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Thursday, April 18, 2002.

*1 o'clock p.m.*

Prayers.

Ms. Weir laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by members of the Local Service Districts of Saint-Sauveur, Maltempec, Petit-Rocher, Évangeline and Haut Sheila who request the right to know who will be using Crown land within their districts and those abutting private land. (Petition 9)

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Ms. Weir laid upon the table of the House a petition addressed to Premier Bernard Lord signed by citizens from across New Brunswick who support the demands of the forest workers association (ATFAB) to protect jobs in forest communities. (Petition 10)

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During Statements by Ministers, Hon. Mr. Green rose on a point of order in relation to a reply by Mrs. Mersereau to a statement of Hon. Mr. Mesheau, and stated that the Member for Bathurst was directing her remarks at Members opposite rather than through the chair. Mrs. Mersereau apologized.

Mr. Speaker stated that all remarks should be directed through the chair and that Members should refrain from pointing out other Members.

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Hon. Mr. Green announced that it was the intention of the government that following Private Members' Motions, the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to continue consideration of the estimates of the Department of Environment and Local Government.

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Debate resumed on Motion 6, moved by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Allaby, as follows:

WHEREAS one of the five areas on which the government was supposed to focus after the June 7, 1999 election was creating new job opportunities;

AND WHEREAS these new job opportunities have yet to materialize;

AND WHEREAS this government is not economically proactive and New Brunswick is no longer one of the places where outside businesses choose to do business and set up;

AND WHEREAS this government simply took advantage of the favourable world economic situation of the past few years to blow its own trumpet as regards the economy;

AND WHEREAS the government blames the events of September 11 and unfavourable world economic conditions to explain its lack of vision and leadership as regards job creation;

AND WHEREAS the government's sectoral strategies for achieving greater economic development have yet to materialize;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislature condemn the government's poor record on economic development and job creation.

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 time, Mr. Haché rose on a point of order, stating that certain comments were not being directed through the chair.

Mr. Ashfield, the Acting Deputy Speaker, ruled that in his opinion, the comments had been directed to the chair.

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

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

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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 'clock p.m.

*7 o'clock p.m.*

The Committee resumed with Mr. Ashfield in the chair.

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

And after some further time spent in Committee of Supply, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and Mr. Bernard, 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, 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:

MAIN ESTIMATES, 2002-2003  
ORDINARY ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$51,129,000 to defray the expenses of the following programs:

Corporate Services .....	4,357,000
Local Government and Regional Services .....	36,613,000
Environmental Management .....	4,065,000
Sciences and Planning .....	6,129,000
Less amounts authorized by law .....	35,000
Voted .....	51,129,000

WORKING CAPITAL - MAXIMUM BALANCES  
2002 - 2003

	Voted
PETTY CASH ADVANCES	
Business New Brunswick .....	1,000
INVENTORIES	
Business New Brunswick .....	5,000,000

The said items were concurred in by the House.

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And then 9.35 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.