



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
Second Session, 59th Legislative Assembly

ORDER AND NOTICE PAPER – Sitting No. 11
Thursday, December 13, 2018

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

GOVERNMENT BILLS FOR SECOND READING

Bill to be Ordered for Second Reading

Bill 8, Fiscal Transparency and Accountability Act – Hon. Mr. Steeves

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC POLICY

Bill 6, An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act – Hon. Mr. Carr

Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act – Hon. Mr. Higgs

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Capital Estimates, 2019-2020

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

Motion 18 by Mr. Savoie, seconded by Hon. Mr. Higgs to propose the following resolution on Friday, December 14, 2018:

WHEREAS the following public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, were listed in the 2018 Annual Report, *Statute Repeal Act*, laid before the Legislative Assembly on January 31, 2018, as public Acts or provisions of public Acts that are to come into force by proclamation, that were assented to nine years or more before December 31, 2017, and that have not come into force on or before that date:

1. *Pension Benefits Act*, S.N.B. 1987, c.P-5.1:
 - section 2
2. *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act*, S.N.B. 2001, c.29:
 - sections 1 and 5 and paragraph 2(b)
3. *Petroleum Act*, S.N.B. 2007, c.P-8.03
4. *An Act to Amend the Mining Act*, S.N.B. 2007, c.40
5. *An Act to Amend the Quarriable Substances Act*, S.N.B. 2007, c.41

WHEREAS, as a result of being listed in the Annual Report, these public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, will be repealed on December 31, 2018, pursuant to section 2 of the *Statute Repeal Act*, unless the Legislative Assembly adopts a resolution that these Acts or provisions not be repealed;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that these public Acts of the Legislature, or provisions of public Acts of the Legislature, listed in this resolution, not be repealed.

Motion 23 by Hon. Mr. Steeves, seconded by Hon. Mr. Higgs to propose the following resolution on Tuesday, March 19, 2019:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

CONCLUDED

Motion 1 by Mr. Savoie. Carried November 21, 2018.

Motion 15 by Mr. Savoie. Carried November 27, 2018.

Motion 16 by Hon. Mr. Steeves. Debated and carried December 11, 2018.

Motion 21 by Mr. Savoie. Carried December 11, 2018.

Motion 22 by Mr. Savoie. Carried December 11, 2018.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS

[Order in accordance with notice provided pursuant to Standing Rule 44(4)]

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS FOR SECOND READING

Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Pay Equity Act, 2009 – Ms. LeBlanc

Bill 3, An Act to Amend the Oil and Natural Gas Act – Mr. Gallant, Q.C.

Bill 5, An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act – Mr. LePage

Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Assessment Act – Mr. Lowe

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Debatable Motions

Motion 2 by Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. Arseneau to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

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.

Motion 3 by Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Coon to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

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.

Motion 4 by Mr. Arseneau, seconded by Ms. Mitton to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

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.

Motion 5 by Ms. Landry, seconded by Mr. Harvey to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

WHEREAS the federal and provincial governments signed the Canada-New Brunswick Early Learning and Child Care Agreement on August 30, 2017, allowing New Brunswick access to \$30 million in federal funding to make child care more affordable;

WHEREAS affordable child care solves many challenges such as retaining and repatriating young professionals, growing the population through affordability of starting and growing families, growing the labour force by making it possible for both parents to work, and breaking the cycle of poverty by allowing people to leave income assistance for work without facing massive child care bills;

WHEREAS through that Canada-New Brunswick Agreement, New Brunswick has created programs that assist child care operators through one-time quality improvement grants, annual quality grants, increased wages for early childhood educators, and infant operator grants;

WHEREAS through that Canada-New Brunswick Agreement, New Brunswickers now benefit from free child care and subsidized child care in large regions of the province;

WHEREAS the planned completion of the rollout of this program has been budgeted and planned for the northeast of the province in January 2019 and the capital region in February 2019, fulfilling the commitment to parents to have the program available provincewide by March 2019;

WHEREAS families in the regions of the province expecting these important services should not have their access to these important programs delayed;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to continue the implementation of these child care programs on the planned schedule.

Motion 6 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Melanson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

WHEREAS the now-Premier said on May 29, 2012, when commenting on the New Brunswick Tuition Rebate program, that “we do not know whether the program actually brings people back into the province or encourages them to return.”;

WHEREAS the evidence showed that New Brunswick Tuition Rebate was not effective in its policy goal of keeping more young people in New Brunswick through the reports of the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission which showed that retention rates of graduates did not improve over the course of the programs existence;

WHEREAS the Free Tuition program and the Tuition Relief for the Middle Class program helped 7,744 students alone in the most recent academic year;

WHEREAS both the Free Tuition program and the Tuition Relief for the Middle Class program have become leaders in the standard of excellence for post-secondary funding as outlined in the Higher Education Strategy Associates Targeted Free Tuition: A Global Analysis;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to maintain the Free Tuition and Tuition Relief for the Middle Class programs.

[Debate interrupted due to expiration of time.]

Motion 8 by Mr. C. Chiasson, seconded by Ms. Thériault to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

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.

Motion 9 by Mr. LePage, seconded by Ms. Harris to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

WHEREAS hours of care for nursing home residents is as high as 3.8 hours in Alberta and 3.25 hours in Nova Scotia, but is only 3.1 hours in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS a pilot project completed in 2010 and 2011 showed evidence that there would be benefits from increased hours of care;

WHEREAS there is currently a shortage of nursing home professionals which would make an immediate increase to the hours of care impractical to implement;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to immediately develop and launch, in partnership with stakeholders, a recruitment and retention strategy for nursing home workers, including nurses, licensed practical nurses and resident attendants;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House urge the government to increase the level of care to 3.5 hours per nursing home resident as soon as practicable.

Motion 10 by Ms. Harris, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 29, 2018:

WHEREAS New Brunswick students carry an average student debt of \$35,200 and are charged prime +2.5% on the provincial portion of their loans;

WHEREAS all other Atlantic provinces have eliminated interest on provincial student loans;

WHEREAS the previous government budgeted for the elimination of interest on provincial student loans;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to implement the planned elimination of interest on provincial student loans.

Motion 19 by Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. Arseneau to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 20, 2018:

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.

Motion 20 by Mr. Austin, seconded by Ms. Conroy to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 20, 2018:

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Nurses Union and the Nurses Association of New Brunswick have stated there is an urgent need for more nurses in the province;

WHEREAS the obstetrics unit at the Chaleur Regional Hospital for a while had to close due to a lack of nursing staff;

WHEREAS the Nurses Union and Nurses Association have stated there is a dangerous situation of nurses sometimes working up to 48-hour shifts;

WHEREAS according to the University of New Brunswick its nursing program is filled to capacity with 12 times the number of applicants as there are seats available;

WHEREAS the university says should there be more funding provided for infrastructure and instructors more nursing students could be taught to help fill the province's critical nursing shortage;

WHEREAS New Brunswick nurses are leaving the province to work in Nova Scotia where nursing salaries are up to five percent higher;

WHEREAS nurses in the province cannot find full-time or part-time employment even though there is a nursing shortage;

WHEREAS there is expected to be a wave of nurses leaving the healthcare profession with retirement over the next decade;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to immediately address the critical nursing shortage that exists in New Brunswick, by taking the necessary steps to recruit and retain nursing professionals in the province, which is having a severely negative impact on the health and well-being of its citizens.

Motions for Returns

Motion 11 by Mr. Melanson, seconded by Mr. Arseneault to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 6, 2018:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House a list of annualized and capital costs required as a result of the Executive Council appointed on November 9, 2018, including but not limited to the net increase of salary, benefit, office, and administrative support costs of ministers, deputy ministers, executive assistants, regional assistants, departmental assistants, executive secretaries, and any other personnel appointed under section 18 of the *Civil Service Act*, the acquisition of government vehicles for new ministers and deputy ministers, and the cost of outfitting or upgrading offices for ministers, deputy ministers, and their staff.

Motion 12 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Melanson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 6, 2018:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House a list of current deputy ministers and their assignments.

[Documents requested filed December 6, 2018]

Motion 13 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Melanson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 6, 2018:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House a list of any custom or commissioned art work ordered, including any estimates quoted to departments or agencies, since November 9, 2018, to furnish the offices of departments and Part I agencies.

[Documents requested filed December 6, 2018]

Motion 14 by Mr. C. Chiasson, seconded by Mr. LePage to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 6, 2018:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House a list of all designated early learning centres; the planned regional roll-out of the new early learning program; and any and all correspondence, emails, memoranda, or other documents produced since November 9, 2018 concerning the roll-out.

[Documents requested filed December 7, 2018]

Motion 17 by Mr. C. Chiasson, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 20, 2018:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House any estimates prepared since January 1, 2016, of potential cost impacts to Irving Oil Limited of a provincial or federal carbon pricing regime, including but not limited to: the federal backstop; the British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec carbon pricing models; and any hypothetical New Brunswick carbon pricing models be they based on a carbon tax, a cap-and-trade system, or a hybrid system.

Motion 24 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Melanson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 20, 2018:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House a list of the three main projects for each of the seven school districts for consideration in the 2019-2020 capital estimates, with the scoring for each project established by the quadruple bottom line methodology used by the department, with an indication of whether each project was approved and the reasons for its approval or rejection.

CONCLUDED

Motion 7 by Mr. D'Amours. Debated and carried as amended November 29, 2018.

PETITIONS

Petition 1: Mr. Northrup, November 23, 2018.

(Response, December 7, 2018)

Petition 2: Mr. DeSaulniers, November 27, 2018.

(Response, December 11, 2018)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Standing Committee on Economic Policy

First Report, December 11, 2018

Donald J. Forestell
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly