

Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick

# Legislative Activities

# 2014





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2014



## New Brunswick

Prepared for The Honourable Chris Collins

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

New Brunswick





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September 25, 2015

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have the honour of submitting this, the twenty-sixth annual report of *Legislative Activities*, for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Donald J. Forestell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Donald J. Forestell  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

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# YEAR IN REVIEW

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

The 2014 calendar year was a year of change for the Office of the Legislative Assembly. The fourth and final session of the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature concluded and the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature began. The provincial election on September 22 ushered in a new government and a new Speaker. The Legislative Assembly also hosted the installation of a new Lieutenant-Governor.

The fourth session of the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature, which adjourned on December 13, 2013, resumed sitting on February 4, 2014. Finance Minister Blaine Higgs delivered the government's fourth budget. The reply to the budget speech was delivered on February 6 by Opposition Finance Critic Roger Melanson.

During the spring sitting, the House considered 74 bills. In particular, legislation was introduced to create a new reporting system with respect to Members' legislative and constituency office expenses. As a result, expense reports are now prepared by the Legislative Assembly and posted both quarterly, and on a fiscal year basis, to the Legislative Assembly's website. Additionally, legislation was introduced to adopt a shared-risk pension model for Members, placing them in the public service shared-risk pension plan with government employees. Legislation was also introduced to require each political party to either publish the estimated costs of their election promises, or publicly state that estimates have not been prepared. This required the Legislative Library to expand its mandate and provide support to the political parties seeking information to calculate the estimated costs of their election promises during the September 22 election campaign.

Also of note was the introduction and passage of three private Members' public bills. The bills were introduced by government private Members. The bills addressed such issues as the modernization of the definition of "veteran"; the requirement to develop an organ and tissue donation strategy; and the prohibition against Members crossing the floor of the House to join the caucus of another political party.

Among the resolutions adopted by the House was a motion encouraging strategies aimed at reducing youth smoking rates and a motion urging the federal government to preserve passenger rail service in New Brunswick.

The Legislature adjourned on May 21 and was subsequently recalled for a one-day sitting on July 29, for a total of 46 sitting days during the spring session. During the one-day sitting, Justice Minister Troy Lifford introduced legislation to enable retirees under the Fraser Papers' pension plan to benefit from increased pension payouts and to have their plan converted to a shared-risk pension model.

A total of 92 bills were introduced during the fourth session, 80 of which received Royal Assent. The House sat for 70 days during the session, for a total of 367 hours. This compares to 58 days during the previous session, or 296 hours. The Committee of the Whole spent 58 hours considering legislation. Similar to the previous session, the Committee of Supply and various standing committees spent 120 hours considering budgetary estimates, as the House agreed to extend the 80-hour allotment by an additional 40 hours.

The 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature was dissolved on August 21 and a general provincial election called for September 22. At dissolution, the standings in the House were: 41 Progressive Conservatives; 13 Liberals, and one Independent. Bev Harrison, the Member for Hampton-Kings, was the sole independent Member. Mr. Harrison had sat as a member of the Progressive Conservative caucus prior to his announcement on June 27 that he would be seeking the New Democratic Party's



nomination in the upcoming election.

The Liberal Party, led by Brian Gallant, Member for Shediac Bay-Dieppe, won 27 seats in the September 22 provincial election, forming a new majority government. The Progressive Conservative Party won 21 seats and the Green Party won one seat. The number of seats had been reduced from 55 to 49 following a redistribution and redrawing of the electoral map.

The election of Green Party Leader David Coon marked the first time in New Brunswick history that a Green Party candidate won a seat in the Legislature. Mr. Coon was subsequently granted recognized party status by the House on December 10, which provided him with certain rights under the Standing Rules despite not having elected the requisite five Members.

Premier Gallant was sworn into office on October 7, in a ceremony held in the Legislative Assembly Chamber. Including the Premier, a Cabinet of 13 members was sworn-in, consisting of: Stephen Horsman, Deputy Premier, Minister of Public Safety, Solicitor General, Minister of Justice; Denis Landry, Minister of Natural Resources, Minister of Human Resources; Donald Arseneault, Minister of Energy and Mines; Rick Doucet, Minister of Economic Development, Minister of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries; Victor Boudreau, Minister of Health; Ed Doherty, Minister of Government Services; Brian Kenny, Minister of Environment and Local Government; Bill Fraser, Minister of Tourism, Heritage and Culture; Roger Melanson, Minister of Finance, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure; Francine Landry, Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; Cathy Rogers, Minister of Social Development, Minister of Healthy and Inclusive Communities; Serge Rousselle, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, Attorney General. The Oath of the Executive Council was administered by the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, the Honourable Graydon Nicholas.

Hédard Albert, Member for Caraquet, was subsequently appointed as Government House Leader and Government Whip; Hon. Bill Fraser, Minister of Tourism, Heritage and Culture and Member for Miramichi, was appointed Deputy Government House Leader; Daniel Guitard, Member for Restigouche-Chaleur, was appointed Deputy Government Whip; and Monique LeBlanc, Member for Moncton East, was appointed Government Caucus Chair. Premier Gallant also nominated Lisa Harris, Member for Miramichi Bay-Neguac and Bernard LeBlanc, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, as Deputy Speakers, whose appointments were ratified by the House on December 3.

Former Premier David Alward stepped down as Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of New Brunswick on September 23. Mr. Alward was first elected in the 1999 provincial election and was subsequently re-elected in 2003, 2006, 2010 and 2014, having served the last four years as Premier. Bruce Fitch, Member for Riverview, was named interim Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party and Leader of the Official Opposition. Madeleine Dubé, Member for Edmundston-Madawaska Centre, was appointed Opposition House Leader; Carl Urquhart, Member for Carleton-York, was appointed Opposition Whip; and Pam Lynch, Member for Fredericton-Grand Lake, was appointed Opposition Caucus Chair.

An orientation session for new Members was held on October 9. Members were provided with an overview of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and several presentations were made by the staff of the Legislature. Topics included: the swearing-in of Members and the taking of the Oath of Allegiance; recall of the House and the election of Speaker; finance and human resource services for Members; ceremonial, security and visitor services; technology support; functioning of the House and its committees; Translation, Hansard and Library services; and Members' composite and biographies.

On October 14, newly elected Liberal Member Gary Keating resigned his seat in the constituency of Saint John East. Mr. Keating had defeated the Progressive Conservative incumbent Glen Savoie by a margin of 9 votes in the September 22 provincial election. In a subsequent by-election held on November 17, Mr. Savoie reclaimed his seat. Following the by-election, the



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standings in the House were 26 Liberal Members, 22 Progressive Conservative Members and one Green Party Member.

On October 23, the Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau was installed as the province's 31<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant-Governor. On the morning of October 24, Members of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature took their Oath of Allegiance and signed the Members' Roll during a ceremony in the Assembly Chamber, presided over by the new Lieutenant-Governor. The Legislative Assembly convened that afternoon for the election of Speaker. Hon. Chris Collins, Member for Moncton Centre, was elected Speaker on the first ballot. Speaker Collins was first elected in a March 5, 2007 by-election and had previously served as Minister of Local Government. He was re-elected in the 2010 and 2014 provincial elections. Speaker Collins replaced Dale Graham, who retired after 21 years of service as a Member, having served the last four years as Speaker.

The first session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature opened at 11 o'clock a.m. on Wednesday, December 3. The Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, the Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau, delivered the Speech from the Throne outlining the legislative agenda of the government of Premier Brian Gallant. The Leader of the Official Opposition, Bruce Fitch, delivered the reply to the Speech from the Throne on December 5. During the fall sitting, a total of 10 bills were introduced. The House adjourned on December 19, after 12 sitting days.

The past year was also marked by the passing of three long-time employees of the Legislative Assembly, who will be missed. The Legislature lost two valued security officers, Jean Dufour and Bernard Pilotte, who passed away on January 21 and April 20, respectively. Both former RCMP officers, the gentlemen served their country and the province with distinction. They were proud to serve under the Sergeant-at-Arms in ensuring the safety and security of elected officials, staff and the visiting public. Both were proud ambassadors of the province and greeted visitors to the Legislative Assembly with a warmth and sincerity.

Peter Wolters, CA, Director of Finance and Human Resources, passed away unexpectedly on August 19. Peter was a dedicated and valued employee of the Legislature for over 20 years. His experience and contributions to the office were exceptional. He was recognized for his wise counsel, his thoroughness in dealing with the finances of the Assembly, and in dispensing knowledgeable and reliable advice to Members and staff. The joy and laughter he brought to everything he did, and the friendships he bestowed upon all of us, will long be remembered.



**Peter Wolters with the Legislative Assembly's Finance and Human Resources staff (left to right) Tanya Johnson, Katie Banks, Wendy Bergeron and Lindsay Martin.**



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Election of Speaker

The first session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly convened on October 24 for the purpose of electing a new Speaker. By secret ballot, Members elected Chris Collins as Speaker. Speaker Collins was first



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

elected to the Legislative Assembly in a by-election on March 5, 2007, to represent the riding of Moncton East, and was re-elected in 2010. He was re-elected again in 2014 to represent the newly created riding of Moncton Centre.

During his time at the Legislature, Speaker Collins has served as Minister of Local Government, Government Whip, and Chair of the Select Committee on Wellness. He has also been the Opposition Critic for matters related to Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; Justice; Environment; Energy; and Education and Early Childhood Development. Speaker Collins has been an advocate for families with sick children. In 2013, he cycled across Canada to raise funding for children with cancer.

## Installation of Lieutenant-Governor

Jocelyne Roy Vienneau of Haut-Shippagan was installed as the province’s 31<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant-Governor at a ceremony held in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly on October 23. Her Honour is the

first Acadian woman to serve as Lieutenant-Governor in New Brunswick. Other accomplishments include two mandates as Vice-President at l’Université de Moncton’s Shippagan campus, serving as Assistant Deputy Minister with the Department of Education, and Director-General of the New Brunswick Community College in Bathurst. Her Honour was also among the first women to graduate from the Faculty of Engineering at l’Université de Moncton.



