



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

ORDER AND NOTICE PAPER – Sitting No. 23
Tuesday, May 26, 2020

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Prayers
Introduction of Guests
Statements of Condolence and Congratulation
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

Bills Ordered for Second Reading

Bill 2, An Act to Amend the Greater Saint John Regional Facilities Commission Act – Hon. Mr. Carr
 Bill 33, An Act Respecting Security for the Legislative Assembly – Hon. Mr. Urquhart

Bills to be Ordered for Second Reading

Bill 39, An Act to Amend the Assessment Act – Hon. Mr. Steeves

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC POLICY

Bill 3, An Act to Amend the Days of Rest Act – Hon. Mr. Carr
 Bill 11, An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization – Hon. Mr. Cardy
 Bill 14, An Act to Amend the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act – Hon. Mr. Urquhart
 Bill 15, An Act Respecting the Enhancement of Off-Road Vehicle Safety – Hon. Mr. Urquhart

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LAW AMENDMENTS

Bill 13, An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act – Hon. Mr. Holder

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

CONCLUDED

Motion 1 by Mr. Savoie. Carried November 20, 2019.
Motion 7 by Mr. Savoie. Carried November 22, 2019.
Motion 8 by Mr. Savoie. Carried November 22, 2019.
Motion 19 by Hon. Mr. Steeves. Debated and carried December 10, 2019.
Motion 21 by Mr. Savoie. Carried November 28, 2019.
Motion 29 by Mr. Savoie. Carried December 20, 2019.
Motion 30 by Hon. Mr. Steeves. Debated March 10, 12 and 13, 2020, and carried March 13, 2020.
Motion 32 by Mr. Savoie. Carried December 19, 2019.
Motion 33 by Mr. Savoie. Carried December 19, 2019.

GOVERNMENT PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

CONCLUDED

Motion 22 by Mr. Fairgrieve. Debated and carried December 13, 2019.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS FOR SECOND READING

Bill 7, An Act to Amend the Crown Lands and Forests Act – Mr. Coon

Bill 24, An Act to Amend the Prescription Drug Payment Act – Mr. D'Amours

Bill 25, An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act – Mr. D'Amours

Bill 31, An Act to Amend the Family Income Security Act – Mr. Coon

Bill 35, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Protection Act – Ms. Mitton

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Debatable Motions

Motion 2 by Mr. LePage, seconded by Ms. Harris to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 28, 2019:

WHEREAS nursing home residents are among our most vulnerable citizens;

WHEREAS the shortage of nursing home workers is negatively impacting the quality of life and quality of care for nursing home residents;

WHEREAS the ongoing labour dispute is negatively impacting the recruitment and retention of nursing home workers;

WHEREAS two levels of court have ruled against the government and found nursing home workers have the right to strike despite the *Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act*;

WHEREAS further appeals are unlikely to succeed and certain to cost taxpayers significant sums of money;

WHEREAS the court has given the government the opportunity to amend the *Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act* before January 2020, when a stay on the right to strike will expire;

WHEREAS, despite the Premier's threats, no election outcome can overturn the court's ruling that nursing home workers have a right to strike;

WHEREAS a strike by nursing home workers would negatively impact nursing home residents and their families;

WHEREAS, this past session, the Legislative Assembly passed a motion in support of unaltered binding arbitration;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this House urge the government to bring forward amendments to the *Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act* to provide for meaningful binding arbitration to resolve this labour dispute in lieu of strike action.

Motion 5 by Mr. C. Chiasson, seconded by Mr. D'Amours to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 28, 2019:

WHEREAS the 10-year education plans were developed with stakeholders from across the province including two representatives of the Progressive Conservative Party;

WHEREAS the 10-year education plans are only in their fourth year of implementation;

WHEREAS the current government promised to continue the implementation of the 10-year education plans and bring stability to the education system;

WHEREAS the current government's green paper on education proposes radical and untested reforms which would completely destabilize the education system;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this House urge the government to abandon the green paper on education and instead focus on improving the education system by continuing to implement the 10-year education plans.

Motion 6 by Mr. McKee, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 28, 2019:

WHEREAS the Progressive Conservative Party received only 31.89% of the vote in the 2018 election;

WHEREAS the current government relies on the support of the People's Alliance, which received only 12.58% of the vote in the 2018 election;

WHEREAS 54.68% of New Brunswickers voted for parties in the 2018 election that do not support the current government;

WHEREAS 68.11% of New Brunswick voted against the platform of the Progressive Conservative Party in the 2018 election;

WHEREAS the current government lacks the moral authority to implement major reforms that were not debated in the last provincial election;

WHEREAS the current government recognized its lack of moral authority when it promised in its first throne speech to "invite all party leaders to offer input into legislation and regulations", "share the ability to make decisions", and "build broad coalitions in this house";

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this House urge the government to refer to legislative committees any major reforms for study and recommendations by all parties and feedback from the general public and outside experts.

