



2019

*Legislative  
Activities*

Legislative  
Assembly of  
New Brunswick

# Legislative Activities

2019



## New Brunswick

Prepared for The Honourable Daniel Guitard

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

New Brunswick





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October 2, 2020

The Honourable Daniel Guitard  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
Room 31, Legislative Building  
Fredericton, New Brunswick  
E3B 5H1

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have the honour of submitting this, the thirty-first annual report of *Legislative Activities*, for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. Forestell  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

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## YEAR IN REVIEW

### *Clerk of the Legislative Assembly — Donald J. Forestell*

The 2019 calendar year was one of change for the offices of the Legislative Assembly. The second session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature concluded and the third session began. In total, the House held 45 sittings during the calendar year and committees held 82 meetings. The year saw the election of a new Leader of the Liberal Party of New Brunswick; the passing of the Lieutenant-Governor, a sitting Member of the Legislative Assembly, and a former Speaker; the resignation of a Member and former Premier; the installation of a new Lieutenant-Governor; the release of reports by the Standing Committee on Law Amendments; a newly formed standing committee; the merging of two standing committees; and the appointment of two new Legislative Officers.

On January 15, the Legislative Assembly hosted an orientation session with the Legislative Officers for all Members in the Legislative Council Chamber. Elections New Brunswick; the Office of the Auditor General; the Office of the Child, Youth and Senior Advocate; the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; the Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance; the Office of the Integrity Commissioner; and the Office of the Ombud made presentations explaining their mandates and roles with Members having an opportunity to ask questions.

On February 12, Denis Landry was elected interim Leader of the New Brunswick Liberal Party and Leader of the Official Opposition following former Premier Brian Gallant's resignation as leader. Mr. Landry was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1995 and previously served as Minister of Transportation, Minister of Natural Resources, Minister of Human Resources and Minister of Justice and Public Safety. On April 24, Kevin Vickers was declared Leader of the New Brunswick Liberal Party. As Mr. Vickers did not have a seat in the Legislature, Mr. Landry continued to serve as the Leader of the Official Opposition.

The second session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature, which adjourned on December 14, 2018, resumed sitting on March 19, when Finance Minister Ernie Steeves tabled the Progressive Conservative minority government's first budget. The reply to the budget speech was delivered on March 21 by the Opposition Finance Critic Roger Melanson.

During the spring sitting, 30 bills were introduced. Of procedural note, the Speaker, Hon. Daniel Guitard, broke a tie vote at second reading of Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, introduced by Green Party Leader David Coon. The Speaker voted in favour of the bill at second reading to allow further debate in Committee of the Whole, where the bill was eventually defeated. Also of note was Bill 30, *An Act Respecting Certain Responsibilities of the Integrity Commissioner and the Ombud*, which reassigned the administrative responsibilities of the *Conflict of Interest Act* from a designated judge to the Integrity Commissioner. The bill also reassigned the administrative responsibilities of the *Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Personal Health Information Privacy and Access Act* from the Integrity Commissioner to the Ombud.

The House adjourned on June 14, for a total of 28 spring sitting days. The second session was prorogued on the morning of November 19. A total of 40 bills were introduced during the second session, 28 of which received Royal Assent.

The House sat for 41 days during the second session, for a total of 149 hours. The Committee of the Whole and the Standing Committee on Economic Policy spent 42 hours considering legislation and the Committee of Supply and the Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy spent the prescribed 80 hours considering estimates.

Eugene McGinley, Q.C., former Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, passed away on July 16. He was first elected in 1972 in a by-election and was re-elected in 1974 to represent the constituency of Bathurst. Mr. McGinley was re-elected in 2003 to represent the riding of Grand Lake. Following his general election victory in 2006 in the new electoral district of Grand Lake-Gagetown, he was appointed Deputy Speaker designate and was subsequently elected Speaker in 2007. He served



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as Speaker until his appointment in October 2007 as Minister of State for Seniors and Housing. Throughout his legislative career, he was a member of various standing committees. He was admitted to the New Brunswick Barristers' Society in 1962 and was honoured with the designation of Queen's Counsel in 1985.

The year 2019 was marked by the passing of the Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau, 31<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, on August 2. Her tenure as Lieutenant-Governor was distinguished by her leadership and the sense of stability she offered the province during 2018's political transition.

David L. Myles passed away on August 22. He had a lifelong passion for the local history of buildings, and provided invaluable technical assistance, advice and supervision for the restoration and maintenance of a number of important provincially-owned buildings, including the Legislative Assembly, the Legislative Library, and Government House. He was recognized for his wise counsel in dispensing knowledgeable and reliable advice and the joy and laughter he brought to everything he did.

Gregory Thompson, P.C., Member for Saint Croix, passed away in office on September 10. He served multiple terms as a Member of Parliament. After being elected in the province's general election in 2018, he served as Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs.

On October 7, Brian Gallant, Q.C. resigned as the Member for Shédiac Bay-Dieppe. Mr. Gallant was elected Leader of the New Brunswick Liberal Party in 2012 and became Leader of the Official Opposition after winning a by-election in 2013. He was sworn-in as Premier following the 2014 general election. The September 2018 general election saw the Liberals form a minority government, which eventually lost the confidence of the House and led Mr. Gallant to resign as Premier in November. He continued to serve as Leader of the Official Opposition until an interim leader, Denis Landry, was chosen in February 2019.

On October 8, the Honourable Brenda Murphy was installed as the province's 32<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant-Governor after being sworn-in on September 8. The formal installation in October was held in the Legislative Assembly Chamber.

The third session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature opened the afternoon of November 19. The Lieutenant-Governor delivered the speech from the throne outlining the legislative agenda of Premier Blaine Higgs' Progressive Conservative minority government. The Leader of the Official Opposition, Denis Landry, delivered the reply to the speech from the throne on November 21. During the fall sitting, 31 bills were introduced.

Committees were active in the summer and fall with the Standing Committee on Law Amendments holding several days of public hearings on issues related to mandatory immunization and property assessment that in total had 50 presenters and received approximately 285 written submissions. The Legislature also created a new committee called the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship tasked with the responsibility of receiving updates on the province's progress towards implementing the *Climate Change Action Plan*; and merged the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations' mandate with the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to effectively dissolve the former committee.

On November 22, the Assembly recommended the appointment of Shirley MacLean, Q.C., an executive with the Law Society of New Brunswick, as Official Languages Commissioner and Charles Murray, Ombud, as Integrity Commissioner. Each will serve a term of seven years.

The House adjourned on December 20, after 16 sitting days. The standings in the House at year end were 21 Progressive Conservatives, 20 Liberals, three Greens, three People's Alliance, and two vacancies.



# NOTABLE EVENTS

## Passing of Lieutenant-Governor

The 31<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick, the Hon. Jocelyne Roy Vienneau, passed away in office on August 2. On August 8, a state funeral was held at Sainte-Thérèse-d'Avila Catholic Church in Robertville, New Brunswick. Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada, and Premier Blaine Higgs delivered eulogies to the congregation of national dignitaries and members of the public.

Her Honour's accomplishments include two mandates as vice president at l'Université de Moncton's Shippagan campus, and serving as Assistant Deputy Minister with the Department of Education and Director-General of the New Brunswick Community College in Bathurst. As the first Acadian woman to serve as Lieutenant-Governor in New Brunswick, her incumbency was of historic, social and cultural importance to the province.



**A book of condolences was placed in the rotunda of the Legislative Assembly to provide the public with an opportunity to pay their respects to the family of Hon. Jocelyne Roy Vienneau and was then delivered to the family before the funeral on August 8 in Robertville, New Brunswick.**

## Installation of Lieutenant-Governor

Brenda Louise Murphy of Grand Bay-Westfield was installed as the province's 32<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant-Governor at a ceremony held in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly on October 8. She was sworn-in on September 8 to allow her to assume office immediately due to the passing of the former Lieutenant-Governor, Hon. Jocelyne Roy Vienneau.

Her Honour was the executive director of the Saint John Women's Empowerment Network for over 20 years. She served three terms as municipal councilor for the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield, was a member of the National Advisory Council on Poverty, and a member of the New Brunswick Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

During the installation ceremony, the Hon. Marc Richard, Chief Justice of New Brunswick, administered the Oath of Allegiance and the Oath of Office. Shortly afterward, Her Honour delivered an address in which she stated that, "Over the next five years, I am committed to continuing to promote gender equality, helping to eliminate intimate partner violence and continuing to find safe spaces where the voiceless can be heard, engaged and fully participating in our communities and province."



*Her Honour Brenda Murphy signs the State of Oath Book as Premier Blaine Higgs (left), Clerk of the Executive Council Jean-Marc Dupuis (right) and Chief Justice Marc Richard (far right) look on.*



## New Legislative Officers

In 2019, the Legislative Assembly saw the appointment of two new Legislative Officers. On November 22, a new Official Languages Commissioner and a new Integrity Commissioner were recommended by resolutions of the House. The appointments were then made by Order in Council on December 12, with effect on January 1, 2020.

Shirley MacLean, Q.C., the Deputy Executive Director and Registrar of Complaints for the Law Society of New Brunswick, was named New Brunswick's next Official Languages Commissioner. Charles Murray, New Brunswick's Ombud since 2013, was named as the new Integrity Commissioner after filling the role on an interim basis since January. Both appointments are for a term of seven years.



*Ms. MacLean and Mr. Murray congratulate each other on their new appointments at the Official Languages Commissioner's swearing-in ceremony.*

The swearing-in and reception were hosted by Speaker Daniel Guitard and held in the Legislative Council Chamber.

## Joint Conference of APCC and ALCC

In partnership with the Legislative Services Branch of the Attorney General's Office, the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly hosted the annual joint conference of the Association of Parliamentary Counsel in Canada (APCC) and the Association of Legislative Counsel in Canada (ALCC).

Held from August 14 to 16, the conference was attended by delegates from across Canada, representing parliamentary and legislative counsel from the provinces and territories and the Parliament of Canada.

Business session topics included the role of legislatures in dialogue theory; the minority government situation in New Brunswick; new drafting guides and tools at the House of Commons; Aboriginal consultation and the regulatory process; regulatory modernization; gender-neutral drafting; Brexit; and jurisdictional updates.



**Participants of the 2019 Joint Conference of the Association of Parliamentary Counsel in Canada (APCC) and the Association of Legislative Counsel in Canada (ALCC).**



# MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



## ROLE OF SPEAKER

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly is elected by secret ballot by all Members of the Legislative Assembly at the opening of a new Legislature, or when a vacancy occurs. The Speaker assumes the position of highest authority in the House. As the representative of the Legislative Assembly, the Speaker is the guardian of its privileges and its presiding officer.

