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Journals
(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Graydon Nicholas
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Dale Graham

Thursday, June 2, 2011

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

Thursday, June 2, 2011.

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Boudreau, Member for Shediac—Cap-Pelé, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to implement a food solidarity program of \$50 per month for all households on social assistance; and to raise the basic social assistance rates to match the average of those in place in Atlantic Canada. (Petition 90)

Mr. Fraser, Member for Miramichi-Bay du Vin, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to implement a food solidarity program of \$50 per month for all households on social assistance; and to raise the basic social assistance rates to match the average of those in place in Atlantic Canada. (Petition 91)

Mr. Arseneault, Member for Dalhousie-Restigouche East, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to implement a food solidarity program of \$50 per month for all households on social assistance; and to raise the basic social assistance rates to match the average of those in place in Atlantic Canada. (Petition 92)

Mr. Melanson, Member for Dieppe Centre-Lewisville, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to implement a food solidarity program of \$50 per month for all households on social assistance; and to raise the basic social assistance rates to match the average of those in place in Atlantic Canada. (Petition 93)

Mr. Collins, Member for Moncton East, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to implement a food solidarity program of \$50 per month for all households on social assistance; and to raise the basic social assistance rates to match the average of those in place in Atlantic Canada. (Petition 94)

Mr. Haché, Member for Nigadoo-Chaleur, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to implement a food solidarity program of \$50 per month for all households on social assistance; and to raise the basic social assistance rates to match the average of those in place in Atlantic Canada. (Petition 95)

Mr. Albert, Member for Caraquet, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to implement a food solidarity program of \$50 per month for all households on social assistance;

and to raise the basic social assistance rates to match the average of those in place in Atlantic Canada. (Petition 96)

Mr. Bernard LeBlanc, Member for Memramcook-Lakeville-Dieppe, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to implement a food solidarity program of \$50 per month for all households on social assistance; and to raise the basic social assistance rates to match the average of those in place in Atlantic Canada. (Petition 97)

Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc, Member for Rogersville-Kouchibouguac, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to implement a food solidarity program of \$50 per month for all households on social assistance; and to raise the basic social assistance rates to match the average of those in place in Atlantic Canada. (Petition 98)

Mr. D. Landry, Member for Saint-Péninsule—Saint-Sauveur, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to implement a food solidarity program of \$50 per month for all households on social assistance; and to raise the basic social assistance rates to match the average of those in place in Atlantic Canada. (Petition 99)

Mr. Boudreau, Member for Shediac—Cap-Pelé, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reinstate the funding allocated to the New Brunswick Advisory Council on the Status of Women. (Petition 100)

Mr. Arseneault, Member for Dalhousie-Restigouche East, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to reverse the decision to eliminate the Film Tax Credit. (Petition 101)

Mr. Kenny, Member for Bathurst, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to implement a food solidarity program of \$50 per month for all households on social assistance; and to raise the basic social assistance rates to match the average of those in place in Atlantic Canada. (Petition 102)

Hon. Mr. Trevors laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *2009 Annual Report, Office of the Chief Coroner*.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time.

By Hon. Mr. Northrup,

Bill 44, *An Act to Amend the Crown Lands and Forests Act*.

By Hon. Ms. Dubé,

Bill 45, *An Act to Amend the Regional Health Authorities Act*.

Mr. Fraser gave Notice of Motion 90 that on Thursday, June 9, 2011, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Collins:

WHEREAS when in Opposition, the now Premier and the now Minister of Health both demanded the purchase of 3T MRIs to be placed in hospitals throughout the province, including locations such as Edmundston, Bathurst and Miramichi;

WHEREAS now that they are in government, the Premier and the Minister of Health have reversed their endorsements of 3T machines and will not be purchasing any for any hospital in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS doctors at the Moncton City Hospital and Saint John Regional Hospital are united in their stance that their hospitals, as major trauma centres and the only two neurological Centres of Excellence in the province, require 3T machines;

WHEREAS the Moncton City Hospital and the Saint John Regional Hospital provide specialty services to New Brunswickers from all parts of the province;

WHEREAS it is vitally important to give our medical professionals the equipment and tools they need to make the most accurate and timely diagnosis and provide the best treatment possible to patients in the health care system;

WHEREAS various expert reports, including the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health report, indicate that the 3T machine is preferred over the 1.5 machine in advanced neurological applications;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government to change its decision and purchase 3T machines for Moncton City Hospital and the Saint John Regional Hospital.

