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Journals

(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Herménégilde Chiasson
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Eugene McGinley

Thursday, May 3, 2007

**First Session of the 56th Legislative Assembly
Fredericton, New Brunswick**

Thursday, May 3, 2007.

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Volpé welcomed to the House Mr. Elvy Robichaud, former Progressive Conservative MLA for Tracadie (1994-1995) and Tracadie-Sheila (1995-2006). Hon. Mr. MacIntyre joined with the Leader of the Opposition in this regard.

Mr. Alward, Member for Carleton, laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by residents of Union Corner Road, urging the government to complete necessary upgrades to the four kilometres of gravel road beginning at Route 540, including gravelling, ditching, and brush clearing. (Petition 32)

Mr. Speaker interrupted Oral Questions and requested that Mr. Mockler, Member for Restigouche-la-Vallée, withdraw the words “misleading the House.” After several requests, the Member withdrew the remarks.

Mr. Robichaud rose on a point of order and submitted that the term “misinformation” used by Mr. Mockler is not unparliamentary and should have been permitted by the chair. Mr. Speaker advised Members that the rulings of the chair are not subject to debate or challenge and requested that Members refrain from doing so in the future.

Mr. Robichaud gave Notice of Motion 53 that on Thursday, May 10, 2007, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Mockler:

WHEREAS, in May 1997, the communities of Saint-Simon and Saint-Sauveur, in the Acadian Peninsula, held peaceful demonstrations in opposition to the political will of the Liberal government of the day, which wanted to close their schools;

WHEREAS, when the RCMP intervened to end these demonstrations, people from these communities were brutalized, and a significant number of them still bear the marks of these events;

WHEREAS, after a lengthy investigation, it was recognized that police authorities had used excessive force, in particular using dogs against people who were only claiming the right to manage their schools;

WHEREAS, at the time, several elected representatives from the provincial Liberal government, including Premier Frank McKenna and Solicitor General Jane Barry, maintained that Acadian Peninsula residents were inclined to be violent;

WHEREAS these elected representatives were part of the New Brunswick government at that time, the events that occurred at Saint-Simon and Saint-Sauveur happened during their mandate, and their statements, which were unfair to Acadian Peninsula residents, were never withdrawn;

WHEREAS the Liberal government of the day, by rescinding its decision to close the schools in Saint-Simon and Saint-Sauveur, implicitly recognized its mistake, without, however, ever openly admitting this;

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly deeply respects everyone it represents, with no exception whatsoever;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly ask the New Brunswick government to present an official apology to Acadian Peninsula residents for the decisions made and actions taken in 1997, during the Saint-Simon and Saint-Sauveur demonstrations, as well as for the unfair statements Frank McKenna and Jane Barry made with regard to these people.

Mr. Kenny gave Notice of Motion 54 that on Thursday, May 10, 2007, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Lavoie:

WHEREAS Northern New Brunswick has a long history of work in mining and expertise in mining; and

WHEREAS prospects for strong mineral prices and a healthy mining industry appear to be good; and

WHEREAS the mining industry employs a generally aging workforce that will be retiring at an increasing rate; and

WHEREAS a new workforce will need to be trained to keep up with industry demand; and

WHEREAS excellence in training is a key tool for self-sufficiency; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislature ask the government to investigate the feasibility of a mining training centre in Bathurst.

Hon. Mr. Jamieson, Government House Leader, requested unanimous consent to dispense with the time reserved for Private

Members' Motions, and announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Department of Local Government and the Department of Fisheries, following which the House would resume the adjourned debate on the motion for second reading of Bills 44 and 17.

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

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

At 5.08 o'clock p.m., the Chairman declared a recess and left the chair.

5.16 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Mr. R. Boudreau in the chair.

At 6 o'clock p.m., the Chairman left the chair to resume again at 7 o'clock p.m.

7 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Mr. R. Boudreau in the chair.

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

And after some further time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Kenny, 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, 2007-2008

ORDINARY ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$111,156,000 to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2008:

Corporate Services	3,198,000
Local Government Finances.....	104,678,000
Local Government and Community Relations	2,958,000
Assessment and Planning Appeal Board.....	322,000
Less amounts authorized by law.....	0
Voted	111,156,000

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$500,000 to defray the expenses of the following program allocation for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2008:

Local Service Districts	500,000
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LOANS AND ADVANCES

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$0 to defray the expenses of the following program allocation for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2008:

<i>Municipal Assistance Act</i> , Loan to a Municipality	0
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WORKING CAPITAL – MAXIMUM BALANCES

2007-2008

Voted

WORKING CAPITAL ADVANCES

Local Government.....	10,000
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PETTY CASH ADVANCES

Local Government.....	10,000
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The said items were concurred in by the House.

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