

Daily sitting 6

Wednesday, November 27, 2019
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker interrupted Oral Questions and reminded Ms. Harris not to refer to Members by name, even when quoting from a media article.

Hon. Mr. Urquhart, Member for Carleton-York, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to upgrade Tweedside Road. (Petition 7)

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Ms. S. Wilson,

Bill 20, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,

Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act.*

Bill 22, *Unclaimed Property Act.*

By Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason, Q.C.,

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Property Act.*

By Mr. D'Amours,

Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Prescription Drug Payment Act.*

Bill 25, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act.*

Hon. Mr. Steeves gave Notice of Motion 19 that on Tuesday, December 10, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

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

Mr. McKee gave Notice of Motion 20 that on Thursday, December 12, 2019, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. K. Chiasson:

WHEREAS Proudly New Brunswick operating as New Brunswick Proud undertook questionable activities to influence the outcome of the 2018 provincial election including spam-like text messages and robocalls;

WHEREAS New Brunswick Proud undertook similar questionable activities to influence the outcome of the 2019 federal election in New Brunswick including the infamous "Hi, I'm Pam" text message campaign;

WHEREAS documents filed by Elections New Brunswick show that the organization is funded by conservative oriented organizations outside the province;

WHEREAS a New Brunswick Progressive Conservative riding association president said under oath in a court proceeding that he worked for New Brunswick Proud;

WHEREAS according to a media story of September 24, 2019, the Facebook page of this employee listed him as the recruiting director for the New Brunswick Young Progressive Conservatives and his social media feeds included photos with prominent New Brunswick Progressive Conservatives including the Premier;

WHEREAS the same media story referenced that “in 2018, Aaron Sophocleous of Moncton, who had campaigned for the Progressive Conservatives in the provincial election, was also listed as a director of Proudly NB in federal incorporation documents”;

WHEREAS according to information filed with Elections New Brunswick by NB Proud, there were two large donations to NB Proud through Saint John Law firms, one in care of Nic Ouellette, former Executive Assistant to Premier Higgs and the other from Lawson Creamer, a law firm in which former PC leadership candidate Mel Norton is a partner;

WHEREAS these affiliations represent troubling links between New Brunswick Proud and the Progressive Conservative Party despite denials by the Premier that the New Brunswick Progressive Conservative Party has ties to the organization;

WHEREAS in the interests of protecting democracy, there is a need to control third party advertising funded by outside interests that attempts to influence provincial election outcomes;

WHEREAS the Premier has publicly admitted that third party advertising rules should be tightened up stating “I think we’re seeing third parties become more active for their own vested interests and that is not a democratic help at all.”;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House urge the government to have Bill 40 from the second session of this Assembly reviewed by the Office of the Attorney General, improved if necessary, and re-introduced as priority government legislation.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 12, 4 and 6.

Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Thursday, November 28, 2019, Bills 21, 22 and 23 would be called for second reading.

Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 4, 5, 6, 9 and 12 be called for second reading; following which the House would resume the adjourned debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 4 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 5 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 6, *Enduring Powers of Attorney Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 6 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 6, *Enduring Powers of Attorney Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Securities Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 9 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Securities Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 12, *An Act Respecting the Management of Prescriptions and Recovery Authority*, a debate arose thereon.

At 12 o'clock p.m. the House recessed. At 1.20 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 12 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 12, *An Act Respecting the Management of Prescriptions and Recovery Authority*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

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, Ms. LeBlanc, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

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

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.