To facilitate the orderly flow of business, the House observes certain parliamentary rules, both written and traditional. The Speaker must ensure that these rules of procedure are observed and must protect the rights and privileges of the Assembly and its Members. The Speaker maintains order, interprets the standing rules and calls on Members to speak, ensuring a fair representation of opinion. The Speaker presides over the debates of the House with impartiality. The Speaker does not participate in debate, and does not vote except in the case of a tie.



*Hon. Daniel Guitard,  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly*

The Speaker is the head of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and is responsible for the services, staff and facilities directly related to the Legislative Assembly. The Speaker is president of the New Brunswick Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and serves as the representative of the Legislative Assembly on ceremonial and official occasions.

In addition to these responsibilities, the Speaker remains a Member of the Legislative Assembly and is expected to carry out various duties on behalf of his constituents.

## ROLE OF MEMBERS

The Parliament of New Brunswick, composed of the Crown and the elected Members, is constituted as the Legislative Assembly. The Queen of Canada, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, is the official Head of State and is represented in New Brunswick by the Lieutenant-Governor. The primary function of the Legislature, making laws, is vested jointly in the Lieutenant-Governor and the Legislative Assembly, with the Assembly passing legislation and the Lieutenant-Governor assenting to it. This follows centuries-old British tradition in which the power of the state rests with the Crown, while the exercise of that power rests with elected Members.

New Brunswick's system of government, like the federal system in Ottawa, is based on the British parliamentary system. Each of the 49 Members is individually elected to represent the voters in one constituency. Although a Member need not be affiliated with an organized political party, this has generally been the tradition in New Brunswick.



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The three main functions of the Legislature are law-making, surveillance and representation. The legislative process (law-making) claims a predominant share of the Assembly's sitting time.

Surveillance refers to holding the government accountable. The job of examining and criticizing the actions of government is primarily a task for the opposition. Oral Question period is the most visible means of surveillance.

Representation refers to serving and representing constituents. For many Members, the constituency is a defining characteristic of their job. Serving constituents is viewed by many Members as one of their primary roles and most spend a great deal of time and effort directed toward this end.

## HOUSE ACTIVITY

The term *Legislature* generally refers to the institution which exercises the legislative power. More specifically, the term is used by parliamentarians to refer to the period between two general elections. Each general election brings about a new Legislative Assembly.

The annual meeting of the Assembly is called a session. Under the *Constitution Act, 1867*, at least one session of the Legislature must be held each year. There may be any number of sessions during the life of a Legislature. The term *session* refers to the period of time between the opening of the Legislative Assembly, when the Lieutenant-Governor delivers the throne speech, and the prorogation of parliamentary work. Any business not completed before prorogation dies on the *Order and Notice Paper*. A session may also be ended by dissolution, in which case a general election would follow.

The daily meeting of the Assembly is called a sitting. A sitting is not necessarily synonymous with a calendar day. Some sittings are very brief and others have extended over more than one calendar day. A sitting is concluded by the adjournment of the House.

The ordinary sitting hours for the House are:

Tuesday	1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
	1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
	1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Friday	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
	1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The ordinary sitting hours are prescribed by the standing rules and may be varied on occasion to include evening sittings.

Each sitting day is divided into two parts: Routine Business and Orders of the Day.



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## Routine Business

Routine Business is devoted to both new business and to providing Members with an opportunity to bring a variety of matters to the attention of the House. The same items of business reappear daily and include:

### **Prayers**

The prayers consist of two separate invocations followed by the Lord's Prayer and are read partly in English and partly in French.

### **Introduction of Guests**

Members have an opportunity to introduce persons from their constituency or other noteworthy individuals who are present in the House.

### **Statements by Members**

Members who are not Ministers may be recognized to make a brief statement related to any matter of importance to the Member.

### **Oral Questions**

Each sitting day, 30 minutes is set aside for the purpose of asking oral questions. During Oral Questions, Members may ask concise and clear questions on matters of urgency addressed to Ministers. Ministers may respond or take the matter under advisement.

### **Tabling of Documents**

A Minister may table with the House any return, report or other paper within the administrative competence of the government. Many statutes require that certain reports and documents be laid before the House each session or year. Other documents may be tabled pursuant to a standing rule or resolution of the House.

### **Statements by Ministers**

A Minister may make a brief statement on, or explanation of, government policy or administration. Debate is not permitted on such a statement or explanation but a representative of each recognized party in opposition may comment briefly.

### **Presentations of Petitions**

The public has the right to petition the Legislature, or government, to take certain action. Individuals or groups with petitions must enlist the aid of Members to have their petitions presented in the House.

### **Answers to Petitions and Written Questions**

A Minister, on behalf of government, may table with the House a response to any petition or written question previously presented in the House.



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## **Presentations of Committee Reports**

Any information to be transmitted to the House from a committee is presented in the form of a committee report. Committees submit reports on a variety of subjects, including: bills, estimates, procedural matters and subject-matter inquiries.

### **Introduction of Bills**

Ministers and other Members have an opportunity to introduce new bills in the House and give a brief explanation as to their purpose.

### **Notices of Motions**

In order for Members to be fully prepared when matters are called for debate in the House, two days' written notice is required for important House business. Members may give such notice under this item.

### **Notice of Opposition Members' Business**

Opposition Members' Business is taken under consideration at 2.30 p.m. on Thursdays. An item of Opposition Members' Business may be considered in an order different from its order of priority or its order of presentation in the House provided that one day's notice has been given under this item.

### **Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House**

Motions moved under this item are those relating to the business of the House and are moved by the Government House Leader. The Government House Leader will also announce the scheduling and order in which the daily business of the House will be considered.

### **Deferred Recorded Divisions**

The will of the House is usually ascertained by means of a voice vote. Once debate on a motion has concluded, the Speaker puts the question and determines whether the yeas or nays have it and declares the motion carried or lost. A recorded division may be requested on any voice vote. A recorded division requires those voting in the affirmative or negative to rise so their names can be entered in the Journal. A recorded division, if requested, need not be held immediately. At the request of the Government House Leader or Whip, it may be deferred to the next sitting day under this item.

### **Orders of the Day**

This item refers to the business that is to come before the House each day, as set out in the *Order and Notice Paper*. An item of business may include consideration of bills at various stages, estimates, or motions for which notice has already been given.

### **Condolences and Congratulations**

While no longer a part of Routine Business following the rule changes in 2015, Members have an opportunity to present a statement of condolence or extend congratulations to any person, group or association before the Speaker motions for the daily adjournment of the House.



## HOUSE STATISTICS

	58 <sup>th</sup> Legislature		59 <sup>th</sup> Legislature	
	Third Session 2016 - 2017	Fourth Session 2017 - 2018	First Session 2018	Second Session 2018-2019
<i>Daily Sittings</i>				
Number of Sitting Days	48	39	9	41
Evening Sittings	0	0	0	0
<i>Government Bills</i>				
Introduced	56	42	2	31
Received Royal Assent	53	41	0	26
<i>Private Bills</i>				
Introduced	6	1	0	1
Received Royal Assent	5	0	0	1
<i>Private Members' Public Bills</i>				
Introduced	9	4	0	8
Received Royal Assent	1	0	0	1
<i>Government Motions</i>				
Total	14	13	5	14
Number debated	6	6	0	4
Number agreed to	12	12	5	13
Number withdrawn	0	0	0	0
<i>Private Members' Motions</i>				
Total	22	27	7	50
Number debated	18	16	2	10
Number agreed to	9	13	1	8
Number withdrawn	0	0	0	0
<i>Committee of Supply</i>				
In House (Days)	2	3	0	3
In Committee on Estimates	13	12	0	13
In other Committees	0	0	0	0
<i>Annual Reports Tabled</i>	74	59	15	86
<i>Petitions</i>	40	16	4	18
<i>Written Questions</i>	5	7	0	0



## MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019

### Seating Arrangement

	<b>Bruce Northrup</b> Sussex-Fundy-St. Martins		<b>Ross Wetmore</b> Gagetown-Petitcodiac		<b>Sherry Wilson</b> Moncton Southwest		<b>Trevor Holder</b> Portland-Simonds
	<b>Bruce Fitch</b> Riverview		<b>Mary Wilson</b> Oromocto-Lincoln-Fredericton		<b>Hugh Flemming</b> Rothesay		<b>Glen Savoie</b> Saint John East
	<b>Stewart Fairgrieve</b> Carleton		<b>Jeff Carr</b> New Maryland-Sunbury		<b>Andrea Anderson-Mason</b> Fundy-The Isles-Saint John West		<b>Blaine Higgs</b> Quispamsis
	<b>Gary Crossman</b> Hampton		<b>Mike Holland</b> Albert		<b>Robert Gauvin</b> Shippagan-Lamèque-Miscou		<b>Ernie Steeves</b> Moncton Northwest
			<b>Carl Urquhart</b> Carleton-York		<b>Jake Stewart</b> Southwest Miramichi-Bay du Vin		<b>Dorothy Shephard</b> Saint John Lancaster
			<b>Bill Oliver</b> Kings Centre		<b>Dominic Cardy</b> Fredericton West-Hanwell		



**PC**



**L**



**GP**



**PA**



**Richard DeSaulniers**  
Fredericton-York



**Kris Austin**  
Fredericton-Grand Lake



**Michelle Conroy**  
Miramichi

*Note: There are two vacancies following the passing of Greg Thompson, P.C., on September 10 and the resignation of Brian Gallant on October 7.*



**Daniel Guitard**  
Speaker  
Restigouche-Chaleur



**Guy Arseneault**  
Campbellton-  
Dalhousie



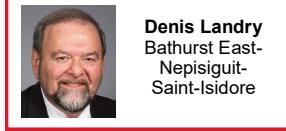
**Roger Melanson**  
Dieppe



**Benoît Bourque**  
Kent South



**Jacques LeBlanc**  
Shédiac-  
Beaubassin-  
Cap-Pelé



**Denis Landry**  
Bathurst East-  
Nepisiguit-  
Saint-Isidore



**Francine Landry**  
Madawaska Les  
Lacs-Edmundston



**Keith Chiasson**  
Tracadie-Sheila



**Cathy Rogers**  
Moncton South



**Isabelle Thériault**  
Caraquet



**Stephen Horsman**  
Fredericton North



**Andrew Harvey**  
Carleton-Victoria



**Gilles LePage**  
Restigouche West



**Gerry Lowe**  
Saint John Harbour



**Lisa Harris**  
Miramichi Bay-  
Neguac



**Chuck Chiasson**  
Victoria-La-Vallée



**Robert McKee**  
Moncton Centre



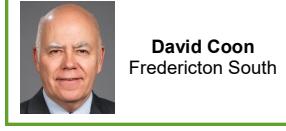
**Brian Kenny**  
Bathurst West-  
Beresford



