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Journals

(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Herménégilde Chiasson
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Roy Boudreau

Thursday, December 4, 2008

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

Thursday, December 4, 2008.

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received notice of a request for an emergency debate from Mr. Alward, Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Alward rose, pursuant to Standing Rule 45(1), to propose that the House do now adjourn for the purpose of considering the province's current and future fiscal and economic situation.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Honourable Members, the Leader of the Opposition has asked leave to introduce a motion for an emergency debate for the purpose of considering urgent and critical matters related to the province's current and future fiscal and economic situation. I received notice from the member two hours prior to the start of the day's sitting. This gave me an opportunity to consider the matter proposed for debate.

The economy of New Brunswick is, of course, of great importance to our province and to the well-being of all New Brunswickers. However, in considering whether to set aside the business of the House to consider the proposed motion, I must, in accordance with Standing Rule 45, have regard to the probability of the matter being brought before the House within a reasonable time by other means.

Although the matters raised this morning by the Leader of the Opposition are clearly of importance to New Brunswickers, in the opinion of the Chair, the matter proposed for discussion does not satisfy the requirements of Standing Rule 46, in particular paragraph (a), which states that:

46 The right to move the adjournment of the House for the above purposes is subject to the following conditions:

(a) the matter proposed for discussion must relate to a genuine emergency, calling for immediate and urgent consideration;

The matter proposed for discussion does not, in my opinion, "relate to a genuine emergency, calling for immediate and urgent consideration". Accordingly, the matter will not go forward at this time.

Mr. Cy LeBlanc, Member for Dieppe Centre-Lewisville, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of parents and friends of the Club Sainte-Thérèse in Dieppe, which offers child care before and after school, urging that the Club be saved. (Petition 11)

Mr. Harrison, Member for Hampton-Kings, laid upon the table of the House, a petition in opposition to Corridor Resources intention to store petroleum products in underground caverns near their communities. (Petition 12).

Mr. Northrup, Member for Kings East, laid upon the table of the House, a petition in opposition to Corridor Resources intention to store petroleum products in underground caverns near their communities. (Petition 13).

Mr. Dale Graham, Member for Carleton, laid upon the table of the House, a petition on behalf of residents of Route 560 urging the government to paint a yellow line on the route. (Petition 14).

Ms. Dubé gave Notice of Motion 21 that on Thursday, December 11, 2008, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Alward:

WHEREAS businesses in New Brunswick are being faced with growing financial pressures in the current economic crisis; and
WHEREAS it is incumbent on government to find ways to ensure that New Brunswick's businesses are in a position to succeed; and
WHEREAS the current process for businesses to remit their property taxes is in a one-time lump sum payment; and
WHEREAS in many cases this has a significant impact on cash flow;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly call upon government to allow for businesses in New Brunswick to remit their property tax payments on an equalized monthly basis.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Murphy, seconded by Hon. Mr. Byrne:

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stands adjourned until Friday, December 5, 2008, at 11 o'clock a.m.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 9, Mr. Alward moved, seconded by Mr. Holder:

WHEREAS decent, affordable housing and shelter is a basic human right; and

WHEREAS our homes influence our well-being, our sense of worth, and our ties to families, communities and work; and

WHEREAS good housing policies promote social justice, better health, higher educational attainment, and employment;

WHEREAS safe, adequate and affordable housing is a key determinant of health and supports the physical, psychological and social well-being essential for a healthy life;

WHEREAS available program funding is not adequate to meet the demands for those programs in New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS waiting lists for available housing programs are excessive;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislature establish a Select Committee on Housing to investigate the status of affordable housing in New Brunswick, including the role of NB Housing Corporation, and to make recommendations to the Legislature to ensure that all New Brunswickers have access to affordable housing opportunity.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And after some further time, Hon. Ms. Schryer, seconded by Hon. Mr. Jamieson, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 9 be amended by:

In the fifth “whereas” clause, delete “not adequate” and replace with “challenged”

In the resolution clause delete all words after “this Legislature” and replace with “affirm the importance of affordable housing in New Brunswick and urge the government through the New Brunswick Housing Corporation and its Housing Renewal Stakeholder Committee to continue efforts to ensure that all New Brunswickers have access to affordable housing opportunities”

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

And after some time, the debate being ended and the question being put, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on Motion 9 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS decent, affordable housing and shelter is a basic human right; and

WHEREAS our homes influence our well-being, our sense of worth, and our ties to families, communities and work; and

WHEREAS good housing policies promote social justice, better health, higher educational attainment, and employment;

WHEREAS safe, adequate and affordable housing is a key determinant of health and supports the physical, psychological and social well-being essential for a healthy life;

WHEREAS available program funding is challenged to meet the demands for those programs in New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS waiting lists for available housing programs are excessive;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislature affirm the importance of affordable housing in New Brunswick and urge the government through the New Brunswick Housing Corporation and its Housing Renewal Stakeholder Committee to continue efforts to ensure that all New Brunswickers have access to affordable housing opportunities.

And the question being put, Motion 9 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 17, *An Act to Amend the Harmonized Sales Tax Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Ms. Robichaud, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

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

And the debate continuing, after some further time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and advised that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

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

The following document, having been deposited with the Clerk of the House, was deemed laid upon the table of the House, pursuant to Standing Rule 39:

Department of Fisheries 2007-2008

December 4, 2008