

Daily sitting 51

Thursday, June 7, 2012

*1 o'clock p.m.*

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Williams, Member for Kent South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to stop all activities related to the construction of the new Moncton High School at Royal Oaks until the community is engaged in a discussion about the site of the school. (Petition 91)

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Mr. Urquhart, from the Legislative Administration Committee, presented the First Report of the Committee which was read and is as follows:

June 7, 2012.

To the Honourable  
The Legislative Assembly of  
The Province of New Brunswick.

Mr. Speaker:

Your Committee on Legislative Administration begs leave to submit this their First Report.

At a meeting of the Committee held on January 26, 2012, Mrs. Loredana Catalli Sonier, Q.C., announced her decision to retire as Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Mrs. Catalli Sonier, Q.C. began her career at the Legislative Assembly in 1985 as Clerk Assistant (Procedural). She was appointed Clerk of the Legislative Assembly by resolution of the House on November 30, 1993.

The Committee wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Mrs. Catalli Sonier, Q.C., for her professionalism, dedication, and exemplary service to the Legislative Assembly and the Province.

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly is the chief permanent officer of the Legislature and the principle authority on the laws, practices and privileges of Parliament. The Clerk's responsibilities include advising the Speaker and Members on questions of parliamentary law, procedure, and interpretation of the rules and practices of the House. The Clerk is also responsible for the overall administration of the Legislative Assembly and is Secretary of the Legislative

Administration Committee. The Clerk serves all Members equally, regardless of party affiliation, and must act with impartiality and discretion.

At a meeting held April 4, 2012, the Committee agreed that Donald J. Forestell, senior Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees, had the necessary qualifications and 19 years of experience at the Table to serve as the next Clerk of the House.

Your Committee therefore recommends to the House that Donald J. Forestell be appointed Clerk of the Legislative Assembly effective September 1, 2012.

And your Committee asks leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Carl Urquhart.  
Deputy Speaker.

Ordered that the Report be received, that leave be granted, and the Committee continued.

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With leave of the House, the Honourable the Premier moved, seconded by Mr. Boudreau: (Motion 69)

WHEREAS Loredana Catalli Sonier, Q.C., was appointed Clerk of the Legislative Assembly by resolution of the House adopted November 30, 1993;

WHEREAS Ms. Catalli Sonier will retire as Clerk of the Legislative Assembly on August 31, 2012;

WHEREAS the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly shall be appointed by the Legislative Assembly on the recommendation of the Legislative Administration Committee pursuant to subsection 34(2) of the *Legislative Assembly Act*;

WHEREAS the Legislative Administration Committee has recommended the appointment of Donald J. Forestell as Clerk of the Legislative Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Assembly appoint Donald J. Forestell, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, effective September 1, 2012.

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

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Hon. Mr. Jody Carr laid upon the table of the House a document entitled *Putting Children First, Positioning Early Childhood for the Future, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, June 2012.*

It was agreed by unanimous consent to permit Hon. Mr. Jody Carr to make a lengthy Minister's Statement.

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Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud, Government House Leader, announced that following Opposition Members' Business and third reading, it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 63, 66, 67 and 68.

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Pursuant to Notice of Motion 59, Mr. Kenny moved, seconded by Mr. Haché:

WHEREAS Brunswick Mine is a significant employer and economic driver in northern New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the closure of the mine will have a devastating effect on the local economy;

WHEREAS there are many valuable assets on the Brunswick Mine site including several mills;

WHEREAS ore prices have risen to a level where other mining companies have expressed interest in establishing operations in northern New Brunswick;

WHEREAS these assets may be beneficial in attracting other mining opportunities or economic development projects to create new employment opportunities;

WHEREAS one mill has already been dismantled and moved to another mine outside of New Brunswick;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the provincial government to give priority to ascertaining which Brunswick Mine's assets may be useful to retain; develop a strategy to entice new mine-related or other business to establish operations in the area; and use its best efforts to ensure these assets are retained and remain on site for the benefit of the people of New Brunswick.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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, Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud, seconded by Hon. Mr. Northrup, moved in amendment:

#### AMENDMENT

That Motion 59 be amended:

After the last WHEREAS clause by adding the following WHEREAS clauses:

“WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick is working with industry to kick-start exploration for new base metal deposits in the Bathurst Mining Camp area, including a joint venture involving Xstrata, Votorantim Metals Canada and El Nino Ventures;

WHEREAS under an Advanced Exploration Program, both the provincial government and Votorantim Metals Canada Inc. will invest in exploration in the Bathurst Mining Camp;

WHEREAS on March 23, the Government of New Brunswick announced that it is providing professional and financial resources to the Chaleur Community Economic Leadership Group, to mitigate the impact of the pending closure of Xstrata Zinc's Brunswick Mine;

WHEREAS the Chaleur Community Economic Leadership Group's objectives include drawing up an enhanced community economic development plan focusing on three strategic pillars: people, infrastructure and business;

WHEREAS two senior government officials, the Deputy Minister of Economic Development, and the Premier's Chief of Staff, were appointed to the leadership group;”

In the resolution clause, by replacing the word “give” with “continue giving”, by replacing the words “ascertaining which” with “this situation, including considering which, if any, of”, by deleting the words “develop a strategy”, by inserting the words “, where appropriate,” following the words “ensure these assets”, and by deleting the words “and remain on site”.

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on the proposed amendment and a debate ensued.

At 4.15 o'clock p.m., Mr. Deputy Speaker declared a recess and left the chair.

*4.26 o'clock p.m.*

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

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

Mr. Speaker put the question on Motion 59 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS Brunswick Mine is a significant employer and economic driver in northern New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the closure of the mine will have a devastating effect on the local economy;

WHEREAS there are many valuable assets on the Brunswick Mine site including several mills;

WHEREAS ore prices have risen to a level where other mining companies have expressed interest in establishing operations in northern New Brunswick;

WHEREAS these assets may be beneficial in attracting other mining opportunities or economic development projects to create new employment opportunities;

WHEREAS one mill has already been dismantled and moved to another mine outside of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick is working with industry to kick-start exploration for new base metal deposits in the Bathurst Mining Camp area, including a joint venture involving Xstrata, Votorantim Metals Canada and El Nino Ventures;

WHEREAS under an Advanced Exploration Program, both the provincial government and Votorantim Metals Canada Inc. will invest in exploration in the Bathurst Mining Camp;

WHEREAS on March 23, the Government of New Brunswick announced that it is providing professional and financial resources to the Chaleur Community Economic Leadership Group, to mitigate the impact of the pending closure of Xstrata Zinc's Brunswick Mine;

WHEREAS the Chaleur Community Economic Leadership Group's objectives include drawing up an enhanced community economic development plan focusing on three strategic pillars: people, infrastructure and business;

WHEREAS two senior government officials, the Deputy Minister of Economic Development, and the Premier's Chief of Staff, were appointed to the leadership group;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the provincial government to continue giving priority to this situation, including considering which, if any, of Brunswick Mine's assets may be useful to retain; to entice new mine-related or other business to establish operations in the area; and use its best efforts to ensure these assets, where appropriate, are retained for the benefit of the people of New Brunswick.

And the question being put, Motion 59 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

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The Order being read for second reading of Bill 62, *An Act to Amend the Municipalities Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

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The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 56, *An Act to Amend the Clean Environment Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

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

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

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7 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed.

At 8.29 o'clock p.m., Mr. C. Landry declared a recess and left the chair.

8.41 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed.

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

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

Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Pension Benefits Act.*

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.

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And then, 10 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.