Motion 13 by Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. DeSaulniers to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 28, 2019:

WHEREAS the former government deemed that taxes charged on the sale of used vehicles would be based on their *Blue Book* value;

WHEREAS prior to this the used vehicle sale tax was determined through a written appraisal from a motor vehicle dealership or from an individual seller;

WHEREAS this has placed an increased financial burden on residents in the Province of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers rely on used vehicles for their mode of transportation;

WHEREAS the cost of new motor vehicles is often out of reach for everyday New Brunswickers

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to revert to the former method of sale taxation on used vehicles.

Motion 14 by Ms. Conroy, seconded by Mr. Austin to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 28, 2019:

WHEREAS New Brunswick needs to change the organ donor program to an automatic organ donation system, with the option given to opt out of the program;

WHEREAS Canada has very low organ donation rates as there are only 20.9 donors per one million people compared to Spain that has 43.4 donors per one million and the United States which has 31 donors per one million people;

WHEREAS in 2015, of the approximately 267,000 deaths occurring in Canada, only approximately 150,000 or 56% happened in a hospital; and of the 150,000 deaths that happened in a hospital, only about 5,000 or 3% fulfilled the criteria to be a potential organ donor; and of

these 5,000 potential organ donors, only about 650 or 13% went on to be actual organ donors; and those 650 donors resulted in about 1,995 transplants;

WHEREAS the lives of eight people can be saved by one organ donor;

WHEREAS one tissue donor could benefit up to 75 individuals;

WHEREAS introducing the automatic organ donation program will reduce the waiting list making sure all potential organ donors become an actual organ donor;

WHEREAS it is important and urgent to pass the automatic organ donation program;

WHEREAS 20 people die each day waiting for a transplant in the US and, in Canada one death every 1.25 days results from waiting for a transplant;

WHEREAS New Brunswick healthcare will save tens of millions of dollars a year with the automatic organ and tissue donation program;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to begin the process of changing the current organ donation program to an automatic organ donation system saving many lives and money in New Brunswick.

Motion 15 by Mr. DeSaulniers, seconded by Mr. Austin to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 28, 2019:

WHEREAS Hailie and Trent Michaud died in a motor vehicle accident in 2013 from injuries sustained while they were in properly installed car seats which met provincial regulations;

WHEREAS current regulations dictate rear-facing car seats are required for all children up to age 1 and 10 kg;

WHEREAS raising the minimum age requirement for rear-facing car seats to 2 years and 10 kg will provide greater safety protection;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to increase child age requirements in provincial car seat regulations.

Motion 16 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Melanson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 5, 2019:

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.

Motion 17 by Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. LePage to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 5, 2019:

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.

Motion 18 by Mr. Austin, seconded by Ms. Conroy to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 5, 2019:

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.

Motion 20 by Mr. McKee, seconded by Mr. K. Chiasson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 12, 2019:

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 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.

Motion 23 by Mr. D’Amours, seconded by Mr. McKee to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 19, 2019:

WHEREAS the New Brunswick health authorities reported over 1,600 violent incidents in the 2018-19 fiscal year;

WHEREAS health authority tracking shows there are 4.5 violent incidents in New Brunswick hospitals each day;

WHEREAS there is at least one violent incident each day at New Brunswick hospitals that requires the presence of police;

WHEREAS health authority statistics show there were over 2,000 “Code Whites”, or responses to violent persons, last year;

WHEREAS research shows that New Brunswick’s health authorities have combined violence rates per employee far higher than the Nova Scotia Health Authority, despite the fact that Nova Scotia has thousands more employees;

WHEREAS more than half of security guard positions in New Brunswick were vacant as of early 2019;

WHEREAS the CEO of Horizon Health, Karen McGrath, has testified that security guards are not peace officers, but rather “diplomats” who are not allowed to lay hands on violent persons in hospitals;

WHEREAS WorksafeNB data shows that accepted workplace violence claims for employees of hospitals and nursing homes are more than triple those of employees in correctional facilities;

WHEREAS WorksafeNB data shows that accepted mental health and PTSD claims among nurses make up nearly 1/3 (28%) of all mental health and PTSD claims in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS Horizon Health Board Chair John McGarry has said publicly that data from Horizon Health indicates that violence levels are “out of control”;

WHEREAS there is a need for the health authorities to conduct annual violence reviews as provided for under occupational health and safety legislation;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government and its health authorities to complete the annual workplace violence risk assessments required by the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and to provide the health authorities with sufficient

funding to complete the assessments and implement the recommendations that emerge from them.

