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Daily Sitting 36

Tuesday, April 17, 2001.

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. S. Graham laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by residents of the Kent County area who travel the Indian Island Road, requesting that funds be made immediately available for the upgrade and maintenance of the road, to ensure safe travel by normal automobile, year round. (Petition 12)

Hon. Mrs. Jardine laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *Hometown Heroes: The New Brunswick Kids Environment Book*.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Lord,

Bill 42, *An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill be read a second time at the next sitting.

Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 75 that on Tuesday, April 24, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mrs. Mersereau:

That an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House complete details of the tendering process used for the construction of the Visitor Information Centre near Kings Landing including, without limiting the foregoing, dates and places of publication of the tender, a listing of the bidders, the respective bids, the successful bidder and the bid price, as well as all terms and conditions of the tender including completion dates for each phase of the project.

Hon. Mr. Green announced that following Private Members' Motions, it was the intention of the government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Regional Development Corporation, Executive Council Office, Office of the Premier, Department of Intergovernmental Affairs and the Department of Family and Community Services.

Motions 6 and 7 by Ms. Weir were, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 8, Mr. Forbes, as seconder of the motion, moved on behalf of Mr. Holder:

WHEREAS the National Research Council has recently selected New Brunswick for the site of its national e-commerce research centre;

AND WHEREAS four New Brunswick municipalities provided high quality submissions to the National Research Council outlining their interests and assets relating to the location of the facility in their community;

AND WHEREAS the submissions of the four municipalities brought together business, academic and government representatives in the spirit of collaboration and pride in their communities and in New Brunswick;

AND WHEREAS the Province of New Brunswick agreed to contribute to the National Research Council project to ensure that all four municipalities are an integral part of the research institute's ongoing activities;

AND WHEREAS the full economic and social benefits offered by the National Research Council's activities in the province will only be realized if everyone involved in the research program, including communities, the business sector, and all levels of government, share a commitment to pursue a spirit of collaboration;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick commits to supporting a spirit of collaboration between all involved parties in ensuring the full success of the National Research Council's program and activities in New Brunswick in the years ahead.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And after some further time, the debate being ended and the question being put, Motion 8 was carried.

Motion 17 by Mr. Allaby was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

Motion 18 by Ms. Weir was, by leave of the House, stood over to Thursday, April 19, 2001.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 19, Mr. Stiles, seconded by Mr. Steeves, moved:

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.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

During the debate, Hon. Mr. Green rose on a point of order regarding the use of unparliamentary language by Mr. Lee, the Member for Charlotte. Mr. Ashfield, the Deputy Speaker ruled the point of order well taken and cautioned Mr. Lee to refrain from using the words "deceive," "speaking untruths" or "being untruthful" in reference to the remarks made by Mr. Stiles.

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

And after some further time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and advised that the time allotted for Private Members' Motions had expired.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. Ashfield in the chair.

And after some time, the Chairman declared it to be 6 o'clock p.m., and left the chair to resume again at 7 o'clock p.m.

7 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Mr. Carr in the chair.

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

And after some further time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr. Ashfield, the Chairman, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee had had under consideration the matters referred to them, had made some progress therein and asked leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. Speaker then put the question on the motion deemed to be before the House, that the report be concurred in, and it was resolved in the affirmative.

And then, 10 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

The following documents, having been deposited with the Clerk of the House, were deemed laid before the Table of the House, pursuant to Standing Rule 39:

Volumes 3 and 4 of the Public Accounts of the Province of New Brunswick for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2000 - April 11, 2001

Documents requested in Notice of Motion 48 - April 3, 2001

Documents requested in Notice of Motion 61 - April 10, 2001