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Friday, April 8, 2005.

*10 o'clock a.m.*

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker reminded Members that the 60-second time limit applies to a Minister's reply to a question taken as notice and answered on a subsequent day, as well as a Member's supplementary question.

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Mr. R. Boudreau gave Notice of Motion 62 that on Thursday, April 14, 2005, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McGinley:

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 documents, reports, e-mails, correspondence, relating to foster family care, to and by the Department of Family and Community Services, including but not limited to the Minister of Family and Community Services from January 1, 2005, to present.

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Mr. Lamrock gave Notice of Motion 63 that on Thursday, April 14, 2005, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

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 documents, correspondence, e-mails, reports between the Department of Justice and any other province of Canada on any lawsuit against tobacco companies since June 9, 2003.

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Mr. Lamrock gave Notice of Motion 64 that on Thursday, April 14, 2005, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Allaby:

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 documents, correspondence, e-mails, reports between the Department of Education and the Government of Canada regarding the elimination of parental deduction from student loans since June 9, 2003.

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It was agreed by unanimous consent to vary the hours of sitting, to recess from 12.30 to 1 o'clock p.m., and to sit no later than 4.30 o'clock pm.

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Hon. Mr. Green, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government to resume the adjourned debate on the budget.

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The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the amendment to the motion (Motion 39),

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

The debate was resumed.

And after some time, Hon. Ms. Fowlie rose on a point of order and claimed that Mr. Branch, the Member for Nepisiguit, had used unparliamentary language that should be withdrawn. Hon. Mr. Lord and Mr. Lamrock spoke on the point of order.

Mr. Speaker advised the House that he would review the Hansard and report back to the House if necessary.

The debate continued and after some time, Mr. C. LeBlanc rose on a point of order and claimed that Mr. Foran, the Member for Miramichi Centre, had used unparliamentary language. The Member apologized for his remarks.

At 12.30 o'clock p.m., Mr. Speaker left the chair to resume again at 1 o'clock p.m.

*1 o'clock p.m.*

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

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

And after some further time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and delivered the following ruling with respect to the point of order raised by Hon. Ms. Fowlie earlier in the sitting:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Honourable members, I will address an earlier point of order that was raised by the Minister of the Environment and Local Government with respect to remarks made by the member for Nepisiguit. The term "neofascist" was used in the context of referring to a form of government that resembled the regime of a former Quebec Premier. It is not entirely clear from my reading of the transcript whether there was a direct reference to any member of this Legislature.

However, the tone of speeches over the past few days has not been conducive to good debate or acceptable parliamentary behaviour.

Both sides have taken liberty with the language in debate. This style of speaking in the House is unacceptable, and references to members' personal lives and the use of members' names must stop. The people of the province have a right to expect you to speak on the issues at hand.

I am going to rise when I feel that the language or the references are unacceptable in future, and I am going to do it on your speaking time. I am not adding minutes. If the lesson is not learned quickly, there will be consequences. That is my message for today.

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And after some further time, the debate was, on motion of Hon. Mr. Green, on behalf of the Honourable the Premier, adjourned over.

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And then, 4.30 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

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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	
2004-2005 Conflict of Interest Commissioner	April 7, 2005
Annual Report 2004 Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission	April 7, 2005