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Daily Sitting 55

Friday, May 18, 2001.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Lee, from the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows

May 18, 2001.

To the Honourable
The Legislative Assembly of
The Province of New Brunswick

Mr. Speaker:

I have the pleasure of presenting herewith the First Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

The report outlines the Committee's work since its appointment during the First Session of the Fifty-fourth Legislative Assembly.

The Committee wishes to thank the many government officials that appeared during the public sessions and wishes to acknowledge their cooperation in providing follow-up information.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Sheldon Lee, M.L.A. Chairman.

The full report of the Committee follows:

May, 2001.

To the Honourable
The Legislative Assembly of
The Province of New Brunswick.

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Public Accounts begs leave to submit this their First Report of the Third Session of the Fifty-fourth Legislative Assembly.

This report outlines the Committees's work since its appointment by resolution of the House on July 6, 1999.

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

The Committee met on August 12, 1999. On the motion of Mr. Cosman, Mr. Lee was elected Chairman. On the motion of Mr. Steeves, Mr. Jordan was elected Vice-Chair.

1999 Report of the Auditor General

On December 7, 1999, the Committee met jointly with the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations to receive and review the 1999 *Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick*.

Auditor General Daryl Wilson appeared before the Committees to outline the contents of the report and answer questions posed by Committee members.

Committee Hearings 2000

The Committee held eighteen days of public hearings in the Legislative Council Chamber during the months of January, February, March and September 2000, to consider departmental reports and to review the Public Accounts of the Province of New Brunswick for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1999. The following officials appeared before the Committee and answered questions for the year under review:

January 27, 2000

Office of the Auditor General

Daryl Wilson, Auditor General

Kenneth D. Robinson, Deputy Auditor General

Office of the Comptroller

Edward L. Mehan, Comptroller

Michael Ferguson, Director of Account Services

Stephen Thompson, Director of Audit and Consulting Services

Department of Finance

John Mallory, Deputy Minister

Rick Phillips, Director, Financial and Administrative Services

January 28, 2000

Department of the Environment

Donald G. Dennison, Deputy Minister

Simon Caron, Director, Human Resources and Administration

Byron Jeffrey, Manager, Administration

Dean Munde, Senior Policy Advisor

Perry Haines, Manager, Municipal Services Section

February 1, 2000

Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Culture

Georges Bouchard, Deputy Minister

Richard Burgess, Assistant Deputy Minister, Finance Infrastructure and Policy

Joanne Walker, Manager, Budget and Accounting Services

Paul LeBlanc, Executive Director, Corporate Services

Doug Holt, Director, Financial Programs

February 2, 2000

Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Culture

Georges Bouchard, Deputy Minister

Richard Burgess, Assistant Deputy Minister, Finance Infrastructure and Policy

Joanne Walker, Manager, Budget and Accounting Services

Paul LeBlanc, Executive Director, Corporate Services

Doug Holt, Director, Financial Programs

February 3, 2000

Department of Human Resources Development - N.B.

Karen Mann, Deputy Minister

Don Ferguson, Assistant Deputy Minister

Jack Brown, Director, Financial Services

February 4, 2000

Department of Transportation

David Johnstone, Deputy Minister

Darrell W. Manuel, Assistant Deputy Minister and Chief Engineer

Walter W. Steeves, Executive Director, Policy and Motor Vehicle

Dale Wilson, Executive Director, Administration and Vehicle Management

February 22, 2000

*Office of the Auditor General**

Daryl Wilson, Auditor General

Kenneth D. Robinson, Deputy Auditor General

*(Review of Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume II, 1999)

February 23, 2000

Department of Natural Resources and Energy

David MacFarlane, Deputy Minister

Donald E. Barnett, Assistant Deputy Minister, Minerals and Energy

Pam Breau, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services

Tom Reid, Assistant Deputy Minister, Renewable Resources

February 24, 2000

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Claire LePage, Deputy Minister

