
Wednesday, December 18, 2002.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Jean Dubé recognized the efforts of the Hong Kong Veterans; in particular those of Campbellton resident Reggie Law, who survived the Battle of Hong Kong and for nearly four years was a prisoner of war.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Shawn Graham,

Bill 24, An Act to Repeal the Fiscal Stabilization Fund Act.

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

Mr. Shawn Graham gave Notice of Motion 71 that on Tuesday, December 24, 2002, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

WHEREAS The Professional Association of Residents in the Maritime Provinces are seeking to partner with the government of New Brunswick on physician recruitment and retention:

AND WHEREAS Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia have already expressed their interest in this opportunity;

AND WHEREAS this group represents 400 family practice, medical and surgery residents;

AND WHEREAS there are 32,000 New Brunswickers seeking a family doctor;

AND WHEREAS small rural hospitals are losing their emergency services;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Department of Health and Wellness to consider partnering with The Professional Association of Residents in the Maritime Provinces to help with New Brunswick's doctor recruitment and retention problems.

Mr. Shawn Graham gave Notice of Motion 72 that on Tuesday, December 24, 2002, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Richard:

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, electronic mail, memorandums between the government of New Brunswick and the Professional Association of Residents in the Maritime Provinces.

Hon. Paul Robichaud announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the budget debate.

The Order of the Day for resuming the debate on the motion (Motion 54),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

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, at the request of Mr. Richard, it was agreed by unanimous consent to recess at 12.15 o'clock p.m. and to resume again at 1.45 o'clock p.m.

At 12.15 o'clock p.m., the Deputy Speaker left the chair.

1.45 o'clock p.m.

The House resumed with Mr. Bernard, the Deputy Speaker, in the chair.

Debate continued.

And after some time, Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Shawn Graham, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 54 be amended by:

Deleting all the words after the word "That" and substituting the following:

WHEREAS the Government has made unrealistic revenue and expenditure projections in the 2003-2004 budget;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick has exhausted the Fiscal Stabilization Fund to cover up a deficit in Ordinary Account expenditures;

WHEREAS it has become apparent that this Government is heading down the road of deficit financing;

WHEREAS this Government does not provide any means to protect the people of New Brunswick from rising automobile insurance rates and in fact they intend to increase its revenue base from taxes on rising insurance premiums;

WHEREAS this budget does not adequately address the recruitment and retention of Health Care Professionals;

BE IT RESOLVED that this government lacks the confidence of this Legislative Assembly.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

At 2.45 o'clock p.m., Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and declared a recess.

3.17 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and informed the House that the rules governing the debate on the budget and amendments thereto allow the Member currently debating the proposed amendment to speak for not more than 40 minutes.

Debate resumed on the proposed amendment to the motion (Motion 54).

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the ordinary time of daily adjournment had arrived.

And then, 6 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Documents requested in

Notices of Motions 20, 35, and 44

December 13, 2002

Documents requested in Notice of Motion 63

December 16, 2002

Documents requested in

Notices of Motions 43, 49, 50, 51, 52, and 58

December 17, 2002