Daily sitting 31

Thursday, May 30, 2019 *l o'clock p.m.*

Prayers.

Mr. Savoie rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Harvey made reference to the absence of a Member in the House. Mr. Speaker requested that the Member withdraw the remark, which he did.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker requested that Mr. D'Amours withdraw his allegation that Hon. Mr. Cardy "misled" the House, which he did. Mr. Speaker also requested that Hon. Mr. Flemming withdraw various unparliamentary terms directed at Mr. D'Amours, which he did.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 22, An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act.Bill 27, An Act Respecting Addressing Recommendations in the Report of the Task Force on WorkSafeNB.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

At 2.08 p.m. the House recessed. At 2.30 p.m. the House resumed.

Debate resumed on the sub-amendment to the amendment to Motion 36, moved by Mr. Austin, seconded by Ms. Conroy, as follows:

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to Motion 36 be amended:

By adding after "binding arbitration process" the following: "under the terms and conditions acceptable to all negotiating parties and the Province".

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, the sub-amendment was defeated on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 22

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason	Hon. Mr. Urquhart
Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Gauvin	Hon. Mr. Oliver
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Stewart	Mr. Northrup
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Fitch
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Fairgrieve
Mr. Austin	Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Crossman
Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Hon. Mr. Carr	
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Holland	

NAYS - 25

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Bourque	Mr. K. Chiasson
Mr. Melanson	Ms. Landry	Mr. Horsman
Mr. Landry	Ms. Thériault	Mr. Lowe
Ms. Rogers	Mr. LePage	Mr. McKee
Mr. Harvey	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. D'Amour
Ms. Harris	Ms. LeBlanc	Ms. Conroy
Mr. Kenny	Mr. Arseneau	Mr. DeSaulniers
Mr. Coon	Mr. Gallant	
Ms. Mitton	Mr. LeBlanc	

Mr. Speaker put the question on the amendment and it was defeated.

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 36 and it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 25

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Bourque	Mr. K. Chiasson
Mr. Melanson	Ms. Landry	Mr. Horsman
Mr. Landry	Ms. Thériault	Mr. Lowe
Ms. Rogers	Mr. LePage	Mr. McKee
Mr. Harvey	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. D'Amour
Ms. Harris	Ms. LeBlanc	Ms. Conroy
Mr. Kenny	Mr. Arseneau	Mr. DeSaulniers
Mr. Coon	Mr. Gallant	
Ms. Mitton	Mr. LeBlanc	

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NAYS - 21

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason	Hon. Mr. Holland
Mr. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Gauvin	Hon. Mr. Urquhart
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Stewart	Hon. Mr. Oliver
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Northrup
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Fitch
Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Fairgrieve
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Carr	Mr. Crossman

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 8, Mr. C. Chiasson moved, seconded by Ms. Thériault:

WHEREAS the now-Premier said on December 10, 2015, "I do not deny that we have too many hospitals. I realize we can be much better if we consolidate";

WHEREAS the now-Health Minister said on December 12, 2012,

"We have to look at the critical mass. We have to look at the needs. There is not a Costco in Perth-Andover either, because there would not be enough critical mass to sustain the place. Those are the things we have to look at. There is enough critical mass to provide a hospital. It will be a hospital. (...) Maybe that is the wrong word, but is there enough business to sustain the operation? If not, we cannot pay people \$400 000 to sit around when there is only enough work for one day a week. If you do not understand that, I cannot explain it any better. It is pretty basic arithmetic where I come from";

WHEREAS the Premier said on November 21, 2018, "We will look at all aspects of what we are planning, what has been planned, what is working, and what is not working, because we must";

WHEREAS rural hospitals provide important access to health care;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to maintain the existing level of services in all of New Brunswick's regional and rural hospitals.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Hon. Mr. Flemming, seconded by Hon. Mr. Cardy, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 8 be amended:

By deleting the period at the end of the resolution clause and replacing it with the following:

", where clinically appropriate to fully meet the needs of the community."

Mr. Speaker put the question on the proposed amendment and a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 8 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS the now-Premier said on December 10, 2015, "I do not deny that we have too many hospitals. I realize we can be much better if we consolidate";

WHEREAS the now-Health Minister said on December 12, 2012,

"We have to look at the critical mass. We have to look at the needs. There is not a Costco in Perth-Andover either, because there would not be enough critical mass to sustain the place. Those are the things we have to look at. There is enough critical mass to provide a hospital. It will be a hospital. (...) Maybe that is the wrong word, but is there enough business to sustain the operation? If not, we cannot pay people \$400 000 to sit around when there is only enough work for one day a week. If you do not understand that, I cannot explain it any better. It is pretty basic arithmetic where I come from";

WHEREAS the Premier said on November 21, 2018, "We will look at all aspects of what we are planning, what has been planned, what is working, and what is not working, because we must";

WHEREAS rural hospitals provide important access to health care;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to maintain the existing level of services in all of New Brunswick's regional and rural hospitals, where clinically appropriate to fully meet the needs of the community.

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And the question being put, Motion 8 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 47, Mr. Melanson, the seconder, moved on behalf of Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS the government has announced the cancellation of the Free Tuition and Tuition Relief for the Middle-Class programs instituted by the previous government;

WHEREAS this decision has been condemned by the New Brunswick Student Alliance, our post-secondary student councils and the university administrations citing concerns that it will reduce access to post-secondary education;

WHEREAS students have categorized the decision as a lose-lose situation;

WHEREAS as a result of this regressive decision by the government, thousands of students who might attend post-secondary education will be unable to afford to do so;

WHEREAS many students who wish to pursue post-secondary education will have to seek part-time jobs and summer jobs in order to afford their tuition and other educational expenses;

WHEREAS this government has further reduced the opportunity for students to attend post-secondary studies by cutting the Student Employment Experience Development (SEED) program which will result in far fewer summer jobs for students;

WHEREAS this will have a negative compounding impact on access to post-secondary education;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to restore the funding to the SEED program to its 2018 level so that many of those students who rely on summer employment to pay for their post-secondary studies will be able to do so.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. C. Chiasson, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Hon. Mr. Holder, seconded by Hon. Ms. M. Wilson, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 47 be amended:

In the resolution clause by deleting the words after "urge the government" and substituting the following: "to increase the funding to the SEED program when appropriate and affordable".

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on the proposed amendment and a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

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

And then, 6 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.