Daily sitting 4

Friday, October 27, 2017

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Oliver, Member for Kings Centre, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of students of Harbour View High School in opposition to contracting food services to Chartwells. (Petition 1)

Mr. Holder, Member for Portland-Simonds, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of students of Harbour View High School in opposition to contracting food services to Chartwells. (Petition 2)

Ms. Shephard, Member for Saint John Lancaster, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of students of Harbour View High School in opposition to contracting food services to Chartwells. (Petition 3)

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Ms. Harris,

Bill 11, Transparency in Election Commitments Act.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 10 that on Thursday, November 2, 2017, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Holder:

WHEREAS the Legislature is accountable to the people of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS it is important for a legislative committee to have the power to question witnesses and obtain expert advice;

WHEREAS the Canadian Audit and Accountability Foundation recommended that Public Accounts Committees should have the power to subpoena witnesses if they refuse to appear, and call for the production of documents;

WHEREAS the Nova Scotia Public Accounts Committee has the power to send for persons, papers and records, and to examine witnesses under oath;

WHEREAS the standing committees of the Parliament of Canada have the power to send for persons, papers and records;

WHEREAS the House can authorize a committee to call for persons, papers and records;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Public Accounts Committee, Crown Corporations Committee, Economic Policy Committee and Social Policy Committee be authorized by the Legislative Assembly to call for persons, papers and documents.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 11 that on Thursday, November 2, 2017, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Holder:

WHEREAS Legislative Officers should be accountable to the Legislative Assembly and the people of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS a 2011 Legislative Assembly report recommended that Legislative Officers appear annually before committee to answer questions about their annual reports;

WHEREAS the Standing Rules of the New Brunswick Legislature state that reports to the House of Legislative Officers stand permanently referred to the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers;

WHEREAS the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers provides a forum through which the Legislative Officers are accountable to the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS in 2017 only one Legislative Officer has reported to the Committee;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT Legislative Officers, except for the Auditor General who already appears before the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, be required by the Legislative Assembly to appear annually before the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers to answer questions on their annual reports and any other reports filed with the Legislature.

Hon. Mr. Doucet gave notice that on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, Bill 11 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Doucet, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

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

At 10.02 a.m., Mr. Deputy Speaker declared a recess and left the chair.

10.07 a.m.

Mr. Deputy Speaker resumed the chair.

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mr. Albert, seconded by Mr. Guitard:

THAT the following Address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to offer the humble thanks of this House to Her Honour for the gracious speech which she has been pleased to make to the Legislative Assembly, namely:

Fredericton, N.B. October 24, 2017.

To Her Honour, The Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick.

May It Please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

And after some time, Ms. LeBlanc took the chair.

Madam Deputy Speaker cautioned Mr. Wetmore against alleging the government "cheated" New Brunswickers.

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

And then, 2.15 p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2016-2017 Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission

October 26, 2017