Motion 25 by Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. DeSaulniers to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 19, 2019:

WHEREAS the International Agency for Research on Cancer has toughened their stance that glyphosate is a probable carcinogen in 2018;

WHEREAS there are over 50 peer-reviewed, published and independent worldwide research papers that assert glyphosate is toxic and linked to non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma;

WHEREAS these research papers also show conclusively that glyphosate also causes DNA damage, liver and kidney damage, is an endocrine disruptor, and the cause of numerous other health concerns;

WHEREAS the conflict between industry science and independent science suggests this is the ideal case for implementing the precautionary principle in the best interest of public health and the health of fish and wildlife species;

WHEREAS three court cases in the US have resulted in payouts to plaintiffs in the order of \$200 million where juries have found glyphosate caused cancer and that the company has attempted to cover up the risks;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to prohibit the spraying of glyphosate-based herbicides on Crown land.

Motion 26 by Ms. Harris, seconded by Mr. Arseneault to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 19, 2019:

WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on September 13, 2007;

WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples "establishes a universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world and it elaborates on existing human rights standards and fundamental freedoms as they apply to the specific situation of indigenous peoples";

WHEREAS Canada officially adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in May 2016, reaffirming its commitment to promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous people at home and abroad;

WHEREAS, by adopting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Government of New Brunswick will recognize its commitment to improve its relationships with indigenous peoples by providing a framework for the province to align itself with standards and protections outlined in the United Nations declaration;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this House urge the government to adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Motion 28 by Mr. D'Amours, seconded by Mr. Melanson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 19, 2019:

WHEREAS the threat to human health posed by vaping is becoming more apparent each day with reports of severe respiratory illnesses associated with vaping;

WHEREAS vaping is an industry that targets young people with products like flavoured e-cigarettes and juices, and there are virtually no restrictions on advertising or retailing;

WHEREAS there are very real concerns about the lack of regulation in relation to this industry;

WHEREAS the medical profession is raising serious concerns about the dangers associated with vaping;

WHEREAS Health Canada has also issued warnings on the potential risks associated with vaping;

WHEREAS in the past, the provincial government has brought in measures to impose restrictions related to tobacco smoking, including measures designed to reduce the number of young smokers;

WHEREAS other provincial jurisdictions are aware of the health risk posed by vaping and taking steps to address it;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this House urge the government to bring forth legislation and regulations to deal with this significant health threat including banning e-cigarettes that contain a prescribed flavouring agent and any flavoured juice made for use with e-cigarettes, cutting the nicotine content in flavour pods, and strengthening the regulations related to displays and advertising materials related to vaping.

Motion 31 by Ms. Rogers, seconded by Mr. Bourque to propose the following resolution on Thursday, January 9, 2020:

WHEREAS the Trudeau Government announced a commitment to plant two billion trees over the next 10 years to help fight climate change and reach zero net emissions by 2050 as part of a \$3 billion effort to deploy natural climate solutions;

WHEREAS planting trees is an excellent way to combat climate change as trees absorb greenhouse gas emissions from burning fossil fuels which are driving global warming;

WHEREAS this initiative will help Canada meet its commitment to the Paris accord;

WHEREAS in addition to the benefits associated with fighting climate change, planting trees reduces the impact of deforestation, prevents soil erosion, enhances coastal protection, increases land fertility, supports wildlife habitat and mitigates against flooding;

WHEREAS this tree planting program also provides an opportunity to increase our forest biodiversity;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick should take advantage of this initiative to fight climate change here in our province;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to work in cooperation with the federal government to get its fair share and develop a program whereby individuals and organizations can apply to plant trees respecting the principle of biodiversity, throughout urban and rural New Brunswick.