*Newly installed as the 31<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, Her Honour Jocelyne Roy Vienneau delivers her first speech. Sergeant-at-Arms Daniel Bussi eres stands to the left.*

During the ceremony, the former Lieutenant-Governor, Graydon Nicholas, was thanked for his years of dedicated service to the people of New Brunswick. As the first Aboriginal Lieutenant-Governor, his incumbency was of historic, social and cultural importance to New Brunswick.



## Parliamentary Visit by the National Assembly for Wales Commission

The New Brunswick Legislative Assembly hosted the National Assembly for Wales Commission from October 28 to 30 to discuss topics of mutual interest, such as bilingualism, citizen participation in a democracy, gender parity in public life, and federal-provincial relations.

The Commission met with Lieutenant-Governor Jocelyne Roy Vienneau; Speaker Chris Collins; New Brunswick's Official Languages Commissioner, Katherine d'Entremont; St. Thomas University's Political Science Associate Professor, Dr. Thomas Bateman; as well as senior staff from the Clerk's Office and Debates Translation.



*Left to right, Rhodri Glyn Thomas, AM; Sandy Mewies, AM; Peter Black, AM; Speaker Collins; and Dame Rosemary Butler, AM and Presiding Officer of the National Assembly for Wales.*

Established by the *Government of Wales Act 2006*, the Commission is the corporate body of the National Assembly for Wales, responsible for the administration of the Welsh legislative branch.

## Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference

From July 20 to 26, the Legislature hosted the 52<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Regional Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. The six-day conference was attended by 87 delegates, representing provincial and territorial legislatures and the Parliament of Canada. Special observers also attended from the United Kingdom and Uganda.

Business session topics included pension plan reform, debating social issues in parliament, role of the Senate and reform, flooding in prairie provinces, role of backbench Members, and the Speaker in the Schools program. The Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians' Women of Inspiration series focused on gender issues in parliament and family violence research and included presentations by Elizabeth Weir, former Member and Leader of the New Democratic Party in New Brunswick; Anne Bertrand, Access to Information and Privacy Commissioner of New Brunswick; Dr. Nancy Nason-Clark, Acting Director of the Muriel McQueen Fergusson Centre for Family Violence Research; and Susanne Alexander, Publisher of Goose Lane Editions.



**Participants of the 2014 Canadian Regional Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association**



# 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.



*Hon. Chris Collins,  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly*

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.

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



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one constituency. Although a Member need not be affiliated with an organized political party, this has generally been the tradition in New Brunswick.

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. - 12:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Friday	10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 1:30 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.

### **Condolences and Messages of Sympathy**

Members have an opportunity to present a message of condolence or sympathy.

### **Introduction of Guests**

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

### **Messages of Congratulation and Recognition**

Members may extend congratulations or offer recognition to any person, group or association for noteworthy achievements.

### **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.

### **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.





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### **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.

### **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 up as the first order of business 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. The government will also announce the scheduling and order in which the daily business of the House will be considered.

### **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.


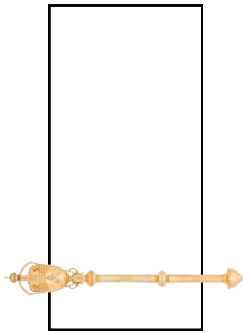


## MEMBERS OF THE 57<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AS OF MAY 21, 2014 Seating Arrangement

 <p><b>Brian Macdonald</b> Fredericton- Silverwood</p>	 <p><b>Sherry Wilson</b> Petitcodiac</p>	 <p><b>Claude Williams</b> Kent South</p>	 <p><b>Bruce Fitch</b> Riverview</p>
 <p><b>Serge Robichaud</b> Miramichi Bay- Neguac</p>	 <p><b>Ross Wetmore</b> Grand Lake- Gagetown</p>	 <p><b>Craig Leonard</b> Fredericton-Lincoln</p>	 <p><b>Blaine Higgs</b> Quispamsis</p>
 <p><b>Glen Tait</b> Saint John East</p>	 <p><b>Ryan Riordon</b> Nepisiguit</p>	 <p><b>Dorothy Shephard</b> Saint John Lancaster</p>	 <p><b>David Alward</b> Woodstock</p>
 <p><b>Glen Savoie</b> Saint John-Fundy</p>	 <p><b>Carl Killen</b> Saint John Harbour</p>	 <p><b>Marie-Claude Blais</b> Moncton North</p>	 <p><b>Paul Robichaud</b> Lamèque- Shippagan-Miscou</p>
 <p><b>Yvon Bonenfant</b> Madawaska-les- Lacs</p>	 <p><b>Martine Coulombe</b> Restigouche- la-Vallée</p>	 <p><b>Hugh Flemming</b> Rothesay</p>	 <p><b>Madeleine Dubé</b> Edmundston— Saint-Basile</p>
 <p><b>Jake Stewart</b> Southwest Miramichi</p>	 <p><b>Kirk MacDonald</b> York North</p>	 <p><b>Danny Soucy</b> Grand Falls— Drummond— Saint-André</p>	 <p><b>Jody Carr</b> Oromocto</p>
	 <p><b>Wes McLean</b> Victoria-Tobique</p>	 <p><b>Troy Lifford</b> Fredericton- Nashwaaksis</p>	 <p><b>Trevor Holder</b> Saint John Portland</p>
	 <p><b>Pam Lynch</b> Fredericton-Fort Nashwaak</p>	 <p><b>Bruce Northrup</b> Kings East</p>	 <p><b>Sue Stultz</b> Moncton West</p>
	 <p><b>Curtis Malloch</b> Charlotte- Campobello</p>	 <p><b>Wayne Steeves</b> Albert</p>	 <p><b>Michael Olscamp</b> Tantramar</p>
	 <p><b>Greg Davis</b> Campbellton- Restigouche Centre</p>	 <p><b>Bev Harrison</b> Hampton-Kings</p>	 <p><b>Robert Trevors</b> Miramichi Centre</p>




**Hon. Dale Graham**  
Speaker  
Carleton

Donald J. Forestell  
Clerk

Shayne Davies  
Clerk Assistant

Rose Campbell  
Clerk Assistant



**Donald Arseneault**  
Dalhousie-  
Restigouche East




**Rick Doucet**  
Charlotte-The Isles




**Bertrand LeBlanc**  
Rogersville-  
Kouchibouguac



**Roger Melanson**  
Dieppe Centre-  
Lewisville




**Bernard LeBlanc**  
Memramcook-  
Lakeville-Dieppe



**Roland Haché**  
Nigadoo-Chaleur



**Brian Gallant**  
Kent




**Chris Collins**  
Moncton East




**Denis Landry**  
Centre-Péninsule—  
Saint-Sauveur




**Bill Fraser**  
Miramichi-  
Bay du Vin



**Hédard Albert**  
Caraquet



**Victor Boudreau**  
Shediac—  
Cap-Pelé




**Brian Kenny**  
Bathurst





**John W. Betts**  
Moncton Crescent




**Jack Carr**  
New Maryland-  
Sunbury West



**Claude Landry**  
Tracadie-Sheila












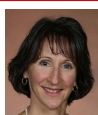


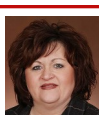
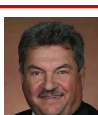









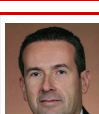

**Carl Urquhart**  
York



**Jim Parrott**  
Fundy-River Valley



## MEMBERS OF THE 58<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2014 Seating Arrangement

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



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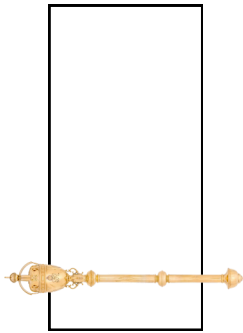
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GP




**Hon. Chris Collins**  
Speaker  
Moncton Centre


Donald J. Forestell  
Clerk

Shayne Davies  
Clerk Assistant


Rose Campbell  
Clerk Assistant



**Trevor Holder**  
Portland-Simonds



**Pam Lynch**  
Fredericton-  
Grand Lake




**Gary Crossman**  
Hampton




**Jody Carr**  
Oromocto-Lincoln



**Brian Macdonald**  
Fredericton  
West-Hanwell




**Brian Keirstead**  
Albert




**Bruce Fitch**  
Riverview



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



**Ernie Steeves**  
Moncton Northwest




**Madeleine Dubé**  
Edmundston-  
Madawaska Centre




**Glen Savoie**  
Saint John East



**Jeff Carr**  
New Maryland-  
Sunbury




**Kirk MacDonald**  
Fredericton-York



**Sherry Wilson**  
Moncton Southwest




**Bill Oliver**  
Kings Centre




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



**Hugh Flemming**  
Rothesay




**Carl Urquhart**  
Carleton-York




**Blaine Higgs**  
Quispamsis




**David Alward**  
Carleton



**Dorothy Shephard**  
Saint John  
Lancaster



**Ross Wetmore**  
Gagetown-  
Petitcodiac



**David Coon**  
Fredericton South



## HOUSE STATISTICS

### 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature

	<i>First Session 2010-2011</i>	<i>Second Session 2011 - 2012</i>	<i>Third Session 2012 - 2013</i>	<i>Fourth Session 2013-2014</i>
<i>Daily Sittings</i>				
Number of Sitting Days	58	55	58	70
Evening Sittings	11	11	5	6
<i>Government Bills</i>				
Introduced	54	59	56	70
Received Royal Assent	52	57	54	69
<i>Private Bills</i>				
Introduced	1	2	3	8
Received Royal Assent	1	1	3	8
<i>Private Members' Public Bills</i>				
Introduced	0	8	13	14
Received Royal Assent	0	0	0	3
<i>Government Motions</i>				
Total	11	14	19	10
Number debated	3	4	5	1
Number agreed to	11	14	18	10
Number withdrawn	0	0	0	0
<i>Private Members' Motions</i>				
Total	84	57	56	54
Number debated	17	15	13	22
Number agreed to	14	8	8	6
Number withdrawn	59	32	21	10
<i>Committee of Supply</i>				
In House (Days)	25	15	12	16
In Committee on Estimates	0	4	12	12
In other Committees	-	-	12	11
<i>Annual Reports Tabled</i>	90	75	66	59
<i>Petitions</i>	127	95	47	14
<i>Written Questions</i>	0	38	10	0