**Monique LeBlanc**  
Moncton East



**Jean-Claude  
D'Amours**  
Edmundston-  
Madawaska Centre



**David Coon**  
Fredericton South



**Megan Mitton**  
Memramcook-  
Tantramar



**Kevin Arseneau**  
Kent North

Donald J. Forestell  
Clerk

Shayne Davies  
Deputy Clerk

John-Patrick McCleave  
Clerk Assistant and  
Committee Clerk



**David Coon**  
Fredericton South



**Megan Mitton**  
Memramcook-  
Tantramar



**Kevin Arseneau**  
Kent North

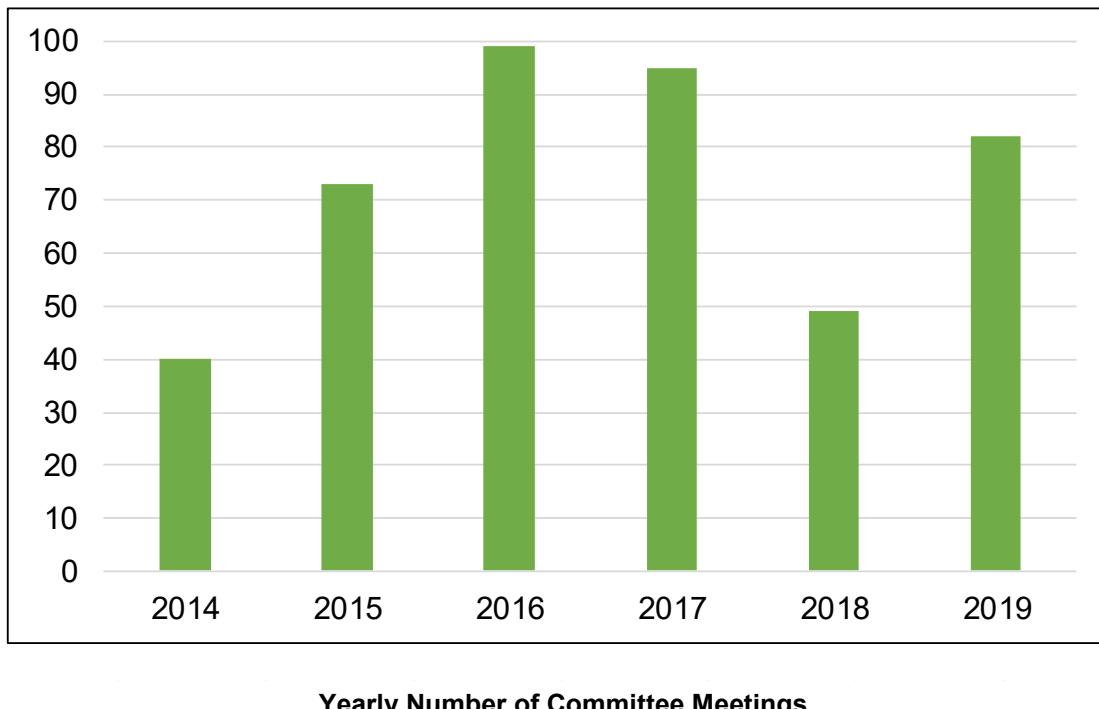


## COMMITTEE ACTIVITY



A significant amount of work is carried out by legislative committees. These committees are an extension of the House and undertake responsibilities that the Assembly as a whole would find difficult, if not impossible, to carry out. Committees exist to expedite the work of the House and to allow for more thorough study of complex or technical questions. Committees are also able to consult with the public on important matters, and travel when necessary, allowing Members to hear from people in all areas of the province.

In 2019, a new standing committee was appointed, resulting in a total of 10 standing committees and 1 select committee, which held a total of 82 meetings during the year. Standing committees are appointed by the House and exist for the life of a Legislature. Select committees are appointed to examine specific issues and exist until the presentation of their final reports or until the dissolution of the House, whichever occurs first.





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The following is a list of committees, their membership, mandate and activities, as of December 31, 2019.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### Legislative Administration Committee

<b>Members</b>	Hon. Mr. Guitard (C) Mr. C. Chiasson (VC) Ms. LeBlanc Hon. Mr. Steeves Hon. Mr. Oliver Mr. Savoie Mr. Fairgrieve	Mr. Arseneault Mr. D'Amours Mr. Coon Mr. Arseneau Mr. Austin Ms. Conroy
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#### Mandate

The Committee is responsible for the administration and operation of the legislative buildings and grounds, and generally for all matters relating to the Legislative Assembly and its Members, including budgets, financial policies, allowances and expenses of Members, and terms and conditions of employment of officers and employees.

#### Activities

The Committee held 8 meetings, on February 7, 8 and 20, March 29, May 28, September 17, October 4 and November 27 to discuss various issues related to the operation and administration of the Legislature. The Committee also appointed a subcommittee, which met on March 29 and May 2.

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### Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Fitch (C) Mr. Arseneau (VC) Hon. Mr. Carr Hon. Mr. Holland Hon. Mr. Wetmore	Ms. Rogers Mr. Harvey Mr. C. Chiasson Mr. LeBlanc Mr. DeSaulniers
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#### Mandate

The Committee receives updates from government departments and agencies, key stakeholders and subject matter experts on progress towards the implementation of New Brunswick's *Climate Change Action Plan*, and gathers information on climate change, environmental stewardship and any other related issues by engaging with experts and stakeholders.

#### Activities

The Committee was appointed by the House on December 19 and held one meeting, on that date, to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair.



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## Standing Committee on Crown Corporations

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Savoie (C) Mr. Northrup (VC) Mr. Fairgrieve Mr. Crossman Mr. Bourque	Mr. Kenny Mr. LePage Mr. Lowe Mr. Arseneau Mr. Austin
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### Mandate

The Committee reviews the annual reports of provincial agencies, boards and commissions.

### Activities

The Committee held 17 meetings, on January 16, 29, 30 and 31, February 1, 5 and 6, June 11 and 13, October 2, 3, 30 and 31, November 1, 5 and 6, and December 3. The Committee reviewed the Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, 2018, Volumes II and III; and the Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, 2019, Volumes I, II and III. In October, the Committee participated in an orientation session held by the Office of the Auditor General and the Canadian Audit and Accountability Foundation. In 2019, the Committee reviewed the annual reports of Ambulance New Brunswick, Cannabis New Brunswick, Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation, Horizon Health Network, Kings Landing Corporation, New Brunswick Community College, New Brunswick Farm Products Commission, New Brunswick Forest Products Commission, New Brunswick Legal Aid Services Commission, New Brunswick Liquor Corporation, New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation, New Brunswick Power Corporation, Opportunities New Brunswick, Recycle New Brunswick, Research and Productivity Council, Service New Brunswick, Vitalité Health Network, and WorkSafe NB.

The Committee presented a report to the House on March 26. On December 19, by motion of the House, the Committee was permanently dissolved and its mandate was merged with the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

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## Standing Committee on Economic Policy

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Crossman (C) Mr. Fairgrieve (VC) Mr. Savoie Mr. Northrup Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. K. Chiasson Mr. Lowe Ms. Rogers Mr. Arseneau Mr. Austin
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### Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain government legislation related to economic policy.

### Activities

The Committee held 6 meetings, on January 23 and December 10, 11, 17, 18 and 19. The Committee presented reports to the House on March 20 and December 11, 12, 18, 19 and 20.



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## Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Savoie (C) Mr. Crossman (VC) Mr. Fitch Mr. Northrup Mr. Bourque	Ms. Harris Mr. Harvey Ms. Landry Mr. Coon Mr. DeSaulniers
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### Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review the estimates of certain government departments and related entities.

### Activities

The Committee held 13 meetings, on April 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24 and 25, and May 7, 8 and 10. The Committee presented a report to the House on May 14.

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## Standing Committee on Law Amendments

<b>Members</b>	Hon. Ms. Anderson-Mason, Q.C. (C) Mr. Northrup (VC) Hon. Mr. Stewart Mr. Fitch Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Landry Ms. Landry Mr. McKee Ms. Mitton Mr. DeSaulniers
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### Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain bills prior to second reading. This referral is often made to allow for public consultation.

### Activities

The Committee held 8 meetings, on July 9, August 27, 28 and 29, September 4 and 5, October 18 and November 13. The Committee was referred Bill 39, *An Act Respecting Proof of Immunization*. The Committee heard from 30 presenters and received approximately 265 written submissions. The Committee presented a report to the House on Bill 39 on November 20. The Committee was also directed through the adoption of Motion 31 to hear from experts and stakeholders on whether to reduce or eliminate any property assessment or property taxation exemptions or benefits that apply to heavy industry. The Committee heard from 20 presenters and received 20 written submissions. The Committee presented a report to the House on Motion 31 on November 20.

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## Standing Committee on Private Bills

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Crossman (C) Mr. Northrup (VC) Hon. Mr. Carr Hon. Ms. S. Wilson Mr. Landry	Mr. LeBlanc Mr. McKee Ms. Thériault Ms. Mitton Ms. Conroy
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## Mandate

The Committee reviews all private bills prior to second reading. Any person affected by a private bill may appear before the Committee.

## Activities

The Committee held a meeting on June 6 and presented a report to the House on that date.

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## Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Fairgrieve (C) Mr. Savoie (VC) Hon. Ms. S. Wilson Mr. Fitch Mr. Kenny	Mr. LePage Ms. LeBlanc Mr. Melanson Mr. Coon Mr. DeSaulniers
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## Mandate

All standing rules and practices of the House, together with any matter referred by the Speaker, stand permanently referred to the Committee. The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to consider a matter or question of privilege concerning the House, a committee or Member. The Committee also reviews reports of Legislative Officers.

## Activities

The Committee held 5 meetings, on February 7, March 13, June 6, October 4 and December 18. The Committee reviewed reports of the Ombud, Chief Electoral Officer, and Commissioner of Official Languages for New Brunswick. The Committee presented a report to the House on December 19.

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## Standing Committee on Public Accounts

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Melanson (C) Mr. Fairgrieve (VC) Mr. Northrup Mr. Savoie Mr. Crossman	Ms. Harris Mr. LeBlanc Ms. Rogers Ms. Mitton Mr. Austin
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## Mandate

The Committee reviews Auditor General reports, Public Accounts, and annual reports of government departments.