Roger Hunter, Director, Corporate Services

Edward E. Pratt, Assistant Deputy Minister, Production

Roland Cormier, Assistant Deputy Minister, Marketing and Rural Development

Dr. Michael Maloney, Director, Planning and Development

Department of Municipalities and Housing

T. Byron James, Deputy Minister

Dan Rae, Director, Financial Services

March 2, 2000

Department of Municipalities and Housing

T. Byron James, Deputy Minister

Jim Murphy, Director, Budget Services

Department of Supply and Services

G. Stephenson Wheatley, Deputy Minister

Rick Burnett, Director, Finance

Ashley Cummings, Executive Director, Design and Construction

Greg Cook, Executive Director, Facilities Management

March 3, 2000

Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

Paul Aucoin, Deputy Minister

Jean-Bernard Guignard, Acting Director, Finance and Administration

Kim Lipsett, Acting Director for Aquaculture Branch

Alfred Losier, Assistant Deputy Minister, Industry and Corporate Services

September 6, 2000

Department of Labour

Nora Kelly, Deputy Minister - Department of Training and Employment Development

Paul Blackmore, Assistant Deputy Minister

George Breau, Director, Financial Services

Pat Doherty, Executive Director, Departmental Services

Deborah Burns, Executive Director, Planning Services

Lyne Paquet, Budget Officer

André Ferlatte, Director of Apprenticeship and Certification

Michel Savoie, Senior Financial Officer

Labour and Employment Board

Eugene McGinley, Q.C. / Chairman

Nicole Bios, Chief Executive Officer

Rick Phillips, Director, Financial and Administrative Services

Executive Council Office

Jean-Guy Finn, Deputy Minister

Rick Phillips, Director, Financial and Administrative Services

Department of Solicitor General

Don Dennison, Deputy Minister - Department of Public Safety

Michel Thériault, Assistant Deputy Minister, Community and Correctional Services

Brian Alexander, Assistant Deputy Minister, Law Enforcement

Brian Wilkins, Director, Financial Services

Department of Justice

Roger Bilodeau, Deputy Minister

Suzanne Bonnell-Burley, Assistant Deputy Minister

Gerard Doucet, Assistant Deputy Minister

Raymond McLaughlin, Director, Financial Services

Neil Foreman, Executive Director, Administrative Services

September 7, 2000

New Brunswick Police Commission

Peter Seheult, Acting Chairman

Rick Phillips, Director, Financial and Administrative Services

Youth Council of New Brunswick

Anthony Knight, Acting Executive Director

Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons

Randy Dickinson, Executive Director

Legislative Assembly

Loredana Catalli Sonier, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Peter Wolters, Director, Finance and Human Resources

September 12, 2000

Department of Education

Raymond Daigle, Deputy Minister
Robin Roe, Deputy Minister
Elizabeth Abraham, Acting Deputy Minister
Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission
John Crossley, Chairman
Carmelita Boivin Cole, Chief Executive Officer
Deanna Brewer, Senior Finance Officer
Mireille Duguay, Director of Research and Academic Planning
Office of the Premier
Barbra Winsor, Deputy Minister
Rick Phillips, Director, Financial and Administrative Services

September 26, 2000

Department of Health and Community Services
Paul M. LeBreton, Deputy Minister-Department of Health and Wellness
Jim Carter, Assistant Deputy Minister, Administration and Finance
Ron Durelle, Director, Financial Services
John Dicaire, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Health and Medical Services
Jean Castonguay, Assistant Deputy Minister, Institutional Services
Bernard Paulin, Assistant Deputy Minister, Family and Community Services
Ken Ross, Assistant Deputy Minister, Mental Health
Advisory Council on the Status of Women
Lucille Riedle, Chairperson
Rick Phillips, Director, Financial and Administrative Services
Department of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs
David McLaughlin, Deputy Minister
John Kershaw, Assistant Deputy Minister, Federal-Provincial Affairs
Roger Doucet, Assistant Deputy Minister, Intergovernmental Cooperation
Rick Phillips, Director, Financial and Administrative Services

September 27, 2000

Department of Health and Community Services
Paul M. LeBreton, Deputy Minister - Department of Health and Wellness
Jim Carter, Assistant Deputy Minister, Administration and Finance
Ron Durelle, Director, Financial Services
John Dicaire, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Health and Medical Services
Jean Castonguay, Assistant Deputy Minister, Institutional Services
Bernard Paulin, Assistant Deputy Minister, Family and Community Services
Ken Ross, Assistant Deputy Minister, Mental Health

2000 Report of the Auditor General

On December 12 and 14, 2000, the Committee met in a special joint session with the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations to receive and review the *Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume I, 2000*.

Committee Hearings 2001

The Committee held twelve days of public hearings in the Legislative Council Chamber during the months of February and March 2001, to consider departmental reports and to review the Public Accounts of the Province of New Brunswick for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2000. The following officials appeared before the Committee and answered questions for the year under review:

February 1, 2001

Office of the Auditor General
Daryl Wilson, Auditor General
Kenneth D. Robinson, Deputy Auditor General
Office of the Comptroller
Michael Ferguson, Comptroller
Janet Gallagher, Acting Director of Account Services
Stephen Thompson, Director of Audit and Consulting Services

February 6, 2001

Department of Finance
John Mallory, Deputy Minister
Department of Supply and Services
G. Stephenson Wheatley, Deputy Minister
Rick Burnett, Director, Finance
Ashley Cummings, Assistant Deputy Minister, Buildings
Greg Cook, Executive Director, Facilities Management
Lori MacMullen, Chief Information Officer, Corporate Information Management Services
David MacMinn, Assistant Deputy Minister, Services

February 7, 2001

Department of Natural Resources and Energy

David Ferguson, Deputy Minister

Donald E. Barnett, Assistant Deputy Minister, Minerals and Energy

Keith Burgess, Director of Finance and Administrative Services

Pam Breau, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services

Tom Reid, Assistant Deputy Minister, Renewable Resources

Ellen Barry, Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy, Planning and Federal/Provincial Relations

February 8, 2001

Department of Transportation

David Johnstone, Deputy Minister

Darrell W. Manuel, Assistant Deputy Minister and Chief Engineer

Walter W. Steeves, Executive Director, Policy and Motor Vehicle

Dale Wilson, Executive Director, Administration and Vehicle Management

Department of Solicitor General

Don Dennison, Deputy Minister - Department of Public Safety

Michel Thériault, Assistant Deputy Minister, Community and Correctional Services

Brian Alexander, Assistant Deputy Minister, Safety Services

Brian Wilkins, Director, Financial Services

February 13, 2001

Department of Education

Raymond Daigle, Deputy Minister

Robin Roe, Deputy Minister

Elizabeth Abraham, Acting Deputy Minister, Administration and Finance

Advisory Council on the Status of Women

Lucille Riedle, Chairperson

Rick Phillips, Director, Financial and Administrative Services

February 14, 2001

Department of Education

Raymond Daigle, Deputy Minister

Robin Roe, Deputy Minister

Elizabeth Abraham, Acting Deputy Minister, Administration and Finance

Department of Labour

Nora Kelly, Deputy Minister - Training and Employment Development

Paul Blackmore, Assistant Deputy Minister

George Breau, Director, Financial Services

Pat Doherty, Executive Director, Departmental Services

Deborah Burns, Acting Executive Director

Lyne Paquet, Budget Officer

Gérald Nadeau, Acting Director of Apprenticeship and Certification

February 15, 2001

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Claire LePage, Deputy Minister, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture

Clair Gartley, Assistant Deputy Minister, Agricultural Development and Innovation

Dr. Michael Maloney, Director, Corporate Services

February 20, 2001

Advisory Council on the Status of Women

Lucille Riedle, Chairperson

Department of Justice

Roger Bilodeau, Deputy Minister

Suzanne Bonnell-Burley, Assistant Deputy Minister

Gerard Doucet, Assistant Deputy Minister

Raymond McLaughlin, Director, Financial Services

Neil Foreman, Executive Director, Administrative Services

Department of Human Resources Development - N.B.

Karen Mann, Deputy Minister, Department of Family and Community Services

Don Ferguson, Assistant Deputy Minister, Human Resources Development Division

Bernard Paulin, Assistant Deputy Minister, Family and Community Social Services

Humphrey Sheehan, Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing Division

Jack Brown, Director, Financial Services

Dave Easby, Executive Director, Policy and Planning

Gary Baird, Director, Information Resource Services

Charles Boulay, Director, Housing Programs

February 21, 2001

Department of Human Resources Development - N.B.

Karen Mann, Deputy Minister - Department of Family and Community Services
Don Ferguson, Assistant Deputy Minister, Human Resources Development Division
Bernard Paulin, Assistant Deputy Minister, Family and Community Social Services
Humphrey Sheehan, Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing Division
Jack Brown, Director, Financial Services
Dave Easby, Executive Director, Policy and Planning
Gary Baird, Director, Information Resource Services
Charles Boulay, Director, Housing Programs
Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Culture
William H. Thompson, Deputy Minister, Department of Investments and Exports
Richard Burgess, Assistant Deputy Minister, Finance and Investment
Joanne Walker, Manager, Budget and Accounting Services

February 22, 2001

Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

Roland Cormier, Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
Michael Maloney, Director, Corporate Services

Labour and Employment Board

Eugene McGinley, Q.C.

Youth Council of New Brunswick

Anthony Knight, Executive Director

March 13, 2001

Department of Intergovernmental Affairs

David McLaughlin, Deputy Minister

John Kershaw, Assistant Deputy Minister, Federal-Provincial Affairs

Roger Doucet, Assistant Deputy Minister, Intergovernmental Cooperation

Rick Phillips, Director, Financial and Administrative Services

Premier's Health Quality Council

Mavis Hurley, Deputy Minister

Executive Council Office

Jean-Guy Finn, Deputy Minister

Rick Phillips, Director, Financial and Administrative Services

New Brunswick Police Commission

Grant Garneau, Chairman

Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons

Randy Dickinson, Executive Director

March 14, 2001

Department of Health and Community Services

Nora Kelly, Deputy Minister, Department of Health and Wellness

Jim Carter, Assistant Deputy Minister, Administration and Finance

Ron Durelle, Director, Financial Services

John Dicaire, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Health and Medical Services

Joy Haines-Bacon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Family and Community Social Services

Jean Castonguay, Assistant Deputy Minister, Institutional Services

Ken Ross, Assistant Deputy Minister, Mental Health

The Committee intends to complete its review of the 1999-2000 Public Accounts following the adjournment of the current sitting of the House.

The Committee wishes to thank the many government officials that appeared during the public sessions and wishes to acknowledge their cooperation in providing follow-up information.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Sheldon Lee, M.L.A.
Chairman.

Ordered that the Report be received and leave be granted and the Committee continued.

Hon. Mr. E. Robichaud laid upon the table of the House the following documents:

Report of the Working Group on Accessibility to Post-Secondary Education in New Brunswick.

Government Response to the Report of the Working Group on Accessibility to Post-Secondary Education in New Brunswick - May 2001.

Mrs. Mersereau gave Notice of Motion 115 that on Thursday, May 24, 2001, 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 companies that the Province of New Brunswick purchased seedlings from, effective April 2000 to present.

Hon. Mr. Green announced that it was the intention of the government that Private Bills 41, 45, 47 and 49 be read a second time Tuesday next. He further announced that it was the intention of the government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 44, 51, 50, and 52, following which the House would resolve into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Department of Training and Employment Development.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole with Mr. Ashfield in the chair.

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

It was agreed by unanimous consent to continue sitting through the noon recess.

And after some time, Mr. Alward took the chair as Acting Chairman.

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

At 4.50 o'clock p.m. the Chairman declared a recess and left the chair.

5 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Mr. Ashfield in the chair.

Following consideration of Bill 44, Fiscal Stabilization Fund Act, the Chairman put the question that he report the Bill as agreed to and the motion was carried on the following recorded division:

	YEAS - 20	
Hon. Mr. Betts	Mr. Alward	Ms. Keddy
Hon. Mr. Graham	Mr. Carr	Mr. Huntjens
Ms. Poirier	Mr. Jordan	Mr. Savoie
Hon. Mrs. Jardine	Mr. Malley	Mr. MacKenzie
Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud	Mr. Stiles	Mr. Weston
Mrs. Fowlie	Mr. MacDonald	Mr. Williams
Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Kinney	
	NAYS - 4	
Mrs. Mersereau	Mr. Haché	Ms. Weir
Mr. Richard		

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. Ashfield, the Chairman, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to the Order of Presentations of Committee Reports, reported:

That the Committee had directed him to report the following Bills as agreed to:

Bill 44, *Fiscal Stabilization Fund Act*.

Bill 50, *An Act Respecting the Transfer of Authority*.

Bill 51, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco Tax Act*.

Bill 52, *An Act to Amend the Edmundston Act, 1998*.

And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

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 5 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.