
Daily sitting 2

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Chris Collins, recognized the appointment of Sgt. Major Gilles Côté as the new Sergeant-at-Arms.

Mr. Speaker introduced the new pages for the session: Brandon Robinson, Fredericton; Deepigha Shree Vittal Babu, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India; Sarah Albert-Bélanger, Saint-François-de-Madawaska; Jarrod Ryan, Fredericton; Natasha Williamson, Coningsby, England; Drew McConnell, Fredericton; Matt Thompson, Fredericton; Erik Arsenault, Saint-Louis-de-Kent; Ellen Hiltz, New Ross, Nova Scotia; Julie Roberge, Ottawa, Ontario.

The returning pages are: Phoebe Marmura Brown, Fredericton; Corben Parker, Fredericton; Alex Robichaud, Laval, Québec.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to extend the time allotted for Oral Questions by fifteen minutes.

Mr. Speaker laid upon the table of the House the *Independent Auditor's Report on the financial statements of the Office of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2017*.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Bourque,

Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act*.

By Hon. Mr. LePage,

Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the Public Service Labour Relations Act*.

Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Bourque,

Bill 5, *An Act Respecting Extra-Mural Services*.

By Hon. Mr. Fraser,

Bill 6, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*.

By Hon. Ms. Rogers,

Bill 7, *An Act to Amend the Pension Benefits Act*.

Bill 8, *An Act Respecting the Financial and Consumer Services Tribunal*.

By Hon. Mr. Rousselle, Q.C.,

Bill 9, *An Act Respecting Canadian Geodetic Vertical Datum*.

By Mr. Coon,

Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*.

Mr. Wetmore gave Notice of Motion 1 that on Thursday, November 2, 2017, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Northrup:

WHEREAS there is considerable public concern regarding glyphosate spraying in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS there is conflicting public and scientific information as to the use of glyphosate in our forestry sector;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to immediately form a working group on glyphosate, comprised of the Departments of Health, Public Safety, Environment, and Energy and Resource Development with stakeholders from outside of government, that would provide a report to the Legislative Assembly with recommendations for government, within nine months;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to suspend the spraying of glyphosate on New Brunswick Crown lands until such time as the working group has tabled their report and recommendations have been submitted to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick.

Mr. MacDonald gave Notice of Motion 2 that on Thursday, November 2, 2017, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Shephard:

WHEREAS neighbouring jurisdictions like Nova Scotia have explored policies to aid in limiting young adults' alcohol consumption, which sometimes takes the form of a drinking game;

WHEREAS the tragic and senseless death of Brady Grattan due to alcohol misuse should not be in vain and this experience should be passed along to others with a hope to create preventative measures against alcohol-related harms through increased awareness;

WHEREAS some universities have already taken partial steps to curtail the improper consumption of alcohol on their campuses and among their student bodies;

WHEREAS every person should be aware of the dangers of alcohol consumption through binge drinking, drinking games and other misuses of alcohol;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to put a high school program in place where students are informed of the dangers of excess consumption of alcohol and students are also informed of alcohol safety and precautionary measures;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to send each high school graduate a bulletin containing alcohol consumption safety information prior to the time they leave the public school system to promote public awareness and prevent heartbreaking and unnecessary deaths or harms related to alcohol.

Mr. Northrup gave Notice of Motion 3 that on Thursday, November 2, 2017, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Jeff Carr:

WHEREAS the tourism sector in New Brunswick is an important part of our fabric;

WHEREAS hundreds of thousands of tourists visit our province each year;

WHEREAS camping enthusiasts make up a significant portion of the tourists each year;

WHEREAS some of those camping enthusiasts like to travel with multiple vehicles and trailers in order to have the vastest experience to explore all the beautiful parts of our province;

WHEREAS other provinces in Canada allow for the towing combination of more than two vehicles on their highways and roads;

WHEREAS New Brunswick does not currently allow a combination of more than two vehicles, which creates a barrier to interprovincial travel;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the government to change acts and regulations to allow combinations of two or more vehicles, for recreational purposes, on main highways; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the government to maintain a length limit as well as other safety precautions, to account for the safety of all those travelling on the roads.

Mr. Urquhart gave Notice of Motion 4 that on Thursday, November 2, 2017, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Oliver:

WHEREAS the sport of curling has a long history in Canada, introduced in the early 1800s by Scottish immigrants with now more than 1000 curling clubs across Canada, and an official Olympic sport;

WHEREAS curling has physical health benefits, including cardiovascular activity, improved balance and eye-hand coordination;

WHEREAS curling is an inclusive sport, open to men and women of all ages and abilities, it is adaptable to those with physical disabilities with aids such as delivery sticks and chairs;

WHEREAS curling is a social sport, designed to get families out of their homes in the cold of winter for physical and social activity;

WHEREAS curling clubs in New Brunswick are run by not-for-profit groups in all regions of the province, promoting community involvement and participation;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urges the government to declare the third week of January every year as “New Brunswick Curling Week”;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all members of this Legislative Assembly visit the curling clubs in their area during that week, and the rest of winter to promote and encourage the local curling clubs.

