

Daily sitting 17

Wednesday, December 21, 2011

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Fraser, Member for Miramichi-Bay du Vin, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging that acute care beds at the Miramichi Regional Hospital remain as such, and that the hospital maintain its level 3 trauma designation. (Petition 61)

Mr. Kenny welcomed to the House former Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Frank Branch, Liberal MLA for Gloucester County (1970-1974), Nepisiguit-Chaleur (1974-1995) and Nepisiguit (2003-2006).

Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud gave Notice of Motion 28 that on Friday, March 30, 2012, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

WHEREAS the election platform for the Progressive Conservative Party of New Brunswick, *Putting New Brunswick first... For a Change*, committed to finding a means for political parties without representation in the Legislative Assembly to participate in the business of the House;

WHEREAS the Premier mandated Don Desserud to examine the question of legislative reform in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS Mr. Desserud and Cody Waite have released their report entitled *Proposals for Legislative Reform in New Brunswick*;

WHEREAS the government wishes to consider reforms to the current practices of the House to encourage greater participation and representation for New Brunswickers;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that, notwithstanding Standing Rules 92 and 104, this House appoint a Select Committee on Legislative Reform to consider the recommendations of the Desserud report on proposals for legislative reform in New Brunswick and to file with the Legislative Assembly a report with recommendations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, in addition to the powers traditionally conferred upon the said committee by the Standing Rules, the committee shall have the following additional powers:

- to meet during sittings of the House and during the recess after prorogation until the following session;
- to adjourn from place to place as may be convenient;
- to retain such personnel and expertise as may be required to assist the committee;
- to hold such public consultations as it deems necessary;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, during a period when the Legislative Assembly is adjourned or prorogued, the committee may release a report by depositing a copy with the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, and, upon the resumption of the sittings of the House, the Chair shall present the report to the Legislative Assembly;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said committee be composed of the Member for Victoria-Tobique, the Member for Hampton-Kings, the Member for Tracadie-Sheila, the Member for Saint John Lancaster, the Member for New Maryland-Sunbury West, the Member for Miramichi-Bay du Vin, and the Member for Dieppe Centre-Lewisville.

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

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 27, 2012, at 2 o'clock p.m., 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 has 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.

Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading and Royal Assent, it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Departments of Health, Transportation, Supply and Services, and Education and Early Childhood Development.

The following Bills were read a third time:

- Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Proceedings Against the Crown Act.*
Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Medical Services Payment Act.*
Bill 13, *An Act Respecting the Recovery of Debts Owed to the Crown.*
Bill 15, *An Act to Repeal the Habeas Corpus Act.*
Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Management of Seized and Forfeited Property Act.*
Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

At 11.25 o'clock a.m., Mr. Speaker declared a recess and left the chair.

11.34 o'clock a.m.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Her Honour, the Administrator, was announced, and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne.

Mr. Speaker addressed Her Honour as follows:

May It Please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick has passed several Bills at the present sittings of the Legislature to which, in the name and on behalf of the said Legislative Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Clerk Assistant then read the titles of the Bills as follows:

- Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Securities Act.*
Bill 3, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Building Code Act.*
Bill 4, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Assistance Act.*
Bill 5, *An Act to Amend the Municipalities Act.*
Bill 6, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act.*
Bill 7, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act.*
Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Proceedings Against the Crown Act.*
Bill 9, *An Act to Amend the Electoral Boundaries and Representation Act.*
Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Medical Services Payment Act.*

Bill 13, *An Act Respecting the Recovery of Debts Owed to the Crown.*
Bill 15, *An Act to Repeal the Habeas Corpus Act.*
Bill 16, *An Act to Amend the Management of Seized and Forfeited Property Act.*
Bill 17, *An Act Respecting Regional Health Authorities.*
Bill 18, *An Act to Amend the Gas Distribution Act, 1999.*
Bill 19, *An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act.*
Bill 20, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2010-2011 (2).*

Her Honour signified Her Assent as follows:

It is the Queen's wish. La reine le veut.

To these Bills, Her Honour's assent was announced by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly in the following words:

In Her Majesty's name, Her Honour the Administrator assents to these Bills, enacting the same and ordering them to be enrolled.

Her Honour then retired and Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

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

At 12.30 o'clock p.m., Mr. Urquhart left the chair to resume again at 2 o'clock p.m.

2 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed

At 3.08 o'clock p.m., Mr. Urquhart declared a recess and left the chair.

3.13 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed.

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, had made some progress therein, and asked leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.2, 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, 6.05 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.