Motion 34 by Mr. Horsman, seconded by Mr. McKee to propose the following resolution on Thursday, January 9, 2020:

WHEREAS an internal government study conducted in 2015 proposed that government could save money by refurbishing Fredericton's Centennial Building and relocating government departments from expensive leased properties;

WHEREAS it was estimated that there was a potential to save \$2.5 million per year over 40 years by relocating this office space;

WHEREAS the previous Liberal government accepted the recommendation to refurbish the Centennial Building;

WHEREAS the Fredericton Justice Building is outdated, inadequate and has significant security issues, the government decided that a new Justice Complex would be provided for within the renovated property;

WHEREAS the proposed Justice Complex would have housed the Provincial Court, Court of Queen's Bench and the Court of Appeal, plus additional justice services;

WHEREAS the \$76-million renovation cost would have been recouped in 30 years as a result of the savings;

WHEREAS the Higgs government cancelled the renovation to the Centennial Building in Fredericton which was well underway;

WHEREAS, in addition to the loss of the significant savings for taxpayers represented by the consolidation of office space, the government incurred huge costs associated with the cancellation of the awarded tender upwards of \$13 million;

WHEREAS there may be additional costs associated with the cancellation that have yet to be revealed;

WHEREAS the government announced it sold the Centennial Building to a private developer;

WHEREAS concerns have been raised about the financial impact of decisions made by the Higgs government in relation to the Centennial Building;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the Office of the Auditor General to undertake a financial review of the decision to cancel the renovation to the Centennial Building including the full cost implications to taxpayers and report back to the Legislative Assembly with its findings.

Motion 35 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Melanson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, January 9, 2020:

WHEREAS the Higgs government cancelled the Free Tuition and Tuition Relief for the Middle-Class programs introduced by the previous government, which provided access to post-secondary education to many New Brunswick students who could not otherwise afford to attend a post-secondary institution;

WHEREAS the Higgs government also cancelled the Debt Reduction for Timely Completion Benefit, which provided significant student debt relief to many students;

WHEREAS the Higgs government announced changes to the Tuition Bursary Program that would see many students receive less funding, as the funding cap was reduced from \$10,000 to \$3,000;

WHEREAS the Higgs government announced a tuition tax credit program, but did not provide enhanced debt relief;

WHEREAS universities, students, and student organizations like the New Brunswick Student Alliance condemned the cancellation of these programs, concerned that the new programs would leave students with less access, less financial assistance, and more student debt;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to bring forth a program that provides non-repayable grants to students based on financial need and to create a new debt relief program that will provide significant debt relief for students.

Motion 36 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Ms. Harris to propose the following resolution on Thursday, January 9, 2020:

WHEREAS, as a result of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada was established to facilitate reconciliation among former students, their families, their communities and all Canadians;

WHEREAS the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released its final report in December 2015 including 94 recommendations or “calls to action”;

WHEREAS Prime Minister Justin Trudeau accepted the final report on behalf of Canada;

WHEREAS recommendation 57, entitled Professional Development and Training for Public Servants, calls upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations;

WHEREAS KAIROS, an organization of faith and conscience working for justice and human rights to promote reconciliation through education and understanding rights, has worked with Indigenous elders, knowledge keepers and educators to develop a program that fosters truth, understanding, respect and reconciliation among Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to mandate a KAIROS Blanket Exercise or similar training program to all employees of the departments of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour and Aboriginal Affairs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to provide funding in the amount of \$1.5 million to create a “Reconciliation Through Post-Secondary Education Fund” to support reconciliation initiatives and programming at post-secondary institutions across the province.

Motion 38 by Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Arseneau to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 19, 2020:

WHEREAS there is broad agreement that healthcare reform is needed;

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers are unable to access their healthcare provider in a timely manner;

WHEREAS New Brunswickers need timely access to primary care providers and other healthcare professionals, which could improve chronic illnesses management and prevent some ER visits and hospital admissions;

WHEREAS on February 11, 2020, the Department of Health, Horizon and Vitalité announced they were closing the emergency rooms of six rural hospitals between midnight and 8:00 a.m. without consulting local healthcare professionals or citizens;

WHEREAS it was also announced that all of the acute care beds would be eliminated from these six hospitals;

WHEREAS Horizon announced the closure of the day surgery unit at the Sackville Memorial Hospital without consulting local healthcare professionals or citizens;

WHEREAS successful healthcare reform will depend on the participation and support from all political parties and the public;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to refer the matter of healthcare reform to a legislative committee where it can hold public hearings, invite submissions, listen to stakeholders and subject matter experts and make recommendations to government for improving the healthcare system and its services by September 2020.

