



# **Journals**

(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Herménégilde Chiasson  
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Roy Boudreau

**Thursday, April 24, 2008**

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

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Thursday, April 24, 2008.

*1 o'clock p.m.*

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. S. Graham welcomed to the Chamber the Ambassador of Kuwait to Canada, His Excellency Musaed Rashed A. AL-Haroun.

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Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and reminded Members of Standing Rule 57 and the requirement that Members not interrupt the business of the House by engaging in private conversation.

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Mr. Albert, Member for Caraquet, laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by New Brunswickers who are concerned with the government's decision to allow exploration for uranium and to not protect the waterways, health and property rights as the exploration continues. (Petition 15)

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Mr. Steeves, Member for Albert, laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by citizens of the Albert County area who are opposed to any form of exploration, exploitation and refining of uranium in the province. (Petition 16)

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Mr. Northrup, Member for Kings East, laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by New Brunswickers who are concerned with the government's decision to allow exploration for uranium and to not protect the waterways, health and property rights as the exploration continues. (Petition 17)

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At the conclusion of Oral Questions, Hon. Mr. Murphy, Government House Leader, rose on a point of order and submitted that during Statements by Members, Mr. C. LeBlanc brought forward personal attack against Mr. B. LeBlanc, which is not the purpose of Statements by Members.

Hon. Mr. Murphy also submitted that during Oral Questions, Mr. Steeves had questioned the honesty of the Premier. Mr. Speaker took both matters under advisement.

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The Government House Leader announced that following the time reserved for Opposition Members Business, it was the intention of the government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 34.

The Government House Leader advised the House that third reading of Bills 32 and 42 would be deferred until the next sitting day.

Hon. Mr. Murphy further announced that on Friday, April 25, it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 34, following which, with the consent of the House, Bill 34 would be called for third reading.

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Pursuant to Notice of Motion 66, Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Northrup:

WHEREAS with the recent increase in the price for uranium, extensive areas in New Brunswick have been staked in preparation for the mining of uranium;

WHEREAS the health risks resulting from mining operations, radioactive tailings, heavy metals, chemicals and methods used to mine uranium are very substantial;

WHEREAS there is a strong risk of air and water supplies being contaminated with uranium, radon, chemicals, and other contaminants;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly calls upon the Government for an immediate moratorium on uranium exploration in New Brunswick and that the moratorium remain in force until appropriate and acceptable public hearings have been held, which demonstrate a worthwhile financial benefit to the Province, and that there is no health risk to New Brunswickers.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And after some further time, Hon. Mr. Haché, seconded by Hon. Mr. Arseneault moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 66 be amended by:

In the first “whereas” clause strike “preparation for the mining of” and replace it with “hopes of possibly mining for”,

In the second “whereas” clause strike “substantial” and replace it with “potentially substantial”,

In the resolution clause strike all words after “THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED” and replace them with “that this Legislative Assembly call upon the government to affirm that any decisions regarding mineral exploration and mining activities are made in accordance with existing legislation intended to protect air and water supplies, using tools such as the *Watershed Protected Area Designation Order*, *Wellfield Protected Area Designation Order*, *Watercourse and Wetland Alteration Regulation*, *Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation*, *Water Quality Regulation* and the *Air Quality Regulation*, as well as other federal and provincial legislative instruments.”

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on the proposed amendment and a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Fitch rose on a point of order and submitted that Hon. Mr. Arseneault, the Minister of Natural Resources, had referred to the presence or absence of Members. Mr. Deputy Speaker ruled the point well taken and cautioned the Minister against such references.

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

And after some further time, the debate being ended and the question being put, the amendment was carried on the following recorded division:

#### YEAS - 27

Mr. MacIntyre	Hon. Ms. Schryer	Hon. Mr. Doucet
Hon. V. Boudreau	Hon. Mr. Lamrock	Hon. Mr. Foran
Hon. S. Graham	Hon. Mr. Burke	Hon. Mr. Stiles
Hon. Mr. Murphy	Hon. Mr. Albert	Ms. Lavoie
Hon. Mr. Byrne	Hon. Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Miles
Hon. Ms. Robichaud	Mr. A. LeBlanc	Ms. MacAlpine-Stiles
Hon. Mr. Haché	Mr. B. LeBlanc	Mr. Collins
Hon. D. Landry	Mr. Kenny	Mr. Fraser
Hon. Mr. Doherty	Mr. Ouellette	Mr. Brewer

#### NAYS - 22

Mr. Mockler	Ms. Blaney	Mr. Fitch
Mr. D. Graham	Ms. Poirier	Mr. Betts
Mr. Volpé	Mr. Holder	Mr. Northrup
Mr. Harrison	Ms. Dubé	Mr. Olscamp
Mr. Robichaud	Mr. Carr	Mr. Urquhart
Mr. Ashfield	Mr. Williams	Mr. C. Landry
Mr. Steeves	Mr. Alward	Mr. C. LeBlanc
Mr. MacDonald		

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 66 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS with the recent increase in the price for uranium, extensive areas in New Brunswick have been staked in hopes of possibly mining for uranium;

WHEREAS the health risks resulting from mining operations, radioactive tailings, heavy metals, chemicals and methods used to mine uranium are very potentially substantial;

WHEREAS there is a strong risk of air and water supplies being contaminated with uranium, radon, chemicals, and other contaminants;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly call upon the government to affirm that any decisions regarding mineral exploration and mining activities are made in accordance with existing legislation intended to protect air and water supplies, using tools such as the *Watershed Protected Area Designation Order*, *Wellfield Protected Area Designation Order*, *Watercourse and Wetland Alteration Regulation*, *Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation*, *Water Quality Regulation* and the *Air Quality Regulation*, as well as other federal and provincial legislative instruments.

And the question being put, Motion 66 as amended was carried.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 15, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

7 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole with Mr. Kenny in the chair.

And after some 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 directed that he report progress on the following Bill:

Bill 34, *An Act to Amend the Regional Health Authorities Act*.

And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. Speaker 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.

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And then, 10 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.