansard digitizing process; and continued to create and maintain in-house reference materials and manuals.



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## DEBATES TRANSLATION

### *Chief Translator — Rebecca Colborne*

Debates Translation provides professional translation services for the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick. The Debates Translation team includes two autonomous translators, two intermediate translators, and two junior translators, as well as a terminologist and the Chief Translator.

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

### **House**

Debates Translation staff members translate the records and journals of Legislative Assembly proceedings (Hansard and Journal), as well as motions introduced in the House, Speaker's rulings, and other documents. Translation of Hansard accounted for 79.8% of total production in 2018, compared to 57.7% of production during the previous year. About 23% of this translation was into English. Non-Hansard work involved the translation of 1,734 pages, or 257,304 words.

In 2018, translation of the daily Journal represented 3% of production. Translation of the Journal is usually completed shortly after the session ends. Notices of motion and amendments to motions accounted for 1% of production. These documents are translated the day the request is received.

### **Members of the Legislative Assembly**

Debates Translation is responsible for the translation of statements and speeches delivered in the House by members, including Cabinet ministers and opposition members. The material translated includes messages of condolence, congratulations, and the introduction of guests, statements by ministers and members, the introduction of bills and speeches on second reading, speeches related to debatable motions, speeches on the tabling of special documents, and, of course, the speech from the throne, speeches related to the throne speech debate, and the closure of the debate, as well as the budget speech, speeches related to the budget debate, and the closure of the debate. Speeches on budget estimates for the various departments are also translated.

The translation of speeches and statements for Members of the Legislative Assembly accounted for 8.5% of total production in 2018. During the year, 128 requests for translation of speeches and statements were processed. Translation for Cabinet ministers accounted for almost all of the requests. Over 90% of the translation was into French.

Translation for members, offices, and committees of the Legislative Assembly is generally done on the day the request is received or the day after, as resources allow.

### **Committees**

Debates Translation staff members translate reports, agendas, summaries of presentations, notices of meetings, and other documents for standing and select committees of the Legislative Assembly. Translation for committees represented 1% of total production in 2018.



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## Offices of the Legislative Assembly

The Debates Translation office is responsible for translating material of a procedural and administrative nature for the Speaker's Office, the Office of the Clerk, the Hansard Office, the Legislative Library, Finance and Human Resource Services, and the Sergeant-at-Arms. Translation for the offices of the Legislative Assembly represented about 9% of total production in 2018.

## Human Resources

In 2018, the Debates Translation office held a competition to fill a vacancy at the junior level. The successful candidate began work in June.

Senior staff members continued to coach and train junior and intermediate translators and to develop tools and resources to refine procedures and increase production. Various members of the team took training courses in computer programs and translation skills, and most of the staff attended several workshops on topics related to their work. A senior translator attended an intensive revision seminar at University of Ottawa. An intermediate translator did a mentorship for certification in the French-English language combination, under the guidance of the Chief Translator. The six-month mentorship, which ended in December, was successful and the translator is now certified by the Corporation of Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters of New Brunswick.

Debates Translation team members continued to show considerable dedication in ensuring that members and other clients received timely, true, and accurate translations of their documents.

## Conclusion

In 2018, 519 translation requests were processed, and frequent requests for prompt translation made by telephone and email were also dealt with. Debates Translation staff translated 50 statements, 78 speeches, 4 press releases, 204 documents for the offices of the Legislative Assembly, 33 documents for committees, 62 motions or amendments to motions, and 31 Journals, as well as translating question period transcriptions. New staff members were trained and prepared in order to continue providing the service for which the office is known, meeting the highest standards of professional translation for the Legislative Assembly of our bilingual province.



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## SPECIAL PROJECT

### *Special Project Officer — Valmond LeBlanc*

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 available.

The second component was internal funding for translation outsourcing. During the year in review, no internal funding for outsourcing was available.

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 0.95 million words, compared to 1.66 million words in the previous year, a decrease of 43%.
- Hansard translation output totaled 0.90 million words (including 0.42 million words for oral questions), compared to 0.61 million words in the previous year, an increase of 48%.
- During the year in review, demand exceeded output by 0.05 million words, compared to 1.05 million words in the previous year. Over the past five years, demand has exceeded output by an average 1.57 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 21.83 years earlier than the published volumes.
- At year’s end, translation of dailies up to June 1, 2005, was posted on the internal network of the Legislative Assembly.
- A total of 675 Hansard dailies in dual-column PDF format are available for the 1993 to 2004-05 sessions, including 28 replies to the throne speech and budget speech up to December 2018. These finalized, translated dailies can be viewed, printed, and are fully searchable electronically.



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

### Results

- The Hansard translation backlog rose by 0.05 million words, compared to 1.05 million words during the previous year, a decrease of 95%.
- During the year in review, 33 new daily sittings occurred, while translation of 15 sitting days was completed, for a net backlog increase of 18 sitting days, compared to an increase of 39 sitting days in the previous year.
- Hansard translation was trailing by 163 months (or 766 dailies), compared to 151 months (or 748 dailies) at the end of the previous year.

### Quality Control

The *Directory of New Brunswick and National Organizations* was updated monthly during the year. It serves as a repository of over 56 600 research findings that pertain mostly to national and provincial organizations and programs. All entries are fully referenced, and most 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 parliamentary translators at Debates Translation, 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.



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## **PROGRAM FOR MEMBERS**

### **Program for Members**

The other branches of the Legislative Assembly Office are the Office of Government Members, the Office of the Official Opposition, the Office of the Green Party Caucus and the Office of the People's Alliance Caucus.

Each 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.

These 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 and Support**

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

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 caucus combine this funding to obtain and share resources and personnel.

Funding is also approved annually for private Members who are leaders of registered political parties represented in the House to be used for salaries and expenses of the leaders and their staff, and other expenses related to the operation of the respective offices.

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

### **Office of Government Members**

The 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.

### **Office of the Official Opposition**

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, policy development, secretarial and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Official Opposition Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the Old Education Building.

### **Office of the Green Party Caucus**

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, policy development, secretarial and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Green Party Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the third floor of the Departmental Building.

### **Office of the People's Alliance Caucus**

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, policy development, secretarial and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the People's Alliance Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the third floor of the Departmental Building.