Motion 39 by Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. Arseneau to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 19, 2020:

WHEREAS a single recipient on transitional assistance receives \$537 a month with no increase since 2010;

WHEREAS the Common Front for Social Justice found that the minimum monthly cost of living in Moncton is \$1300 a month for a single person;

WHEREAS a single recipient on the extended benefit program receives \$576 a month with no increase since 2014;

WHEREAS the Common Front for Social Justice found that the minimum monthly cost of living for a single mobility impaired person in Moncton is \$1,400;

WHEREAS a family of four on transitional assistance receives \$995 a month with no increase since 2014;

WHEREAS the Human Development Council found that a monthly income of \$5,500 is needed for a family of four in Saint John to meet their needs;

WHEREAS subject to specific exemptions, the government currently does not allow individuals on social assistance to share accommodations;

WHEREAS the government currently forces seniors on social assistance to collect their Canada Pension Plans at age 60, resulting in a reduced pension;

WHEREAS child support payments, disability pensions and survivor benefits are clawed back from social assistance recipients;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to conduct a comprehensive review of social assistance legislation, regulations, and policy in New Brunswick and report back to the Legislature by June 1, 2020;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to immediately increase social assistance rates by 16.51% for single individuals on transitional assistance and 8.27% for other recipients to account for the loss of purchasing power since they were last raised;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to pursue a basic income guarantee pilot project in New Brunswick with the participation of the federal government.

Motion 40 by Mr. Arseneau, seconded by Mr. Coon to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 19, 2020:

WHEREAS food should be considered a basic human right and not an exchangeable commodity;

WHEREAS New Brunswick only produces 3% of the food that New Brunswickers eat;

WHEREAS in the case of a road closure or any other natural disaster, New Brunswick would only have enough food to last for 72 hours;

WHEREAS it would be in the interests of our farmers, fishers and harvesters that people buy New Brunswick products;

WHEREAS no department has the mandate of ensuring that New Brunswickers have access to high quality, locally produced food;

WHEREAS Ontario and Quebec have a department with a mandate for food;

WHEREAS at the Public Accounts Committee, no department was able to say who works on food sovereignty in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries should have the mandate to ensure other departments consider New Brunswick food sovereignty and food security;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly urge the government to change the name of the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries to the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture, Food and Fisheries.

Motion 41 by Mr. D'Amours, seconded by Mr. C. Chiasson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 19, 2020:

WHEREAS many parents will their personal residences to their children or a family member;

WHEREAS following the death of the parents, a residence that is no longer owner-occupied is subject to double taxation;

WHEREAS the inheriting children or family member may wish to sell the residence, but it may take a considerable period of time to find a buyer;

WHEREAS under the circumstances, double taxation represents an undue hardship for those attempting to sell a residence they have inherited;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT, in the event a residence is willed to a child or family member who is not occupying, leasing or renting the property, the Legislative Assembly urge the government to remove the double taxation on the residence for a period of two years from the date of the death of the testator.

Motion 42 by Ms. Rogers, seconded by Mr. McKee to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 19, 2020:

WHEREAS crystal meth is a dangerous and highly addictive drug;

WHEREAS users of crystal meth suffer significant loss of control over emotions and engage in erratic and dangerous behaviors;

WHEREAS crystal meth use can lead to many serious health issues including organ and tissue damage, respiratory issues and death;

WHEREAS the use of crystal meth in New Brunswick is increasing;

WHEREAS the health authorities, community health centres, addiction counsellors and health professionals are sounding an alarm that addiction to methamphetamines in New Brunswick is reaching a crisis state;

WHEREAS the health networks are developing awareness campaigns to educate the public on this serious issue;

WHEREAS there is a need for a comprehensive multi-departmental strategy to deal with this significant health issue;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT this House urge the government to urgently adopt a comprehensive multi-departmental strategy to tackle the issue of crystal meth.

Motion 43 by Ms. Rogers, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 19, 2020:

WHEREAS there is an ongoing need for additional low-income housing in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the Conservative government has not made significant progress in addressing the low-income housing shortage;

WHEREAS successive governments have committed to incrementally address the issue of double taxation related to properties such as apartment buildings;

WHEREAS it may be desirable to accelerate the timeline for addressing double taxation while incentivizing additional low-income housing;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislature urge the government to accelerate the timeline for removing double taxation on apartment buildings in return for a certain number of units dedicated to low-income housing.

Motion 44 by Ms. Landry, seconded by Mr. Melanson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 19, 2020:

WHEREAS there is a need to ensure the province's infrastructure including roads and bridges does not fall into an unsafe state of disrepair;

WHEREAS there is a need to follow an asset management policy that provides for a rational plan to remediate and improve infrastructure based on professional evaluation as opposed to political considerations;

WHEREAS several other provinces like Nova Scotia have adopted 10-year plans that outline year by year the projects that will be undertaken year by year;

WHEREAS having a 10-year asset management plan will provide predictability for the construction industry and the public;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Legislature urge the government to adopt a 10-year public infrastructure plan.

