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Journals
(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Graydon Nicholas
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Roy Boudreau

Friday, March 12, 2010

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

Friday, March 12, 2010.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Fraser, Member for Miramichi-Bay du Vin, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of the Miramichi area urging the government to purchase a permanent on site state-of-the-art MRI machine for their hospital. (Petition 230)

Mr. C. Landry, Member for Tracadie-Sheila, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of Saint John, Quispamsis and surrounding areas who oppose the sale of NB Power to Hydro-Québec. (Petition 231)

Hon. Ms. Schryer laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *Celebrate Women, Be part of a better world, March 2010*.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time.

By Hon. Mr. Lamrock,
Bill 49, *Early Learning and Childcare Act*.

Mr. Williams gave Notice of Motion 53 that on Thursday, March 18, 2010, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Fitch:

WHEREAS the announcement made by the government on February 25, 2010, regarding the current financial position of the Atcon Group of Companies and the loan guarantees issued by the Province of New Brunswick represents a massive financial concern to the taxpayers of this province;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly urge the government to allow the Office of the Auditor General to review any and all transactions between the Province of New Brunswick and the Atcon Group of Companies since October 3, 2006, to ensure that all safe-guards were properly met to protect the taxpayers' money.

Mr. Alward gave Notice of Motion 54 that on Thursday, March 18, 2010, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Robichaud:

WHEREAS the Minister of Energy and Government House Leader announced on February 26, 2010, that the government will release the legislation and final agreement between NB Power and Hydro Québec "on or about March 31, 2010" prior to a legislative hearing process; and

WHEREAS the people of New Brunswick need to be assured that all input, submissions and serious questions that are raised to the legislative committee, including the option to cancel this deal will be considered and studied before any contract is signed to ensure that these hearings are not simply for publicity; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly urge the government to delay the final signing of any contract between Hydro-Québec, NB Power and the Province of New Brunswick until after such time as all submissions, questions and input presented to the legislative committee, including the possibility to cancel this deal have been made and are properly assessed to ensure that the public is legitimately involved in the legislative hearing process and that any final agreement be not signed until after the people have had an opportunity to vote on the issue.

Hon. Mr. Byrne, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Department of Energy and the Department of Health; following which, Bills 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34 would be called for second reading.

It was agreed by unanimous consent to sit through the noon recess and to adjourn at 3 o'clock p.m.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

And after some time, Ms. Lavoie took the chair as Acting Chair.

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

At 1.48 o'clock p.m., Mr. Fraser declared a recess and left the chair.

1.52 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Mr. Fraser in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Fraser, the Chair, after requesting that Mr. Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee had had under consideration the matters referred to them, had made some progress therein, and asked leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. Speaker then 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, 3 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.