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Wednesday, January 8, 2003.

*10 o'clock a.m.*

Prayers.

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

Hon. Mr. Green announced that following second reading of Bills, it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to continue consideration of the estimates of the Department of Transportation, following which, the House would resolve into a Committee of the Whole to consider legislation; namely, Bills 13, 18 and 19.

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The Order being read for second reading of Bill 25, *An Act to Amend the University of New Brunswick Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended and the question being put that Bill 25 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 25, *An Act to Amend the University of New Brunswick Act*, was read a second time and referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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The Order being read for second reading of Bill 26, *Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended and the question being put that Bill 26 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 26, *Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission Act*, was read a second time and referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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The Order being read for second reading of Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended and the question being put that Bill 27 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*, was read a second time and referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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

And after some time, Mr. Jean Dubé took the chair.

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

At 12.30 o'clock p.m., the Chairman left the chair, to resume again at 2 o'clock p.m.

*2 o'clock p.m.*

The Committee resumed with Mr. Bernard in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Jean Dubé resumed the chair.

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

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

Hon. Paul Robichaud rose on a point of order and stated that the Member for Shédiac—Cap-Pelé was posing questions unrelated to the estimates under consideration.

The Chairman reminded Members that traditionally, wide latitude is given to all Members posing questions during consideration of the Main Estimates and that it is within the Minister's discretion to decide how to respond to a question. The Chairman requested that Members limit questions to the estimates under consideration and avoid being repetitious.

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

And after some further time, Mr. Ashfield, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker 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 made some progress therein, 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, 2003 - 2004  
ORDINARY ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$137,264,000 to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2004:

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Administration .....	20,740,000
Policy, Development and Intergovernmental Relations .....	2,958,000
Maintenance .....	56,530,000
Winter Maintenance .....	51,833,000
Bridge and Highway Construction .....	4,603,000
New Brunswick Highway Corporation .....	9,966,000
Payroll Distribution .....	0
Less amounts authorized by law .....	9,366,000
Voted .....	137,264,000

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$196,000,000 to defray the expenses of the following Capital account program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2004:

Permanent Bridges .....	24,300,000
Permanent Highways .....	65,700,000
Canada-New Brunswick Highway Improvement Program .....	72,000,000
Canada-New Brunswick Strategic Infrastructure Program .....	9,000,000
Canada-New Brunswick Strategic Infrastructure Program, Route 2 .....	25,000,000

WORKING CAPITAL - MAXIMUM BALANCES  
2003 - 2004

PETTY CASH ADVANCES

Transportation .....	50,000
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INVENTORIES

Transportation .....	19,000,000
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The said items were concurred in by the House.

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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:

Annual Report of the Ombudsman 2001-2002	December 20, 2002
Documents requested in Notice of Motion 56	December 20, 2002
Documents requested in Notice of Motion 69	January 7, 2003