
Wednesday, May 19, 2004.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers

Mr. Malley introduced Paul Dawson, Progressive Conservative MLA for Miramichi-Newcastle (1982-1987) who served as Minister of Commerce and Development and Minister of Income Assistance.

Mr. Malley laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by residents of the Miramichi area urging the government not to close any beds, downgrade any services, jobs or departments in Region 7 Hospital Authority and to maintain the status quo. (Petition 36)

Mr. Foran laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by residents of the Miramichi area urging the government not to close any beds, downgrade any services, jobs or departments in Region 7 Hospital Authority and to maintain the status quo. (Petition 37)

Ms. Robichaud laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by residents of the Miramichi area urging the government not to close any beds, downgrade any services, jobs or departments in Region 7 Hospital Authority and to maintain the status quo. (Petition 38)

Mr. Brewer laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by residents of the Miramichi area urging the government not to close any beds, downgrade any services, jobs or departments in Region 7 Hospital Authority and to maintain the status quo. (Petition 39)

Mr. Allaby gave Notice of Motion 95 that on Tuesday, May 25, 2004, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. MacIntyre:

That an address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he cause to be laid upon the table a copy of the Accountability Framework established under Section 7 of the *Regional Health Authorities Act*.

Mr. Doucet gave Notice of Motion 96 that on Tuesday, May 25, 2004, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Foran:

That an address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he cause to be laid upon the table of the

House all contracts, agreements, memorandums of understanding, leases, between the province and Enbridge Gas pertaining to the marketing and the distribution of natural gas in New Brunswick from July 1st, 1999 to May 18th, 2004.

Hon. P. Robichaud announced it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Office of Human Resources.

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

At 11.30 o'clock a.m., the Chairman declared a recess and left the chair.

11.50 o'clock a.m.

The Committee resumed with Mr. Holder in 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. C. LeBlanc in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. C. LeBlanc, 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, 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.

Ms. Weir, the Member for Saint John Harbour, rose on a Point of Order concerning statements made by the Minister of Health and Wellness, Hon. E. Robichaud in relation to the CEO of the Miramichi Regional Health Authority and invited the Minister to correct the record to indicate that Mr. Wolstenholme had not resigned but was in fact fired, so as not to mislead the House.

Hon. E. Robichaud spoke on the Point of Order and maintained that the CEO had signed a resignation paper, with an agreement on a severance package.

Ms. Weir rose and claimed that the Minister had lied to the House by maintaining that the CEO of the Miramichi Regional Health Authority had resigned.

Hon. E. Robichaud rose on a Point of Order and submitted that the words used by the Member for Saint John Harbour were not appropriate.

Mr. Speaker immediately called the Member for Saint John Harbour to order and requested that she withdraw the unparliamentary words. The Member for Saint John Harbour refused to withdraw the comment.

Mr. Speaker advised that the remarks made by the Member for Saint John Harbour were in violation of the rules of the House respecting unparliamentary language and offered the Member a further opportunity to withdraw the offensive remark. The Member again refused to withdraw the remark.

Following a third request and refusal to withdraw the remark, Mr. Speaker ordered, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Rule 20(1), that the Member for Saint John Harbour withdraw immediately from the House for the remainder of the sitting day. The Member for Saint John Harbour withdrew from the House.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. C. LeBlanc in the chair.

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

And after some further time, Mr. C. LeBlanc took the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. C. LeBlanc, 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, 2004-2005
ORDINARY ACCOUNT

OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$5,334,000 to defray the expenses of the program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2005:

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|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Human Resource Management | 5,371,000 |
| Less amounts authorized by law | 37,000 |
| Voted | 5,334,000 |

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Voted, Supply in the following amounts to defray the expenses of the following programs:

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| Employee Benefit Plans | 32,914,000 |
| Equal Employment Opportunity Program | 483,000 |
| New Brunswick Public Service Internship Program | 1,397,000 |

The said items were concurred in by the House.

And then, 6 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 87 May 14, 2004