



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
Second Session, 58th Legislative Assembly

ORDER AND NOTICE PAPER - Sitting No. 17
Tuesday, February 9, 2016

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

Motion 9 by Hon. Mr. Melanson, seconded by Hon. Mr. Gallant to propose the following resolution on Tuesday, February 2, 2016:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

Debate interrupted due to expiration of time.

Debate to resume on Tuesday, February 9, 2016.

GOVERNMENT BILLS FOR SECOND READING

Bills to be Ordered for Second Reading

Bill 21, An Act to Amend the Judicature Act - Hon. Mr. Horsman

Bills Ordered for Second Reading

Bill 15, Regulatory Accountability and Reporting Act - Hon. Mr. Gallant

Bill 18, An Act Respecting Fiscal Measures - Hon. Mr. Melanson

Bill 19, An Act to Amend the Pension Benefits Act - Hon. Mr. Horsman

Bill 20, An Act to Amend the Statute Revision Act - Hon. Mr. Rousselle, Q.C.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC POLICY

Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Personal Health Information Privacy and Access Act
- Hon. Mr. Boudreau

Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Crown Construction Contracts Act - Hon. Mr. Melanson

Bill 16, An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act - Hon. Mr. Horsman

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS

Bill 17, An Act to Incorporate the Filles de Jésus Moncton - Mr. Bernard LeBlanc

BILLS AWAITING ROYAL ASSENT

Bill 2, An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act - Hon. Mr. Arseneault

Bill 3, An Act to Amend the Service New Brunswick Act - Hon. Dr. Doherty

Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Assessment Act - Hon. Dr. Doherty

Bill 6, An Act to Amend the Financial and Consumer Services Commission Act
- Hon. Mr. Horsman

Bill 7, An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Payday Loans - Hon. Mr. Horsman

Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Marshland Infrastructure Maintenance Act - Hon. Mr. Doucet

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Capital Estimates, 2016-2017

Supplementary Estimates, 2014-2015, Volume I

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

CONCLUDED

Motion 5 by Hon. Mr. Fraser. Carried December 2, 2015.

Motion 8 by Hon. Mr. Melanson. Debated and carried December 17, 2015.

GOVERNMENT PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

CONCLUDED

Motion 7 by Mr. Bernard LeBlanc. Debated and carried December 15, 2015.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS FOR SECOND READING

Bill 5, Green Jobs Act - Mr. Coon

Bill 9, An Act Respecting the Right to Work - Ms. Lynch

Bill 10, An Act to Amend the Education Act - Mr. Coon

Bill 13, An Act to Amend the Procurement Act - Mr. Coon

Bill 14, Public Participation Act - Mr. Coon

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Debatable Motions

Motion 4 by Ms. Dubé, seconded by Ms. Wilson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 10, 2015:

WHEREAS the government has been conducting an endless attack on rural New Brunswick by reducing and eliminating services to regions which are already disadvantaged by distance, opportunity for employment, and access to government;

WHEREAS these rural attacks include closures of schools, Service New Brunswick offices, library services, and court houses;

WHEREAS a Health Authority has also announced plans to reduce the number of hospital beds in their network by nearly 20%;

WHEREAS a Health Authority has also suggested that rural hospitals could be repurposed to become senior care centers;

WHEREAS the former Progressive Conservative government was implementing a plan to find efficiencies in the health care system without any reduction in the number of hospital beds;

WHEREAS the government has provided no evidence to prove that these reduction in service points are necessary or that they will improve services for New Brunswickers;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Assembly not support the plan to reduce the number of hospital beds;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the government be urged to conduct public consultations with the communities that will be affected by the proposed service point closures in an effort to find efficiencies without reducing services, especially in rural regions.

[Debate interrupted due to expiration of time.]

Motion 6 by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Ms. Lynch to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 10, 2015:

WHEREAS New Brunswick is Canada's only officially bilingual province;

WHEREAS access to second language training is limited or non-existent in many communities across the province, which impedes mutual understanding and access to opportunities;

WHEREAS access to French immersion education programming is limited or non-existent in many schools across the province;

WHEREAS the government's ability to continue to provide a high quality of services to citizens in both official languages may be affected by a lack of investment in second language training and education;

WHEREAS there are best practices in other jurisdictions, as well as new technology, which could be explored to address the gap in investment in second language training and education;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the government to examine the issue of second language education and training, and report back to this Assembly with a plan to enhance opportunities for New Brunswickers to improve their skills in communicating in both official languages.

Motion 10 by Mr. Fitch, seconded by Mr. Higgs to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 24, 2015:

WHEREAS in order to address their on-going fiscal deficit problems the government has created a grocery list of options that will cripple public services as well as the economy of the province; and

WHEREAS the government has continually called upon the Official Opposition to please provide them with more ideas and efficiencies to help balance their financial books; and

WHEREAS a significant portion of the current deficit problem has been created by unnecessary election promises; and

WHEREAS the current administration keeps digging the hole deeper with ill-advised policy decisions such as making tax room for the federal government and chasing away potential investors in the natural resources development field;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the complete list of options, including the delay of unnecessary spending promises and implementing fair taxation policies, be considered by the government to eliminate the deficit for the upcoming provincial budget.