## Activities

The Committee held 18 meetings, on January 16, February 7, 8, 19, 20, 21 and 22, June 11 and 13, July 2, August 6 and 7, October 2, 3, 9 and 10, November 7 and December 3. The Committee reviewed the Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, 2018, Volumes II and III; and the Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, 2019, Volumes I, II and III. The meetings in August focused on chapter 5 of the 2019 volume I report and were in relation to New Brunswick's funding agreement with the City of Saint John. In October, the Committee participated in an orientation session held by the Office of the Auditor General and the Canadian



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Audit and Accountability Foundation. In 2019, the Committee reviewed the annual reports of the following departments, secretariat or office: Aboriginal Affairs; Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries; Attorney General; Education and Early Childhood Development; Energy and Resource Development; Environment and Local Government; Finance; Health; Justice and Public Safety; Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; Social Development; Tourism, Heritage and Culture; Transportation and Infrastructure; and Treasury Board. The Committee presented reports to the House on March 26 and December 19.

On December 19, by motion of the House, the mandate of the Committee was expanded to include those entities previously reviewed by the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, following the dissolution of that Committee.

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## **Standing Committee on Social Policy**

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Northrup (C) Mr. Crossman (VC) Mr. Fairgrieve Mr. Savoie Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Harvey Ms. LeBlanc Ms. Thériault Ms. Mitton Ms. Conroy
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### **Mandate**

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain government legislation related to social policy.

### **Activities**

The Committee did not meet in 2019.

## **SELECT COMMITTEES**

### **Select Committee on Public Universities**

<b>Members</b>	Mr. Savoie (C) Hon. Ms. Shephard (VC) Hon. Mr. Holland Hon. Mr. Steeves Mr. Horsman	Ms. Thériault Mr. McKee Ms. Landry Ms. Mitton Mr. DeSaulniers
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### **Mandate**

The Committee was appointed by the House on May 17 to invite representatives of New Brunswick's publicly funded universities to appear before the Committee to discuss and provide insight into university administration, programming, performance measurement, accountability and transparency.

### **Activities**

The Committee held 3 meetings, on September 5, 24 and 26. The Committee heard from the four public universities in the province; the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; and the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission.



## CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

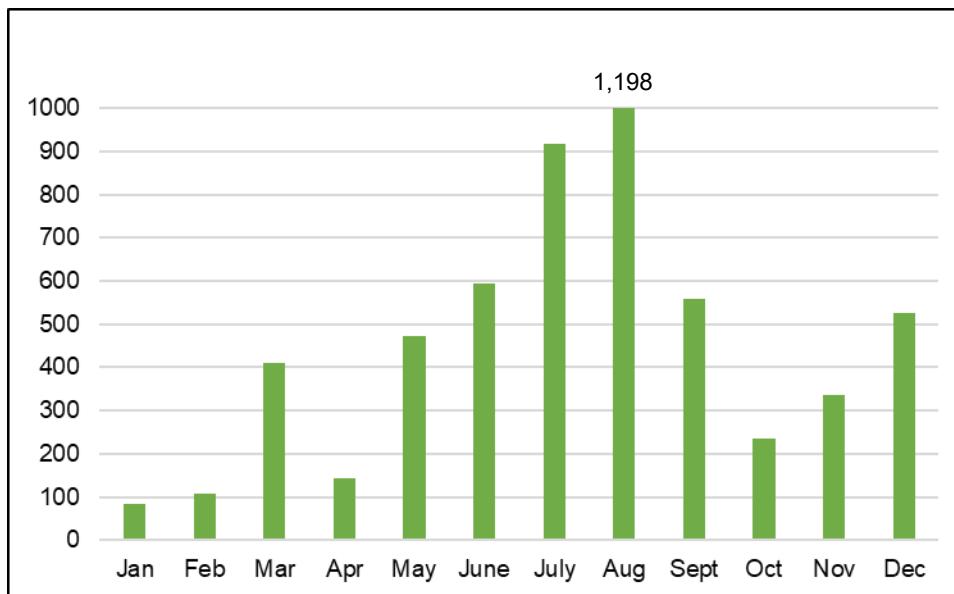


## VISITORS AND TOURS

Parliament Square, which includes the Legislative Assembly, the Departmental Building, and the Old Education Building, was officially declared a protected historic site under the *Historic Sites Protection Act* in November 2000. The present Legislative Assembly in Fredericton has been the seat and symbol of democracy in New Brunswick since 1882, when it replaced a building destroyed by fire two years earlier.

The historic value of the site is shared with tourists, students, official visitors, and internal and external conference delegations. Tours of the building are offered year-round and focus on the craftsmanship of the structure, artifacts and artwork on the site, and the functioning of New Brunswick's parliamentary system.

Throughout the year, but particularly during the summer months, the Legislative Assembly Building and grounds attract visitors from all corners of the province and from all Canadian provinces and territories. In addition, international visitors are welcomed daily. Guided tours are available in both official languages or guests can enjoy self-guided tours throughout the historic building. Approximately 5,580 people visited the Legislature in 2019.



Monthly Visitor Numbers in 2019



Four post-secondary students were employed as summer tour guides: Mélika Belliveau, Frédéric Cammarano, Lauren Colter, and Kurvin Silvio offered daily tours until September. Since 2013, the Legislative Assembly offers tours seven days per week during the summer months.

In recognition of Take Our Kids to Work Day, the Departments of Finance; Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; Social Development; and the Treasury Board organized a visit to the Legislative Assembly for grade 9 students on November 6. A special tour on the functioning of the legislative institution was organized by these departments in order for students to learn about the roles of the legislative branch of government and the civil service. Take Our Kids to Work Day is organized by The Learning Partnership, a national nonprofit organization that advocates a strong public education system in Canada. New Brunswick joined the program in 1996 and, since 1998, the program has been held nationally, with all provinces and territories taking part.

Many dignitaries were welcomed to the Legislative Assembly in 2019. The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly met with the Consul General of Japan in Montreal, Mr. Osamu Izawa on April 16; the Consul General of the United States of America in Halifax, Mr. Kevin Skillin on May 1; and the Ambassador of Austria to Canada, His Excellency Dr. Stefan Pehringer on June 18. The Ambassador of Ireland to Canada, His Excellency Mr. Jim Kelly was welcomed to the Legislative Assembly with a tour of the building on October 30 and the Ambassador of Norway to Canada, Her Excellency Ms. Anne Kari H. Ovind, received a tour and was introduced in the House on November 26.

First-year students from the University of New Brunswick's Faculty of Law received a tour of the Legislative Assembly on September 20. Approximately 100 students from the Constitutional Law classes were greeted by the Deputy Clerk and given a special presentation in the Chamber. As an alumnus, the Deputy Clerk explained how his legal training guides him in his advisory role to the Speaker regarding parliamentary procedures and privileges, as well as how to best defend the rights and immunities of parliament to carry out its proper constitutional role. He also answered questions from the students regarding the interpretation and drafting of legislation and amendments to bills; the interpretation and revision of the *Standing Rules of the Legislative Assembly*; his research role in parliamentary procedure, practice, and privilege; and how Speaker's rulings are drafted when issues arise during the course of a sitting.

On September 11, a special tour of the building was given to staff from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and representatives of Mi'gmawey'l Tplu'taqnn, a non-profit organization whose members are the nine Mi'gmaq communities in New Brunswick. Two highlights of the tour included a comprehensive discussion of King George III, whose portrait hangs in the Chamber and who was instrumental in setting legal precedent regarding Aboriginal land titles and rights, and a viewing of Rooms 47 and 48, which is decorated with traditional and contemporary Aboriginal artwork produced by indigenous Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq artists and craft persons from the Atlantic region.

The New Brunswick Legislative Assembly hosted staff from The Council of State Governments for their Eastern Regional Conference on November 21 to discuss topics of mutual interest, such as Aboriginal and economic trade policies. Established in 1933, The Council of State Governments is a region-based forum that fosters the exchange of insights and ideas to help state officials shape public policy.



**The Speaker met with the Consul General of Japan in Montreal, the Ambassador of Austria to Canada, and the Consul General of the United States of America in Halifax.**



## SPECIAL EVENTS AND CEREMONIES

The outdoor lighting system of the Legislature permits special illuminations of the building.



*The Legislature was bathed in red on October 24 to acknowledge International Dyslexia Awareness Month.*

On April 2, the Legislative Assembly participated in the Light It Up Blue campaign for World Autism Awareness Day. For World Lyme Day on May 1, the Legislature was awash in green until May 7 and again on May 22 to generate awareness for the prevention of tick-borne illnesses while supporting those affected.

The Legislature participated in the “Beacons of Light for British Home Children”, a National British Home Child Day campaign on September 28 to mark the sesquicentennial of the arrival of the first party of British Home Children sent to Canada from the United Kingdom to be used as indentured farm workers and domestics. The portico was illuminated in red, white and blue to represent a combination of the British and Canadian flags.

In collaboration with the community-based group “Wolastoqiyik Sisters in Spirit”, the Legislative Assembly lit its portico purple and red on October 4 to honour and remember missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.

For World Cerebral Palsy Day on October 6, the Legislature was illuminated in green. World CP Day is a global campaign to demonstrate support for those living with cerebral palsy, which is a group of disorders affecting body movement and muscle coordination due to an anomaly of the developing brain. The Legislative Assembly highlighted “Mark It Read” on October 24 in recognition of International Dyslexia Awareness Month. The lighting is intended to demonstrate support for the 10 to 15 per cent of Canadians living with dyslexia.

For World Pancreatic Cancer Day on November 21, the Legislature participated in the Purple Lights campaign. An initiative of Pancreatic Cancer Canada, this campaign saw the Legislature illuminated with a purple lighting scheme from November 18 to 22.

Alberta Premier Jason Kenney addressed the Legislative Assembly on June 13 as part of a cross country tour to raise support for oil and gas development. In his address, he mentioned the important ties between Alberta and New Brunswick, announcing his intention to work with Premier Blaine Higgs to strengthen national unity, to be partners in trade with the development of natural resource corridors, and to support federal policies to help peoples of both provinces enjoy prosperity.

Various award ceremonies took place at the Legislative Assembly during 2019, including the New Brunswick Council of Scouts Canada’s annual Chief Scout Awards on November 2; and the Duke of Edinburgh’s Silver Award Ceremony on November 23. Traditionally, the Lieutenant-Governor presides over these ceremonies.



The annual Queen's Counsel Ceremony was held in the Legislative Assembly Chamber on December 9. The distinction of Queen's Counsel is bestowed upon experienced lawyers in the province. The eleven recipients this year were: Cynthia J. Benson, Saint John; J. Denis Boudreau, Tracadie-Sheila; Blair C. Fraser, Moncton; Donna L. MacEwen, Moncton; Sébastien A. Michaud, Grand-Falls; Sylvie I. Michaud, Moncton; John L. Nugent, Saint John; J. Danie Roy, Moncton; Matthew M. Tweedie, Fredericton; Frederick A. Welsford, Saint John; Richard A. Williams, Fredericton.

