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Journals

(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Graydon Nicholas
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Roy Boudreau

Thursday, February 25, 2010

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

Thursday, February 25, 2010.

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Ms. Poirier, Member for Rogersville-Kouchibouguac, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Saint-Charles, Aldouane, Richibucto, Galloway, West Galloway, Saint-Louis and surrounding areas who oppose the sale of NB Power to Hydro-Québec. (Petition 218)

Mr. Steeves, Member for Albert, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Riverside-Albert, Hillsborough, Beaverbrook, Lower Cape, Harvey, New Horton, Germantown, Lower Coverdale, Cape Enrage in support of equity in educational opportunities for District 2 students, including those at Riverside Consolidated School, and urging the government to provide those students equal access to early French immersion. (Petition 219)

Mr. Fraser, Member for Miramichi-Bay du Vin, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Miramichi, Chatham, Dalhousie, Baie-Ste-Anne and surrounding areas who support the NB Power agreement. (Petition 220)

It was agreed by unanimous consent to allow Ms. Poirier to make a lengthy Member's Statement on the occasion of her last day as the MLA for Rogersville-Kouchibouguac.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time.

By Mr. Alward,

Bill 44, *An Act to Amend the Ambulance Services Act.*

Mr. Williams gave Notice of Motion 47 that on Thursday, March 4, 2010, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. C. Landry:

That an address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he cause to be laid upon the table of the House any documents, notes, reports, studies, contracts, agreements, or correspondence—in short, all information—however recorded or stored, in government possession regarding the recent decision to close the Clairville ambulance station in order to transfer its operations to Fords Mills.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Byrne, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

RESOLVED THAT when the Assembly adjourns on Friday February 26, 2010, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 9, 2010; provided always that if it appears to the satisfaction of Mr. Speaker, after consultation with the Government, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment, Mr. Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied and in such notice shall state a time at which the House shall meet, and thereupon the House shall meet at the time so stated and shall transact its business as if it had been duly adjourned to that time, and

THAT in the event of Mr. Speaker being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, either of the Deputy Speakers shall act in his stead for the purpose of this order.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 44, Mr. Fitch, seconded by Mr. Alward, moved the following resolution:

WHEREAS none of the financial information regarding the sale of NB Power has been released to the public; and

WHEREAS the government of New Brunswick has voted against a motion calling on the release of the final contract at least 30 days prior to any sale of NB Power's assets; and

WHEREAS there are many concerns regarding the debt that will remain on the books of NB Power and the utility's ability to pay down those debts after the sale of most of the assets of NB Power has been finalized; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly urge the government to submit all financial and legal documents within the government's possession prior to the signing of a contract regarding the proposed sale of NB Power's assets to the Office of the Auditor General so that this independent officer of the Legislature may review the proposed sale to ensure that the utility is not left in a position where a structural debt exists with limited or no means of servicing that debt following the conclusion of any proposed sale of NB Power's assets.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

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

And the debate being ended and the question being put, Motion 44 was defeated.

Debate resumed on the proposed amendment to Motion 41, moved by Hon. Mr. Albert, seconded by Hon. V. Boudreau, as follows:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 41 be amended by:

In the third “Whereas” clause, delete all words after “Games”, except for the “and” at the end of the clause.

In the fourth “Whereas” clause, delete all words after “Program”, except for the “and” at the end of the clause.

Delete the fifth and seventh “Whereas” clauses.

In the resolution clause, delete the words “immediately develop a detailed plan involving all stakeholders to increase funding” and replace with “evaluate its funding requests, its funding levels and funding priorities” and add after the resolution clause the following:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government to implement the Sports Plan as soon as possible.”

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, Ms. Robichaud, the Deputy Speaker, resumed the chair as Acting Speaker.

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

And after some further time, Mr. Jack Carr, seconded by Mr. Holder, moved the following sub-amendment:

SUB-AMENDMENT

That the amendment to Motion 41 be amended by:

Delete the words:

“and replace with “evaluate its funding requests, its funding levels and funding priorities””

and replace with:

“and replace with “involve stakeholders and evaluate its funding requests, its funding levels and funding priorities””

and in the second resolution clause deleting the words:

“as soon as possible”.

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

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

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 41 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS 125,000 or 1/6th of New Brunswickers are directly involved in sport as athletes and participants, coaches, and officials and this does not even include the number involved in recreation and leisure activities; and

WHEREAS New Brunswick is ranked 10th out of 13 provinces and territories in the Heart and Stroke Foundations Annual Health Report Card and continues to be the most obese jurisdiction in Canada per capita; and

WHEREAS New Brunswick is not sending an Olympian to the Winter Games; and

WHEREAS New Brunswick is the only province or territory not to contribute to the Olympic Partnership Program; and

WHEREAS there is a report within the provincial government entitled "*A Sport Plan for New Brunswick ... One Day*" which calls upon core funding to be raised to \$6 million per year by 2011; and

WHEREAS according to the Canadian Fitness Lifestyle Research Institute, every dollar invested in sport and recreation saves \$16.00 in long term health care, not to mention the other money saved in Social Development, Education, Justice, and other departments; and

WHEREAS the province of Saskatchewan, a province that is very similar in demographics of urban and rural dynamics, receives nearly six times more provincial funding than that of our own sports organizations; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly urge the government to involve stakeholders and evaluate its funding requests, its funding levels and funding priorities for sport, recreation and active living so that in subsequent budgets proper funding can be made available to ensure that the province regains its position on the world stage for sport and to increase recreation and active living for present and future generations of New Brunswickers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government to implement the Sports Plan.

And the question being put, Motion 41 as amended was carried.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to revert to the Order of Statements by Ministers.

And then, 6 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:

Hand-in-Hand - A Review of First Nations

Child Welfare in New Brunswick

February 24, 2010

Public Disclosure Statements with respect to the fifty-five Members of the

Legislative Assembly for the year 2009

February 24, 2010

Response to Petitions No. 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198

February 24, 2010