

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW BRUNSWICK Second Session, 57th Legislative Assembly

ORDER AND NOTICE PAPER - Sitting No. 44 Friday, May 18, 2012

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Prayers

Condolences and Messages of Sympathy (Prior Notice to Speaker)

Introduction of Guests

Messages of Congratulation and Recognition (10 minutes)

Presentations of Petitions

Answers to Petitions and Written Questions

Presentations of Committee Reports

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Statements by Members (10 minutes)

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Introduction of Bills

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Notice of Opposition Members' Business

Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House

Orders of the Day

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS

GOVERNMENT BILLS FOR THIRD READING

Bill 40, An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Highway Corporation Act - Hon. Mr. Williams

GOVERNMENT BILLS FOR SECOND READING

Bills Ordered for Second Reading

Bill 55, An Act to Amend the Securities Act - Hon. Ms. Blais, Q.C.

Bill 56, An Act to Amend the Clean Environment Act - Hon. Mr. Fitch

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Bill 10. An Act to Amend the Tobacco Tax Act - Mr. Fraser

Bill 25, An Act to Amend the Tuition Tax Cash Back Credit Act - Hon. Mr. Higgs

Bill 29, Energy Drink Sales Act - Mr. Fraser

Bill 43, Apprenticeship and Occupational Certification Act - Hon. Ms. Coulombe

Bill 44, Procurement Act - Hon. Mr. Leonard

Bill 45, An Act to Amend the Education Act - Hon. Mr. Jody Carr

Bill 46, An Act to Amend the Early Learning and Childcare Act - Hon. Mr. Jody Carr

Bill 47, An Act to Amend the Family Services Act - Hon. Ms. Stultz

Bill 48, An Act to Amend the Family Income Security Act - Hon. Ms. Stultz

Bill 49, An Act to Amend the Emergency 911 Act - Hon. Mr. Trevors

Bill 50, An Act to Amend the Real Property Transfer Tax Act - Hon. Mr. Higgs

Bill 51, An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act - Hon. Mr. Higgs

Bill 52, An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act - Hon. Mr. Higgs

Bill 53, Loan Act 2012 - Hon. Mr. Higgs

PRIVATE BILLS REFERRED TO STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS

Bill 22, An Act to Incorporate the Association of Registered Professional Foresters of New Brunswick - Mr. Bonenfant

BILLS AWAITING ROYAL ASSENT

Bill 30, An Act to Amend the Interpretation Act - Hon. Ms. Blais, Q.C.

Bill 31, Law Reform (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act, 2012 - Hon. Ms. Blais, Q.C.

Bill 32. An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act - Hon, Mr. Higgs

Bill 34, An Act to Amend the Human Rights Act - Hon. Ms. Coulombe

Bill 36, Statute Repeal Act - Hon. Ms. Blais, Q.C.

Bill 37, An Act to Amend the Public Trustee Act - Hon. Ms. Blais, Q.C.

Bill 39, Small Claims Act - Hon. Ms. Blais, Q.C.

Bill 41, An Act to Amend the Revenue Administration Act - Hon. Mr. Higgs Bill 42, An Act to Amend the Financial Corporation Capital Tax Act - Hon. Mr. Higgs Bill 54, Appropriations Act 2012-2013 - Hon. Mr. Higgs

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Main Estimates, 2012-2013 (Adopted May 15, 2012)
Capital Estimates, 2012-2013 (Adopted May 15, 2012)
Supplementary Estimates, 2010-2011, Volume II (Adopted December 14, 2011)

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

CONCLUDED

Motion 1 by Hon. Mr. Northrup. Debated and carried December 6, 2011.

Motion 4 by Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud. Carried November 24, 2011.

Motion 15 by Hon. Mr. Higgs. Debated and carried April 11, 2012.

Motion 19 by Hon. Mr. Higgs. Debated and carried December 13, 2011.

Motion 25 by Hon. Mr. Higgs. Debated March 27, 29, 30, April 3, 4, 10, 13 and carried April 13, 2012.

Motion 28 by Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud. Carried March 28, 2012.

Motion 34 by Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud. Carried March 28, 2012.

Motion 35 by Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud. Carried March 28, 2012.

Motion 44 by Hon. Ms. Blais, Q.C. Carried April 5, 2012.

Motion 47 by Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud. Carried April 24, 2012.

