

Daily sitting 23

Wednesday, April 4, 2012

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

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 71)

---

Mr. Melanson, Member for Dieppe Centre-Lewisville, 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 72)

---

Mr. Fraser, Member for Miramichi-Bay du Vin, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to build a new nursing home with additional beds to replace Mount St. Joseph Nursing Home and that full-time palliative care nurses be reinstated at the Miramichi Regional Hospital. (Petition 73)

---

Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc, Member for Rogersville-Kouchibouguac, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to build a new nursing home with additional beds to replace Mount St. Joseph Nursing Home and that full-time palliative care nurses be reinstated at the Miramichi Regional Hospital. (Petition 74)

---

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Fraser rose on a point of order and submitted that the Premier and Hon. Ms. Blais accused the Leader of the Opposition of making “false statements” and “false accusations”. Mr. Speaker cautioned Members against making such allegations.

---

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Ms. Blais Q.C.,

Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Loan and Trust Companies Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Trevors,

Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act.*

By Hon. Mr. Higgs,

Bill 25, *An Act to Amend the Tuition Tax Cash Back Credit Act.*

---

Mr. Fraser gave Notice of Motion 37 that on Thursday, April 12, 2012, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Bernard LeBlanc:

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 but not limited to correspondence, however recorded, stored or archived, by electronic means or otherwise, related to the number of alternative level of care beds, how many beds have been designated, and the staffing complement of RNs, LPNs and PCAs for alternative level of care patients, in each of the province's hospitals.

---

Mr. Doucet gave Notice of Motion 38 that on Thursday, April 12, 2012, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Haché:

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 but not limited to correspondence, however recorded, stored or archived, by electronic means or otherwise, related to the negotiations between the former Department of Supply and Services, the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, the former Department of Tourism and Parks, the Department of Culture, Tourism and Healthy Living and all other government departments and agencies, and New Castle Hotels & Resorts and Southwest Properties, regarding the Algonquin Hotel.

---

Mr. Kenny gave Notice of Motion 39 that on Thursday, April 12, 2012, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS the Point Lepreau refurbishment project is three years behind schedule and \$1 billion over budget;

WHEREAS the refurbishment contract was signed by the former Progressive Conservative government of Bernard Lord in 2006, with no protection for cost overruns;

WHEREAS the Minister of Energy has stated in this House that his government will accept nothing less than full compensation from the government of Canada for cost overruns at Lepreau;

WHEREAS the Prime Minister of Canada has stated publicly that the federal government will only honour its contractual obligations in the refurbishment project;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly call on the government of New Brunswick to sue the federal government for the full value of the cost overruns at Lepreau.

---

Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 40 that on Thursday, April 12, 2012, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Boudreau:

WHEREAS the increasing price of gas creates significant economic hardship for ordinary New Brunswickers, particularly those who live in rural regions; and

WHEREAS the Conservative government raised the gas tax by 2.9 cents per litre, plus HST in its first budget, despite its election promise not to raise taxes that affect ordinary New Brunswickers; and

WHEREAS the provincial government collected \$247.3 million in gas taxes in 2010-2011;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the House urge the government to immediately implement a gas tax rebate for all New Brunswickers.

---

Motions 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 26 and 27 were, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

---

Pursuant to Standing Rule 44(4), Mr. Fraser, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, April 5, 2012, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 29 and 32.

---

It was agreed by unanimous consent to vary the time for the meeting and adjournment of the sitting of the Assembly on Thursday, April 5, 2012 as follows: 11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

---

Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the Budget (Motion 25).

---

The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 25),

That this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government, having been read,

The debate was resumed.

At 12.30 o'clock p.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.

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

And after some further time, Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and cautioned Members against the use of props to manipulate the sound system of the House.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

---

And then, 6 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.