

(The electronic version of the following Journal of the Legislative Assembly is for information purposes only.  
The printed version remains the official version.)

**Daily Sitting 4**

Friday, December 3, 1999.

8.30 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

At the request of Mr. Richard, the House observed a minute of silence in remembrance of Anne Marie Edward and the 13 other young women who lost their lives in the Montreal Massacre at l'École polytechnique de Montreal on December 6, 1989.

---

Pursuant to subsection 16(2) of the *Auditor General Act*, Mr. Speaker laid upon the table of the House the *Auditor's Report on the Accounts of the Office of the Auditor General of the Province of New Brunswick for the Fiscal Year ended 31 March 1999*.

Hon. Mr. Betts laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *Improving the Competitiveness and Standard of Living of Canadians - Common Position of Provincial and Territorial Finance Ministers December 1999*.

Hon. Mr. Mockler laid upon the table of the House a statement regarding the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women.

Mr. Blanchard laid upon the table of the House an article from the December 3, 1999, edition of the *Times & Transcript* dated December 3, 1999, entitled "Pick a Perfect Tree."

Mr. Speaker accepted the tabled document noting that he would make a statement on Tuesday regarding what can be tabled.

---

Hon. Mr. Lord gave Notice of Motion 30 that on Wednesday, December 8, 1999, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. C. Thériault:

WHEREAS the citizens of Canada, including New Brunswick, clearly support the need for sustainable and high-quality programs in health, post secondary education and social services;

AND WHEREAS the provision of health services, post secondary education and social services is constitutionally a provincial responsibility and related costs continue to rise beyond the sole expenditure means of the Province of New Brunswick;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada has considerably reduced, through the Canada Health and Social Transfer, the amount of cash transfers in support of provincial social programs while currently projecting a 95.5 billion dollar cumulative budget surplus over the next five years;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada imposes a ceiling on equalization payments which, when it applies, limits the ability of eligible provinces and territories from meeting the Constitutional principle of offering comparable levels of services to citizens at comparable levels of taxation;

AND WHEREAS the cash transfers through the Canada Health and Social Transfer will be \$4.2 billion less in 2000-01 than 1994-95 levels and the full restoration of this amount in 2000-01 would provide New Brunswick with approximately \$100 million in additional revenues to support health, post-secondary education and social services;

AND WHEREAS provincial and territorial leaders have reached a consensus to call upon the Government of Canada to fully restore the Canada Health and Social Transfer to 1994-95 levels, with an appropriate escalator, and to eliminate the ceiling on equalization;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick call upon the Government of Canada to fully restore the Canada Health and Social Transfer to 1994-95 levels, with an appropriate escalator, and to eliminate the ceiling on equalization, thus supporting the consensus reached by provincial and territorial leaders.

Leave was granted to dispense with the two days of required notice.

---

Mrs. Mersereau gave Notice of Motion 31 that on Thursday, December 9, 1999, she would move the following resolution seconded by Mr. Haché:

WHEREAS the Government of N.B. and the Government of Canada forgave a \$38 M debt for the Port of Saint John in 1996;

WHEREAS the Government of Canada forgave ports across Canada more than \$726 M over the years;

WHEREAS l'Association des municipalités francophones du NB, le Conseil économique du NB, the regional municipalities and the Chaleur Industrial Commission have identified the Port of Belledune as a strategic infrastructure for economic development in the North;

WHEREAS that it is critical for the Government of N.B. to take a leadership role in the negotiations with the Government of Canada immediately;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Legislature urge the Premier to immediately ask the Prime Minister of Canada to treat the Port of Belledune as it did the Port of Saint John.

---

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Motion 31 by Mrs. Mersereau be given priority as the first order of business under Private Members' Motions on Tuesday, December 7, 1999.

---

Mrs. Mersereau gave Notice of Motion 32 that on Thursday, December 9, 1999, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. S. Graham:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House all consultations that have taken place between June 21, 1999, and December 1, 1999, between the Minister of the Environment and interested parties in regards to the Water Classification Regulation and the Watershed Protection Program.

---

Mrs. Mersereau gave Notice of Motion 33 that on Thursday, December 9, 1999, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Blanchard:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House the status of all infrastructure construction and improvement projects by the Department of Education announced in the estimates for the 1999-2000 fiscal year, and the list of new projects not included in the estimates for the 1999-2000 fiscal year.

---

Mr. Blanchard gave Notice of Motion 34 that on Thursday, December 9, 1999, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Lee:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House the number of fatalities and accidents on NB highways attributable to moose and other wildlife per year over the past 15 years, the highways where such accidents occurred, and the total number of kilometres of fencing per highway district throughout the Province of NB.

---

Mr. Allaby gave Notice of Motion 35 that on Thursday, December 9, 1999, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Mersereau:

WHEREAS the government has expressed a goal of strong economic growth for New Brunswick;

WHEREAS a comprehensive transportation infrastructure and services are vital for solid economic growth;

WHEREAS the Minister of Transportation has publicly noted the vital dependence of the economy on good transportation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Legislature urge the government to establish as a priority objective the continued development and improvement of this province's transportation infrastructure and services to help sustain New Brunswick's strong economic growth.

---

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 36 that on Thursday, December 9, 1999, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House copies of policies, correspondence or other documents issued or held by the Departments of Municipalities and Housing, Human Resources Development, and Health and Community Services, relating to the practice of rent supplementation of privately owned accommodation to provide

affordable housing to low income families, including a current list of all housing units, landlords, payments to landlords, complaints and inspection reports.

---

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 37 that on Thursday, December 9, 1999, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House by the Minister of Labour all minutes of meetings of the Minimum Wage Board from April 1, 1995 to date, financial reports and details of expenditures of the Minimum Wage Board from April 1, 1995 to date and any correspondence, analyses, e-mail, memos, directives or reports relating to the abolition of said board.

---

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 38 that on Thursday, December 9, 1999, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House a copy of the public private partnership agreement between Diamond Construction and the province of New Brunswick for the Leo Hayes School in Fredericton.

---

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 39 that on Thursday, December 9, 1999, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House travel expense details for the Premier and all government ministers, deputy ministers, assistant deputy ministers, executive assistants and any public servant accompanying these officials from July 1, 1999 to the present date including person, position, department, length of trip, purpose of trip, and total costs of the trip.

---

Hon. Mr. Robichaud announced that following second reading, it was the intention of the government that the House resume debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

---

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Human Rights Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, the debate was, on motion of Hon. Mr. McFarlane, adjourned over.

---

The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Ms. Dubé, seconded by Mr. MacDonald:

THAT the following Address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to offer the humble thanks of this House to Her Honour for the gracious speech which she has been pleased to make to the Legislative Assembly, namely:

Fredericton, N.B.  
November 30, 1999.

To Her Honour,  
The Honourable Marilyn Trenholme Counsell,  
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick.

May It Please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

And after some time, it was agreed by unanimous consent to continue sitting through the noon recess.

Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and welcomed to the Chamber Mr. Scott MacKenzie, Clerk of the Legislative Council of Tasmania, and his wife Linda.

And the debate continuing, after some time it was, on motion of Hon. Mr. McFarlane, adjourned over.

---

And then, 3.19 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

The following documents, having been deposited with the Clerk of the House since the last sitting of the House, were deemed laid upon the table of the House pursuant to Standing Rule 39:

Annual Report Education - December 1, 1999