The annual Provincial Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony took place on November 29 in front of the Legislative Assembly. Special guests included Lieutenant-Governor Brenda Murphy; Speaker Daniel Guitard; Premier Blaine Higgs; Member for Fredericton North, Stephen Horsman; Member for Fredericton South, David Coon; Member for Fredericton-Grand Lake, Kris Austin; Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Donald Forestell; and Chaplain Father Peter Melanson. Hot apple cider and hot chocolate were served to the public by Epsilon Y's Men and Epsilon Y's Menettes. The evening's entertainment was provided by the Fredericton Ladies Community Choir and the Park Street Glee. Following the tree lighting, a procession led by Santa Claus and the Fredericton Concert and Marching Band proceeded along Queen Street to continue the festivities at Fredericton City Hall for the city's tree lighting ceremony.



**The annual Provincial Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony occurred on November 29.**

**Special guests included: (first row) Hon. Brenda Murphy,  
Speaker Daniel Guitard, and Premier Blaine Higgs.  
(second row) Fredericton North Member Stephen Horsman;  
Leader of the People's Alliance, Kris Austin; and Leader of the Green Party, David Coon.**



## PAGE PROGRAM

A Page has a valued and integral role in the functioning of the Legislative Assembly. A prevalent belief is that Canada's use of Pages, which dates back to the mid-1800s, was based on the practice in the United States, where the word "runner" was in use as early as 1827. The designation of "House Page" first appeared in Canada in 1841. By the time of Confederation in 1867, the position of Page in Canadian legislative institutions was well established.



*Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick in 1898.  
Two young pages stand in front of the Members.*

Today, Pages are young people selected to serve as messengers of the House and to perform various duties to assist Members and staff of the Legislative Assembly. Pages are post-secondary students who express an interest in the legislative process.

The presence of Pages in the Legislative Assembly is required for all regular sitting days, and for various meetings of standing and select committees. Prior to the commencement of proceedings, Pages distribute the daily *Order and Notice Paper* to Members and legislative staff. While the House is sitting, Pages deliver documents on behalf of Members and staff to the Speaker, the Clerks, and to other Members, as requested.

To serve as a Page offers an opportunity to learn about the political and legislative processes. Persons interested in working as a Page may download an application form from the Legislative Assembly website.

The Pages who served during the spring 2019 sittings were Sarah Albert, Erik Arsenault, Maria Córdova, Brittany Fracker, Josie Green, Emma Johnson, Curtis Kelly, Jane Landry, Corben Parker, Alex Robichaud (Head Page), Fabiana Rosado, Jarrod Ryan, Andreea Soare, and Dorcas Tshimenga.

The Pages who served during the fall 2019 sittings were Sarah Albert, Andrea Amaya, Lauren Colter, Khanh Do, Marie-Laurence Filion, Brittany Fracker, Elen Gasparyan, Wasiimah Joomun, Jane Landry, Jason O'Hearn, Fabiana Rosado, Andreea Soare, Elizabeth Tuck, and Charles White.



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## BROADCASTING AND WEBCASTING

The Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick has been televising its proceedings since 1988. New Brunswick was among the first Canadian provinces to bring video cameras into its Legislature. In 1988, the Legislature televised the previously recorded Routine Proceedings of each sitting day on a community-access channel. Coverage of the proceedings went live in 1989.

In the 1990s, the live coverage was expanded to include almost an entire sitting day. In 2006, the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service was launched to provide gavel-to-gavel television coverage of all sitting days on a channel dedicated solely to the broadcast of legislative proceedings.

The Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service broadcasts the daily proceedings each sitting day in both official languages. In 2019, the proceedings continued to be televised on Rogers cable channel 70 in New Brunswick communities served by the company. On channel 70 in Fredericton, Moncton, Saint John, Miramichi, and surrounding communities, English, whether spoken on the floor of the House or translated from French, was the primary audio feed. On channel 70 in Bathurst, Edmundston and surrounding communities, French was the primary audio feed. Secondary Audio Programming is also available in all communities.

In 2019, Rogers continued to televise daily Question Period on various community channels. In addition, repeats of the daily proceedings were televised on the dedicated channel, usually commencing within 30 minutes after the adjournment of the House each sitting day.

Bell Aliant also continued to broadcast the daily proceedings of the Legislature in both official languages as a video on-demand on Bell Aliant's community television channel 1 and 401. In 2019, the channels were available to all New Brunswickers with access to Bell Aliant, as well as those individuals with access throughout Atlantic Canada.

The proceedings of the Standing Committees on Economic Policy and Estimates and Fiscal Policy were also broadcast on Rogers channel 70 and Bell Aliant channel 1 and 401 in 2019, as they took place in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly.

In 2019, the proceedings of the Legislature continued to be streamed live on the Internet. In addition, the audio of meetings of the Select Committee on Public Universities and the various standing committees was streamed live on the Internet.

With the assistance of iSi Live, the Legislature continued to permanently archive its proceedings online in 2019. This included the audio and video of all House sittings, the audio and video, when available, of all public committee meetings, and the audio and video of the installation of the new Lieutenant-Governor.

When the Legislature was not in session, a graphics computer generated a rotating sequence of messages on sitting schedule; tour information; upcoming events; and the Legislature's function, history and traditions. A photograph of each Member was shown with accompanying party affiliation, ministerial portfolio (where applicable), riding and contact information.

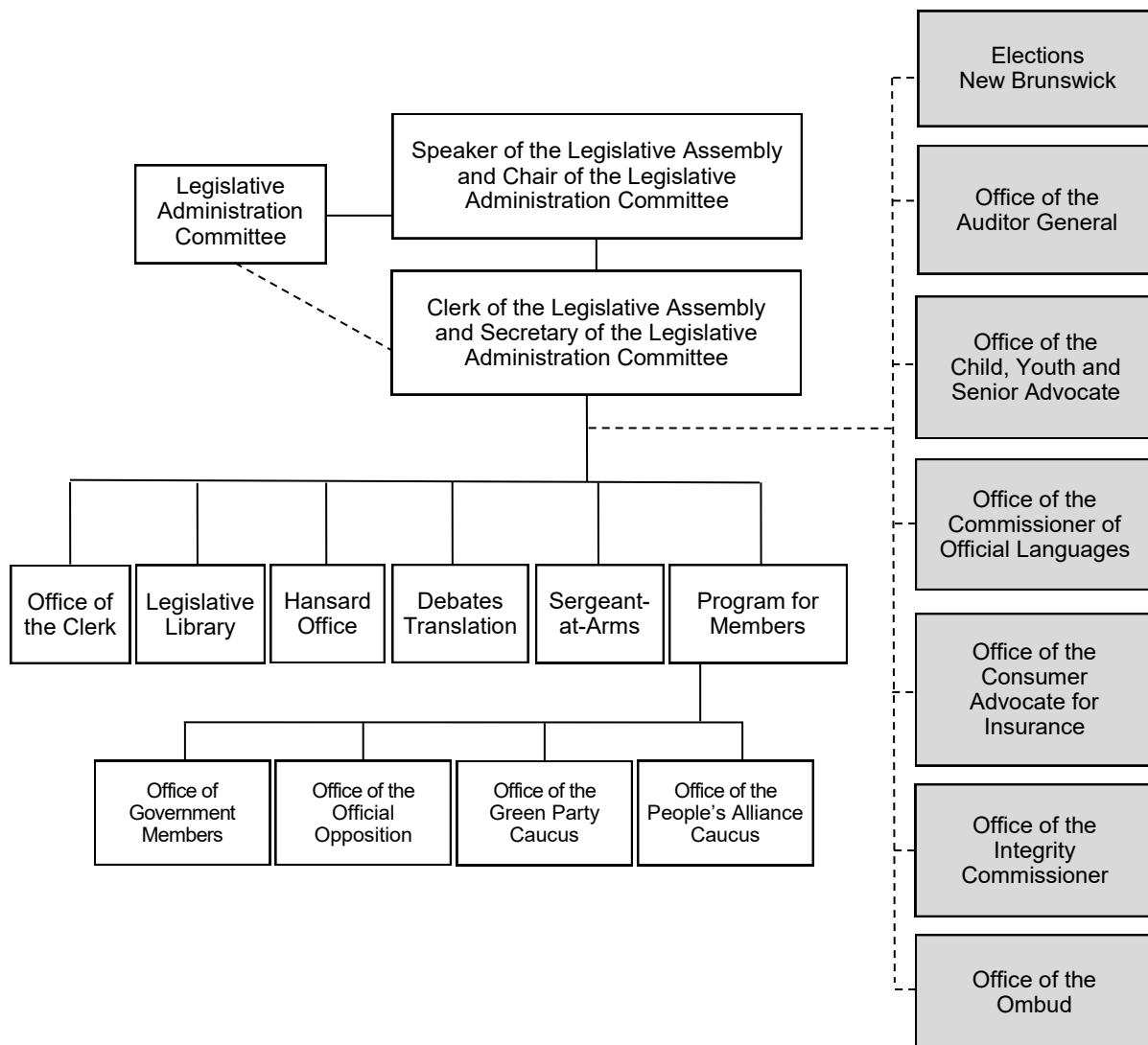


# OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

## MISSION STATEMENT

- To assist the Legislative Assembly in fostering respect for the institution and privileges of parliamentary democracy.
- To provide assistance and support to all Members of the Legislative Assembly, their staff and the public.
- To provide impartial and confidential service to all Members of the Legislative Assembly.
- To record the proceedings and maintain the records of the Legislative Assembly.
- To provide public education and information services on behalf of the Legislative Assembly.
- To provide administrative, financial, and human resource services to certain statutory offices reporting to the Legislative Assembly.

## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





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## FUNCTIONAL STATEMENTS

### Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

The Clerk is the chief procedural advisor to the Speaker and to the Members and acts as Secretary to the Legislative Administration Committee. Appointed by resolution of the House, the Clerk is responsible for a wide range of administrative and procedural duties relating to the work of the House and its Committees. The Clerk of the Legislature is the Speaker's chief administrative deputy and has authority and responsibility similar to that of a Deputy Minister of a government department.

### Office of the Clerk

- Produces the Journal, Orders of the Day and maintains the official permanent records of the Assembly.
- Provides advice to the Speaker and Members on questions of parliamentary law, procedure, and interpretation of the rules and practices of the House.
- Provides procedural advice and support services to the chairs and members of committees of the Legislative Assembly.
- Provides public education and information services to Members, to government, and to the private sector.
- Provides administrative support to the Legislative Assembly.
- Provides financial and human resource management services to the Legislative Assembly.
- Provides administrative, financial and human resources support to Elections New Brunswick; Office of the Auditor General; Office of the Child, Youth and Senior Advocate; Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance; Office of the Integrity Commissioner; and Office of the Ombud.

### Legislative Library

Provides information and reference services to Members of the Legislative Assembly.