Motion 55 by Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud. Carried May 2, 2012.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS FOR SECOND READING

Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Members' Conflict of Interest Act - Mr. Boudreau Bill 14, An Act to Amend the Assessment Act - Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc

Adjourned Debates

Bill 38, Lobbyists' Registration Act - Mr. Fraser

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Debatable Motions

Motion 2 by Mr. Bernard LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Kenny to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 1, 2011:

WHEREAS the Alward government proposed changes to the Prescription Drug Program that doubled the co-pay amount payable by seniors from \$250 to \$500;

WHEREAS seniors feel this increase breaks the Premier's campaign promise to "provide a better deal for seniors";

WHEREAS this sudden increase creates considerable financial hardship for low-income seniors;

WHEREAS the extra cost may prevent seniors from getting the medications they need;

WHEREAS the loss of medications could be harmful to the fragile health of seniors; WHEREAS the New Brunswick Pharmacists' Association, the Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association, and others have suggested ways to find additional savings within the Prescription Drug Program, which would avoid the need for drastic fee increases;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick urge the government to reverse the sudden fee increase, keep the Premier's campaign promise to "provide a better deal for seniors", and explore alternate savings through the Prescription Drug Program.

Motion 6 by Mr. Bernard LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Boudreau to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 1, 2011:

WHEREAS the previous Liberal government undertook an unprecedented public engagement in 2009 with the business sector, the non-profit sector, and citizens living in poverty, which resulted in a bipartisan poverty reduction plan;

WHEREAS the Premier, then the Leader of the Opposition, participated fully in the engagement process and the announcement of the poverty reduction plan;

WHEREAS the Premier, then the Leader of the Opposition, stated that he was "proud" to have participated in the process and committed his party to implementing the recommendations of the poverty reduction task force;

WHEREAS the Premier, then the Leader of the Opposition, stated in an opinion column published in various provincial newspapers in November 2009 that we have to do more;

WHEREAS, since forming the government, the Alward Conservatives have ignored or postponed several important deadlines for the implementation of poverty reduction initiatives;

WHEREAS there is considerable disparity between what Premier Alward said while he was in the opposition and what he has done since forming the government;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the government to honour the commitments made by the Premier when, as Leader of the Opposition, he expressed his support for the poverty reduction plan.

[Debate interrupted due to expiration of time.]

Motion 22 by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Fraser to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 15, 2011:

WHEREAS there is no children's hospital in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the serious illness of a child may therefore require parents and/or guardians to seek treatment out of province;

WHEREAS out of province travel, accommodations and other expenses often have to be paid out of pocket by parents and/or guardians;

WHEREAS there currently does not exist any policy, plan or fund to assist the parents and/or guardians of children with serious illness with these expenses;

WHEREAS this often creates financial hardship for the families of seriously ill children;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the Government of New Brunswick to implement and disburse a fund to provide financial assistance for out-of-province expense costs for the parents and/or guardians of seriously ill children who have to travel out of province for treatment.

Motion 32 by Mr. Melanson, seconded by Mr. Collins to propose the following resolution on Thursday, April 5, 2012:

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.

[Debate interrupted due to expiration of time.]

Motion 39 by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Arseneault to propose the following resolution on Thursday, April 12, 2012:

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.

Motion 40 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Boudreau to propose the following resolution on Thursday, April 12, 2012:

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.

Motion 43 by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Haché to propose the following resolution on Thursday, April 12, 2012:

WHEREAS Brunswick Mines is due to cease operation in Bathurst next year;

WHEREAS Brunswick Mines is an important employer in northern New Brunswick, with more than 900 employees and more than 1,200 jobs indirectly linked to the mine;

WHEREAS the closure of the mine will have a significant and detrimental effect on the economy of northern New Brunswick;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the provincial government to develop and release a strategy to stimulate and improve the northern New Brunswick economy to lessen the blow of the mine closure.

Motion 59 by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Haché to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 24, 2012:

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.

Motions for Returns

Motion 33 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Melanson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, April 5, 2012:

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.

Motion 36 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc to propose the following resolution on Thursday, April 12, 2012:

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 total number of applicants to the Property Tax Deferral Program for Seniors from the program start date of March 1, 2012 to present.

[Documents requested filed April 12, 2012]

Motion 37 by Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Bernard LeBlanc to propose the following resolution on Thursday, April 12, 2012:

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.

