

Daily sitting 19

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

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 62)

Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc, Member for Rogersville-Kouchibouguac, 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 63)

It was agreed by unanimous consent to extend the time allotted for Oral Questions by fifteen minutes.

Mr. Boudreau rose on a point of order and submitted that the Premier lied to the House during Oral Questions. Mr. Speaker requested that the Member withdraw the term "lied", which he did. Mr. Speaker ruled the point not well taken as the matter involved a dispute of facts.

The following Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Killen,
Bill 21, *Rothesay Netherwood School Act*.

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Mr. Melanson gave Notice of Motion 29 that on Thursday, April 5, 2012, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Kenny:

WHEREAS the Alward government is aiming for a balanced operational budget by 2014;

WHEREAS the Alward government is mostly focusing on the expenditure side of the provincial balance sheet to achieve this;

WHEREAS in addressing the provincial financial situation, a balanced approach is needed;

WHEREAS the province of New Brunswick has experienced negative job growth since the Alward government took office;

WHEREAS New Brunswickers understand that to reach this objective of a balanced budget by 2014, additional revenues are needed;

WHEREAS a significant way to increase provincial revenues is through job creation;

WHEREAS the Alward government has yet to develop a strategic job creation plan;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the New Brunswick Legislature urge the provincial government to immediately develop and release a comprehensive job creation plan, including objectives and measurable targets.

Mr. Fraser gave Notice of Motion 30 that on Thursday, April 5, 2012, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Collins:

WHEREAS the Moncton City Hospital and the Saint John Regional Hospital are the only two neurological Centres of Excellence in the province;

WHEREAS doctors and medical experts agree that Moncton City Hospital and Saint John Regional Hospital, as major trauma centres serving patients from all regions of the province, would provide better health care with the availability of 3T Magnetic Resonance Imaging;

WHEREAS the Alward government has ruled out the installation of 3T MRIs, going so far as to refuse an offer of a \$1 million contribution by a hospital foundation;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the provincial government to heed the advice of medical professionals and purchase and install 3T MRIs at Moncton City Hospital and Saint John Regional Hospital.

Mr. Kenny gave Notice of Motion 31 that on Thursday, April 5, 2012, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Doucet:

WHEREAS Acadian Coach Lines drivers have been on strike for more than three months;

WHEREAS Acadian Coach Lines is the only public inter-city mode of transportation in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers depend on Acadian Coach Lines for transportation;

WHEREAS the federal government has refused to intervene in this strike, with New Brunswick's Conservative MPs, cabinet ministers and Senators remaining silent on the issue;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the provincial government to demand the federal government intervene in this labour dispute so that public inter-city transportation can resume in New Brunswick.

Mr. Melanson gave Notice of Motion 32 that on Thursday, April 5, 2012, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Collins:

WHEREAS many factors contribute to economic growth;

WHEREAS a qualified workforce is critical to job creation and economic sustainability;

WHEREAS the business community has identified the lack of access to a qualified workforce as a significant roadblock to growth;

WHEREAS the Alward government has not addressed this issue through the creation of a fully integrated job creation plan that would include specific initiatives in response to this need;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick urge the provincial government to organize and facilitate a provincial employment summit before the end of May 2012, which would bring together stakeholders from the business community, the nonprofit sector, and postsecondary institutions, in order to understand the needs, identify the gaps, and propose a solution.

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 33 that on Thursday, April 5, 2012, 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, regarding the number of vacancies in Parts I, II, III and IV of the New Brunswick civil service and the classification of each position and/or the position description as of today's date.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 28)

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.

And the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

On motion of Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud, seconded by Mr. Fraser:

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Thursday, March 29, 2012, at 11 o'clock a.m.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 34)

THAT in addition to the existing sitting hours prescribed in Standing Rule 29(1) and by Special Order of the House adopted November 24, 2011, the House shall sit on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

THAT this Special Order shall come into effect on Tuesday, April 24, 2012, and shall remain in effect for the remainder of the Second Session of the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly.

And the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

With leave of the House, Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier: (Motion 35)

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations be amended by substituting the name of Mr. Killen for Ms. Wilson and Mr. S. Robichaud for Mr. Bonenfant;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Estimates be amended by substituting the name of Mr. Riordon for Mr. B. Macdonald;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Health Care be amended by substituting the name of Mr. K. MacDonald for Ms. Shephard;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Law Amendments be amended by substituting the name of Mr. Bonenfant for Mr. S. Robichaud;

THAT the membership of the Legislative Administration Committee be amended by substituting the name of Mr. C. Landry for Mr. McLean and Mr. Urquhart for Mr. Jack Carr and by adding the name of Hon. Ms. Blais, Q.C.;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Legislative Officers be amended by substituting the name of Mr. Davis for Mr. Stewart, Mr. McLean for Ms. Wilson, Mr. S. Robichaud for Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud and Ms. Lynch for Mr. C. Landry;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Private Bills be amended by substituting the name of Mr. Parrott for Mr. Riordon, Mr. Stewart for Mr. Harrison and Ms. Wilson for Mr. Urquhart;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Privileges be amended by substituting the name of Mr. Parrott for Mr. Bonenfant;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Procedure be amended by substituting the name of Mr. Urquhart for Ms. Wilson and Mr. Steeves for Mr. McLean;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts be amended by substituting the name of Mr. Bonenfant for Mr. Davis and Mr. Tait for Mr. Stewart.

And the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

And then, 12.15 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

The following document, having been deposited with the Clerk of the House, was deemed laid upon the table of the House pursuant to Standing Rule 39:

Annual Report 2011

New Brunswick Insurance Board

March 27, 2012