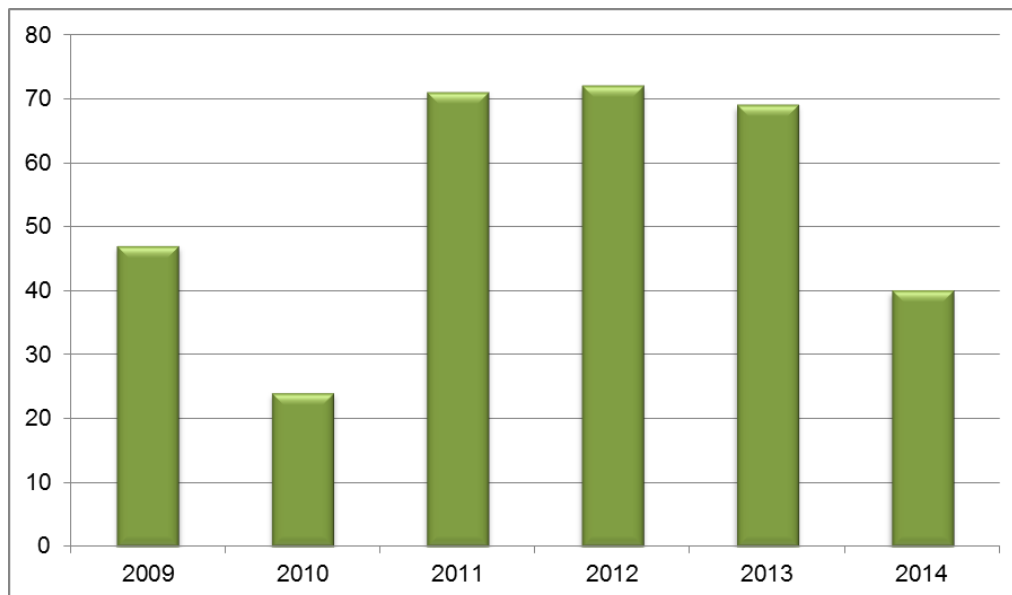


## COMMITTEE ACTIVITY



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 2014, there were 11 standing committees and 2 select committees, which held a total of 40 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 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature on August 21. Additional activities and changes to memberships post-election are also noted.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### Legislative Administration Committee

<b>Members</b>	Hon. Mr. Graham (C)	Mr. B. Macdonald
	Mr. Urquhart (VC)	Mr. Betts
	Mr. C. Landry	Mr. Fraser
	Hon. Mr. Robichaud	Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc
	Hon. Ms. Blais, Q.C.	Mr. Boudreau

#### 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 six meetings, on January 22, February 19, March 18, April 4, May 30 and July 16 to discuss various issues related to the operation and administration of the Legislature. The Committee also appointed a subcommittee, which met on January 8, 15 and 28. Following the provincial election, the Committee, composed of new members, met on November 14. On December 4, the House ratified the new membership as follows: Hon. Mr. Collins (C), Mr. Bernard LeBlanc (VC), Ms. Harris, Hon. Mr. Melanson, Hon. Mr. Fraser, Mr. Albert, Mr. Guitard, Mr. Oliver, Mr. B. Macdonald and Mr. Coon.

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### Standing Committee on Crown Corporations

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Jack Carr (C)	Mr. S. Robichaud
	Mr. Wetmore (VC)	Ms. Lynch
	Mr. Steeves	Mr. Melanson
	Mr. Killen	Mr. Doucet
	Mr. Malloch	Mr. Albert

#### Mandate

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

#### Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2014. On December 19, the House appointed new members to the Committee as follows: Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc (C), Mr. Harvey (VC), Mr. Albert, Mr. Ames, Mr. Bourque, Mr. Guitard, Mr. Roussel, Mr. Bernard LeBlanc, Ms. Dubé, Mr. Jeff Carr, Mr. Savoie, Mr. Northrup and Mr. Coon.





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## Standing Committee on Education

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Killen (C)	Mr. C. Landry
	Ms. Coulombe (VC)	Mr. Davis
	Mr. Stewart	Mr. Collins
	Mr. Harrison	Mr. Haché

### Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain issues related to the education system in New Brunswick.

### Activities

The Committee held six meetings, on February 18, 19 and 26, March 18, and April 1 and 15 to consider the estimates of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. The Committee presented a report to the House on April 16.

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## Standing Committee on Estimates

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Tait (C)	Mr. Malloch
	Mr. Wetmore (VC)	Mr. Boudreau
	Mr. Savoie	Mr. Kenny
	Mr. Davis	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc
	Ms. Wilson	

### Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review the main estimates of certain departments.

### Activities

The Committee held 12 meetings, on February 18, 20, 24 and 25, March 12, 19, 20, 21 and 27, April 2, 3 and 9 to consider certain estimates. The Committee presented a report to the House on April 16.

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## Standing Committee on Health Care

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Bonenfant (C)	Mr. S. Robichaud
	Ms. Wilson (VC)	Mr. Davis
	Mr. K. MacDonald	Mr. Doucet
	Ms. Lynch	Mr. Arseneault

### Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain issues related to the health care system in New Brunswick.

### Activities

The Committee held five meetings, on February 27 and 28, March 11 and 13, and April 4 to consider the estimates of the Department of Health. The Committee presented a report to the House on April 8.



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## Standing Committee on Law Amendments

<b>Members</b>	Hon. Ms. Blais, Q.C. (C)	Mr. B. Macdonald
	Mr. Bonenfant	Mr. Kenny
	Ms. Lynch	Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc
	Mr. Malloch	

### 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 2014.

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## Standing Committee on Legislative Officers

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Davis	Mr. S. Robichaud
	Mr. Riordon	Ms. Lynch
	Mr. Tait	Mr. Albert
	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Arseneault

### Mandate

The Committee reviews reports to the House from the Legislative Officers, which includes the Access to Information and Privacy Commissioner; Auditor General; Chief Electoral Officer; Child and Youth Advocate; Commissioner of Official Languages; Conflict of Interest Commissioner; Consumer Advocate for Insurance; and Ombudsman.

### Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2014.

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## Standing Committee on Private Bills

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Killen (C)	Mr. Savoie
	Ms. Wilson (VC)	Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc
	Ms. Coulombe	Mr. D. Landry
	Mr. Stewart	

### 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 three meetings, on March 25, April 22 and 30, to consider certain private legislation. The Committee presented reports to the House on March 25, April 22 and May 6.



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## Standing Committee on Privileges

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Harrison (C)	Mr. Riordon
	Mr. Steeves (VC)	Mr. Albert
	Mr. S. Robichaud	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc

### Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to consider a matter or question of privilege concerning the House, a committee or Member.

### Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2014.

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## Standing Committee on Procedure

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Urquhart (C)	Mr. Stewart
	Mr. C. Landry (VC)	Mr. Fraser
	Mr. Steeves	Mr. Melanson
	Mr. Harrison	

### Mandate

All Standing Rules and practices of the House, together with any matter referred by the Speaker, stand permanently referred to the Committee.

### Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2014 prior to the dissolution of the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature. On December 4, the House appointed new members to the Committee as follows: Mr. Albert (C); Hon. Mr. Fraser (VC); Hon. Mr. Rousselle, Q.C.; Mr. Guitard; Ms. Harris; Mr. Bernard LeBlanc; Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc; Ms. Dubé; Mr. B. Macdonald; Mr. Jody Carr; and Mr. Holder. The Committee held a meeting on December 5 and presented a report to the House on December 10, which recommended several amendments to the Standing Rules.

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## Standing Committee on Public Accounts

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Boudreau (C)	Mr. Riordon
	Mr. Bonenfant (VC)	Mr. Savoie
	Mr. Tait	Mr. Stewart
	Ms. Coulombe	Mr. Collins
	Mr. Betts	Mr. Arseneault

### Mandate

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

### Activities

The Committee held 3 meetings, on January 7, 8, and 9. The Committee reviewed the 2013 Report of the Auditor General, Vol. I and II. The Committee also reviewed the annual reports of the following departments: Government Services, and Education and Early Childhood Development. On December 19, the House appointed new members to the Committee as follows: Mr. Holder (C); Mr. Chiasson (VC); Mr. Bourque; Mr. Guitard; Ms. Harris; Mr. Harvey; Ms. LeBlanc; Mr. LePage; Mr. Albert; Ms. Shephard; Mr. Steeves; Mr. Flemming, Q.C.; and Mr. Coon.

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## SELECT COMMITTEES

### Select Committee on Legislative Reform

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Harrison (VC)	Mr. Riordon
	Mr. C. Landry	Mr. Boudreau
	Mr. Killen	Mr. Melanson
	Mr. Jack Carr	

#### Mandate

The Committee was appointed to review a report entitled *Proposals for Legislative Reform in New Brunswick* and to consider reforms of the current practices of the Legislative Assembly, to encourage greater participation and representation for New Brunswickers.

#### Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2014.

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### Select Committee on Point Lepreau

<b>Members</b>	Mr. K. MacDonald (C)	Hon. Ms. Shephard
	Mr. Tait (VC)	Mr. Killen
	Hon. Mr. Lifford	Mr. Doucet
	Mr. Savoie	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc

#### Mandate

The Committee was appointed to examine the refurbishment of the Point Lepreau Generating Station and the issues related to cost overruns to ensure New Brunswickers are aware of the current state of the project.

#### Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2014.



# CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT



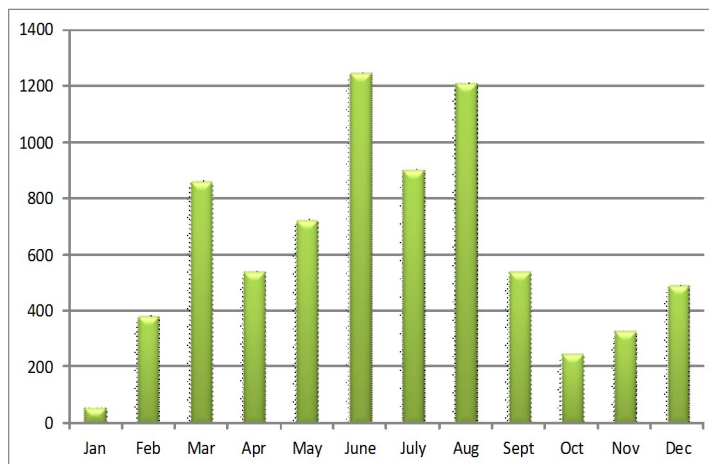
## VISITORS AND TOURS

Visitor Services was busy in 2014. Over 7,500 people visited the Legislature in the calendar year. Visitor numbers were the second highest in the past seven years.

Parliament Square, which includes the Legislative Assembly Building, 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 Building 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.

Numerous school groups from throughout the province visited the Legislative Assembly during the House sittings. Students and teachers had the opportunity to sit in the Gallery and observe the proceedings of the House first hand. The number of school groups visiting was down somewhat from the previous year, due in part to the loss of the provincial travel subsidy for schools which ceased as of April 1.



Monthly Visitor Numbers in 2014



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 June 2, three students began their summer employment as tour guides: Alex Robichaud, Yasmine Badibanga, and Vanessa Bourque offered tours until August 31. As in the summer months of 2013, the Legislative Assembly offered tours seven days per week.

The Legislative Assembly had two Grade 9 students participate in Take Our Kids to Work Day on November 5. Julia Forestell and Nathan Gorey spent their day meeting and observing staff of the Legislature to learn about individual responsibilities and the broader functioning of the legislative institution. This opportunity was also extended to Grade 9 students of employees of the Departments of Finance, Social Development, and Justice. A special tour of the Legislative Assembly 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 non-profit 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.

Two dignitaries were welcomed to the Legislative Assembly in 2014. The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly met with the Consul General of Mexico in Montreal, His Excellency Francisco del Río on April 9. On May 30, the Speaker met with the Consul General of India in Toronto, Mr. Akhilesh Mishra.



**Daniel Bussi res, Sergeant-at-Arms, displays his ceremonial sword to students from Priestman Street Elementary School. Although swords are no longer used to maintain order and security, they remain an important relic of the past and an integral part of the uniform.**



## SPECIAL EVENTS AND CEREMONIES

On June 6, three books of condolences were placed in the rotunda of the Legislative Assembly to provide people an opportunity to pay their respects to the families of the fallen RCMP officers who died tragically in Moncton on June 4. These brave officers were Constables Fabrice Georges Gevaudan of Boulogne-Billancourt, France; David Joseph Ross of Victoriaville, Quebec; and Douglas James Larche of Saint John, New Brunswick.



*The books of condolences were delivered to the families of the fallen officers.*

The New Brunswick Legislative Assembly, along with other legislatures across Canada, flew the Pride banner for the first time during the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia. The rainbow-colored banner was raised to support gay, lesbian, and transgendered athletes in the Games from February 11 to March 16.

The outdoor lighting system of the Legislature permits special illuminations of the building. On April 1, the Legislative Assembly participated in the Light It Up Blue

campaign. The building was illuminated in blue as Premier Alward signed a declaration acknowledging April 2 as Autism Awareness Day in New Brunswick. The Legislature also participated in the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation's Run for the Cure with Paint Canada Pink Week. From August 18 to 23, the building was bathed in pink to create and sustain awareness of the disease. In November, 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.

Various award ceremonies took place at the Legislative Assembly during 2014, including the Canada Cord Ceremony on October 4, 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 1; and the Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award Ceremony on November 8. Traditionally, the Lieutenant-Governor presides over all three ceremonies.

The annual Queen's Counsel Ceremony was also held in the Legislative Assembly Chamber on October 20. The distinction of Queen's Counsel is bestowed upon experienced lawyers in the province. The eleven recipients this year were: Robert M. Creamer, Saint John; Heather Doyle Landry, Fredericton; Harold R. Grew, Riverview; Willard M. Jenkins, Saint John; Larry Landry, Dalhousie; George H. LeBlanc, Moncton; John B.D. Logan, Saint John; George A. McAllister, Fredericton; Stewart C. Paul, Perth-Andover; Marylène Pilote, Edmundston; and Kelly Ann Winchester, Saint John.



On May 9, a retirement reception for the Honourable Dale Graham, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, was hosted by the Lieutenant-Governor at Government House. Many close friends,



*Premier David Alward (left) presenting a Michael Khoury print of the Legislature to Speaker Dale Graham and his wife, Ms. Shelley Graham.*

staff, and Members attended the event to congratulate Speaker Graham on a long and distinguished political career that spanned 21 years. Prior to his role as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, he served as Deputy Premier, Minister of Supply and Services, Minister of Environment and Local Government, and Minister of Human Resources.

The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women is an annual event that commemorates the anniversary of the Montreal massacre, where young women died as a result of a shooting at the École polytechnique in Montreal in 1989. A vigil to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary was held in the Council Chamber and on the grounds of the Legislature on December 5. The event was hosted by the Minister responsible for Women's Equality, Premier Brian Gallant.

The Legislative Assembly hosted a variety of health clinics in 2014. Canadian Blood

Services held a blood donor clinic in the rotunda on April 10. The Canadian Dermatology Association held a skin cancer screening clinic in the Council Chamber on April 15. On November 5, the Victorian Order of Nurses held its annual flu vaccination clinic.

The annual Provincial Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony took place on November 28 in front of the Legislative Assembly building. Special guests included Lieutenant-Governor Jocelyne Roy Vienneau; Speaker Chris Collins; the Minister of Justice and Member for Fredericton North, Hon. Stephen Horsman; the Member for Carleton-York, Carl Urquhart; the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Donald Forestell; and the Chaplain of the Legislative Assembly, Father Donald Savoie. 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 Liverpool Street School choir and Becca DeHaan, an ECMA award-winning performer. 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.



*A large crowd of approximately 800 people turned out for the event.*





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## STUDENT LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Legislative Seminar was held April 25 to 27. A total of 55 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 councilors and teachers.

The students were welcomed to the Legislative Assembly by Speaker Dale Graham. Throughout the weekend, the students attended various lectures which focused on the three branches of government: legislative, executive and judicial. Premier David Alward spoke on the role of the Premier and the challenges and responsibilities of that office. Hon. Troy Lifford, Minister of Justice, spoke on the role of Cabinet; the Leader of the Official Opposition, Brian Gallant, spoke on the role of the Opposition; and the Member for Victoria-Tobique, Wes McLean, spoke on the role of an MLA. Hon. Julian A.G. Dickson, 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 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 2014 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 chosen from university-aged students of high academic standing. They must be in full-time attendance at a post-secondary institution and be available for at least 12 hours each week while the House is in session, usually from November to June.

The presence of Pages in the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly is required for all regular sitting days, and for various meetings of select and standing 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 Web site at <<http://www.gnb.ca/legis/education/page/page-e.asp>>.



*The following individuals served as Pages during the spring sitting:  
(first row) Julie Frigault, Connor Jay, Phoebe Marmura Brown,  
Danielle Lapointe, Andrew MacDougall, and Jack Simpson (Head Page).  
In the second row, Samuel Titus, Lindsay Hodd, Thomas (Ben) Graham,  
Alex Robichaud, and Brian Cook.*

The Pages who served for the fall 2014 sitting were Daniel Curwin, Kate Deveau, Julie Frigault, Thomas (Ben) Graham, Lindsay Hodd, Phoebe Marmura Brown, Alex Robichaud, and Jack Simpson (Head Page).



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## BROADCASTING AND WEBCASTING

The Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick has been televising its legislative 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 the community-access cable television channel 10. Coverage of the proceedings of the Legislature went live in 1989.

In the 1990s, the live coverage on channel 10, or channel 9 in some communities, was expanded to include almost an entire sitting day. In 2005, a committee of the Legislative Assembly resolved to launch the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service on a channel dedicated solely to the broadcast of legislative proceedings. The channel would provide gavel-to-gavel television coverage of all sitting days while the Legislature was in session. On March 28, 2006, the first broadcast took place on the dedicated channel.

The Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service broadcasts the daily proceedings each sitting day in both official languages. In 2014, the proceedings were broadcast on Rogers digital cable television channel 70 in select New Brunswick communities served by the cable television 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.

In 2014, Rogers continued to televise, at a designated time each sitting day, daily Question Period on various community channels. In addition, the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service continued to televise repeats of the daily proceedings of the Legislature, usually commencing within 30 minutes after the adjournment of the House each sitting day.

The proceedings of the Standing Committees on Education; Estimates; and Health Care were also broadcast on channel 70 in 2014, as they took place in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly. The committees were mandated to review the estimates of various government departments.

In 2014, the video and audio of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly continued to be streamed live on the Internet for webcasting purposes in both official languages. In addition, the audio of meetings of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts was streamed live on the Internet.

When the Legislature was not in session, a graphics computer generated a rotating sequence of textual messages pertaining to the following: next scheduled sitting of the House; regular Tuesday-to-Friday sitting schedule; particulars of the channel's distribution; tour information; upcoming Legislature events, including committee meetings; and several specially produced sequences on the Legislature's function, history, traditions, and other subjects of interest to the public within the mandate of the channel. A photograph of each Member continued to be shown with accompanying information on party affiliation, ministerial portfolio (where applicable), riding, and contact information.

