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Journals
(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Graydon Nicholas
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Dale Graham

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

**First Session of the 57th Legislative Assembly
Fredericton, New Brunswick**

JOURNALS

of the

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

of the

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

**FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SEVENTH
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2010-2011**

**THE HONOURABLE GRAYDON NICHOLAS
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR**

Fredericton, N.B.
Wednesday, October 27, 2010.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the fourth session of the fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly of this Province was dissolved on the twenty-sixth day of August, 2010;

AND WHEREAS I have thought fit to call the first session of the fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of this Province into session, I hereby issue a Proclamation that the same be called to meet on the twenty-seventh day of October, 2010, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the Province at Fredericton this 22nd day of October, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Ten, and in the fifty-ninth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

**BY COMMAND OF THE
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR**

Marie-Claude Blais, Q.C.
Attorney General.

Graydon Nicholas.
Lieutenant-Governor.

This being the day appointed for the opening of the First Session of the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick for the dispatch of business pursuant to the proclamation hereinbefore annexed, and the oath having been already administered to the Members of the Legislative Assembly as named in the roll, delivered to the Clerk of the House by the Chief Electoral Officer, the said Members took their seats in the House.

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly then addressed herself to the House as follows:

Members of the Legislative Assembly:

I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to inform you that he doth not think fit to declare the causes for which he has summoned this Legislative Assembly until a Speaker thereof shall have been chosen.

It is therefore His Honour's will that you, the Members of the Legislative Assembly, do proceed forthwith to choose a fit and proper person to be your Speaker, and that you present the person so chosen to His Honour in this Assembly Chamber this afternoon for His Honour's approbation.

The House then proceeded to the election of a Speaker pursuant to the provisions of Standing Rule 11.

The Clerk then announced:

Honourable Members, the Standing Rules stipulate that if only one Member stands for election to the office of the Speaker, the Clerk of the House announces the candidate's name and, without any vote, declares that Member to be elected Speaker.

Members of the Legislative Assembly, it is my duty to inform you that only one candidate stands for election to the office, pursuant to Standing Rule 11(8)(m). Therefore, it is my duty to announce that Dale Graham, the honourable Member for the electoral district of Carleton, is declared elected as Speaker.

The Premier, the Hon. Mr. Alward, and Mr. D. Landry, escorted Mr. D. Graham to the dais where, standing on the upper step, he addressed the House as follows:

Members of the Legislative Assembly, it is my pleasure today to express my grateful and humble acknowledgment to the House for the great honour you have been pleased to confer on me by choosing me as your Speaker.

Conscious as I am of my comparative inexperience in parliamentary procedure, I should have hesitated before

accepting a position involving so much responsibility, were it not for the fact that I shall be able at all times to rely with confidence upon the courtesy, forbearance, and kindness of every Member of the Assembly.

Again, thanking you, I now submit myself to the House.

On a personal note, I certainly want to thank my wife and family. They have supported me over the years, dating back to 1993. There are a lot of new Members here today, and without their spouses' support, it would be tough. Thank you, Shelley and the family.

I also want to thank my constituents in the riding of Carleton for putting their trust in me and for giving me the honour of representing them in this Chamber. I thank the Clerk, Clerks Assistant, Sergeant-at-Arms, and all the staff. I certainly will be relying on them for support and counsel.

I will be assuming a different role in this House than I had for the past 17 years. First of all, I want all honourable Members to know that I have an open-door policy. I will be open to consultation and advice at all times to ensure that this Assembly will be able to function, no matter how diverse the views or how passionate the debate might be.

We have a great number of new Members in this 57th session of the Legislature. In this session, strong opinions will be heard, so there must be room for clarity of thought. In this Chamber, there must be tolerance and respect for the views of other Members. We must make a strong effort to act in the public interest, even if those actions are not always in accord with personal preference.

In this Chamber, each honourable Member has not only the opportunity for full expression but also the responsibility to listen to fellow Members. As your Speaker, I will require your respect for the rules of this House, not because they have been imposed upon us, but because we, as Members, have agreed to conduct our proceedings accordingly.

