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**Daily Sitting 46**

Thursday, May 3, 2001.

*1 o'clock p.m.*

Prayers.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Green, on behalf of Hon. Mr. Lord,

Bill 54, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act.*

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

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The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. McGraw,

Bill 55, *An Act to Amend An Act To Incorporate New World Trust Corporation.*

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

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Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 97 that on Thursday, May 10, 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 all documents, letters, correspondence, memorandums, reports and/or recommendations regarding possible or potential uses for the former Sussex Public School including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, copies of any documentation prepared by or for the Heritage Branch of the Culture and Sports Secretariat.

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Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 98 that on Thursday, May 10, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby.

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 sole source contracts that the Department of Supply and Services has issued without tender for the past 2 years.

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Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 99 that on Thursday, May 10, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

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 sole source contracts that the Department of Natural Resources and Energy has issued without tender for the past 2 years.

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Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 100 that on Thursday, May 10, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

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 sole source contracts that the Department of Transportation has issued without tender for the past 2 years.

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Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 101 that on Thursday, May 10, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

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 contracts for professional services that the Department of Supply and Services has issued for the past 2 years.

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Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 102 that on Thursday, May 10, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

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 contracts for professional services that the Department of Transportation has issued for the past 2 years.

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Mr. S. Graham gave Notice of Motion 103 that on Thursday, May 10, 2001, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

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 contracts for professional services that the Department of Natural Resources and Energy has issued for the past 2 years.

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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 Department of Investment and Exports until 6 o'clock p.m. Following the dinner recess, the Committee would consider the estimates under the responsibility of the Premier, including Office of the Premier, Executive Council Office, Intergovernmental Affairs and Regional Development Corporation.

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Due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ashfield, the Deputy Speaker took the chair as Acting Speaker.

Debate resumed on Motion 19 moved by Mr. Stiles, seconded by Mr. Steeves, as follows:

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, would likely not have covered the cost of the tolling system and related infrastructure, operations, and maintenance; 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.

During the debate, Mr. Forbes rose on a point of order to complain that no Opposition Members were present in the House.

Mr. Ashfield, the Deputy Speaker, called Mr. Forbes to order stating that it was not appropriate to refer to the absence of Members of the Official Opposition.

And after some time, Mr. Ashfield, the Deputy 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. Bernard, in the chair.

At 6 o'clock p.m. the Chairman left the chair, to resume again at 7 o'clock p.m.

*7 o'clock p.m.*

The Committee resumed with Mr. Bernard in the chair.

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

And after some further time, Mr. Bernard resumed the chair.

And after some further time spent therein, Mr. Ashfield, the Deputy Speaker, resumed the chair and Mr. Bernard, the Chairman, after requesting that Mr. Deputy Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee had had under consideration the matters referred to them, had passed several items and asked leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. Deputy 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.

The following are the items reported:

MAIN ESTIMATES, 2001-2002  
ORDINARY ACCOUNT

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$44,161,000 to defray the expenses of the following program:

Development Projects and Operations 44,161,000  
Less Amount Authorized by law 0  
Voted 44,161,000

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$1,129,000 to defray the expenses of the following program:

Administration 1,179,000  
Less Amount Authorized by law 50,000  
Voted 1,129,000

DEPARTMENT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$1,861,000 to defray the expenses of the following program:

Intergovernmental Affairs 1,861,000  
Less Amount Authorized by law 0  
Voted 1,861,000

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Voted, Supply in the following amounts to defray the expenses of the following programs:

Intergovernmental Conferences 28,000  
Council of Maritime Premiers 890,000  
Premier's Health Quality Council 737,000  
Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons 234,000  
Youth Council of New Brunswick 120,000

The said items were concurred in by the House.

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And then 9.53 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.