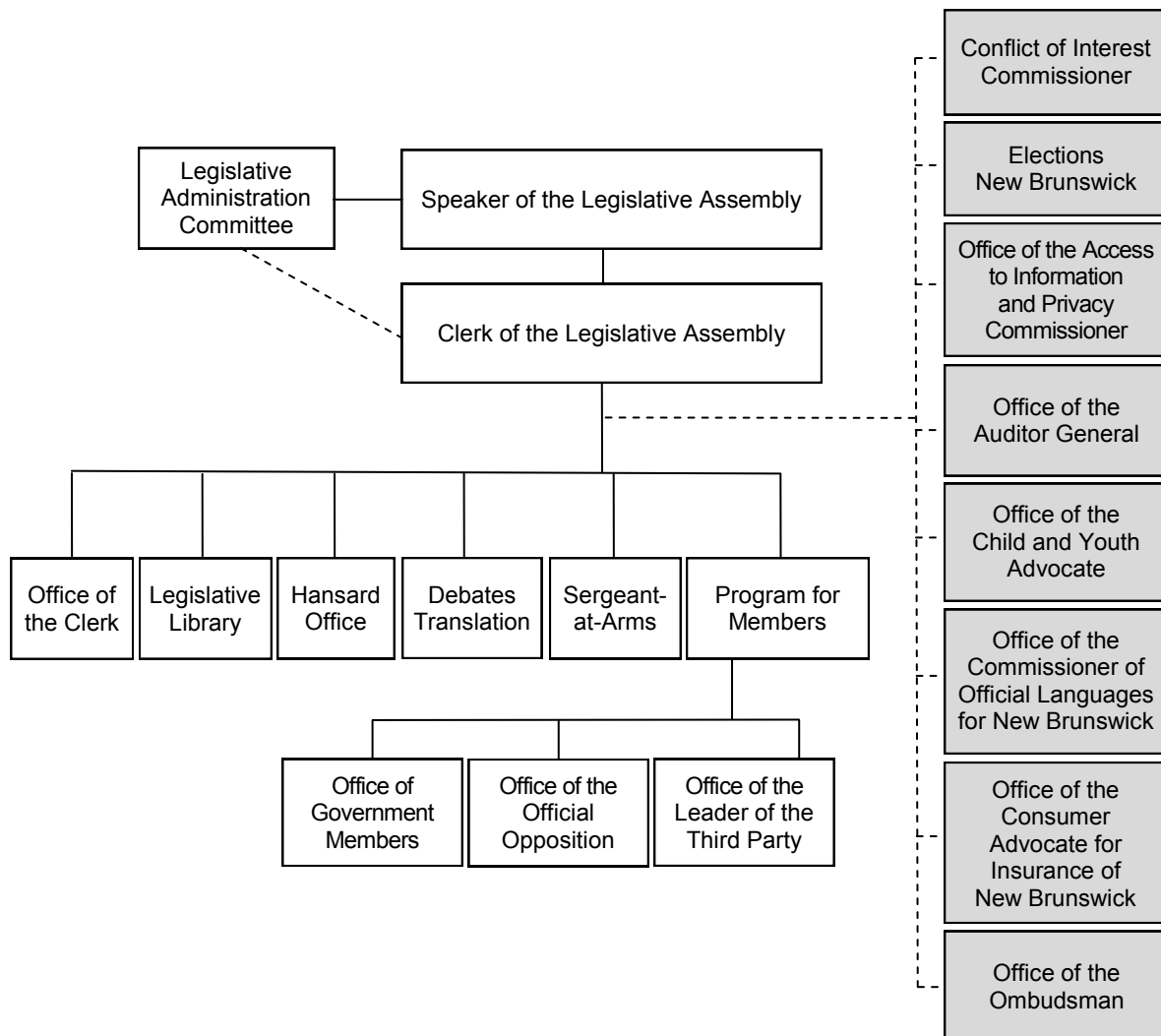


# OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

## 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 Access to Information and Privacy Commissioner, Office of the Auditor General, Office of the Child and Youth Advocate, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance, and Office of the Ombudsman.

### 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.

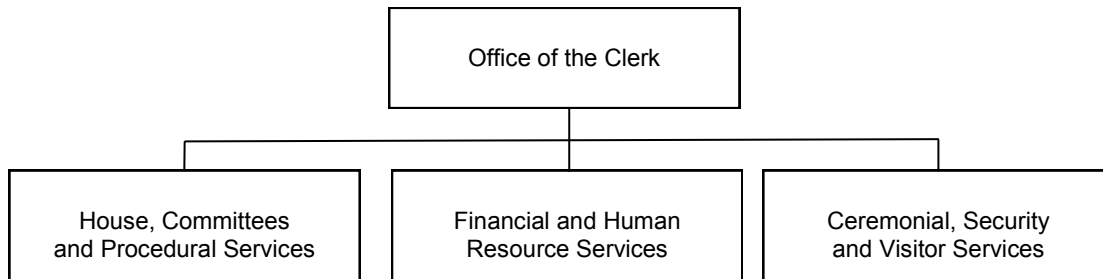
### Program for Members

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



## OFFICE OF THE CLERK

### *Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees — Shayne Davies*



In the 2014 calendar year, the staff of the Office of the Clerk, as well as the staff in every branch of the Legislative Assembly Office, met or exceeded the office's primary goal: to assist elected Members in carrying out their parliamentary functions as legislators. The dedicated work of all staff contributed significantly to maintaining a high level of service to Members.

### **Procedural Services**

All Members of the 57<sup>th</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> Legislatures 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 and Clerks 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 Clerk and Clerks Assistant 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 2014, the Research Assistant compiled 58 unrevised Journals making up the spring sitting of the fourth session of the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature and the opening and fall sitting of the first session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature. The Journals of the House are the official record of matters considered and decisions taken by the House. Unrevised Journals are posted online as soon as they are available in both official languages. At the conclusion of a session, unrevised editions of the Journal are finalized, indexed and published. The 2012-2013 bound version of the *Journals of the Legislative Assembly* was published in 2014.

First reading bills continued to be published online in PDF format. Since 2004, the online PDF version of a first reading bill has been the official version. During the 2014 calendar year, 73 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.



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The Legislature continued to archive online proceedings. The 2014-2015 budget speech and reply thereto, the Premier's closure of the budget debate, the December 3 Throne Speech and reply thereto, and the Premier's closure of the Throne Speech debate were all archived to the website. With the assistance of Government Services, Oral Questions continued to be archived online, allowing the public to view the daily Question Period online, either live or as video-on-demand webcasts.

Biographical information and photographs of Members of the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature were updated during the months preceding dissolution. Following dissolution, the information was removed online and archived. Biographical information and photographs of the newly elected Members of the 58<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 Legislature's calendar was updated to reflect daily sittings or special events. Committee memberships were also revised and reports were posted online.

## **Legislature Renovations**

The ongoing historic restoration of the Legislative Assembly building and grounds continued in 2014. Entering the final phase of the restoration project, which is primarily related to issues of life, safety and security for Members, staff and the visiting public, work continued on upgrading the sprinkler system throughout the building to ensure it complied with modern regulations. In addition, a new sound system was installed in the Legislative Council Chamber to replace an aging system that no longer functioned. Renovations were also undertaken on the third floor of the Departmental Building to provide secure office space for the Leader of the Third Party and his staff.

## **Interparliamentary Relations**

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

In 2014, New Brunswick hosted the 52<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Regional Conference of the CPA. The Clerk's Office organized the event and developed the program and business sessions for the delegates and their family members in attendance. Staff also hosted the National Assembly for Wales Commission and developed a program for their visit.

## **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 parliamentary procedure in Canada.

The Association of Clerks-at-the-Table list server (CATS) was launched in 1998, to allow 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.



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In 2014, the Clerks responded to numerous inquiries posted to the CATS system. Topics canvassed during the year included such diverse matters as: *in camera* committee reports, use of electronic devices in gallery, gift shops, security measures, Ministers who are not Members, pension benefits, media filming proceedings, external audits, code of conduct, and disability access.

### ***Canadian Parliamentary Review***

The Clerk's Office staff prepared quarterly submissions to the *Canadian Parliamentary Review*. The publication was founded in 1978 to inform Canadian legislators about activities of the federal, provincial and territorial branches of the Canadian Region of the CPA and to promote the study of and interest in Canadian parliamentary institutions. In 2014, staff ensured that a summary of legislative activities in New Brunswick was included in each edition under the "Legislative Reports" section.

### **Tributes**

Two former Members passed away in 2014:

**Allison Winston DeLong** (Liberal) on April 14. Mr. DeLong was elected on October 13, 1987, to represent the riding of Carleton Centre. He was re-elected in 1991. During his time at the Legislature he served on several standing and select committees.

**Edmond P. Blanchard** (Liberal) on June 27. Mr. Blanchard was elected on October 13, 1987, to represent the riding of Campbellton. He was re-elected in 1991, 1995 and 1999. During his time at the Legislature he served as Minister of State for Mines, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Minister of Finance, and Minister of State for Quality.





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## FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

### *Director, Finance and Human Resources — Katie Hill, C.P.A., C.A.*

The Director of Finance and Human Resources is accountable for the proper and effective management of the financial and human resource services of the Legislative Assembly. In addition, financial and human resources administration support is provided to the following statutory offices: Elections New Brunswick, Office of the Access to Information and Privacy Commissioner, Office of the Auditor General, Office of the Child and Youth Advocate, Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance, and the Office of the Ombudsman.

### **Financial Services Overview**

Financial Services include the following responsibilities:

- Payroll and Benefits (Ministers, Members, public service and casual employees)  
Ensure timely and accurate payment of salaries and benefits.
- Members' and Committee Expenses  
Ensure timely and accurate payment of expenses.
- Purchasing of and Payment for Goods and Services  
Ensure compliance with Acts and Regulations. Ensure transactions are properly recorded for financial statement presentation and safeguarding of assets. Ensure proper record keeping and storage for future reference purposes.
- Financial Analysis and Projections  
Review financial position of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and its various offices. Advise individual managers of changes in expenditure status using customized or specialized reports.
- Budget Process  
Coordinate budget process, prepare budget submissions and liaise with related departments or agencies.

### **Financial Services Highlights**

The provincial general election held September 22 resulted in a change of government and the appointment of 13 Members to the Executive Council. The workload associated with the election of 21 new Members, and the resulting retirement or defeat of another 27 Members, presented a significant challenge for finance and human resources staff. The work entailed finalizing payroll, expenses, benefits, and the closing of constituency offices for the Members whose status had changed and the commencement of payroll, the set up of new constituency offices, and distribution of all related information for the new Members. In addition, staff processed salary commencements for the members of the Executive Council.

