
Daily sitting 5

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

The Honourable the Premier welcomed to the House Her Excellency Anne Kari H. Ovind, Norway's Ambassador to Canada.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Urquhart,

Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act.*

Bill 15, *An Act Respecting the Enhancement of Off-Road Vehicle Safety.*

Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act.*

By Hon. Ms. Shephard,

Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Carr,

Bill 18, *An Act to Amend the Climate Change Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Holland,

Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act.*

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 16 that on Thursday, December 5, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS it is in the interest of the general public that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick sit for a reasonable period of time in order to fully address the business of the province and provide opportunity for debate of bills and motions;

WHEREAS it is in the interest of improved democracy that the opposition have sufficient time and opportunity to raise and debate concerns expressed by interested stakeholders and members of the general public;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure that, for the duration of the 59th Legislative Assembly, except when prorogued or otherwise ordered by resolution of the House, within the confines of Standing Rules 29(1) and 32, the House will sit from the second Tuesday in January to the final Friday in February, from the third Tuesday in March to the second Friday in June, and from the first Tuesday in November to the second Friday in December.

Mr. Harvey gave Notice of Motion 17 that on Thursday, December 5, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. LePage:

WHEREAS the government has made a series of cuts to services like tourism, road maintenance and tuition assistance without any evidence-based rationale for these cuts;

WHEREAS these sorts of cuts will have a negative impact on the government's bottom line because of reduced economic activity, increased long-term costs, and outmigration caused by these cuts;

WHEREAS the previous government's Strategic Program Review made evidence-based budget reductions that succeeded in attaining a surplus in the 2017–2018 and 2018–2019 fiscal years without the negative impacts likely to result from the current government's cuts;

WHEREAS the Premier indicated he was undertaking a review of government services, yet has failed to table a report of the results of that review;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to reverse cuts that harm the provincial economy, allow assets to deteriorate and shrink the provincial work force, and instead focus on the continued implementation of the Strategic Program Review.

Mr. Austin gave Notice of Motion 18 that on Thursday, December 5, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Conroy:

WHEREAS New Brunswick is facing rising healthcare costs, poor outcomes, long wait times for medical services, and inappropriate healthcare delivery, due to an overloaded system and aging population;

WHEREAS there is an urgent need to act proactively to reduce healthcare wait times;

WHEREAS a variety of healthcare associations, including chiropractors and optometrists, have indicated a willingness to take an expanded role to ease the back log and to improve wait times;

WHEREAS these organizations have stated that billing for these services will remain with third party insurance companies and/or direct patient billing;

WHEREAS this will not place an added financial burden on the provincial Medicare system;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to take immediate action to reduce healthcare wait times by increasing the role of chiropractors and optometrists in our healthcare system;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to develop standards which would allow these healthcare providers an increased role within the provincial healthcare system.

Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Wednesday, November 27, 2019, Bills 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 would be called for second reading.

Mr. Savoie, 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.

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

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.
November 19, 2019.

To Her Honour,
The Honourable Brenda Murphy,
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, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

And then, 6 p.m., the House adjourned.