Hon. P. Robichaud, Government House Leader, announced that following Opposition Members' Business, it was the intention of government that Bills 38, 39, 40, 41 and 34 be called for second reading; following which, at 8 o'clock p.m., the House would resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Department of Post Secondary Education, Training and Labour; following which, the House would resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 31, 32, 35 and 36.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 81, Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Melanson, moved the following resolution:

WHEREAS prevention is an important component of health and wellness;

WHEREAS early diagnosis of potential conditions can save on future health care costs, both to government and the consumer;

WHEREAS early diagnosis of potential conditions also facilitates better educational opportunities for children with vision problems;

WHEREAS the Optometrists Association of New Brunswick has requested that government implement a mandatory vision testing program for all preschool age children;

WHEREAS such a program would enable the early diagnosis, identification and treatment of potential future vision problems;

BE IT RESOLVED that the House urge the government to immediately implement a mandatory vision testing program for all preschool age children in New Brunswick.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Fraser requested the unanimous consent of the House to move, seconded by Mr. Boudreau, the following amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 81 be amended by:

In the fourth preamble and in the resolution clause, by deleting the words “mandatory vision testing” and substituting “comprehensive eye examination”.

Hon. P. Robichaud rose on a point of order and submitted that the mover of the motion is not permitted to move an amendment.

Mr. Speaker ruled the point well taken and advised the House that unanimous consent to move the amendment was denied.

Accordingly, the amendment was not put to the House.

At 3.01 o'clock p.m., Mr. Speaker declared a recess and left the chair.

3.22 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Debate resumed on the motion.

And after some time, Hon. Ms. Dubé, seconded by Hon. P. Robichaud, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 81 be amended by:

In the resolution clause, by replacing the words “immediately implement” with the words “continue evaluating and consider implementing during its current mandate” and replacing the word “mandatory” with the word “comprehensive”.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Speaker put the question on the motion as amended as follows:

WHEREAS prevention is an important component of health and wellness;

WHEREAS early diagnosis of potential conditions can save on future health care costs, both to government and the consumer;

WHEREAS early diagnosis of potential conditions also facilitates better educational opportunities for children with vision problems;

WHEREAS the Optometrists Association of New Brunswick has requested that government implement a mandatory vision testing program for all preschool age children;

WHEREAS such a program would enable the early diagnosis, identification and treatment of potential future vision problems;

BE IT RESOLVED that the House urge the government to continue evaluating and consider implementing during its current mandate a comprehensive vision testing program for all preschool age children in New Brunswick.

And the question being put, Motion 81 as amended was carried.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 88, Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Melanson, moved the following resolution:

WHEREAS the opening of the causeway gates in the Petitcodiac River by the previous Liberal government was an important step in correcting an environmental disaster;

WHEREAS the Petitcodiac Riverkeepers, L’Alliance du Bassin Versant and other organizations are currently monitoring the river and planning the next steps in the restoration process;

WHEREAS certain members of the Conservative caucus have expressed their desire to see the restoration project halted;

WHEREAS the Conservative government has cut funding through the Environmental Trust Fund to the Petitcodiac Riverkeepers, L’Alliance du Bassin Versant and other groups involved in the monitoring and restoration of the river;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government of New Brunswick to reinstate funding to the Petitcodiac Riverkeepers and other environmental organizations working on this important project.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And after some further time, Mr. Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the time allotted for consideration of Opposition Members' Business had expired.

