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Journals
(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Graydon Nicholas
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Dale Graham

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

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

Wednesday, March 30, 2011.

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Alward welcomed to the Chamber Bernard Richard, Ombudsman and Child and Youth Advocate, a former Liberal MLA (1991-2003), Cabinet Minister and Leader of the Opposition, congratulating him on his retirement. Mr. Boudreau joined with the Premier in this regard.

Mr. Malloch, Member for Charlotte-Campobello, laid upon the table of the House a petition on behalf of residents of St. Stephen urging the Legislature to withhold any loans, grants, bursaries or financial contributions for the Civic Centre Complex project for a period of 15 months or until the project is studied by the Legislature or a committee thereof. (Petition 8)

Hon. Mr. Williams laid upon the table of the House the following documents:

Agreement between Her Majesty The Queen in Right of the Province of New Brunswick and Saint John Harbour Bridge Authority dated January 14, 2011.

Canada-New Brunswick Gateways and Border Crossings Fund Agreement for Saint John Harbour Bridge Rehabilitation (2010-2011/2013-2014). Agreement between Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Canada and Her Majesty The Queen in Right of the Province of New Brunswick, dated March 25, 2011.

Mr. D. Landry rose on a point of order and submitted that the documents tabled by Hon. Mr. Williams were not in both official languages. Hon. P. Robichaud spoke on the point of order.

Mr. Speaker advised the House that, while there is no obligation to do so, the government has committed to providing translated copies of the documents.

Mr. Boudreau gave Notice of Motion 33 that on Thursday, April 7, 2011, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

That an address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he cause to be laid upon the table of the House all documentation, including correspondence, however recorded, stored or archived, by electronic means or otherwise, between provincial government departments, Executive Council office, the Premier's Office, agencies and/or persons and any organizations or individuals taking part in the pre-budget

consultation process regarding the elimination of funding for the New Brunswick Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

Mr. Haché gave Notice of Motion 34 that on Thursday, April 7, 2011, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

That an address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he cause to be laid upon the table of the House all documentation, including correspondence, however recorded, stored, or archived, by electronic means or otherwise, between provincial government departments, the Executive Council Office, the Office of the Premier, agencies, persons, organizations, or individuals who took part in the pre-budget consultation process regarding the elimination of the New Brunswick film tax credit.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 44(4), Mr. Fraser, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, March 31, 2011, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 29, 16 and 21.

At the request of Mr. Fraser, it was agreed by unanimous consent to recess the House and resume sitting at 2 o'clock p.m.

Prior to the recess, Hon. P. Robichaud, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 14, following which, with leave of the House, Bill 14 would be called for third reading; following which, the House would resume the adjourned debate on the Budget.

At 11.45 o'clock a.m., Mr. Speaker left the chair to resume again at 2 o'clock p.m.

2 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole with Mr. C. Landry in the chair.

At 5.07 o'clock p.m., the Chair declared a recess and left the chair.

5.15 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed.

And after some time, Mr. Boudreau gave Notice of Motion that on Wednesday, March 30, 2011, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Fraser:

WHEREAS there are many questions remaining about the contract between the federal government and the provincial government on the Saint John Harbour Bridge;

WHEREAS the Minister of Transportation is unable to provide answers to these questions before the March 31, 2011 deadline;

WHEREAS the Official Opposition shares the government's desire to see tolls removed from the Saint John Harbour Bridge without delay;

WHEREAS the Minister of Transportation has confirmed that the government has full control of the tolls as of first reading of Bill 14, which occurred on March 23, 2011;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the Government of New Brunswick to remove the tolls from the Saint John Harbour Bridge as of 19:00 on Thursday, March 31, 2011.

Hon. P. Robichaud rose on a point of order and submitted that the motion was out of order as it was substantive in nature and beyond the mandate of the Committee of the Whole. The Chair ruled the point well taken and declared the motion out of order.

Mr. Fraser requested the unanimous consent of the Committee to adjourn the Committee and report back to the House, and unanimous consent was denied.

Hon. P. Robichaud requested the unanimous consent of the Committee to continue sitting past 6 o'clock p.m. in order to continue consideration of Bill 14 and unanimous consent was denied.

And after some time, due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Urquhart, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker and Mr. C. Landry, the Chair, after requesting that Mr. Deputy Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported:

That the Committee had directed that he report progress on the following Bill:

Bill 14, *An Act to Dissolve the Saint John Harbour Bridge Authority.*

And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. 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, 6 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.