

Daily sitting 29

Tuesday, June 16, 2020

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Harvey, Member for Carleton-Victoria, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reopen the Service New Brunswick in Plaster Rock. (Petition 26)

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Urquhart,

Bill 52, An Act to Amend the Liquor Control Act.

By Hon. Mr. Holder,

Bill 53, An Act to Amend the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission and Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal Act.

Bill 54, An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act.

By Ms. Mitton,

Bill 55, An Act to Amend the Education Act.

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Crossman,

Bill 56, An Act to Remove Certain Restrictive Covenants on Title to Certain Lands in the City of Saint John vested in Plazacorp Property Holdings Inc.

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Ms. Harris gave Notice of Motion 69 that on Thursday, June 25, 2020, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS two Indigenous New Brunswickers died as a result of police shootings;

WHEREAS the deaths of Chantel Moore and Rodney Levi have led to calls for an inquiry into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

WHEREAS First Nations leaders in New Brunswick have called for an inquiry into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

WHEREAS First Nation leaders in New Brunswick have called for this inquiry to be inclusive of an Indigenous perspective and asked government to appoint Indigenous and legal experts to oversee this investigation in an unbiased way;

WHEREAS the six chiefs of the Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick have called for this inquiry to be held under section 2 of the *Inquiries Act*;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Minister of Aboriginal Affairs has echoed the call for an inquiry into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

WHEREAS the Liberal Party is on record supporting a call for an inquiry into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

WHEREAS the Premier has not indicated that he supports an inquiry into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to support an inquiry under section 2 of the *Inquiries Act* into systemic bias against Indigenous people in New Brunswick criminal justice and policing;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure that this inquiry be inclusive of an Indigenous perspective through appointing Indigenous and legal experts to oversee this systemic investigation.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 70 that on Thursday, June 25, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Kenny:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House all documentation, information, notes, memos, records, correspondence, summaries, and reports, however stored, electronically or otherwise, including mobile to mobile device communication, PINs, and SMS text messages, between the Office of the Premier, the Executive Council Office, the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development, and NB Power in relation to the Maritime Iron project.

Mr. Austin gave Notice of Motion 71 that on Thursday, June 25, 2020, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. DeSaulniers:

WHEREAS there are approximately 26,000 small businesses in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the small business tax rate in New Brunswick is 2.5% and the general rate is 14%;

WHEREAS the 2020-2021 corporate income tax is currently projected at \$307.9 million;

WHEREAS it is anticipated that \$30-\$35 million is related to the small business tax rate;

WHEREAS Covid-19 has taken a toll on small businesses in the province resulting in many not being able to survive;

WHEREAS dozens of Chambers of Commerce agree that a reduced tax would be of great benefit to small businesses and would assist them through the difficulties they are facing and would allow them to continue operating;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to eliminate the corporate income tax on small business immediately.

Hon. Mr. Holder gave notice that on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, Bills 39, 44, 45, 46, 47, 52, 53 and 54 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Holder, Acting Government House Leader, announced that third reading of Bills 33 and 42 would be deferred until Wednesday, June 17, 2020.

And then, 2.47 p.m., the House adjourned.