



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

ORDER AND NOTICE PAPER – Sitting No. 5
Wednesday, November 9, 2016

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS

Resuming the adjourned debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

Debate interrupted due to expiration of time.

Debate to resume on Wednesday, November 9, 2016.

GOVERNMENT BILLS FOR SECOND READING

Bills Ordered for Second Reading

- Bill 2, An Act to Repeal An Act to Comply with the Request of The City of Saint John on Taxation of the LNG Terminal - Hon. Dr. Doherty
 Bill 3, An Act Respecting Government Reorganization - Hon. Mr. Doucet
 Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Adult Education and Training Act - Hon. Mr. Arseneault
 Bill 5, An Act Respecting Cost of Credit Disclosure and Payday Loans - Hon. Ms. Rogers
 Bill 6, An Act to Amend the Gas Distribution Act, 1999 - Hon. Mr. Doucet

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Debatable Motions

Motion 1 by Mr. Higgs, seconded by Mr. Crossman to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 10, 2016:

WHEREAS only 20 percent of grade six Anglophone students are at an appropriate or higher level in mathematics according to provincial assessment results;

WHEREAS only 49 percent of grade ten Francophone students are at an appropriate or higher level in mathematics path A;

WHEREAS only 56 percent of grade four Francophone students are reading at an appropriate level;

WHEREAS grade two Anglophone student reading levels have been declining over the past number of years;

WHEREAS the current government's ten year education plan contained no details, no goals, no measurements and no accountability mechanisms, as well as no suggestions for major overhauls of the education system, and the government has done little to move the education file forward in this province;

WHEREAS educators are expressing concern that changes to the French Immersion program are based on political promises and not research evidence;

WHEREAS the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development stated that private tutors are an important part of the education system, which leaves out rural New Brunswickers who do not have equal access to private tutors;

WHEREAS teachers feel they are not allowed to speak up about potential improvements to the system because of employment rules and the lack of meaningful consultation;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development to take responsibility for the crisis in education;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to work with educators and parents in developing solutions.

Motion 2 by Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Fitch to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 10, 2016:

WHEREAS the government has increased income tax;
 WHEREAS the government has increased business property tax;
 WHEREAS the government has increased gas tax;
 WHEREAS the government has increased diesel tax;
 WHEREAS the government has increased tobacco tax;
 WHEREAS the government has increased corporate income tax;
 WHEREAS the government has increased property transfer tax;
 WHEREAS the government has increased bank tax;
 WHEREAS the government has increased Harmonized Sales Tax;
 WHEREAS the government eliminated tuition tax credits;
 WHEREAS the government wants to implement carbon tax;
 WHEREAS the government is considering a sugar tax;

WHEREAS the government has found over \$500 million in revenue sources and has still failed to balance the budget;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to place a moratorium on any further tax increases.

Motion 3 by Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. K. MacDonald to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 10, 2016:

WHEREAS the softwood lumber agreement between Canada and the United States of America has expired and the two countries are in the midst of negotiations for a new agreement;

WHEREAS 83 percent of New Brunswick's land base is forested and about half of that is Crown forest;

WHEREAS the forest industry in New Brunswick employs over 22,000 people;

WHEREAS the forest industry in New Brunswick contributes over \$1.45 billion to the economy annually;

WHEREAS New Brunswickers have a vested interest in the negotiations of a new softwood lumber agreement;

WHEREAS impositions of tariffs and trade caps with the United States could pose a significant risk to New Brunswick's economy;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to meet with the federal government to continue to promote New Brunswick interests with regard to the negotiations of a new softwood lumber agreement.

Motion 4 by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Fairgrieve to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 10, 2016:

WHEREAS the Auditor General is responsible for leading and directing independent audits and advising on how well the provincial government is managing its responsibilities and resources;

WHEREAS the Auditor General conducts financial audits of government services and programs to support the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements submitted to government and the public;

WHEREAS the Auditor General conducts performance audits of government services and programs, providing a systematic and objective assessment of how well government is managing its activities, responsibilities and resources;

WHEREAS the Auditor General conducts special examination of our Crown Corporations, providing assurance that their assets are safeguarded, their resources are managed economically and efficiently and their operations are carried out effectively;

WHEREAS government spent considerable time and effort on a Strategic Program Review, but refused more resources to the Auditor General, even though it is this office that performs financial, performance and special reviews of government services, and provides recommendations to government to improve these practices;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to start supporting the Auditor General's office, and allowing additional performance audits and special investigations to be conducted, so that we can reach the goal of a balanced budget and better taxpayer protection.

Motion 5 by Mr. Urquhart, seconded by Mr. Savoie to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 10, 2016:

WHEREAS 30 percent of New Brunswick's forests are privately owned;

WHEREAS silviculture is a productive means to increase wood fibre while maintaining the same amount of trees;

WHEREAS many silvicultural practices help combat climate change through carbon sequestration;

WHEREAS the current government has increased revenues with over \$500 million worth of tax increases;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to reprioritize its spending and reinvest the dollars cut from the silviculture program back into silviculture;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to reinstate the budget for private woodlot silviculture activities.

Motion 6 by Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. Keirstead to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 17, 2016:

WHEREAS the government tables each year its Main Estimates and its public accounts of government expenses and revenues;

WHEREAS revenues foregone through tax expenditures including tax credits and tax exemptions are not currently included in the expenses of the government's Main Estimates;

WHEREAS international organizations including the International Monetary Fund and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development promote public sector accounting standards that require governments to report tax expenditures;

WHEREAS other jurisdictions within Canada, including British Columbia and the Government of Canada report tax expenditures annually;

WHEREAS it is the responsibility of government to be accountable to the people it represents;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to include in its main estimates the total revenue foregone as a result of tax expenditures each fiscal year, beginning with 2017-2018.

PETITIONS

Petition 1: Mr. Crossman, November 3, 2016.

Petition 2: Mr. Crossman, November 3, 2016.

REPORTS/DOCUMENTS

Tabled in the House

1. Correspondence dated November 8, 2016, between Gregory G. Harding, on behalf of the Province of New Brunswick as represented by the Minister of Energy and Resource Development, and David Duncan Young;
2. Settlement Agreement between the Province of New Brunswick and Enbridge Gas New Brunswick; and
3. Amended and Restated General Franchise Agreement between the Province of New Brunswick, Enbridge Gas New Brunswick, Enbridge Energy Distribution, and Enbridge.

(Tabled by Hon. Mr. Doucet November 8, 2016)

Filed in the Clerk's Office

Annual Report 2015-2016, New Brunswick Liquor Corporation

(Filed November 8, 2016)

Donald J. Forestell
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly