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**Daily Sitting 4**

Friday, November 17, 2000.

*10 o'clock a.m.*

Prayers.

The Honourable the Premier welcomed to the House Mr. Michael Kergin, Canadian Ambassador to the United States of America, and Mr. Michael Dawson, Deputy Director, US Relations.

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Hon. Mr. Volpé laid upon the table of the House a document entitled Future Utilisation of Former Tracadie Range Lands - *Government Response to the MLA Tracadie Range Committee*.

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Following Oral Question Period, Mr. Speaker requested that Members avoid making speeches when asking or answering questions.

Mr. Speaker further stated that it was within the Chair's discretion to determine when it was necessary to intervene in Question Period and the Chair would not be influenced by Members.

Mr. Speaker further advised Members to adhere to guidelines for making Members' Statements.

Mr. Speaker further stated that the time limitation for Members Statements would be enforced.

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Mr. Allaby gave Notice of Motion 17 that on Thursday, November 23, 2000, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Thériault:

WHEREAS the recent Throne Speech announced the establishment of the Order of New Brunswick to "recognize distinguished New Brunswickers who have made a significant contribution through their leadership and personal activity to economic, social and cultural development and well-being of our Province";

WHEREAS former Premier Louis Robichaud's visionary program of Equal Opportunity transformed the face of our province forever;

WHEREAS the late Premier Richard Hatfield possessed the wisdom to fully endorse, build upon and broaden this program;

WHEREAS both these leaders epitomized the spirit of the Order of New Brunswick;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Legislature urge the government to award the first Order of New Brunswick to Louis Robichaud and the second posthumously to the late Richard Hatfield.

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Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 18 that on Thursday, November 30, 2000, 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 Justice, all letters, memos, and faxes that were sent to the Minister of Justice by the Chief Justice of New Brunswick between September 15 and November 16, 2000, in relation to the court stenographers' strike.

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Mr. Stiles gave Notice of Motion 19 that on Tuesday, November 28, 2000, he would move the following motion, seconded by Mr. Steeves:

WHEREAS the government successfully sought a mandate to eliminate the tolls placed upon a selected portion of the Trans-Canada Highway; and

WHEREAS the government was able to eliminate these tolls, thereby eliminating an unfair tax upon a selected portion of New Brunswick, while at the same time lowering the overall cost of the toll highway scheme; and

WHEREAS the volume of non-New Brunswick-based commercial traffic would likely not have covered the cost of the tolling system and related infrastructure, operations, and maintenance; and

WHEREAS New Brunswick generates revenues from out-of-province commercial traffic through its participation in international fuel tax agreements; and

WHEREAS the elimination of the toll-taxes on this section of the Trans-Canada Highway will improve safety conditions for the motoring public in general as more New Brunswickers will be able to afford to use the safer, four-lane highway infrastructure;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly congratulate the government for its commitment to eliminating the tolls from the Fredericton-Moncton section of the Trans-Canada Highway.

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Mrs. Mersereau gave Notice of Motion 20 that on Thursday, November 23, 2000, 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 a list of all awards given by the government departments, agencies, boards and commissions or any organization in which the government is a co-sponsor.

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Mrs. Mersereau gave Notice of Motion 21 that on Thursday, November 23, 2000, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Haché:

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 all correspondence, e-mail, memos, documents, minutes of meetings since June 21, 2000, between the Department of Training and Employment Development and surviving spouses who lost pension benefits due to remarriage prior to April 17, 1985.

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Mrs. Mersereau gave Notice of Motion 22 that on Thursday, November 23, 2000, 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 correspondence, e-mail, memos, documents, minutes of meetings between the Department of Education and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce regarding the provision of New Brunswick student loans.

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Ms. Poirier gave Notice of Motion 23 that on Tuesday, November 28, 2000, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Huntjens:

WHEREAS on June 7th, 1999, New Brunswickers voted for a change in government; and

WHEREAS the new government sought a mandate to focus on the five priority areas of changing the way government works, renewing health care, investing in education, building new job opportunities, and managing smarter — lowering taxes;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Legislature encourage the government to continue to set forth an agenda based on the five priority areas of changing the way that government works; renewing health care; building new job opportunities; managing smarter — lowering taxes; and investing in education.

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Hon. Mr. Green announced that it was the intention of government that following Second Reading, the House would resume debate on the motion for an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

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The following Bills were read the second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House:

Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Emergency Measures Act*.  
Bill 3, *Act to Amend the Land Titles Act*.

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

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

Accordingly, Bill 4, *An Act to amend the Family Services Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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

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

Accordingly, Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Infirm Persons Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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The following Bills were read the second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House:

Bill 6, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations Act*.  
Bill 7, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*.

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The Order being read for second reading of Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 8 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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

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

Accordingly, Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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The Assembly resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Mrs. Fowlie, seconded by Mr. McGraw:

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 14, 2000.

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 dinner recess for the purpose of continuing the Throne Speech Debate.

And after some further time, due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ashfield, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair.

Hon. Mr. Robichaud raised a point of order claiming that Mr. Haché, the Member for Nigadoo-Chaleur, was clearly attributing motives to ministers who were not present to reply and in accordance with the

principle outlined in para. 493.(4) of *Beauchesne's 6th Edition*, it is clear that "The Speaker has cautioned Members to exercise great care in making statements about persons who are outside the House and unable to reply."

Several Members spoke on the point of order.

Mr. Deputy Speaker ruled the point of order not well taken as the Member was not referring to the absence of Members from the Chamber but to the absence of ministers from events outside the House.

And the debate continuing, Hon. Mr. Robichaud raised a point of order claiming that the Member for Nigadoo-Chaleur was imputing unavowed motives to other Members. Mr. Deputy Speaker ruled the point of order well taken and advised that Members should not impute motives to other Members.

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

And the debate continuing, after some further time, it was on motion of Hon. Mr. Green, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Furlong, adjourned over.

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And then, 2.18 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.