
Tuesday, April 1, 2003.

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Lee paid tribute to the late John Mooney, former Liberal Member of the Legislative Assembly for Saint John South (1974 – 1978 and 1987 – 1991). Hon. Mr. Lord added his condolences.

Mr. Alward, from the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

April 1, 2003.

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

Mr. Speaker:

I have the honour to present herewith the First Report of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations.

The report outlines the activities of the Committee since their report to the Third Session of the Fifty-fourth Legislative Assembly on May 24, 2001.

Your Committee wishes to thank the officials of the various Crown Corporations and Agencies that appeared during the public sessions and wishes to acknowledge their cooperation in providing requested information.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd.): David Alward, M.L.A.
Chairman.

Ordered that the report be received and the Committee continued.

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

April 1, 2003.

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

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Crown Corporations begs leave to submit this their First Report to the Fifth Session of the Fifty-fourth Legislative Assembly.

The report outlines the activities of the Committee since their First Report to the Third Session of the Fifty-fourth Legislative Assembly on May 24, 2001. From October 2, 2001 to December 17, 2002, your Committee held a total of 24 meetings. During this period, your Committee completed their review of various Crown Corporations and Agencies for the year ending March 31, 2000, and your Committee began their review of the regional hospital corporations and various Crown Corporations and Agencies for the year ending March 31, 2001.

Your Committee met in the Legislative Council Chamber on October 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11 and 12, 2001 to complete their review of the activities and financial statements of various Crown Corporations for the year ending March 31, 2000. Officials of the following Crown Corporations and Agencies appeared before the Committee:

Algonquin Properties Ltd.

Forest Protection Limited

Kingsbrae Horticultural Garden

New Brunswick Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities

New Brunswick Credit Union Deposit Insurance Corporation

New Brunswick Crop Insurance Commission

New Brunswick Forest Products Commission

New Brunswick Investment Management Corporation

New Brunswick Liquor Corporation

New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation

New Brunswick Research and Productivity Council

Regional Development Corporation

Service New Brunswick

Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission of New Brunswick

On October 30, 2001 Committee members participated in a training session offered by staff of the Office of the Auditor General. Topics included: understanding financial statements; the importance of goals, objectives and performance measures; reviewing annual reports; and issues related to public sector annual reporting in Canada. Your Committee found the training session to be informative and beneficial when reviewing the financial statements and annual reports of organizations appearing before the Committee.

On December 13, 2001 the Committee met in a special joint session with the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to receive and review the *Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, 2001*. The Auditor General briefed members on the nature of the work undertaken during the year and the contents and findings of the Report.

Your Committee remained active during the year 2002. In total, 15 committee meetings were held throughout the year.

In January, your Committee conducted their review of the activities and financial statements of the province's eight regional hospital corporations for the year ending March 31, 2001. The Board Chair, Chief Executive Officer and other senior officials from each hospital corporation appeared before the Committee to account for their activities and spending during the year in question.

The Committee met with the hospital corporations as follows:

January 15, 2002	Region 1 Hospital Corporation (South-East)
January 16, 2002	Region 4 Hospital Corporation
January 17, 2002	Region 6 Hospital Corporation (Nor'East Health Network)
January 18, 2002	Region 2 Hospital Corporation (Atlantic Health Sciences Corporation)
January 22, 2002	Region 1 Hospital Corporation (Beauséjour)
January 23, 2002	Region 3 Hospital Corporation
January 24, 2002	Region 7 Hospital Corporation
January 24, 2002	Region 5 Hospital Corporation (Restigouche Health Services Corporation)

Your Committee continued their review for the year ending March 31, 2001 when they met with officials of Atlantic Lottery Corporation on January 25, 2002. On March 12 and 13, 2002, the Committee met with officials of the Crown owned utility New Brunswick Power Corporation (NB Power). The Chairman of the Board, the Acting President and Chief Executive Officer and other senior officials appeared before the Committee to account for the activities of the corporation for the year in question. The Committee also met with officials of NB Coal and the New Brunswick Farm Products Commission.

Your Committee met in the Legislative Council Chamber on September 17, 18, 24 and 25, 2002 to continue their review of various other Crown Corporations for the year ending March 31, 2001. Officials of the following Crown Corporations and Agencies appeared before the Committee:

Kings Landing Corporation
Lotteries Commission of New Brunswick
New Brunswick Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities
New Brunswick Highway Corporation
New Brunswick Museum
Provincial Holdings Ltd.
Regional Development Corporation
Service New Brunswick

Strait Crossing Inc.
Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission of New Brunswick

On December 17, 2002, the Committee met in a special joint session with the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to receive and review the *Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, 2002*. The Auditor General briefed members on the nature of the work undertaken during the year and the contents and findings of the Report.

Your Committee wishes to thank the officials of the regional hospital corporations and other Crown Corporations and Agencies that appeared before the Committee during the public hearings. Your Committee also wishes to thank the Office of the Auditor General for the training session provided to the Committee members.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) David Alward, M.L.A.
Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Lord laid upon the table of the House a document entitled "*Prospering in a Global Community: New Brunswick's International Strategy*".

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Lord:

Bill 55, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*.

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

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. MacDonald:

Bill 56, *Anglican Church Act, 2003*.

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Hon. Mr. Green announced that following third reading, second reading, and Private Members' Motions, it was the intention of the government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to take into consideration the estimates of the Department of Health and Wellness.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 46, *Taxpayer Protection Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bernard, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 46 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 46, *Taxpayer Protection Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 47, *An Act to Amend the Companies Act*.

Bill 52, *An Act to Amend the Medical Services Payment Act*.

Bill 53, *An Act to Amend the Hospital Services Act*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 54, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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, Mr. Deputy Speaker declared it to be 6 o'clock p.m., and left the chair to resume again at 7 o'clock p.m.

7 o'clock p.m.

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 54 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 54, *An Act to Amend the Insurance Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Debate resumed on the sub-amendment to Motion 2, moved by Mr. Haché, seconded by Mr. Allaby, as follows:

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to motion 2 be amended by deleting the word "government" and replacing it with: "government's budget introduced on February 18, 2003".

And the debate being ended and the question being put, the sub-amendment was negatived.

Debate resumed on the amendment to Motion 2, moved by Mrs. Mersereau, seconded by Mr. S. Graham, as follows:

That motion 2 be amended by adding after the last WHEREAS clause:

“WHEREAS the province of New Brunswick has just received significant additional funding from the federal government, targeted in part at improving access to primary health care;”.

And the debate being ended and the question being put, the amendment was negatived.

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on Motion 2 as follows:

WHEREAS an Act introducing nurse practitioners was adopted during the last session of the Legislative Assembly;

WHEREAS the University of New Brunswick only offers a part-time nurse practitioner program;

WHEREAS there is no Francophone nurse practitioner program at the Université de Moncton;

WHEREAS nurse practitioners are in very high demand across the country;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the New Brunswick government to set up a dedicated fund for a nurse practitioner program at the Université de Moncton and at the University of New Brunswick.

And the question being put, Motion 2 was negatived.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to dispense with the remaining time allotted for consideration of Private Members' Motions.

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

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

At 10 o'clock p.m. the Chairman declared a recess and left the chair.

10.15 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Mr. Ashfield in the chair.

And after some further time, due to the unavoidable absence of

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bernard, the Deputy Speaker, resumed the chair as Acting Speaker, and Mr. Ashfield, 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, 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.

And then 11 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, Justice and Attorney General 2001-2002	March 28, 2003
Annual Report, Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission 2002	March 28, 2003