### Hansard Office

Records and transcribes House proceedings (Hansard) for the Members of the Legislative Assembly and for publication; records and transcribes legislative committee proceedings for Members of the Legislative Assembly.

### Debates Translation

Translates House proceedings (Hansard) and the Journal for Members of the Legislative Assembly and for publication; translates speeches and statements for Members of the Legislative Assembly, reports for legislative committees, and procedural and administrative material for the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

### Sergeant-at-Arms

- Provides security services to the Legislative Assembly.
- Provides Page and messenger services to the Assembly.
- Provides visitor information services to the public.
- Provides building maintenance and custodial services.

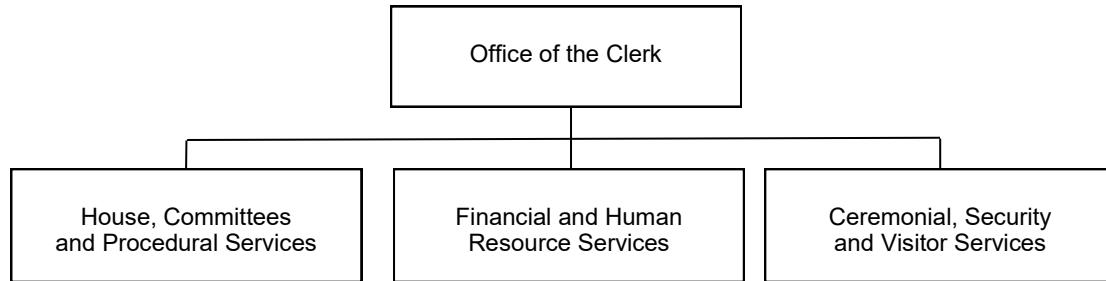
### Program for Members

Provides financial and administrative support to the private Members of the Legislative Assembly.



## OFFICE OF THE CLERK

*Deputy Clerk — Shayne Davies*



In 2019, the dedicated staff of the Office of the Clerk met the primary goal of the office: to assist Members in carrying out their parliamentary functions as legislators and representatives of their constituents.

### Procedural Services

Members were supported in their parliamentary functions by services administered with impartiality by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. As the senior permanent officer of the Legislative Assembly and chief procedural adviser, the Clerk advised the Speaker and Members on administrative matters, questions of parliamentary law and procedure, and the interpretation of the Standing Rules, precedents and practices of the House.

The Office of the Clerk and its staff supports the activities of the Clerk. The Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Clerk Assistant served as Table Officers and Law Clerks in the House. They assisted Members with the interpretation and application of the *Legislative Assembly Act* and other applicable legislation, and drafted or reviewed floor amendments, private Members' public bills and private legislation.

During the course of the year, the Clerks met regularly with the Speaker and other presiding officers to provide advice as required, draft rulings and prepare procedural documentation. In addition, the Clerks met with committee Chairs to advise on committee procedure, arrange meetings and public hearings, and prepare documentation and reports to the House.

### Journals and Publications

In 2019, the Journals Clerk compiled 45 unrevised journals. The journals of the House are the official record of matters considered and decisions taken by the House. Unrevised journals are posted online as soon as they are available in both official languages. At the conclusion of a session, unrevised journals are finalized, indexed and published. The 2017-2018 bound version of the Journals of the Legislative Assembly was published in 2019.

First reading bills continued to be published online. During the 2019 calendar year, 61 bills were introduced. The online status of legislation, which tracks the progress of bills as they proceed through various stages in the House, continued to be produced and regularly updated.

The on-line archiving of daily sittings and committee meetings continued to be regularly updated. Biographical information and photographs of Members were also updated during the year. Any changes to the executive council, shadow cabinet and seating plans were reflected in published and online updates. The Legislature's calendar was updated to reflect daily sittings and special events. Committee memberships were also updated when necessary and reports were posted online.



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## **Renovations and Security Initiatives**

Upgrades to the Chamber gallery railing were completed in September. The height of the original railing, which contours the overhanging second story gallery, was below an acceptable modern standard and visitors had been prohibited from using the first row due to safety concerns. In cooperation with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, an extension to the original railing was fabricated using glass panes encased by a brass tube railing.

Routine maintenance items were carried out to the adjacent buildings in the Legislative Assembly precinct. Old Education Building received a number of new windows and carpeting on the third floor and the roof was shingled. The Departmental Building received plaster repairs and paint in the Hansard office. A midcentury modern style bronze clock, previously incorporated into the architectural wall panels located in the Speaker's office, was uncovered and refurbished. For security initiatives, the security monitoring room was reconfigured and upgraded by removing an existing partition and installing new carpeting and an upgraded desk with new monitors.

## **Interparliamentary Relations**

In addition to regular duties, staff of the Clerk's Office prepared itineraries and coordinated business session topics for Members attending the Annual Presiding Officers Conference; the Canadian Regional Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), which included meetings of the Canadian Regional Council and Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP); the CPA Canadian Regional Seminar; the annual meeting and regional policy forum of the Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference; conferences of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF); and the annual meeting of the Canadian Council of Public Accounts Committees.

## **Association of Clerks-at-the-Table in Canada**

The Association of Clerks-at-the-Table in Canada is an organization composed of the Table Officers from every provincial and territorial legislature in Canada, as well as the House of Commons and the Senate. The objective of the Association is to advance the professional development of its members by enabling them to expand their knowledge of the foundations and principles of the parliamentary system and procedure in Canada.

The Association of Clerks-at-the-Table list server (CATS) allows an open exchange of ideas and information. CATS is used by members of the Association to contribute information, pose questions, conduct surveys and seek advice on a wide variety of procedural and administrative issues.

In 2019, Clerks responded to numerous inquiries posted to CATS. Topics canvassed during the year included: penalties for contempt, accessible broadcasting, family work-balance, changes in opposition parties, independent members, minority government and confidence votes, web streaming providers and amending regulations.

## **Canadian Parliamentary Review**

Staff of the Clerk's Office prepared quarterly submissions to the Canadian Parliamentary Review. The purpose of the publication is to inform Canadian legislators about the activities of the various branches of the Canadian Region of the CPA and to promote interest in Canadian parliamentary institutions. In 2019, staff ensured that a summary of legislative activities in New Brunswick was included in each edition under the "Legislative Reports" section.



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## Tributes

Two former Members passed away in 2019:

**LeRoy James Washburn** (Liberal) on April 13. Mr. Washburn was elected in 1974 and again in 1978 to represent the riding of Oromocto.

**Eugene McGinley, Q.C.** (Liberal) on July 16. Mr. McGinley was elected in a by-election on December 11, 1972, to represent the electoral district of Bathurst and was re-elected in 1974. He was elected again in 2003 to represent Grand Lake and was re-elected in 2006. During his time at the Legislature, he served as Minister of State for Seniors, Minister of State for Housing, as well as on several standing and select committees and as Speaker in 2007.

A sitting Member passed away in 2019:

**Greg Thompson, P.C.** (Progressive Conservative) on September 10. Mr. Thompson was elected on November 21, 1988 as the Member of Parliament for Carleton—Charlotte (1988–1993) and New Brunswick Southwest (1997–2011), serving six terms as a Member of Parliament. He served as Minister of Veterans Affairs from 2006 to 2010. He was elected provincially in the September 24, 2018, election to represent the riding of Saint Croix and served as Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs.



**On September 11, a book of condolences was placed in the rotunda of the Legislative Assembly to provide people an opportunity to pay their respects to the family of Hon. Greg Thompson, P.C., who died in office on September 10. The book was delivered to the family after the funeral took place on September 20.**



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## FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

***Director, Finance and Human Resources — Katie Hill, CPA, CA***

The Finance and Human Resources Branch is accountable for the proper and effective management of the financial and human resource services of the Legislative Assembly. In addition, the Branch provides financial and human resources support to the following statutory offices: Elections New Brunswick; Office of the Auditor General; Office of the Child, Youth and Senior Advocate; Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance; Office of the Integrity Commissioner; and Office of the Ombud.

### Financial Services Overview

Financial Services include the following responsibilities:

- Members' and Committee Expenses
  - Ensure timely and accurate payment of expenses.
  - Provide advice on the application of various rules and guidelines for eligible expenses for members.
- Purchasing of and Payment for Goods and Services
  - Ensure compliance with Acts and Regulations.
  - Ensure transactions are properly recorded for financial statement presentation.
- Financial Analysis and Expenditure Projections
  - Review the financial position of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and its various offices.
  - Advise clients of various issues related to expenditures.
- Budget Process
  - Coordinate budget process, prepare budget submissions and liaise with related departments or agencies.
- Reporting
  - Prepare quarterly and annual expenditure reports as prescribed by the *Legislative Assembly Act* and Department of Finance.

### Financial Services Section

The House sat a total of 28 days during the 2018-2019 fiscal year, compared to 48 days in 2017-2018 and 55 days in 2016-2017.

The accompanying Financial Summary shows total actual expenditures of \$12,732,400 based on a revised total budget of \$13,552,100 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year (excluding statutory officers). This compares with total actual expenditures of \$13,870,300 based on a budget of \$14,009,500 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.



**Financial Summary—Legislative Assembly**  
**For the Year Ended March 31, 2019**  
(in \$ 000s)

	Budget	Actual
<i>Members' Allowances, Committees and Operations</i>		
Allowances to Members	7 781.0	7 460.9
Legislative Committees	231.0	106.2
Subtotal	<u>8 012.0</u>	<u>7 567.1</u>
<i>Office of the Legislative Assembly</i>		
Legislative Library	678.0	522.3
Office of the Clerk (includes Speaker's Office)	1 639.0	1 553.3
Hansard Office	595.0	594.8
Debates Translation	729.0	704.1
Subtotal	<u>3 641.0</u>	<u>3 374.5</u>
<i>Offices of the Members of Registered Political Parties</i>		
Office of Government Members	718.9	716.0
Office of the Official Opposition	768.5	741.9
Office of the Green Party Caucus	243.8	218.4
Office of the People's Alliance Caucus	167.9	114.5
Subtotal	<u>1 899.1</u>	<u>1 790.8</u>
<i>Total : Legislative Assembly</i>	<b>13 552.1</b>	<b>12 732.4</b>

Total expenditures for capital repair and restoration of the Legislative Assembly Buildings were approximately \$50,441 in 2018-2019. Major projects included: continuation of the multi-phased roll-out of fire suppression and fire alarm systems upgrades throughout the legislative complex; and the general maintenance and preservation of legislative buildings.

