

Daily sitting 21

Friday, April 5, 2013

*9 o'clock a.m.*

Prayers.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 10, Mr. Fraser rose on a matter of privilege regarding a remark made in the House the previous sitting day by Hon. Mr. Flemming and published in the *Telegraph Journal*, which Mr. Fraser submitted was unparliamentary. Hon. Mr. Flemming apologized for his remark.

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Hon. Mr. Holder, Member for Saint John Portland, laid upon the table of the House a petition in opposition to the proposed cancellation of the Safer Communities and Neighbourhood Investigation Unit in Saint John. (Petition 6)

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Mr. Arseneault gave Notice of Motion 35 that on Thursday, April 11, 2013, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Fraser:

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 correspondence, however recorded, stored or archived, regarding private cemeteries in the province of New Brunswick since April 1, 2012.

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Mr. Killen gave Notice of Motion 36 that on Thursday, April 11, 2013, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. S. Robichaud:

WHEREAS during the term of the former Liberal government seventy million dollars was given to the Atcon group of companies;

WHEREAS the vast majority of these funds have not been recovered and represent a loss to the taxpayers of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the former Liberal Premier was present and chaired Cabinet meetings where decisions were made to grant financial assistance to the Atcon group of companies;

WHEREAS the former Liberal Premier's father was a director and received financial benefit from a company that was part of the Atcon group of companies when the Cabinet decided to grant financial assistance;

WHEREAS the Conflict of Interest Commissioner investigated the conduct of the former Liberal Premier;

WHEREAS the Conflict of Interest Commissioner found the former Liberal Premier had acted improperly by participating in these meetings of Cabinet and that the former Liberal Premier was in breach of the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act*;

WHEREAS the former Liberal Premier was also the Leader of the New Brunswick Liberal Association at the time that he was in conflict;

WHEREAS the former Liberal government agreed to pay the former Liberal Premier's legal fees associated with the Conflict of Interest Commissioner's investigation;

WHEREAS these fees are reported to be in excess of seventy thousand dollars;

WHEREAS the most recent return filed with the Supervisor of Political Financing indicates that the New Brunswick Liberal Association has in excess of one million dollars in cash;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Assembly call on the New Brunswick Liberal Association and its leader to do the honourable thing and reimburse the taxpayers of New Brunswick for the legal fees incurred by the former Liberal Premier while defending his improper actions.

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Hon. Ms. Shephard, Acting Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resume the adjourned debate on the Budget (Motion 22).

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The Order of the Day for resuming the adjourned debate on the motion (Motion 22),

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

The debate was resumed.

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

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

And the debate continuing, after some time, it was on motion of Mr. Riordon, on behalf of the Honourable the Premier, adjourned over.

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And then, 2 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.