Pursuant to a decision of the Legislative Administration Committee on July 16, the Legislative Assembly began providing direct payment service of constituency office rent on behalf of all Members. This service required staff to develop and implement new processes to ensure that Members' rents are accurately paid on a timely basis. Due to the fact that rent is processed monthly, this service continues to utilize staff resources.

The House sat a total of 87 days during the 2013-2014 fiscal year, compared to 52 days in 2012-2013 and 54 days in 2011-2012. 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 2013-2014. In total, supplementary estimates in the



amount of \$569,100 were approved to fund expenditures associated with the additional sitting days and the Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

Similar to 2012-2013, for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014, an-in year expenditure budget reduction of approximately \$150,000 created challenges for the Legislative Assembly, but was achieved in large part by applying a percentage reduction, based on proposed dollar amount of reduction over total Legislative Assembly 2013-2014 budget, to each of the Legislative Assembly and Statutory Offices. The accompanying Financial Summary shows total actual expenditures of \$13,762,100 based on a revised total budget of \$14,213,100 for the 2013-2014 fiscal year (excluding statutory officers). This compares with total actual expenditures of \$13,737,700 based on a budget of \$14,109,000 for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

**Financial Summary—Legislative Assembly**  
**For the Year Ended March 31, 2014**  
**(in \$ 000s)**

	Budget	Actual
<i>Members' Allowances, Committees and Operations</i>		
Allowances to Members	8 969.0	8 748.5
Legislative Committees	<u>235.0</u>	<u>157.1</u>
Subtotal	9 204.0	8 905.6
<i>Office of the Legislative Assembly</i>		
Legislative Library	423.0	418.3
Office of the Clerk (includes Speaker's Office)	1 497.0	1 438.0
Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner	208.1	217.7
Hansard Office	576.0	570.8
Debates Translation	<u>703.0</u>	<u>699.0</u>
Subtotal	3 407.1	3 343.8
<i>Offices of the Members of Registered Political Parties</i>		
Office of Government Members	637.0	581.2
Office of the Official Opposition	939.0	930.9
Member for Fundy-River Valley	<u>26.0</u>	<u>0.6</u>
Subtotal	1 602.0	1 512.7
<b>Total : Legislative Assembly</b>	<b>14 213.1</b>	<b>13 762.1</b>

Total expenditures for capital repair and restoration of the Legislative Assembly Buildings were approximately \$817,000 in 2013-2014. Major projects included: continuation of the multi-phased roll-out of fire suppression and fire alarm systems upgrades throughout the legislative complex; landscaping and hardscaping of the main front grounds, including the installation of and new surface for driveways and walkways and the addition of security barriers; and the general maintenance and preservation of legislative buildings.

The budgetary process for the Legislative Assembly's 2014-2015 fiscal year provided a challenge by requiring a \$200,000 reduction in the operating budget of the Office of the Legislative Assembly. This budget reduction must be met while maintaining a reasonable level of services to the Members, legislative staff, and the public, as well as providing support services to the statutory officers reporting to the Assembly, despite an increase in the expenditures for translation and interpretation services, televising and recording of House proceedings, and legislative committees. A total operating budget of \$13,370,000 was approved for the Legislative Assembly for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. In addition, the capital budget was decreased slightly to \$550,000, which will allow the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure to continue working on the fire suppression project.



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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 2013-2014 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.

## Human Resource Services Overview

Human Resource Services include the following responsibilities:

- **Personnel Administration**  
Participate in recruitment process and ensure proper classification, compensation and benefits through maintenance of payroll and personnel records. Update and communicate changes to policies and benefits to elected Members and employees.
- **Human Resource Development**  
Facilitate staff training to enable employees to develop professionally and use their capabilities to further both organizational and individual goals.
- **Personnel Policies**  
Develop, maintain and document personnel policies in accordance with the Administration Manual of the Province, Legislative Administration Committee decisions and the unique environment of the Legislative Assembly. Ensure proper communication of personnel policies to all employees.

## Human Resource Services Highlights

In 2014, staff coordinated and participated in the recruitment process for 7 permanent competitions and 3 casual competitions from various statutory and legislative offices. In total, staff administered the commencement of 5 employees and the termination arrangements and details for 3 employees who retired, resigned or otherwise ceased to be employees of the Legislative Assembly.

During the 2014 calendar year, the holding of a provincial general election resulted in the election of 21 new Members, the defeat of 19 Members, 8 Members who did not reoffer, the initiation of a Third Party Member office, the appointment of a new Cabinet 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, the staff administered the payroll, expenses and benefits of newly elected Members, as well as opening their constituency offices and commencing constituency staff. Subsequently, the staff administered the changes in members of the Executive Council (including Premier), Speaker, Deputy Speakers, Leader of Official Opposition, Caucus Chairs, Whips and House Leaders.

Economic and cost of living increases for salaries of employees, and the indemnities and salaries of Members and Ministers were not available for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2014. However, merit increases were processed in 2014, depending on employee anniversary date, performance and current salary level.

A payroll service continued to be provided for the constituency office staff of private Members, whereby constituency office employees of Members were paid bi-weekly using the province's human resources information system. Staff were responsible for commencements, bi-weekly payments, terminations and related documentation, along with the subsequent financial charge-backs to the constituency office allowances of individual Members. During 2014, an average of 56



constituency office staff were paid using this payroll service program for Members.

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, including 13 Pages for the 2013-2014 session and 9 Pages for the 2014-2015 session. Responsibilities included coordination of the employment programs and the commencement (payroll setup and notices of hiring), payment (weekly time sheet input) and subsequent termination (removal from payroll and issuance of ROE) of each of the related employees. There was a significant turnover during the year, with 42 new commencements and 40 terminations processed.

Staff continued to provide support for information in GNB Infosource, the online government directory, for most areas of the Legislative Assembly. The information, listings and database of Members and employees of the Legislative Assembly must be updated in an accurate and timely fashion, to reflect any changes to title or contact information, or resulting from an election. Much of the data is similar to that utilized for human resources and payroll purposes and must be disseminated in accordance with the *Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The posted data must be regularly monitored for information quality and is drawn upon to populate other areas of the government website.

### Human Resource Summary—Legislative Assembly

	<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>Sessional</i>	<i>Wages</i>	<i>Payroll Services Program</i>
<i>Office of the Clerk</i>					
House and Committee Support	5	0	0	0	0
General Administration	0	0	0	1	0
Finance and Human Resources	6	0	0	5	0
Technology	2	0	0	0	0
Sergeant-at-Arms	3	0	1	6	0
Speaker's Office	3	0	0	0	0
<i>Office of the Conflict of Interest</i>					
Commissioner	2	0	0	0	0
<i>Legislative Library</i>	8	0	0	5	0
<i>Hansard Office</i>	8	0	0	3	0
<i>Debates Translation</i>	11	0	0	0	0
<i>Office of Government Members</i>	8	0	0	5	0
<i>Office of the Official Opposition</i>	8	0	0	4	0
<i>Office of the Third Party Member</i>	2	0	0	1	0
<i>Pages and Tour Guides (students)</i>	0	0	16	0	0
<i>Members</i>	0	49	0	0	56
<i>Total</i>	66	49	17	30	56



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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, 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 over the past few years 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 who might not own a computer.

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**

In April, the Library hosted a presentation by Dr. Israel Unger, a Holocaust survivor who moved to New Brunswick many years ago. Dr. Unger had recently co-written a book about his experiences and was introduced on the floor of the Legislature the day of the presentation. Many Members attended the presentation in the Library.

The Library hosted a reception on December 4 for all Members and Legislative Assembly staff. There was a great turnout and it provided an opportunity for Library staff to meet the new Members.

### **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 2014, many publishers, associations, groups and individuals donated materials to the Library.

The Legislative Library is grateful to the following who donated books during the past year:

### **Publishers, Associations, and Groups**

Boutons d'Or Acadie, Communications New Brunswick, Ducks Unlimited, La Grande Marée, Nepisiguit Salmon Association, Office of the Clerk of the Senate, and the UNB Rock & Ice Climbing Club.



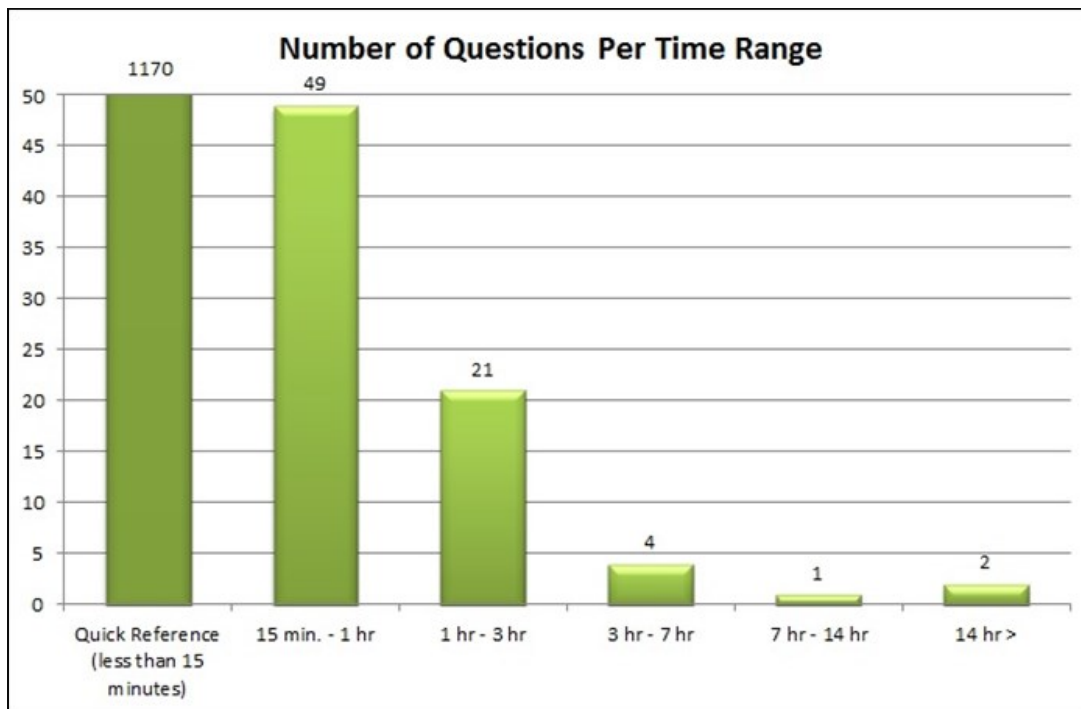
## Individuals

Beste Alpargun, Chuck Bowie, Loredana Catalli Sonier, Roger Grandmaison, Pierre Henri, Anne McCluskey, Diane Mercier-Allain, Shelley Murray, Margie Parker, Francesco Rocca, Richard Saillant, Janet Toole, and Jeannine Watson.