Motions for Returns

Motion 9 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 28, 2019:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House copies of the daily schedule of Premier Blaine Higgs for each day since November 8, 2018.

Motion 10 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Ms. LeBlanc to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 28, 2019:

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 email correspondence between Premier Blaine Higgs and any member of the premier's office staff, the executive council office staff, Robert Youden, John Mallory, Yennah Hurley, and/or John Logan since November 8, 2018.

Motion 11 by Mr. D'Amours, seconded by Mr. C. Chiasson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 28, 2019:

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 correspondence, documentation, briefing notes, etc., in whatever form, produced in support of the development of the nursing recruitment strategy.

Motion 37 by Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Arseneau to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 19, 2020:

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 briefing notes, correspondence, and draft and final plans, including plans for future phases, related to the government's healthcare reform announcement that was made on February 11, 2020, including the minutes of the meetings and motions adopted where the Board of Governors of Horizon and Vitalité approved the plan.

CONCLUDED

Motion 3 by Ms. Rogers. Debated and carried as amended December 12, 2019.

Motion 4 by Mr. D'Amours, Debated and carried December 12, 2019.

Motion 12 by Ms. LeBlanc. Debated and carried as amended November 28, 2019.

Motion 24 by Mr. D'Amours. Debated and carried as amended December 19, 2019.

Motion 27 by Ms. Harris. Debated and carried as amended December 19, 2019.

PETITIONS

Petition 1: Ms. Landry, November 20, 2019.	(Response, December 6, 2019)
Petition 2: Mr. Harvey, November 20, 2019.	(Response, December 5, 2019)
Petition 3: Ms. Thériault, November 20, 2019.	(Response, December 6, 2019)
Petition 4: Mr. Coon, November 20, 2019.	(Response, December 6, 2019)
Petition 5: Hon. Mr. Cardy, November 22, 2019.	(Response, December 5, 2019)
Petition 6: Mr. Coon, November 22, 2019.	(Response, December 6, 2019)
Petition 7: Hon. Mr. Urquhart, November 27, 2019.	(Response, December 11, 2019)
Petition 8: Mr. Coon, December 10, 2019.	(Response, February 3, 2020)
Petition 9: Mr. Harvey, December 11, 2019.	(Response, January 13, 2020)
Petition 10: Mr. Harvey, December 17, 2019.	(Response, January 13, 2020)
Petition 11: Mr. Coon, December 17, 2019.	(Response, January 6, 2020)
Petition 12: Mr. Arseneau, December 17, 2019.	(Response, January 13, 2020)
Petition 13: Mr. C. Chiasson, December 18, 2019.	(Response, January 9, 2020)
Petition 14: Mr. Landry, December 19, 2019.	(Response, January 20, 2020)
Petition 15: Mr. Harvey, December 19, 2019.	(Response, January 13, 2020)
Petition 16: Mr. Harvey, December 20, 2019.	(Response, January 15, 2020)
Petition 17: Ms. Mitton, December 20, 2019.	(Response, January 21, 2020)
Petition 18: Mr. Northrup, March 11, 2020.	
Petition 19: Mr. C. Chiasson, March 11, 2020.	
Petition 20: Ms. Mitton, March 11, 2020.	
Petition 21: Mr. C. Chiasson, March 13, 2020.	
Petition 22: Mr. Coon, April 17, 2020.	

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Standing Committee on Economic Policy	First Report, December 11, 2019 Second Report, December 12, 2019 Third Report, December 18, 2019 Fourth Report, December 19, 2019 Fifth Report, December 20, 2019 Sixth Report, March 11, 2020
Standing Committee on Law Amendments	First Report, November 20, 2019 Second Report, November 20, 2019
Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers	First Report, December 19, 2019

Standing Committee on Public Accounts

First Report, December 19, 2019

REPORTS/DOCUMENTS

Filed in the Clerk's Office

Legislative Activities 2018

(Filed April 29, 2020)

Annual Report 2019, Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance

(Filed May 6, 2020)

Annual Report 2017, Supervisor of Political Financing

(Filed May 19, 2020)

Annual Report 2017-2018, New Brunswick Child, Youth and Seniors' Advocate

(Filed May 21, 2020)

Donald J. Forestell
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly