
Friday, December 14, 2001.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Lord delivered to Mr. Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and the said Message was read by Mr. Speaker, all the Members standing, and is as follows:

Fredericton, N.B.
November 28, 2001.

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

I thank you for your Address and beg to assure you that I entertain the fullest confidence that in all your deliberations you will be guided by a most earnest desire to promote the happiness and prosperity of the people of this province.

(Sgd. :) Marilyn Trenholme Counsell.
Lieutenant-Governor.

Mr. Richard rose on a point of privilege to complain to the House of a government briefing held earlier in the day at which, it was submitted, information regarding proposed legislation was provided to the press and that such action amounted to a contempt of the House.

Mr. Speaker ruled that pursuant to Standing Rule 9(2), "A Member who wishes to raise a question of privilege must do so by proposing a motion of which two hours' notice has been given to the Assembly, calling upon the House to take action thereon or referring the House to take action thereon or referring the same to the Standing Committee on Privileges."

Mr. Speaker advised that he could not proceed further on the matter until such a motion had been proposed.

Hon. Mr. Mesheau, the Minister of Finance, delivered to Mr. Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and the said Message was read by Mr. Speaker, all the Members standing, and is as follows:

Fredericton, N.B.
December 14, 2001.

The Lieutenant-Governor transmits the *2001-2002 Supplementary Estimates Volume I* of the sums required for the services of the province, not otherwise provided for, for the year ending March 31, 2002,

and in accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, recommends these estimates to the House.

(Sgd. :) Marilyn Trenholme Counsell.
Lieutenant-Governor.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. E. Robichaud,

Bill 17, *Regional Health Authorities Act*.

Bill 18, *An Act Respecting the Regional Health Authorities Act*.

By Hon. N. Betts,

Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Assessment Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Mesheau,

Bill 20, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco Tax Act*.

Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*.

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

Mr. S. Graham rose on a point of order claiming that the Minister of Training and Employment Development had undertaken to respond to a question but instead had provided the answer privately.

Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken as it is wholly within the discretion of a Minister to decide how to respond to a question during question period.

Ms. Weir gave Notice of Motion 47 that on Thursday, December 20, 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 by the Minister of Finance, a copy of the January 11, 2000, memorandum to the Executive Council on the Voluntary Early Retirement Window.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Green, seconded by Hon. P. Robichaud:

RESOLVED, THAT the membership of the Legislative Administration Committee be amended by substituting the name of Hon. Paul Robichaud for Hon. Elvy Robichaud:

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations be amended by substituting the name of Mr. Sherwood for Mr. Weston;

THAT the membership of the Select Committee on Health be amended by substituting the name of Mr. Sherwood for Mr. Weston;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Procedure be amended by substituting the name of Mr. Sherwood for Mr. Weston.

And the question being put, the motion was carried.

Hon. Mr. Green, the Government House Leader, announced that following second reading, it was the intention of the government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Supply to consider the 2002 - 2003 Capital Estimates; in particular, the estimates of the Departments of Transportation; Health and Wellness and Education. At the completion of the procedural matters arising from the disposition of the capital estimates, the House would resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider Bills 6, 10, 13, 14 and 15.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Fisheries Bargaining Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended and the question being put that Bill 16 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Fisheries Bargaining Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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

It was agreed by unanimous consent to recess at 12.20 o'clock p.m., to resume sitting at 1.30 o'clock p.m., and to continue until 5.30 o'clock p.m., at which time the House would adjourn.

Accordingly, at 12.20 o'clock p.m., the Chairman left the chair.

1.30 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. Jordan, took the chair as Acting Chairman.

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

And after some time spent in Committee of Supply, 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 passed several items, 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.

The following are the items reported:

2002-2003 CAPITAL ESTIMATES Voted

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$172,000,000 to defray the expenses of the following programs:

Permanent Bridges	16,775,000
Permanent Highways.....	63,225,000
Canada/New Brunswick Highway Improvement Program	86,000,000
Canada/New Brunswick Strategic Highway Infrastructure Program	6,000,000

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$5,687,000 to defray the expenses of the following program:

Public Hospitals - Capital Equipment	5,687,000
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EDUCATION

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

Public Schools - Capital Equipment	1,000,000
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The said items were concurred in by the House.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. N. Betts,

Bill 22, *Capital Appropriations Act 2002-03*.

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

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

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. Ashfield, the Chairman, after requesting 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 10, *An Act to Amend the Crown Lands and Forests Act.*

Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly Act.*

Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act.*

And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. Speaker 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, 5.23 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:

Documents requested in Notice of Motion 35	December 12, 2001
Documents requested in Notice of Motion 36	December 13, 2001
Annual Report Department of Business New Brunswick 2000-2001	December 12, 2001
Annual Report Department of Training and Employment Development 2000-2001	December 12, 2001
Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick 2001 and Highlights	December 13, 2001