

Friday, June 12, 2009.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

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

Hon. Ms. Schryer welcomed to the Chamber Svetlana Shevchenko, Deputy Governor, and Director of the Department for Labour and Social Welfare of the Yamal-Nenets, Russia.

Mr. Steeves, Member for Albert, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of the Riverview area urging the government to allocate funds toward a new K-8 school in Riverview to replace the Gunningsville Elementary and Lower Coverdale Schools. (Petition 88)

Mr. Williams, Member for Kent South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reverse its decision to permanently close the Jacquet River government garage. (Petition 89)

Mr. MacDonald, Member for York North, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reverse its decision to cut the Stanley government garage to a winter only operation. (Petition 90)

Mr. MacDonald, Member for York North, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Mactaquac and surrounding communities opposing the closure of the Mactaquac Provincial Park during the winter months and urging the government to reconsider the decision or seek alternative sources of revenue. (Petition 91)

Following Oral Questions, Hon. Mr. Murphy rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Fitch had used unparliamentary language when he stated "that's not true." The Deputy Speaker ruled that it was not clear whether the statement was directed at a Member but cautioned all Members against questioning the honesty of fellow Members.

Mr. Fitch gave Notice of Motion 67 that on Thursday, June 18, 2009, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Alward:

June 12

WHEREAS over the last several months the New Brunswick economy has experienced a significant decline due to the global economic recession; and

WHEREAS the Auditor General has indicated in his last two annual reports that the Government of New Brunswick should provide a detailed strategy for debt and deficit reduction for the province; and

WHEREAS the Premier has indicated that revenues are decreasing in the province of New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS the recent financial updates from the Federal Government indicate that the economy has declined and the federal deficit has increased during the first fiscal quarter; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly urge the Government to provide a first quarter economic update that is completed by the Department of Finance or the Comptroller detailing the current financial position of the Province of New Brunswick including an update on revenue, the net debt and deficit by July 30th, 2009 or sooner.

Hon. Mr. Murphy, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 91, 67, and 94 be called for second reading; following which, the House would resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 66, 91, 67, 94, 39, 44 and 35.

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

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 90, Firefighters' Compensation Act.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 91, Safer *Communities and Neighbourhoods Act, a debate arose thereon.*

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 91 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 91, Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Debate resumed on the motion for second reading of Bill 67, An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 67 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 67, *An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure 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 94, *An Act Respecting Expenditure Restraint*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 94 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 94, *An Act Respecting Expenditure Restraint*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

It was agreed by unanimous consent that Bills 91, 67, and 94 be considered in Committee of the Whole forthwith.

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

And after some time, Ms. Lavoie took the chair.

And after some further time, Ms. Robichaud resumed the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Fraser, the Deputy Speaker resumed the chair and Ms. Robichaud, the Chair, after requesting that the Deputy Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported:

That the Committee had directed that she report the following Bills as agreed to:

- Bill 35, An Act to Amend the Nursing Homes Act.
- Bill 44, An Act to Amend the Small Business Investor Tax Credit Act.
- Bill 66, An Act to Repeal the Small Claims Act.
- Bill 67, An Act to Amend the Provincial Offences Procedure Act.

Bill 94, An Act Respecting Expenditure Restraint.

And that the Committee had directed that she report the following Bill as amended:

Bill 91, Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act.

And that the Committee had directed that she report progress on the following Bill:

Bill 39, An Act to Amend the Crown Lands and Forests Act.

And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, the Deputy 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.

And then, 2.18 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Response to Petition No. 58

June 11, 2009