

Daily sitting 2

Wednesday, November 21, 2018
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

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

With leave of the House, Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Holder: (Motion 1)

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 Fifty-Ninth Legislative Assembly.

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

On motion of Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Thursday, November 22, 2018, at 11 a.m.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to revert to Notices of Motions.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 2 that on Thursday, November 29, 2018, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneau:

WHEREAS the World Health Organization deemed glyphosate “probably carcinogenic to humans” in 2015;

WHEREAS there is increasing scientific evidence of the risk glyphosate poses to the health of our forest ecosystems and wildlife;

WHEREAS I and the member for Restigouche West tabled one of the largest petitions in the history of the Legislative Assembly with over 34,000 signatures asking for the spraying to end;

WHEREAS \$2.5 million tax dollars were used to pay for spraying glyphosate on Crown lands in 2017;

WHEREAS Agent Orange was approved by the provincial government to spray over forest plantations and under power lines right up until it was banned by the federal government, and replaced with glyphosate;

WHEREAS Québec has banned the use of glyphosate for forestry operations;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to ban the spraying of glyphosate and other herbicides over our forests and under our powerlines.

Ms. Mitton gave Notice of Motion 3 that on Thursday, November 29, 2018, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Coon:

WHEREAS there was no evaluation of Medavie's previous contract to provide ambulance services;

WHEREAS there were 7,500 instances of ambulances being pulled off the road in 2017, a 55% increase over 2016;

WHEREAS there have been three deaths in northern New Brunswick, including two in Saint-Quentin, since August 2016 when ambulances have taken more than 20 minutes to arrive on scene;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to transfer the management of Ambulance New Brunswick to Horizon and Vitalité health authorities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to immediately ensure that the number of ambulances per community is based on a community needs assessment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to immediately ensure that the deployment of ambulances be community-based not provincial in terms of territorial coverage.

Mr. Arseneau gave Notice of Motion 4 that on Thursday, November 29, 2018, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

WHEREAS the 2018 New Brunswick General Election produced a minority government where the proportion of Members elected to the Legislative Assembly does not reflect the proportion of votes received by each party in the election;

WHEREAS Fair Vote Canada found that Legislatures using proportional representation are more stable, as there is no incentive for calling a quick election in order to gain a majority government;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Commission on Legislative Democracy, established in 2003 by PC Premier Bernard Lord, designed and recommended a Mixed-Member Proportional Representation system for New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the 2017 Commission on Electoral Reform recommended that the government consider some form of proportional representation;

WHEREAS a recent poll determined that more than half of New Brunswickers say that the number of votes is more important than the number of seats in determining who will govern New Brunswick;

WHEREAS over ninety countries currently use proportional representation, including 85% of countries in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development;

WHEREAS when more than 2 parties are present, the current First Past the Post electoral system can lead to unrepresentative outcomes;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to ask a Committee of the Legislature to: review the recommendation of the 2003 Commission on Legislative Democracy to establish a system of Mixed-Member Proportional Representation; invite the public to appear before the Committee to provide their views on Mixed-Member Proportional Representation; and recommend a public process to determine whether to implement Mixed-Member Proportional Representation that will be completed before the next election.

And then, 11.35 a.m., the House adjourned.