## Reference, Library Services, and Outreach

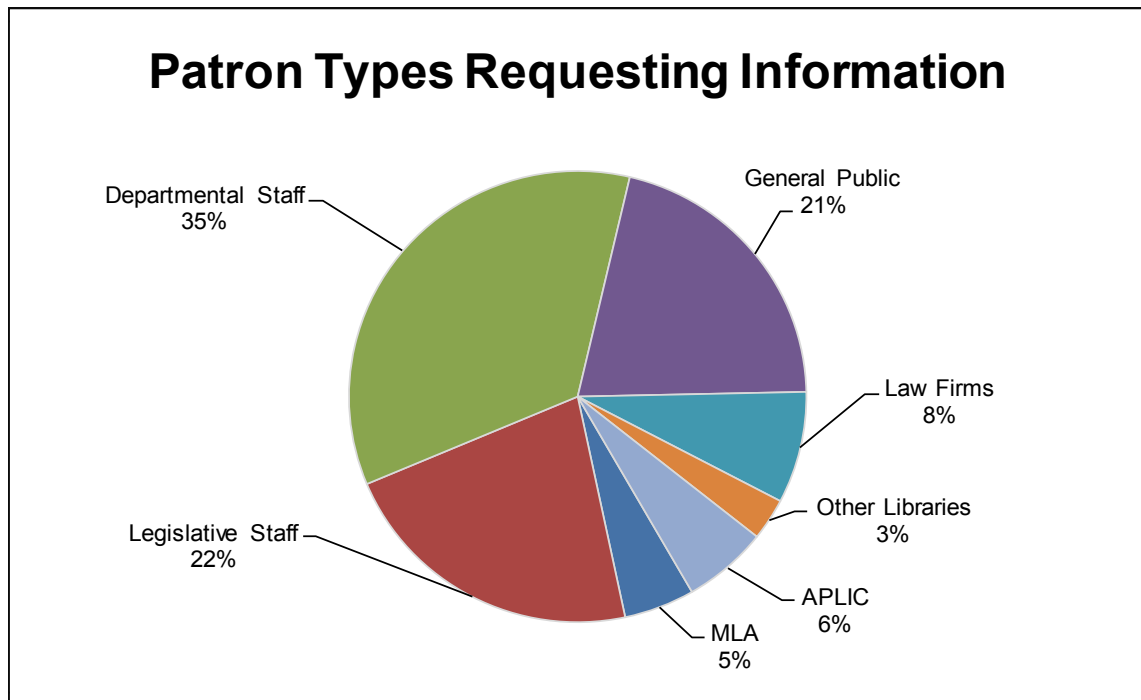
The summer of 2014 was very busy for the Legislative Library. A research team was assembled in order for the Library to meet its new responsibilities under the *Fiscal Transparency and Accountability Act*. This Act required that Legislative Library staff provide costing research related to election promises to all registered parties. As a result of this new mandate the Library was able to hire a permanent full-time researcher. Neill McKay was the successful candidate and began work in late July. Three research assistants were hired from July until the election.

The reference staff were busy in 2014, responding to 1,247 requests. Several of these were large research questions which took 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 registered parties requesting costing research in connection with the *Fiscal Transparency and Accountability Act* are included in these numbers.





The following chart shows a breakdown of the types of patrons requesting information from the Library, in person or otherwise, in 2014.



Two displays were mounted in the Library's display case: one on Lord Beaverbrook and the other on Bruno Bobak.

The Legislative Librarian participated in the orientation session for new Members that was offered in the Legislative Chamber in October. This was the first chance to reach out to new Members and explain the Library's history, collections, and services. Later in the fall the Outreach / Continuous Learning Librarian met individually with each MLA to further discuss library services, and provide them with handouts and a library card.

The inter-library loan service the Library offers was well used in 2014. A total of fifteen requests were sent to other libraries for material on behalf of our patrons. The Library received four loan requests from other libraries wishing to borrow our material.

## 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 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 2014, a total of 399 electronic government documents, including both monographs and annual reports, were added to the repository. To date, over 1,900 documents are available.

Weeding of the Library's huge, defunct collection of Canadian federal government documents continued in 2014. The libraries of the University of New Brunswick continue to be the main beneficiaries of the weeding.



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## Initiatives

In the spring, the Library completed an update to its Koha online catalogue system. This most recent update included a number of enhancements for viewing the catalogue on mobile devices.

In the spring, Library staff designed a new welcome sign for outside the Legislative Assembly building. The sign includes background information on the building, the hours of operation, and several pictures of the inside. It was installed before the Victoria Day weekend.

During the spring and summer, the Library staff designed, built and activated its first interactive digital kiosk for visitors to the Legislature. This kiosk, located at the entrance to the Library, allows users to explore prominent historical events of the Legislature and offers an informative virtual tour of the many points of interest within the building. The kiosk has proven very popular with visitors and more content is planned for the coming year.

The Library staff also designed a new official tourist brochure for the Legislature. This brochure acts as a guide for visitors, with floor plans and information about many of the interesting locations and featured elements inside the Legislature. Initial design work was also completed on a second brochure detailing the history of the Legislature's Speakers.

In the fall, the Library produced an outreach booklet for new Members to inform them about the services it offers. The booklet also includes information on the history and role of the Library, instructions on how to contact Library staff for specific types of requests, overviews of the collections, and tips on using the online catalogue.

Finally, the Library has continued with its private act digitization project, having finished many of the remaining sessions. The goal is to have completed all scanning and metadata work for 1893 to the present by spring 2015.





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## HANSARD OFFICE

### *Official Reporter — Linda Fahey*

Thomas Hansard, who was a printer and publisher of the Debates of the British Parliament in the early 1800s, initially based the content of the debates on press reports and then on the reports of his staff. In time, he added his surname to the title page of the debates, which led to his name eventually being adopted by most jurisdictions in the British Commonwealth to refer to their official reports. The New Brunswick Hansard Office records and publishes print and electronic versions of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly in both official languages and records and distributes transcripts of the standing and select committees.

### **Recording and Console Operation**

Hansard staff operate the sound and recording consoles throughout sittings of the House and committees and for special events. Details of each event are registered by staff in primary and backup digital recording systems located in the Hansard Office. The resulting audio recordings, in the form of five-minute takes, are accessed for transcription through software that resides on staff computers.

During console operation, staff dub speakers' names and other useful narrative and assemble electronic logs of the proceedings, which they post to the Legislative Assembly network. With the assistance of the Pages, staff procure documents that have been referenced during the sitting as well as the names of guests who have been introduced. Staff who are transcribing the audio and editing the transcripts rely on the dubbing, logs, and documentation to achieve a quick turnaround time of accurate transcripts.

In 2014, Hansard staff attended, recorded, and logged 381 hours of House and committee proceedings: 296.5 hours during 58 sittings of the House and 84.5 hours during 29 committee meetings. Departmental estimates were considered and voted during Committee of Supply and also during 12 meetings of the Standing Committee on Estimates, 5 meetings of the Standing Committee on Health Care, and 6 meetings of the Standing Committee on Education. By motion carried, the transcripts of those particular 23 committee meetings were included in the *Journal of Debates (Hansard)*.

### **Transcript Production**

Hansard staff transcribe five-minute audio takes into "blues", which are those transcripts that have had a first edit, and then combine all five-minute blues into one transcript. Staff then proofread and edit the complete transcript, create tables of contents, and append opening pages to produce a "finalized" transcript. After the finalized transcripts have been translated by Debates Translation staff, the original transcripts and the translated versions are merged and formatted into two-column bound volumes.

Throughout 2014, Hansard staff focused on producing transcripts of the 2013-14 and 2014-15 daily sittings and committee meetings. By year's end, staff had transcribed and edited approximately 2.7 million words, 2.1 million words of House proceedings and 566 229 words of committee proceedings.



2014 TRANSCRIPTION COMPLETED			
TRANSCRIPTS	ENGLISH	FRENCH	TOTAL
House Word Counts	1 557 235 (74%)	537 001 (26%)	2 094 236
Committee Word Counts	429 870 (76%)	136 359 (24%)	566 229

Staff produced 63 finalized daily sitting transcripts: 18 transcripts from the remaining backlog year, 2003-04; 44 transcripts from 2012-13, including 20 appended estimates-related committee transcripts; and 1 transcript from 2013-14. As well, staff completed transcripts, in blues format, of several committee meetings.

During sittings of the House, the completion of full daily sittings transcripts is suspended while staff produce transcripts of question period, condolences and messages of sympathy, introduction of guests, messages of congratulation and recognition, and requests for transcripts. Fifty-one issues of question period were transcribed, edited, posted to the Legislative Assembly network, and e-mailed to a distribution list of recipients within approximately three hours of question period ending, and every message transcript was transcribed, edited, and posted to the intranet on the day of delivery or soon thereafter.

Throughout the year, staff responded to 280 requests for transcripts, 172 requests for House transcripts and 108 requests for committee transcripts, and filled 45% of the requests on the same day. The Legislative Library assisted with the provision of requested transcripts and contacted the Hansard Office on behalf of clients for only those transcripts not yet posted on the network. Hansard staff use a database to track transcript requests, which are provided to recipients through e-mail.

## Research

To ensure the integrity of the transcripts, staff undertake research and seek information required from other sources. In 2014, the office continually sought and received an increased number of electronic documents, from which data could be copied into transcripts, thus eliminating much retyping. Hard copies of documents received were scanned into electronic format for access by those transcribing, again, reducing retyping.

All documents, paper and electronic, are checked against delivery by the transcription staff so that the transcripts always reflect the spoken words. Electronic and paper research documents are kept on file for further reference during the processing of transcripts. Once the transcripts of a session have been finalized, the reference material is forwarded to the Debates Translation Office so that the translators can also use the documents collected and research obtained by Hansard staff.

## Professional Activities—Hansard Association of Canada

The role of the Hansard Association of Canada 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 provide assistance regarding Hansard production, and to inform and educate others about Hansard.

The New Brunswick Hansard Office remained active in the association by contributing to the annual newsletter, responding to queries through the Hansard Listserv, and participating in the annual conference.



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## Human Resources and Activities

Hansard staff were involved in the recruitment and training of several new employees throughout the year. Extensive training was planned and undertaken with respect to transcription, editing, research, console operation, and office procedures.

Staff also maintained the in-house reference materials and records of House business, which are used extensively by staff during transcript production. Staff met regularly to plan for upcoming sittings and events and to implement, review, and refine work systems. Colleagues were kept informed of the progress being made on all segments of Hansard production.

Hansard staff also operated the console at ceremonies, conferences, and special events hosted by the Legislative Assembly, including swearing-in ceremonies for Cabinet and for Members of the Legislative Assembly, Duke of Edinburgh Awards, the Student Legislative Seminar, the Queen's Counsel ceremony, the Canada Cord ceremony, and meetings concerning Partners for Youth.

In the fall, following the provincial election, the Official Reporter participated in the orientation session for newly elected Members of the Legislative Assembly by making a presentation about Hansard.

After a very productive year in which the transcript backlog, developed in the early nineties, was eliminated, staff look forward to keeping abreast of the work to be completed on current sessions.



## DEBATES TRANSLATION

### *Chief Translator — Aurella Losier-Vienneau*

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

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

### Introduction

There were 58 daily sittings in 2014, including 46 daily sittings in the fourth session of the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature and 12 daily sittings in the first session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature, compared to 67 daily sittings in 2013.

### House

Objective: to translate the records and Journals of Legislative Assembly proceedings (Hansard and Journal), as well as motions introduced in the House, the *Order and Notice Paper*, written questions, Speaker’s rulings, and other documents.

Translation of Hansard accounted for almost 56% of the workload in 2014, representing a 15% decrease in comparison with 2013. Hansard translation into English accounts for 30% of this figure.

Table 1 provides comparative statistics on the number of words for the past five sessions.

Table 1: Comparative Statistics for Sessions					
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Days	68	58	55	58	70
Words	1 797 859*	2 031 901*	2 204 380*	2 049 010*	2 627 731*

\* Estimates

In 2014, translation of the daily Journal represented 4% of the workload, a 25% decrease from 2013; translation is usually completed shortly after the session ends. The decrease is due to the fact that there were fewer daily sittings. The Order Paper and notices of motion accounted for more than 15.5% of the workload; they are translated the same day.

### Members of the Legislative Assembly

Objective: to translate, as resources allow, statements and speeches delivered in the House by members, including Cabinet ministers and opposition members. 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 debate on the speech from the throne, 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.

Translation for Members of the Legislative Assembly accounted for 13% of the total workload. The number of words translated decreased by 22% from the previous year.

During the 58 daily sittings in 2014, 348 requests for translation of speeches and statements were processed, for a total of 795 pages. This represents a 12% decrease in the number of requests compared to 2013. Documents translated included the budget speech for the fourth session of the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature and the speech from the throne for the first session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature, as well as 289 statements and 49 speeches given in the House by ministers or private members. The average speech length was 7.2 pages. Translation for Cabinet ministers accounted for 96% of the workload. Approximately 96% of the translation was into French.

During the intersession, written translation services provided for both government and opposition members included correspondence and press releases. The number of words indicated in Table 2 represents the translation of press releases related to the budget speech and throne speech, as well as requests from members' offices and other branches of the Legislative Assembly.

<b>Table 2: Debates Translation Output, in words 2014 Calendar Year (rounded figures)</b>	
HOUSE	
Notice of Motions and Order Paper	237 000
Journal	63 000
Hansard <sup>1</sup>	857 000
MEMBERS	
Speeches and Statements	196 000
Correspondence and press releases	3 000
COMMITTEES	29 000
OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY	138 000
TOTAL <sup>2</sup>	1 523 000

<sup>1</sup> Includes a carryover of approximately 830 800 words (31% of 2003-04 Hansard, 6% of 2004-05 Hansard, as well as Sitting 27 of 2013-14, and Sitting 4 of 2014-15) from the previous year.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes a carryover of approximately 24.8 million words (45% of 2003-04 Hansard, 94% of 2004-05 Hansard, 100% of 2005-06 Hansard, 100% of 2007 Hansard, 100% of 2007-08 Hansard, 100% of 2008-09 Hansard, 100% of 2009-10 Hansard, 100% of 2010-11 Hansard, 100% of 2011-12 Hansard, 100% of 2012-13 Hansard, 100% of 2013-14 Hansard, and Sittings 1 to 12 of 2014-15) into the next year.

Translation for Members of the Legislative Assembly is generally done on the same day or the day after, as resources allow.

## Committees

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

Translation for committees represented 19% of the total workload, which is a significant increase over 2013, due to the increased demand related to work of the Legislative Administration Committee and the Standing Committee on Procedure.



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## Office of the Legislative Assembly

Objective: to translate 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, as well as correspondence, disclosure statements, and reports for the Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

Translation for the Office of the Legislative Assembly represented 9% of the total workload. The number of words translated increased by 70% from 2013, due to increased demand from the Office of the Clerk after the election was called and from the Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner. Documents translated during the year included the *Orientation Manual* and the annual report of the Legislative Assembly, as well as the annual report and three reports on investigations and inquiries by the Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

### Human Resources

The Debates Translation team includes 4 autonomous translators, 2 intermediate translators, and 2 junior translators, as well as the Chief Translator and an executive secretary.

The Debates Translation offices were closed from January 6 to 23 because of damage to Edgemonte House caused by ice buildup on the roof and torrential rains. Special heaters and fans had to be set up to dry the premises before work was undertaken to do repairs in the entry and three offices. In the meantime, staff worked from home.

During the year, work continued on training new staff to ensure continuity of services. Also, a guide to translating the Journal is being developed by Lynn Lefebvre with the assistance of Alain Sauvageau.

Rebecca Colborne attended workshops during the year on strategies for assisting employees, time management and organizational skills, building relationships at work, and leading and coaching individuals and teams.

In April, a Grade 10 student from École Sainte-Anne spent the day job shadowing with Valérie Roy as part of the English course curriculum.

In August, Sonia Wilson became a certified translator in the English-to-French language combination with the Corporation of Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters of New Brunswick. She received a promotion in December and is now an autonomous translator.

In late October, Rebecca Colborne met with a delegation from Wales to discuss bilingualism, parliamentary translation, and the requirements that must be met in a bilingual New Brunswick.

Staff members continued to show considerable devotion during the session by working nights, often until the early hours of the morning, and weekends, after a full work week, to ensure that members received timely, true, and accurate translations of their statements and speeches.

### Conclusion

In 2014, production totalled more than 1.5 million words, which represents a 9% decrease from the preceding year due to the increased complexity of procedural documents and investigation reports dealt with by a reduced staff throughout the better part of the year. In addition, about 900 translation requests were processed, which represents an 11% decrease from 2013. Requests for prompt translation made by telephone or email are not tallied but are becoming more frequent each year.



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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 2.09 million words, compared to 2.48 million words in the previous year, a decrease of 16%.
- Hansard translation output totaled 0.86 million words, compared to 1.01 million words in the previous year, a decrease of 15%.
- During the year in review, demand exceeded output by 1.23 million words, compared to 1.47 million words in the previous year. Over the past five years, demand has exceeded output by an average 1.09 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 17.83 years earlier than the published volumes.
- At year’s end, translation of dailies up to May 12, 2004, was posted on the internal network of the Legislative Assembly.
- A total of 600 Hansard dailies in dual-column PDF format are available for the 1993 to 2003-04 sessions, including 21 replies to the throne speech and budget speech up to December 2014. These finalized, translated dailies can be viewed, printed, and are fully searchable electronically.



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

#### **Results**

- The Hansard translation backlog rose by 1.24 million words, compared to 1.47 million words during the previous year, a decrease of 15%.
- During the year in review, 58 new daily sittings occurred, while translation of 27 sitting days was completed, for a net backlog increase of 31 sitting days, compared to 41 sitting days in the previous year.
- Hansard translation was trailing by 127 months (or 640 dailies), compared to 120 months (or 609 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 50 000 research findings that pertain mostly to national and provincial organizations and programs. All entries are fully referenced, and some provide hyperlinks. The *Parliamentary Stylebook* was also updated.

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

#### **Conclusion**

Translation of House proceedings is conducted in concert with the nine other parliamentary translators and the executive secretary 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 components or branches of the Legislative Assembly Office are the Office of the Government Members, the Office of the Official Opposition, and the Office of the Leader of the Third Party.

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

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**

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

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

Under the Act, funding is approved annually for the leaders of registered political parties represented in the House (Leader of the Opposition and Third Party Leader) to be used for salaries of staff, salaries and expenses of the leaders, and other expenses related to the operation of the respective offices.

### **Research and Administrative Support**

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

### **Office of Government Members**

The 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 to support the elected Members of the Official Opposition Caucus. The offices of the Members and staff of the Official Opposition are located in the Old Education Building.

### **Office of the Leader of the Third Party**

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