Motion 11 by Ms. Dubé, seconded by Ms. Wilson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, February 11, 2016:

WHEREAS all New Brunswick governments since the nineties have established programs and initiatives to help with job creation and support economic development in northern and rural regions of our province;

WHEREAS the current New Brunswick government made a commitment during the 2014 election to give priority to economic development and job creation in northern and rural regions of the province;

WHEREAS, since the Gallant government was elected, it has initiated or put forward very few initiatives for economic development or job creation projects for northern and rural regions of the province;

WHEREAS the average unemployment rate in northern New Brunswick is currently twice the provincial rate;

WHEREAS northern and rural regions of New Brunswick hold enormous economic development and job creation potential for our province;

WHEREAS, after leading the province of New Brunswick for more than 16 months, the Gallant government seems to have neither a plan nor a vision for economic development in northern and rural regions of our province;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government, in collaboration with the various stakeholders in the economic and political communities, to establish a real job creation and economic development action plan for northern and rural regions of our province for the spring of 2016.

Motion 12 by Ms. Shephard, seconded by Mr. Steeves to propose the following resolution on Thursday, February 11, 2016:

WHEREAS children deserve the opportunity to grow in a loving, supportive, and stable household;

WHEREAS the current framework for protecting children favors parental privileges over the mental and physical safety of the child;

WHEREAS legislation approved by this Assembly five years ago would have the effect of helping to correct this imbalance with new kinship provisions, but has not been fully proclaimed into law;

WHEREAS there are also other measures that could be undertaken which would put the needs of children first, while supporting the decision-making authority of our dedicated social workers;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to proclaim into law all sections of *An Act to Amend the Family Services Act* of March 2010.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Assembly urge the government to review the framework for child protection in order to ensure the needs of children are placed in priority over parental privileges.

Motion 13 by Mr. Holder, seconded by Mr. Wetmore to propose the following resolution on Thursday, February 11, 2016:

WHEREAS New Brunswick universities are the envy of the world;

WHEREAS the government did not campaign upon any of the proposed changes that are mentioned in the Choices document such as deciding who is allowed to graduate from which programs, interfering in the funding formula, and changing governance models;

WHEREAS the government has failed to act on many of their platform commitments, such as providing universities with a four-year funding forecast;

WHEREAS universities need the support and confidence of government in order to thrive and grow in the increasingly competitive environment for student enrolment, instead of holding secretive, invitation-only meetings;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Assembly encourage the government to start supporting our independent universities, their excellent boards of governors, their competent administrators, and most of all, our students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Assembly urge the government to conduct an open and transparent consultation process, similar to the Poverty Reduction Strategy of 2009, to look at the future of our universities.

Motion 14 by Mr. Jeff Carr, seconded by Mr. Northrup to propose the following resolution on Thursday, February 11, 2016:

WHEREAS the government has repeatedly said their priority was job creation, stimulating the economy and making New Brunswick a better place to raise a family, and has failed on all three points;

WHEREAS the government promised not to raise fees or taxes for small business in their 2014 election platform;

WHEREAS changes to New Brunswick Regulation 2015-62 under the *Harmonized Sales Tax Act* caused appraisers and New Brunswick small businesses to lose income;

WHEREAS the government has provided no evidence to prove that these changes are necessary or that they will improve services for New Brunswickers;

WHEREAS the red book value of cars does not take into consideration the harsh weather and road conditions of New Brunswick, nor if the vehicle was involved in a collision or accident in placing a dollar value on vehicles;

BE IT THEREFOR RESOLVED THAT the Assembly urge the government to reverse the changes to New Brunswick Regulation 2015-62, and allow New Brunswick's qualified appraisers and car dealerships to get back to work.

Motion 15 by Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc to propose the following resolution on Thursday, February 11, 2016:

WHEREAS all Members of the Legislative Assembly are elected representatives of the people of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS it is important that the role and responsibilities of MLAs be well understood by the public;

WHEREAS it would be helpful for Members of the Legislative Assembly to have guidelines to aid them in the conduct of their duties;

WHEREAS the effectiveness of MLAs, and their accountability to the people of New Brunswick, may be improved if the Legislative Assembly establishes a formal statement of the key roles and responsibilities of MLAs;

WHEREAS the Legislative Administration Committee recommended the adoption of a statement on the Roles and Responsibilities of an MLA and a Code of Conduct for MLAs in its report to the Legislative Assembly tabled April 3, 2003;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers take into consideration the adoption of a statement on the Roles and Responsibilities of an MLA and a Code of Conduct for MLAs.

CONCLUDED

Motion 1 by Mr. Steeves. Debated and defeated December 10, 2015.

Motion 2 by Mr. Higgs. Debated and defeated December 17, 2015.

Motion 3 by Mr. Urquhart. Debated and defeated December 17, 2015.

PETITIONS

Petition 1: Mr. Wetmore, December 8, 2015.

(Response, January 6, 2016)

Petition 2: Hon. Mr. Horsman, December 9, 2015.

(Response, January 4, 2016)

Petition 3: Ms. Shephard, December 10, 2015.

(Response, December 17, 2015)

