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Journals

(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Herménégilde Chiasson
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Roy Boudreau

Thursday, May 21, 2009

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

Thursday, May 21, 2009.

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Fraser, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

Ms. Dubé, Member for Edmundston—Saint-Basile, laid upon the table of the House a petition signed by residents of the St. Clair and Lac Baker region of the province requesting the repeal of the regulations which prohibit drivers under the age of 21 from driving between midnight and 5 o'clock a.m. (Petition 51)

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Foran,

Bill 75, *New Brunswick Building Code Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Stiles,

Bill 76, *An Act to Amend the Mining Act*.

Hon. Mr. Murphy, Government House Leader, announced that on Friday, May 22, 2009, it was the intention of government that Bills 62, 70, 71, 72, 73 be called for second reading.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 61, *An Act to Amend the Members' Conflict of Interest Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some further time, the debate being ended, and the question being put, the motion for second reading of Bill 61 was defeated.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 60, Ms. Dubé moved, seconded by Mr. Olscamp:

WHEREAS mental illness costs the Canadian economy \$14 billion a year;

WHEREAS mental illness, like physical illness, can take various forms, including affective disorders, eating disorders, suicide, schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorders, anxiety disorders, personality disorders, alcoholism and addiction, and post-traumatic stress disorder;

WHEREAS 20% of residents will experience mental illness at some point in their lives and the remaining 80% will be affected by the illness of a close relative, a friend, or a colleague;

WHEREAS depression is expected to be one of the leading causes of disability worldwide by 2020 and suicide is one of the 10 leading

causes of death in Canada;

WHEREAS discrimination and stigmatization cause people experiencing mental illness and addiction as much distress as the actual disorder;

WHEREAS early detection and intervention in the area of mental health and addiction should also be considered from a general public health perspective, since, like physical health, prevention is crucial to ensuring an individual's general wellness;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to pool all resources in order to ensure better coordination between health professionals, social workers, patients, and families, including striking a committee of deputy ministers who will meet monthly;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to provide more resources, health workers, and social workers to work with people with mental illness and their families;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Minister of Health, the Minister of Social Development, the Minister of Education, and the Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour to work on awareness campaigns aimed at various target markets: teenagers, employers, Aboriginals, and the general public.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

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

And after some further time, Mr. Miles, seconded by Hon. Mr. Murphy, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 60 be amended by:

After the sixth "Whereas" clause insert

"WHEREAS the McKee report *Together into the Future* identifies challenges facing New Brunswick citizens living with mental illness and sets out the means by which our healthcare system can leverage existing strengths and develop new initiatives to offer a transformed system of care;" and

Replace the resolution clauses with

"BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge that the government response to the McKee Report include measures to

ensure better coordination between healthcare professionals, persons experiencing mental illness and their families; to direct resources, and healthcare workers to provide more effective work with persons with mental illness and their families; including awareness campaigns aimed at youth, employers, First Nations populations and the general public, led by appropriate ministers of government; including the striking of a committee of Deputy Ministers of Health, Education, Social Development, Public Safety, and Justice who shall conduct by-monthly meetings as a minimum.

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

And after some time, Ms. Dubé, seconded by Mr. Olscamp, moved the following sub-amendment:

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to Motion 60 be amended by:

Deleting the words “direct resources, and healthcare workers” and substituting:

“ensure the necessary resources and healthcare workers”

And the question be put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended and the question being put on the sub-amendment, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on the amendment as amended and it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on Motion 60 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS mental illness costs the Canadian economy \$14 billion a year;

WHEREAS mental illness, like physical illness, can take various forms, including affective disorders, eating disorders, suicide, schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorders, anxiety disorders, personality disorders, alcoholism and addiction, and post-traumatic stress disorder;

WHEREAS 20% of residents will experience mental illness at some point in their lives and the remaining 80% will be affected by the illness of a close relative, a friend, or a colleague;

WHEREAS depression is expected to be one of the leading causes of disability worldwide by 2020 and suicide is one of the 10 leading causes of death in Canada;

WHEREAS discrimination and stigmatization cause people experiencing mental illness and addiction as much distress as the actual disorder;

WHEREAS early detection and intervention in the area of mental health and addiction should also be considered from a general public health perspective, since, like physical health, prevention is crucial to ensuring an individual's general wellness;

WHEREAS the McKee report Together into the Future identifies challenges facing New Brunswick citizens living with mental illness and sets out the means by which our healthcare system can leverage existing strengths and develop new initiatives to offer a transformed system of care; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge that the government response to the McKee Report include measures to ensure better coordination between healthcare professionals, persons experiencing mental illness and their families; to ensure the necessary resources and healthcare workers to provide more effective work with persons with mental illness and their families; including awareness campaigns aimed at youth, employers, First Nations populations and the general public, led by appropriate ministers of government; including the striking of a committee of Deputy Ministers of Health, Education, Social Development, Public Safety, and Justice who shall conduct by-monthly meetings as a minimum.

And the question being put, Motion 60 as amended was carried.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 59, Mr. Jack Carr moved, seconded by Ms. Blaney, the following resolution:

WHEREAS ambulance service is a vital and integral aspect of our provincially delivered and operated healthcare system; and

WHEREAS the government chose to consolidate ambulance services into one public sector company; and

WHEREAS Ambulance New Brunswick was designed to better deliver ambulance service to the people of New Brunswick and serves now as a critical component of our healthcare system; and

WHEREAS it has become apparent that there are issues surrounding deployment, proper global positioning systems, up to date road condition information, resources including the number of vehicles and paramedics in the system; and

WHEREAS our publicly delivered healthcare system should not discriminate against a person's ability to pay for services during an emergency situation or for medically necessary transportation from one place to another; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly unanimously urge the government to reconsider the \$130 ambulance user fee so that all New Brunswickers may continue to utilize this essential emergency service free of charge; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that outstanding issues related to deployment, global positioning systems, up to date road condition information and all available resources be resolved immediately so that New Brunswick's paramedics can do their jobs.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

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