

Daily sitting 37

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Oliver, Member for Kings Centre, laid upon the table of the House a petition in opposition to the closure of Norton Elementary School. (Petition 58)

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Mr. Coon, Member for Fredericton South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the Legislative Assembly to not implement the new Crown forestry policy. (Petition 59)

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Mr. Steeves, Member for Moncton Northwest, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to provide a new school or an extension to Northrup Frye School. (Petition 60)

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Mr. Steeves gave Notice of Motion 32 that on Thursday, April 16, 2015, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Dubé:

WHEREAS seniors helped build our province;

WHEREAS New Brunswick has an aging population and seniors are living longer due to the dramatic improvements in the detection and treatment of disease;

WHEREAS the marked increase in longevity of individuals does not necessarily mean that seniors maintain the same quality of life;

WHEREAS New Brunswick should support seniors living at home for as long as possible;

WHEREAS seniors need to be confident that they will have access to high quality long-term care when they are no longer able to live alone;

WHEREAS the United Nations' Principles for Older Persons identifies and divides the rights of seniors into five categories, namely independence, participation, care, self-fulfillment and dignity;

WHEREAS this government:

- (a) has removed the limit on the cost of nursing home care, making it more expensive for seniors who need specialized care to live out their lives in dignity;

- (b) will assess seniors' ability to pay for nursing home care based on their liquid assets, allowing the hard earned savings of seniors to be attacked again;
- (c) is increasing premiums for the Seniors Prescription Drug Program, making the cost of living healthy lives even higher for seniors;
- (d) is reinstating ambulance fees, forcing seniors to choose between life-saving care and paying their bills; and
- (e) is increasing gas taxes, reducing the mobility of seniors and their quality of life;

WHEREAS these actions implement or increase taxes and other indirect taxes and fees, and doing so is a very regressive way of getting new revenue from New Brunswickers and hurts our seniors;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly condemn this government for its failure to protect, promote and defend the interests of seniors;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to acknowledge its errors, reverse its course of action to erode the health, safety and security of our seniors, and commit to providing better support and assistance to our seniors.

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Pursuant to Standing Rule 44(4), Ms. Dubé, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, April 9, 2015, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 29 and 31.

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Mr. Albert, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the Budget.

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The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 23),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

And after some time, due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Ms. Harris, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

At 12 o'clock p.m., Madam Deputy Speaker left the chair to resume again at 1 o'clock p.m.

*1 o'clock p.m.*

Due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bernard LeBlanc, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

And after some further time, Ms. Harris resumed the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

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

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And then, 6.10 p.m., the House adjourned.

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The following document, having been deposited with the Clerk of the House, was deemed laid upon the table of the House pursuant to Standing Rule 39:

Annual Report 2014

*Firefighters' Compensation Act Disability Fund*

April 7, 2015