At 6 o'clock p.m., Mr. Deputy Speaker left the chair, to resume again at 7 o'clock p.m.

7 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 38, *An Act Respecting Midwives*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 38 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 38, *An Act Respecting Midwives*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 39, *An Act to Amend the Prescription Drug Payment Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 39 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 39, *An Act to Amend the Prescription Drug Payment 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 40, *An Act to Amend the Family Services Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 40 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 40, *An Act to Amend the Family Services 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 41, *An Act to Amend the Essential Services in Nursing Homes Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 41 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 41, *An Act to Amend the Essential Services in Nursing Homes 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 34, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 34 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 34, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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

And after some time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. Urquhart, 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 and had passed all remaining items.

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.

The following are the items reported:

MAIN ESTIMATES, 2011-2012

ORDINARY ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION,
TRAINING AND LABOUR

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$281,881,000 to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2012:

Corporate Services	5,940,000
Policy and Planning	1,421,000
NB Public Libraries	14,663,000
Student Financial Assistance	20,509,000
Post-Secondary Affairs	101,493,000

Adult Learning	10,596,000
Labour	3,096,000
Employment Development.....	16,196,000
Canada-New Brunswick Labour Market Agreement	12,220,000
Labour Market Development.....	91,122,000
Population Growth Secretariat	4,678,000
Less amounts authorized by law.....	53,000
Voted	281,881,000

MARITIME PROVINCES HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$274,101,000 to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2012:

Administration	553,000
Assistance to Universities	273,548,000
Less amounts authorized by law.....	0
Voted	274,101,000

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Voted, Supply in the following amounts to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2012:

Corporate and Other Education Services	9,814,000
Less amounts authorized by law.....	53,000
Voted	9,761,000
Elementary and Secondary Education	991,613,000
Early Childhood Development.....	50,757,000

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Voted, Supply in the following amounts to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2012:

Members' Allowances, Committees and Operations	8,541,000
Less amounts authorized by law.....	4,782,000
Voted	3,759,000
Office of the Legislative Assembly.....	3,234,000
Office of the Auditor General	1,845,000
Offices of Leaders and Members of Registered Political Parties.....	1,564,000
Less amounts authorized by law.....	90,000
Voted	1,474,000
Elections New Brunswick	2,183,000
Less amounts authorized by law.....	668,000
Voted	1,515,000
Office of the Ombudsman and Child and Youth Advocate ...	1,654,000
Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages.....	493,000

Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance	459,000
Office of the Access to Information and Privacy Commissioner.....	540,000

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Voted, Supply in the following amounts to defray the expenses of the following program for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2012:

Labour and Employment Board	600,000
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CAPITAL ACCOUNT

MARITIME PROVINCES HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$7,500,000 to defray the expenses of the following program allocation for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2012:

Deferred Maintenance Program	7,500,000
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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$2,500,000 to defray the expenses of the following program allocation for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2012:

Public Schools - Capital Equipment	2,500,000
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LOANS AND ADVANCES

DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION,
TRAINING AND LABOUR

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$62,900,000 to defray the expenses of the following program allocation for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2012:

Student Loan Advances	62,900,000
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WORKING CAPITAL – MAXIMUM BALANCES

	2011-2012	Voted
WORKING CAPITAL ADVANCES		
WorkSafe NB		
- Finance		360,000
- Education and Early Childhood Development		160,000
- Health		515,000
- Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour		30,000
Voted		1,065,000
Education and Early Childhood Development		
- Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority		350,000

PETTY CASH ADVANCES

Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour.....	20,000
Education and Early Childhood Development.....	122,000

INVENTORIES

Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour.....	150,000
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The said items were concurred in by the House.

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

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

That the Committee had directed that he report the following Bill as agreed to:

Bill 31, *An Act to Amend the Interpretation Act.*

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

Bill 32, *An Act Respecting the Revised Statutes, 2011.*

And the Committee asked leave to make a further report.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Mr. 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, 10 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.