Motion 38 by Mr. Doucet, seconded by Mr. Haché to propose the following resolution on Thursday, April 12, 2012:

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.

Motion 46 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. D. Landry to propose the following resolution on Thursday, April 19, 2012:

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, relating to the operation of white-tailed deer farms in New Brunswick, since December 1, 2010.

Motion 50 by Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Boudreau to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 3, 2012:

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, between the Department of Health, Horizon Health Network, Vitalité Health Network, and another government department, agency or Crown Corporation, related to the "orphan patient" lists kept by the Horizon Health Network and the Vitalité Health Network, including but not limited to the number of people currently, as at today's date, on the wait lists for family physicians, broken down by region.

Motion 51 by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Arseneault to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 3, 2012:

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, between federal and provincial government departments, agencies and/or persons regarding the Point Lepreau refurbishment since March 31, 2011.

[Documents requested filed May 17, 2012]

Motion 52 by Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Melanson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 3, 2012:

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, from the Department of Health, Premier's Office, any minister and/or MLA, employees of any minister and/or MLA, the Vitalité Health Network and any other government department, agency or Crown Corporation, related to the provincial breast cancer centre of excellence, from October 10, 2010 to present.

Motion 53 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 10, 2012:

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 total number of applicants to the Property Tax Deferral Program for Seniors from April 1, 2012 to present.

[Documents requested filed May 11, 2012]

Motion 54 by Mr. Doucet, seconded by Mr. Arseneault to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 10, 2012:

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 emergency response capacity program in Charlotte County, including the qualifications of staff, the hiring process, targets and objectives, timelines, budgets, and expenses incurred in wages, travel, office space rentals and consultation with stakeholders.

Motion 56 by Mr. Arseneault, seconded by Mr. Fraser to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 10, 2012:

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, from the Department of Health related to the allowable Medicare billing rates for New Brunswick family physicians who treat Canadian non-residents of New Brunswick and the allowable Medicare billing rates for Canadian family physicians outside of New Brunswick who treat New Brunswick residents.

Motion 57 by Mr. Melanson, seconded by Mr. Arseneault to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 10, 2012:

That an address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he cause to be laid upon the table of the House a detailed list of the 500 jobs that have been created by Invest NB according to what Minister Paul Robichaud said during question period on May 2, 2012, including the type of job, the economic sector, the average salary, the level and type of investment by Invest NB, and the location of the head office of the business.

[Documents requested filed May 11, 2012]

Motion 58 by Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Arseneault to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 24, 2012:

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 from the Department of Health related to the outbreak of E. coli in the Miramichi region which occurred in May 2012, including, but not limited to: all reports, investigations, test results, correspondence and related documentation.

CONCLUDED

Motion 5 by Mr. Collins. Debated and defeated December 15, 2011.

Motion 7 by Mr. Melanson. Debated and carried as amended December 1, 2011.

Motion 20 by Mr. Fraser. Debated and carried as amended December 15, 2011.

Motion 29 by Mr. Melanson. Debated and carried as amended April 5, 2012.

Motion 31 by Mr. Kenny. Debated and defeated April 26, 2012.

Motion 41 by Mr. Fraser. Debated and carried as amended April 12, 2012.

Motion 45 by Mr. Albert. Debated and carried as amended May 10, 2012.

Motion 48 by Mr. Doucet. Debated and carried as amended May 3, 2012.

Motion 49 by Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc. Debated and defeated May 17, 2012.

WITHDRAWN

Motions 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 26 and 27 withdrawn April 4, 2012.

Motions 21, 30 and 42 withdrawn May 9, 2012.