Mr. Wetmore gave Notice of Motion 5 that on Thursday, November 2, 2017, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Oliver:

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Association of Optometrists has stated that research shows eighty percent of a child’s learning is visual;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Association of Optometrists has also stated that studies show only fourteen percent of Canadian children entering the primary school system receive professional eye care;

WHEREAS the Canadian Association of Optometrists state that studies show the earlier a vision problem is diagnosed and treated, the less negative impact it will have on a child's development;

WHEREAS the Canadian Association of Optometrists also state that an important component of early detection and treatment of eye and vision problems is for all children to receive a professional vision examination before entering school;

WHEREAS the province of New Brunswick's program, "Healthy Smiles, Clear Vision" already offers a vision program to children of low income families;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to offer free professional eye exams for all children before they become of school age, and that it become mandatory to be tested before entering elementary school.

Mr. Jeff Carr gave Notice of Motion 6 that on Thursday, November 2, 2017, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. MacDonald:

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Women's institute supports cameras on school buses to catch drivers that do not stop;

WHEREAS school bus cameras are widely used throughout Canada, and more particularly, in our neighbouring provinces of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia;

WHEREAS careless drivers put students' safety at risk by failing to stop for school buses;

WHEREAS video footage would help law enforcement apprehend drivers who do not stop for school buses by recording license plate numbers and providing evidence of the infraction;

WHEREAS the safety of our children, when being transported to and from school by bus drivers who do tremendous work and provide excellent service, is of utmost importance to all New Brunswick parents;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to put a school bus camera program in place, where cameras are placed on the outside of buses for the purposes of capturing license plate images and evidence to report to law enforcement officials;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Assembly urges the current government to allow registered owners of vehicles to be charged for failing to stop for a school bus if they are not willing to give law enforcement officials the name of the driver who failed to stop.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Doucet, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

RESOLVED, that Bernard LeBlanc, Member for the electoral district of Memramcook-Tantramar, be appointed Deputy Speaker.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Doucet moved, seconded by Mr. Higgs: (Motion 7)

WHEREAS the role of the Sergeant-at-Arms in serving Parliament originates more than 500 years ago in medieval England and France;

AND WHEREAS the Sergeant-at-Arms is a senior officer of the House responsible for enforcing the Speaker's directives relating to order and decorum on the floor of the Assembly and in the public galleries, overseeing security services in the legislative precinct and assuming the role of guardian of the parliamentary mace;

AND WHEREAS, in accordance with its authority under subsection 41(1) of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, the Legislative Administration Committee has appointed Gilles Côté as Sergeant-at-Arms;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly does hereby confirm the appointment of Gilles Côté as Sergeant-at-Arms of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick.

And the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Hon. Mr. Doucet gave Notice of Motion 8 that on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Hon. Mr. Fraser:

THAT unless otherwise provided by Standing Rule or Special Order of the House, the Legislative Assembly adopt the following sessional calendar for the Fourth Session of the Fifty-Eighth Legislature:

Tuesday, October 24 to Friday, October 27, 2017, inclusive;
Tuesday, October 31 to Friday, November 3, 2017, inclusive;
Tuesday, November 7 to Friday, November 10, 2017, inclusive;
Tuesday, November 14 to Friday, November 17, 2017, inclusive;

Tuesday, December 5 to Friday, December 8, 2017, inclusive;
Tuesday, December 12 to Friday, December 15, 2017, inclusive;
Tuesday, December 19 to Friday, December 22, 2017, inclusive;
Tuesday, January 30 to Friday, February 2, 2018, inclusive;
Tuesday, February 6 to Friday, February 9, 2018, inclusive;
Tuesday, March 13 to Friday, March 16, 2018, inclusive;
Tuesday, March 20 to Friday, March 23, 2018, inclusive;
Tuesday, March 27 to Thursday, March 29, 2018, inclusive;

THAT during certain weeks in which the Assembly is adjourned, the following dates are available for committees to meet:

Tuesday, November 21 to Friday, November 24, 2017, inclusive;
Tuesday, November 28 to Friday, December 1, 2017, inclusive;
Tuesday, January 9 to Friday, January 12, 2018, inclusive;
Tuesday, January 16 to Friday, January 19, 2018, inclusive;
Tuesday, January 23 to Friday, January 26, 2018, inclusive;
Tuesday, February 13 to Friday, February 16, 2018, inclusive;
Tuesday, February 20 to Friday, February 23, 2018, inclusive;
Tuesday, February 27 to Friday, March 2, 2018, inclusive;

THAT notwithstanding the above dates available to committees, the chairs of committees may continue to call meetings with appropriate notice on dates of their choosing;

THAT when the Assembly adjourns on Thursday, March 29, 2018, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, November 6, 2018;

PROVIDED ALWAYS THAT if it appears to the satisfaction of Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the Government, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during any period of adjournment, Mr. Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied and in such notice shall state a time at which the House shall meet, and thereupon the House shall meet at the time so stated and shall transact its business as if it had been duly adjourned to that time, and

THAT in the event of Mr. Speaker being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, either of the Deputy Speakers shall act in his stead for the purpose of this order.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. Doucet moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Horsman: (Motion 9)

THAT notwithstanding Standing Rule 29(1), the time for the daily meeting and adjournment of the sitting of the Assembly on Fridays shall be as follows:

Friday 9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m.

THAT this Special Order shall remain in effect during the remainder of the Fourth Session of the Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly.

And the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Hon. Mr. Doucet gave notice that on Friday, October 27, 2017, Bills 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 would be called for second reading.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to allow Mr. Jeff Carr to withdraw and resubmit Notice of Motion 6 without the first whereas clause.

And then, 12.10 p.m., the House adjourned.