The operating budget for the Legislative Assembly was increased by \$1,777,000 for the 2019-2020 fiscal year (net of special appropriations in 2018-2019 of \$268,100, and an increase in the amount of \$103,000 to compensate for economic increases.) A total operating budget of \$15,061,000 was approved for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Pursuant to the *Auditor General Act*, a qualified auditor is appointed annually by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly to audit the accounts of the Office of the Auditor General. Finance and Human Resources staff facilitated this process for the financial statements of the 2018-2019 fiscal year, including inviting and reviewing a proposal from the audit firm, coordinating the audit process with the auditor and officials from the Office of the Auditor General, and ensuring receipt of the auditor's report by the Speaker.



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## Human Resource Services Overview

Human Resource Services provide services to Ministers, Members, and employees of the Legislative Assembly and Statutory Offices. The responsibilities include:

- Payroll and Benefits
  - Ensure timely and accurate payment of salaries and benefits.
  - Provide payroll and benefit orientation to all new Members and employees.
  - Administer and track employee leave.
- Personnel Administration
  - Assist in recruitment process.
  - Ensure proper classification, compensation and benefits of staff.
  - Maintain payroll and personnel records.
  - Communicate policies and benefits.
- Human Resource Development
  - Facilitate staff training for both professional and personal development.
  - Administer and promote the Employee and Family Assistance Program.
- Personnel Policies
  - Develop, maintain and document personnel policies in accordance with the Administration Manual of the Province and the Legislative Administration Committee.

## Human Resource Services Highlights

In 2019, staff coordinated and participated in the recruitment process for 12 permanent competitions of statutory and legislative offices. In total, staff administered the commencement of 22 full-time employees and the termination arrangements for 19 employees who either retired, resigned or otherwise ceased to be employees of the Legislative Assembly.

An economic increase was processed for employees during 2019. The Members and Ministers indemnities and salaries were not adjusted during the same period. Eligible employees received merit increases depending on employee anniversary date, performance and current salary level.

Effective April 1, 2019, all Constituency Office Assistants (COAs) of Members and Ministers were afforded pensionable benefits and insured benefits for the first time. Staffing and payroll for the Ministerial COAs previously administered by the departments and Service New Brunswick Payroll and Benefits were transferred to the Legislative Assembly.

Throughout the year, a total of 63 students and other individuals were employed under various casual or term employment programs administered by the Finance and Human Resources section. Responsibilities included coordination of the employment programs and the commencement (payroll setup and notices of hiring), payment (weekly time sheet input) and subsequent termination (removal from payroll and issuance of a Record of Employment) of each of the related employees.

In 2019, the section continued to host employee wellness sessions provided by the Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP). Staff also participated in various professional development sessions offered by UNB, GNB, the Human Resources Association of New Brunswick, and the Financial Management Institute, as well as French second language training to facilitate financial and human resource services in both official languages.



## Human Resource Summary—Legislative Assembly

	<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>Sessional</i>	<i>Casual</i>	<i>Payroll Constituency Offices</i>
<i>Office of the Clerk</i>					
House and Committee Support	5	0	0	1	0
General Administration	0	0	0	1	0
Finance and Human Resources	7	0	0	2	0
Technology	2	0	0	0	0
Sergeant-at-Arms	3	0	0	1	0
Speaker's Office	2	0	0	0	0
<i>Legislative Library</i>	7	0	0	2	0
<i>Hansard Office</i>	9	0	0	3	0
<i>Debates Translation</i>	9	0	0	2	0
<i>Office of Government Members</i>	4	0	0	5	0
<i>Office of the Official Opposition</i>	5	0	0	3	0
<i>Office of the Green Caucus</i>	5	0	0	2	0
<i>Office of the People's Alliance Caucus</i>	3	0	0	3	0
<i>Pages and Tour Guides (students)</i>	0	0	15	4	0
<i>Members</i>	0	49	0	0	56
<i>Total</i>	61	49	15	29	56



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## LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY

### *Legislative Librarian — Kenda Clark-Gorey*

According to the *Legislative Library Act*, the Legislative Library shall operate primarily for the use of the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the staff of departments of government in order that they may better serve the people of New Brunswick. The Legislative Library may acquire by gift, bequest, loan or purchase any book, periodical, newspaper, film or publication that may serve the Members of the Legislative Assembly or the departments in the performance of their duties.

The Legislative Library is designated as the official library for the deposit of New Brunswick government publications. The Queen's Printer and government departments are required to deposit with the Legislative Library four copies of every government publication issued under their authority within 30 days of its printing date. The Legislative Library has broadened its mandate to automatically receive all "online" or "born digital" New Brunswick government publications. An e-repository for New Brunswick electronic government publications has been established whereby selected publications will be downloaded for long-term preservation and better access. It should be noted that the Library still maintains a print collection of all government documents. The Legislative Library continues to stress the importance of producing print copies, as well as electronic versions of government publications for future generations and for today's public.

### Library Events

In September, after ten months of working on plans and designs for a customized display case, it arrived. It was a significant challenge for the movers to get the approximately 700 lb. case up to the second floor via the spiral staircase. Once in place, a security system was added to the case, and a book cradle was built by the provincial archives. On November 28, a volume of John James Audubon's *The Birds of America*, was officially unveiled and put on public display for the first time in 12 years. A reception followed the unveiling. To tie in with the event, a special display was prepared on John James Audubon and his work and presented in the Library's display case in the rotunda.

### Collection Development

The Legislative Library's New Brunswick Collection is an important part of New Brunswick's heritage and is an incredible resource for the province. In 2019, many publishers and individuals donated materials to the Library. The Legislative Library is grateful to the following who donated books during the past year:

#### Publishers

Bouton d'or Acadie, Goose Lane and La Grande Marée.

#### Individuals

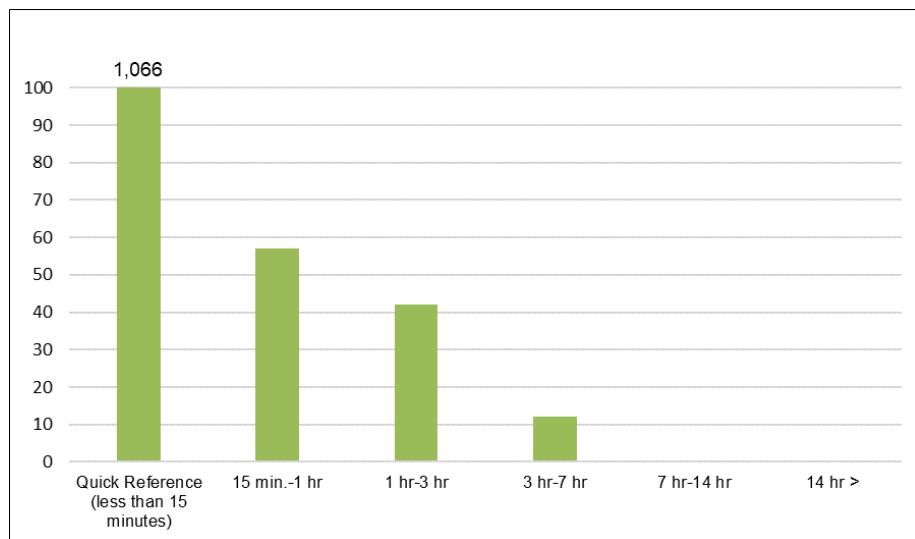
Les Bowser, Evans Estabrooks, Anne McCluskey, Neill McKay, Diane Mercier-Allain, Yvon Poitras, Marilyn Shaw-Guisset, Doug Underhill and John Williamson.

In addition to physical copies of government documents being added to the Library's collection, Library staff continued to add electronic government documents as well. In 2019, 308 electronic documents were added to the Library's electronic repository.



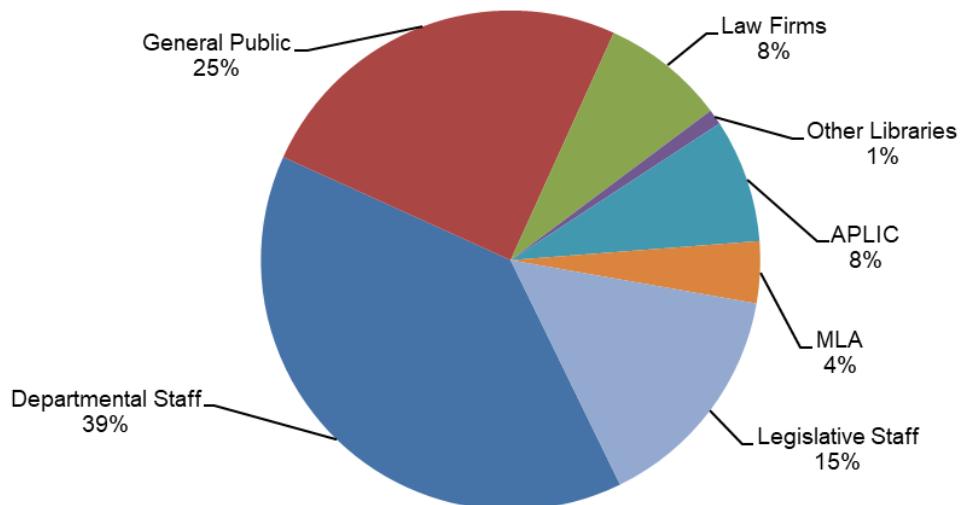
## Reference and Library Services

The Library reference staff was busy this past year. According to Library statistics, there were 1,177 requests in 2019. Several of these were large research questions, which took numerous hours to answer. The Library's statistics reporting system allows staff to record the amount of time spent to answer each question. The following graphs show the number of questions corresponding to the time ranges as well as a breakdown of the types of users the Library serves.



**Number of Questions Per Time Range**

The following chart shows a breakdown of the types of patrons requesting information from the Library, in person or otherwise, in 2019.



**Patron Types Requesting Information**



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## Library Outreach

Several displays were mounted in the Library's display case located in the rotunda: Ground Breaking Women in New Brunswick History; Folk Music Traditions in New Brunswick; Canoeing Around New Brunswick and Audubon's *The Birds of America*.

A Selected Accessions List was published as well as Periodical Contents for the Members.

## Staffing

In March, the Library welcomed Kelly Dickinson as the new Government Documents Librarian. In October, Shannon Jensen joined the staff as the new Research Officer.

Patrick Mockler also joined the Library staff in the fall as a co-op student.



## HANSARD OFFICE

### *Official Reporter — Linda Fahey*

As in most British Commonwealth jurisdictions, the *Journal of Debates* is referred to as Hansard. The name originated with Thomas Hansard, who was the publisher in the early 1800s of the British parliamentary debates, which he titled *Hansard's Parliamentary Debates*. The Hansard Office of the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly produces the transcripts of House sittings and committee meetings in both official languages and provides audio and recording service for all legislative proceedings and most special events.

#### **Hansard Transcript Production**

In 2019, the Hansard staff transcribed and edited over 3.4 million words to produce 92 transcripts, described in the table below. Through each stage of production, transcripts were posted to the Assembly network for accessibility and distribution purposes.

TRANSCRIPTION AND EDITING WORD COUNT			
Transcript Source	Number	Word Count	Percent of Total
Legislative Assembly	35	1,153,982	33%
Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy*	13	488,960	14%
Standing Committee on Economic Policy*	1	20,339	1%
Other Standing and Select Committees**	43	1,787,629	52%
<b>TOTAL WORD COUNT</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>3,450,910</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Transcripts of these two committees are appended to the House transcripts.

\*\*Transcripts were produced for 2019 Crown corporations; public accounts; public universities; law amendments; and procedure, privileges and legislative officers and for 2016 climate change.

The staff routinely produced high-priority transcripts each sitting day. The following table displays the type and number of such transcripts completed during the year.

PRIORITY TRANSCRIPTS PRODUCED			
Question Periods	Messages	Requests	Total
38	460	262	760

Throughout the year's question periods, the opposition posed 660 questions, of which the most frequently recurring topics were related to collective bargaining, economic development, health care, and immunization. Thirty-six question periods were 30 minutes, and two were 45 minutes. Each transcript was available within hours after question period.

The staff produced 460 transcripts to document the 132 introductions, 210 congratulations, and 118 condolences that were conveyed in the House. These were posted shortly after delivery.

The requested transcripts were of various lengths, from entire meetings to excerpts of sittings and meetings. There were 109 requests for House sittings and 153 for committee meetings. Of the 262 requests received, 103 were provided on the day requested.



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## **Audio and Recording Operations**

The office provided audio and recording support for 115 events held at the Legislature: 45 House sittings, 57 committee meetings, and 13 special events. The special events included an orientation session for MLAs, press conferences, ceremonies, workshops, and a national conference.

### **Historical Hansard Project**

In July and August, advancements were made on the historical Hansard project, which was initiated in May 2018. The staff posted 4 years' worth of searchable pdfs, from 1924 to 1927, and completed quality control inspection on 38 years' worth of the images, from 1934 to 1971.

### **Professional Activities**

The Hansard Office continued active membership in the Hansard Association of Canada (HAC) and the Commonwealth Hansard Editors Association (CHEA). The office contributed an article for the HAC newsletter and participated in its annual conference. The office also responded to queries and surveys received from members and associates of both organizations.

### **Acknowledgement**

At year's end, Sandra Colborne concluded over 32 years' employment at the Legislative Assembly as a Hansard parliamentary editor. The occasion was marked with many expressions of appreciation for Sandra's valued contributions.



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## DEBATES TRANSLATION

### *Chief Translator — Rebecca Colborne*

Debates Translation provides professional translation services for the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick. The Debates Translation team includes a senior reviser, two autonomous translators, two intermediate translators, and a junior translator, as well as a terminologist and the Chief Translator.

Debates Translation translates statements and speeches delivered by Members in the House, the daily Journal, the proceedings of the House (Hansard), committee reports, and procedural and other material for the offices of the Legislative Assembly.

#### **House**

Debates Translation staff members translate the records and journals of Legislative Assembly proceedings (Hansard and Journal), as well as motions introduced in the House, Speaker's rulings, and other documents. Translation of Hansard accounted for 74.8% of total production in 2019, compared to 77.5% of production during the previous year. About 21% of this translation was into English. Non-Hansard work involved the translation of 1,526 pages, or 372,048 words.

In 2019, translation of the daily Journal represented 4.1% of production. Translation of the Journal is usually completed shortly after the session ends. Notices of motion and amendments to motions accounted for 1.3% of production. These documents are translated the day the request is received.

#### **Members of the Legislative Assembly**

Debates Translation is responsible for the translation of statements and speeches delivered in the House by Members, including Ministers and opposition Members. The material translated includes messages of condolence, congratulations, and the introduction of guests, statements by Ministers and Members, the introduction of bills and speeches on second reading, speeches related to debatable motions, speeches on the tabling of special documents, and, of course, the speech from the throne, speeches related to the throne speech debate, and the closure of the debate, as well as the budget speech, speeches related to the budget debate, and the closure of the debate. Speeches on budget estimates for the various departments are also translated.

The translation of speeches and statements for Members of the Legislative Assembly accounted for 10.8% of total production in 2019. During the year, 292 requests for translation of speeches and statements were processed. Translation for Ministers accounted for almost all of the requests. Over 97% of the translation was into French.

Translation for Members, offices, and committees of the Legislative Assembly is generally done on the day the request is received or the day after, as resources allow.

#### **Committees**

Debates Translation staff members translate reports, agendas, summaries of presentations, notices of meetings, and other documents for standing and select committees of the Legislative Assembly. Translation for committees increased significantly compared to the previous year, representing 2.8% of total production in 2019.



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## Offices of the Legislative Assembly

The Debates Translation office is responsible for translating material of a procedural and administrative nature for the Speaker's Office, the Office of the Clerk, the Hansard Office, the Legislative Library, Finance and Human Resource Services, and the Sergeant-at-Arms. Translation for the offices of the Legislative Assembly represented about 6.2% of total production in 2019.

### Human Resources

Senior staff members continued to coach and train junior and intermediate translators and to develop tools and resources to refine procedures and increase production. Most of the staff attended several workshops on topics related to their work. Two senior staff members attended training sessions in effective leadership, coaching and mentoring, communications, collaboration, and emotional intelligence. A senior translator was successful in becoming certified in both official language combinations with the Corporation of Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters of New Brunswick.

Debates Translation team members continued to show considerable dedication in ensuring that members and other clients received timely, true, and accurate translations of their documents.

### Conclusion

In 2019, 778 translation requests were processed, and frequent requests for prompt translation made by telephone and email were also dealt with. Documents translated by Debates Translation staff included 136 statements and 156 speeches for the House, 209 documents for the offices of the Legislative Assembly, 72 documents for committees, 57 motions or amendments to motions, 42 Journals, and various miscellaneous documents, as well as question period transcriptions. New staff members were trained and prepared in order to continue providing the service for which the office is known, meeting the highest standards of professional translation for the Legislative Assembly of our bilingual province.



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## SPECIAL PROJECT

### *Special Project Officer — Valmond LeBlanc*

When Debates Translation was established in 1977, its mandate was to translate House proceedings (“Hansard”) before the next session. This differs from other legislatures in Canada, where proceedings are usually made available within 24 to 48 hours. A translation backlog of Hansard developed in the early nineties, and the Legislative Administration Committee approved in September 1997 a strategy to address the issue.

This strategy had three components. The first component was to seek outside funding to assist catch-up efforts. During the year in review, no outside funding for translation outsourcing was available. The second component was internal funding for translation outsourcing. During the year in review, no internal funding for outsourcing was available. The third component was designation of a senior staff member as Special Project Officer, reporting to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, to focus full-time on reducing the translation backlog. Duties also included updating the *Directory of New Brunswick and National Organizations* and leadership in setting standards and quality control.

The special project has three objectives.

#### **Objective 1: Maintain the Hansard translation workflow.**

##### **Results**

Hansard translation demand was 1.35 million words, compared to 0.95 million words in the previous year, an increase of 42%. Hansard translation output totaled 0.88 million words (including 0.47 million words for oral questions), compared to 0.90 million words in the previous year, a decrease of 2%. During the year in review, demand exceeded output by 0.47 million words, compared to 0.05 million words in the previous year. Over the past five years, demand has exceeded output by an average 1.41 million words per year.

#### **Objective 2: Provide translation of daily sittings at an earlier date.**

##### **Results**

Online translation of Hansard dailies was made available on the Legislative Assembly network 22 years earlier than the published volumes. At year’s end, translation of dailies up to June 29, 2005, was posted on the internal network of the Legislative Assembly. A total of 687 Hansard dailies in dual-column PDF format are available for the 1993 to 2004-05 sessions, including 30 replies to the throne speech and budget speech up to December 2019. These finalized, translated dailies can be viewed, printed, and are fully searchable electronically.

#### **Objective 3: Reduce the Hansard translation backlog to 12 months.**

##### **Results**

The Hansard translation backlog rose by 0.47 million words, compared to 0.05 million words during the previous year. During the year in review, 45 new daily sittings occurred, while translation of 12 sitting days was completed, for a net backlog increase of 33 sitting days, compared to an increase of 18 sitting days in the previous year. Hansard translation was trailing by 174 months (or 799 dailies), compared to 163 months (or 766 dailies) at the end of the previous year.



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## Quality Control

The *Directory of New Brunswick and National Organizations* was updated monthly during the year. It serves as a repository of over 57,400 research findings that pertain mostly to national and provincial organizations and programs. All entries are fully referenced, and most provide hyperlinks. Both the directory and the *Parliamentary Stylebook* are available for consultation and download at <<http://www.gnb.ca/legis/publications/publications-e.asp>>.

## Conclusion

Translation of House proceedings is conducted in concert with the parliamentary translators at Debates Translation, in close cooperation with staff at the Hansard Office. Efforts will continue to offer a product that not only meets high-quality standards but that is also provided on a timelier basis for Members and staff of the Legislative Assembly, government departments, and New Brunswickers.



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## PROGRAM FOR MEMBERS

### Program for Members

The other branches of the Legislative Assembly Office are the Office of Government Members, the Office of the Official Opposition, the Office of the Green Party Caucus and the Office of the People's Alliance Caucus.

Each caucus of elected Members is a branch of the Legislative Assembly Office. The Speaker has authority over the administration of each caucus office; however, for obvious reasons, these branches operate with considerable autonomy.

These branches received financial, administrative and personnel services, as well as other support services from other branches of the Legislative Assembly Office under the direction of the Clerk.

### Funding and Support

Under the Program for Members, private Members of the Legislative Assembly are provided with furnished offices in the Legislative complex in Fredericton.

The Legislative Administration Committee approves annual funding for private Members for secretarial, research and other assistance incidental to the performance of their duties. Members of each caucus combine this funding to obtain and share resources and personnel.

Funding is also approved annually for private Members who are leaders of registered political parties represented in the House to be used for salaries and expenses of the leaders and their staff, and other expenses related to the operation of the respective offices.

The staff of each office provides research support with respect to topics and issues of interest to the Members. Each office helps handle correspondence relating to Members' legislative and public duties and provides many other support functions.

### Office of Government Members

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, secretarial and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Government Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the second floor of the Departmental Building.

### Office of the Official Opposition

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, policy development, secretarial and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Official Opposition Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the Old Education Building.

### Office of the Green Party Caucus

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, policy development, secretarial and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Green Party Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the third floor of the Departmental Building.

### Office of the People's Alliance Caucus

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, policy development, secretarial and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the People's Alliance Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the third floor of the Departmental Building.