PETITIONS

Petition 1: Mr. Fraser, November 24, 2011. Petition 2: Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc, November 24, 2011. Petition 3: Mr. Fraser, November 24, 2011. Petition 4: Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc, November 24, 2011. Petition 5: Mr. Fraser, November 24, 2011. Petition 6: Mr. Albert, November 24, 2011. Petition 7: Mr. Melanson, November 24, 2011. Petition 8: Mr. Fraser, November 29, 2011. Petition 9: Mr. MacDonald, November 29, 2011. Response, December 3, 2011) (Response, December 13, 2011)
Petition 10: Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc, November 29, 2011. (Response, February 7, 2012) Petition 11: Mr. Boudreau, November 29, 2011. Petition 12: Mr. Arseneault, November 29, 2011. Petition 13: Mr. Kenny, November 29, 2011. Petition 14: Mr. Collins, November 29, 2011. Petition 15: Mr. Doucet, November 29, 2011. Petition 16: Mr. Melanson, November 29, 2011. Petition 17: Mr. Haché, November 29, 2011. Petition 18: Mr. Albert, November 29, 2011. Petition 19: Mr. D. Landry, November 29, 2011. (Response, December 13, 2011)
Petition 20: Mr. Bernard LeBlanc, November 29, 2011. (Response, December 13, 2011) Petition 21: Mr. Fraser, November 29, 2011. (Response, December 13, 2011) Petition 22: Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc, November 29, 2011. (Response, December 13, 2011) Petition 23: Mr. Fraser, November 30, 2011. (Response, December 21, 2011) Petition 24: Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc, November 30, 2011. (Response, February 7, 2012) Petition 25: Mr. Arseneault, November 30, 2011. (Response, January 11, 2012) Petition 26: Mr. Haché, November 30, 2011. (Response, January 11, 2012) Petition 27: Mr. Bernard LeBlanc, November 30, 2011. (Response, January 11, 2012)
Petition 28: Mr. Collins, November 30, 2011. Petition 29: Mr. Kenny, November 30, 2011. Petition 30: Mr. Albert, November 30, 2011. Petition 31: Mr. Doucet, November 30, 2011. Petition 32: Mr. D. Landry, November 30, 2011. Petition 33: Mr. Melanson, November 30, 2011. Petition 34: Mr. Fraser, November 30, 2011. Petition 35: Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc, November 30, 2011. Petition 36: Mr. Fraser, November 30, 2011. (Response, January 11, 2012)
Petition 37: Mr. Melanson, November 30, 2011. Petition 38: Mr. Boudreau, November 30, 2011. Petition 39: Mr. Melanson, November 30, 2011. Petition 40: Mr. Boudreau, December 6, 2011. Petition 41: Mr. Riordon, December 6, 2011. Petition 42: Mr. Fraser, December 6, 2011. Petition 43: Mr. Savoie, December 6, 2011. Petition 44: Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc, December 6, 2011. Petition 45: Mr. Fraser, December 8, 2011. Petition 46: Mr. Jack Carr, December 8, 2011. (Response, January 11, 2012) (Response, January 4, 2012) (Response, December 20, 2011) (Response, December 21, 2011) (Response, January 13, 2012) (Response, January 13, 2012) (Response, January 13, 2012)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Standing Committee on Estimates Standing Committee on Health Care Standing Committee on Private Bills First Report, April 24, 2012 First Report, November 30, 2011 First Report, April 12, 2012

DOCUMENTS / REPORTS

Tabled in the House

Summary of RFP 0610053; and Summary of RFP 35475 and Post Tender Addendum (Tabled by Hon. Mr. Leonard, May 17, 2012)

Filed in the Clerk's Office

Annual Report 2010-2011, Forest Protection Limited

(Filed May 16, 2012)

WRITTEN QUESTIONS (see Appendix "A")

Loredana Catalli Sonier, Q.C. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

APPENDIX "A"

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question No. 1 By Mr. Fraser

Directed to: Hon. Ms. Dubé, Minister of Health

Will the Minister of Health be reviewing or eliminating the use of billing numbers in New Brunswick this year?

Question No. 2 By Mr. Fraser

Directed to: Hon. Ms. Dubé, Minister of Health

Please provide a list of positions that will be eliminated or left vacant at the Department of Health during the 2012-13 budget year, including reasons for these vacancies (layoffs, attrition, retirements, vacancies, etc.).

Question No. 3 By Mr. Fraser

Directed to: Hon. Ms. Dubé, Minister of Health

Please state the budget allocated to the Horizon Health Network for the 2012-13 budget year. Please include any direction from the Department regarding how these funds should be used for the delivery of programs and services, including cuts to services or programs offered by the regional health authority.

Question No. 4 By Mr. Fraser

Directed to: Hon. Ms. Dubé, Minister of Health

Please state the budget allocated to the Vitalité Health Network for the 2012-13 budget year. Please included any direction from the Department regarding how these funds should be used for the delivery of programs and services, including cuts to services or programs offered by the regional health authority.