The office of the Speaker demands fairness, firmness, consistency, and an understanding of the essential role of each honourable Member whose duty is to bring to this Chamber the concerns of all New Brunswickers. I will do my utmost to be fair and impartial in all my rulings. As your Speaker, I will be asking all honourable Members for the proper decorum, dignity, and respect in this Chamber to be upheld at all times.

As I reflect on those who have influenced my decision to serve the people of New Brunswick, the first who comes to mind is Chuck

Gallagher. He also sat as Speaker in this House. Following in the footsteps of my friend and mentor is truly an honour. Thank you.

Thereupon Mr. D. Graham took the chair, and the mace was placed upon the Clerk's Table.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor then entered the House and took his seat in the chair upon the Throne.

The Speaker then addressed His Honour to the following effect:

May it Please Your Honour:

Your Honour having communicated your pleasure to the House, they proceeded to choose a Speaker. They have elected me to that important and honourable position, and I am now presented for Your Honour's approval.

The Clerk of the House then said:

Mr. Speaker, I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to declare to you that he is fully sensible of your zeal for the public service and of your sufficiency to execute the duties of the office to which you have been elected by the Legislative Assembly, and he doth readily approve of their choice, and allow and confirm you to be their Speaker.

Mr. Speaker then addressed His Honour in the following words:

May It Please Your Honour:

Your Honour having been pleased to approve the choice of the Assembly in electing me to be their Speaker, it now becomes my duty in the name and on behalf of the Assembly, to claim and demand that they have all their ancient and accustomed rights and privileges, especially freedom from arrest, freedom of speech in debate, access to Your Honour when they think the public service requires it, and that the most favourable construction be put on all their proceedings and on my own behalf I have to request that any error of mine may not be imputed to the Assembly.

To which the Clerk of the House replied:

Mr. Speaker, His Honour hath the utmost confidence in the loyalty and attachment of this Assembly of Her Majesty's person and government and in the wisdom, temper and prudence which will accompany all their proceedings, and he doth most readily and willingly grant and allow them all their privileges in as full and ample a manner as they have at any time heretofore been granted and allowed.

With respect to yourself, Mr. Speaker, though His Honour is

sensible that you do not stand in need of such assurance, His Honour will ever put the most favourable construction on your words and actions.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to deliver the following message:

Mr. Speaker and honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly, it is my pleasure to greet you on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen and to wish you success as honourable Members of this most distinguished Assembly.

I am delighted to introduce to Members of the Legislative Assembly the finest citizens in New Brunswick. They are the 2010 recipients of the Order of New Brunswick and they embody excellence, honour, dedication, and the best this province has to offer.

I would now ask every member of the Order of New Brunswick to stand for your recognition and thanks. Dawn Arnold, of Moncton; Wayne Brown, of Fredericton; Dr. Pamela Coates, of Saint John; Dr. Reuben Cohen, of Moncton; Evérard Daigle, of Grand Falls; Gérard Haché, of Saint-Isidore; Dr. Gerard Losier, of Miramichi; Sue Rickards, of Lower Queensbury; Father Zoël Saulnier, of Tracadie-Sheila; and Dr. Ruth Stanley, of Sackville, are our newest members of the Order of New Brunswick.

Thank you to our newest Members of the Order of New Brunswick for your outstanding service to our province, and thank you to the Members of this House for your good wishes.

I now wish to advise that my government is not prepared to commence a legislative session at this time. However, it is my fervent hope that Divine Providence will guide you in all your deliberations.

Thank you very much. Have a good afternoon.

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly communicated to the House the following message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly,

I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to inform you that it is his pleasure that this Legislative Assembly attend before His Honour in this Assembly Chamber at 3 o'clock p.m., on Tuesday, November 23, 2010, at which time His Honour will formally open the First Session of the Fifty-seventh Legislature of the Province of New Brunswick.

His Honour then retired.

Mr. Speaker welcomed to the House the Speaker of the Prince Edward Island Legislature, Kathleen Casey, accompanied by two Members of Parliament from Namibia, Hon. Hafeni Ludwigh Ndemula and Hon. Henock Sheya Ya Kasita; Auguste Shali, Committee Clerk; Julia Imene-Chanduro, the official ambassador; and Charles MacKay, Clerk of the P.E.I. Legislature.

And then, 2.31 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.