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Journals

(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Herménégilde Chiasson
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Roy Boudreau

Friday, March 20, 2009

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

Friday, March 20, 2009.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Alward, the Leader of the Opposition and the Member for Woodstock, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of citizens of Miramichi urging the government to expedite the sale and re-opening of the Weyerhaeuser Mill at Morrison Cove. (Petition 25)

Mr. Harrison, the Member for Hampton-Kings, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of citizens of the province urging the District 6 School Board to ensure that the signing and honouring of Canada's National Anthem is made mandatory in schools; and to ensure that students are taught to respect their nation, its peoples, and the values they represent. (Petition 26)

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time.

By Hon. Mr. Kenny, on behalf of Hon. Ms. Schryer,
Bill 35, *An Act to Amend the Nursing Homes Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Foran,
Bill 36, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*.

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. A. LeBlanc,
Bill 37, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate The New Brunswick Registered Barbers' Association*.

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Mr. Alward gave Notice of Motion 39 that on Thursday, March 26, 2009, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the Mr. Fitch:

WHEREAS New Brunswick's economy has seen a significant decreases in recent months due to the down-turn in global economic markets; and

WHEREAS New Brunswick has made a guarantee to the taxpayers of the province to be fully self-sufficient by 2026 by eliminating the need for Federal Transfer payments; and

WHEREAS New Brunswick's current net debt has increased significantly during the last two fiscal years and is on track to reach \$9 billion by 2011 according to the Provinces Auditor General; and

WHEREAS it is essential for the province of New Brunswick to effectively and responsibly manage its finances so that future generations will not be saddled with the debt of poor financial management by this generation; and

WHEREAS the Auditor General has called upon the Government on two separate occasions to provide New Brunswick's taxpayers with detailed financial benchmarks outlining the progress towards self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS the provincial net debt and deficit must be decreased in coming years to ensure that cost of that debt does not impede the delivery of programs and services that New Brunswickers have deemed essential;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly urge the government to provide detailed financial benchmarks outlining the provinces progress towards self-sufficiency and provide a detailed, long term plan for debt and deficit reduction, including dates and fiscal benchmarks to be met as was recommended by the Auditor General.

Mr. Fitch gave Notice of Motion 40, that on Thursday, March 26, 2009, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Alward:

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 information in the possession of government related to any action, policy change, tasks, communication, memorandum, or meetings that took place within government with regards to implementing the Auditor Generals recommendations from the 2007 Volume 1 report.

Mr. Olscamp gave Notice of Motion 41, that on Thursday, March 26, 2009, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Dubé:

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 information concerning the \$100-million dedicated tourism infrastructure fund set up by this government, and in particular the fund guidelines, the names and workplaces of the employees responsible for administering it, the projected budgets and actual expenditures, a list of projects subsidized by this fund, contracts awarded under this fund, and a list of work carried out without any contract or tender, the dates and location of all work carried out, the start and completion dates of the work, the aim

on objective of the work, and, in each case, the number of jobs created.

Ms. Poirier gave Notice of Motion 42, that on Thursday, March 26, 2009, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Alward:

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 information concerning any money invested since October 2, 2006, by the Miramichi Economic Development Fund in various projects and initiatives, including the names of any companies, organizations, associations, or groups benefiting from such investments, the conditions these beneficiaries of the development fund had to meet, as well as the objectives of these investments, and the number of jobs created for each project, indicating whether the jobs were permanent or temporary, regular or part-time, and whether they still exist today.

Hon. Mr. Murphy, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 14; following which Bills 31, 32, and 33 would be called for second reading; following which the House would resume the adjourned debate on the Budget. (Motion 29)

Hon. Mr. Murphy gave notice that Bills 35 and 36 would be called for second reading on Tuesday, March 24, 2009.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to continue sitting through the noon recess, and to adjourn at 3.30 o'clock p.m.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole with Ms. Robichaud in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Ms. Robichaud, the Chairman, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to the Order of Presentation of Committee Reports, reported:

That the Committee had directed him to report the following Bill as agreed to with amendments:

Bill 14, *An Act to Amend the Public Works 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.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 31, *Demise of the Crown Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 31 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 31, *Demise of the Crown Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Salvage Dealers Licensing Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 32 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Salvage Dealers Licensing Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 33, *An Act to Amend the Public Works Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 33 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 33, *An Act to Amend the Public Works Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 29),

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

The debate was resumed.

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

And the debate continuing, Mr. Fitch rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Miles had accused the Leader of the Opposition of misleading the House. Mr. Deputy Speaker took the matter under advisement.

And after some time, Mr. Fraser, the Deputy Speaker cautioned Mr. Fitch against using the term “misleading” in reference to the actions of government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker reminded all Members that it is not appropriate to use cellular telephones in the Chamber.

Mr. Deputy Speaker addressed the point of order raised earlier in the sitting by Mr. Fitch and advised the House that he had reviewed the Hansard and that Mr. Miles had accused the Leader of the Opposition of “misleading” the public, which is unparliamentary. Mr. Deputy Speaker ruled the point well taken.

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

And after some further time, on motion of Hon. Mr. Byrne, the further consideration thereof was adjourned over.

And then, 3.29 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.