Question No. 5 By Mr. Fraser

Directed to: Hon. Ms. Dubé, Minister of Health

Last year, there were 65 job cuts in Horizon Health Network and 26 registered nurses were laid off. Vitalité Health Network eliminated 71 of its 145 vacant positions. What information has the department received from the RHAs regarding the number of employees that will lose their jobs this year?

Question No. 6 By Mr. Fraser

Directed to: Hon. Ms. Dubé, Minister of Health

The former Liberal government introduced to extend a health card for persons exiting social assistance for up to 3 years until prescription drug program is introduced. Given that it will be 3 years since this was introduced, and there is still no prescription drug program, will these health card benefits be extended for those individuals until such time a program is put into place?

Question No. 7 By Mr. Fraser

Directed to: Hon. Ms. Dubé, Minister of Health

Are nurses, doctors, specialists, support workers and other health professionals considered "front-line workers" "essential employees" or employees of "core services"? Can you guarantee there will be no job cuts for these workers?

Question No. 8 By Mr. Fraser

Directed to: Hon. Ms. Dubé, Minister of Health

Health Business and Technology Solutions increased by \$17.344 million compared to last vear's estimate.

What programs will this \$14.3 million increase in funding support?

What is the total cost of the e-Health or One Patient One Record program?

When is the One Patient One Record program expected to be completed?

What has the Department currently spent on implementing the "One Patient One Record"? How much of this money goes to consultants working on the e-Health program?

Question No. 9 By Mr. Arseneault

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

What are the sums of money allocated in your highway budget for 2012 that are allotted to the community of Balmoral?

Question No. 10 By Mr. Arseneault

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

What are the sums of money allocated in your highway budget for 2012 that are allotted to the community of Eel River Crossing?

Question No. 11 By Mr. Arseneault

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

What are the sums of money allocated in your highway budget for 2012 that are allotted to the community of Charlo?

Question No. 12 By Mr. Arseneault

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

What are the sums of money allocated in your highway budget for 2012 that are allotted to the community of Dalhousie?

Question No. 13 By Mr. Arseneault

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

What work will be done on Route 134 during 2012, and what sums of money will be required?

Question No. 14 By Mr. Arseneault

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

What work will be done on Route 11 during 2012, and what sums of money will be required?

Question No. 15 By Mr. Arseneault

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

What work will be done on Route 275 during 2012, and what sums of money will be required?

Question No. 16 By Mr. Arseneault

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

What work will be done on Route 280 during 2012, and what sums of money will be required?

Question No. 17 By Mr. Arseneault

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

What are the sums of money allocated in your highway budget for 2012 that are allotted to the rehabilitation or refurbishment of bridges in the Dalhousie-Restigouche East riding?

Question No. 18 By Mr. Arseneault

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

What are the sums of money allocated in your highway budget for 2012 that are allotted to the Dalhousie-Restigouche East riding?

Question No. 19 By Mr. Fraser

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

What amount has been allocated from your 2012-13 district budgets for the riding of Miramichi Bay-du-Vin?

Question No. 20 By Mr. Fraser

Directed to: Hon. Ms. Dubé, Minister of Health

What work is the Department currently doing to bring forward the measures outlined in Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco Tax Act*, which provides for the establishment of a fixed percentage of the tobacco tax collected to be dedicated to smoking cessation programs and nicotine replacement therapies? Has the Department consulted with the Department of Finance regarding implementing this Bill or the measures prescribed within?

Question No. 21 By Mr. Fraser

Directed to: Hon. Ms. Dubé, Minister of Health

How many seniors are currently occupying acute care beds while waiting for a nursing home bed? Please provide a breakdown by region and hospital.

What is the government's target for reducing this waitlist this year, since the nursing home and special care home plan will take several years to be fully implemented?

Question No. 22 By Mr. Kenny

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Williams

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

The City of Bathurst and the Department of Transportation district office has prioritized capital work on provincially designated highway Sunset Drive (Route 315) from Brown's Bridge to the city limit. This road is in dangerous condition, in desperate need of pulverizing with a base and seal coats of asphalt. Also needed is shouldering and padding with asphalt from Brown's Bridge to the overpass. Brown's Bridge deck and surface is also in critical condition.

Can the Minister advise if this work will be completed this construction season?