Daily sitting 43

Wednesday, May 29, 2013

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling with respect to the point of order raised during the previous sitting day:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Honourable Members,

Following question period yesterday, a point of order was raised by the Opposition House Leader. The Opposition House Leader submitted that the Deputy Premier referred to a member on the Opposition side of the House as being incompetent.

In speaking on the point of order, the Government House Leader noted that he would be willing to withdraw the word, but that he was simply repeating the same word that was used by the MLA for Dalhousie-Restigouche East.

Honourable Members, I have had an opportunity to review the transcripts.

On the exchange in issue, it is clear that less than complementary language was used by both sides. Although the point of order was raised by the Opposition, it is clear that the response by the Minister was precipitated by equally negative personal remarks by the Member asking the question.

Allegations of "incompetency" and referencing a member as "the worst Minister ever" are not acceptable. Both sides should take great care with the words they use in this Chamber. In this instance I am not going to ask the Minister to withdraw the remark because equally offensive language came from both sides of the House.

I would encourage Members to refrain from personal attacks and would also encourage all members to demonstrate respect towards one another as we continue with our important work here in the Legislative Assembly.

During Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and requested that Mr. Fraser withdraw the phrase "not being honest" in reference to Hon. Mr. Williams. The Member withdrew the phrase.

During Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and requested that Hon. Mr. Leonard withdraw the phrase "be honest" in reference to Mr. Doucet. The Member withdrew the phrase.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 44(4), Mr. Fraser, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, May 30, 2013, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Bill 43, Motion 28, Bill 7.

Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 60, 61, 62, 51, 53, 54, 55, 58, 57, 44, 59, 63, 64, 56, 65, 49, 45 and 66 be called for second reading; following which the House would resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 40 and 41.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 60, *Accountability and Continuous Improvement Act*, be now read a second time.

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, Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Fraser, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for second reading be amended by deleting all the words after the word "that" and substituting the following:

"the House decline to give second reading to Bill 60, *Accountability* and *Continuous Improvement Act*, as it does not adequately address the accountability concerns of New Brunswickers".

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

Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and requested that Mr. Fraser withdraw certain unparliamentary language in relation to the Premier, which he did.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YAYS - 13

| Mr. Arseneault | Mr. Doucet | Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. Melanson | Mr. Bernard LeBlanc | Mr. Haché |
| Mr. Gallant | Mr. Collins | Mr. D. Landry |
| Mr. Fraser | Mr. Albert | |
| Mr. Boudreau | Mr. Kenny | |
| | | |

NAYS - 28

| Hon. Mr. Fitch | Hon. Ms. Shephard | Ms. Lynch |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | - | • |
| Hon. Mr. Higgs | Hon. Mr. Northrup | Mr. Malloch |
| Hon. Mr. Alward | Mr. Steeves | Mr. S. Robichaud |
| Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud | Ms. Wilson | Mr. Tait |
| Hon. Ms. Dubé | Mr. Wetmore | Mr. Bonenfant |
| Hon. Mr. Holder | Mr. Riordon | Mr. Betts |
| Hon. Ms. Stultz | Mr. Killen | Mr. C. Landry |
| Hon. Mr. Olscamp | Ms. Coulombe | Mr. Urquhart |
| Hon. Mr. Trevors | Mr. MacDonald | |
| Hon. Mr. Leonard | Mr. McLean | |

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 60 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 60, *Accountability and Continuous Improvement Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 61, *An Act Respecting a Public Intervener for the Energy Sector*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Mr. Doucet, seconded by Mr. Boudreau, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for second reading be amended by deleting all the words after "that" and substituting the following:

"Bill 61, An Act Respecting a Public Intervener for the Energy Sector, be not now read a second time but that the order for second reading be discharged and the subject matter of the Bill referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments".

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YAYS - 13

| Mr. Arseneault | Mr. Doucet | Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. Melanson | Mr. Bernard LeBlanc | Mr. Haché |
| Mr. Gallant | Mr. Collins | Mr. D. Landry |
| Mr. Fraser | Mr. Albert | |
| Mr. Boudreau | Mr. Kenny | |
| | | |

NAYS - 25

| Hon. Mr. Fitch | Hon. Ms. Shephard | Mr. Malloch |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Hon. Mr. Higgs | Hon. Mr. Flemming | Mr. S. Robichaud |
| Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud | Hon. Mr. Lifford | Mr. Savoie |
| Hon. Ms. Dubé | Mr. Harrison | Mr. Bonenfant |
| Hon. Mr. Jody Carr | Mr. Riordon | Mr. Betts |
| Hon. Ms. Stultz | Mr. Killen | Mr. C. Landry |
| Hon. Mr. Olscamp | Mr. MacDonald | Mr. Jack Carr |
| Hon. Mr. Trevors | Mr. McLean | |
| Hon. Mr. Leonard | Ms. Lynch | |

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 61 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 61, *An Act Respecting a Public Intervener for the Energy Sector*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

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

And after some time, Mr. Doucet, seconded by Mr. Boudreau, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for second reading be amended by deleting all the words after "that" and substituting the following:

"Bill 62, An Act to Amend the Energy and Utilities Board Act, be not now read a second time but that the order for second reading be discharged and the subject matter of the Bill referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments".

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YAYS - 13

| Mr. Arseneault | Mr. Doucet | Mr. Bertrand LeBlanc |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. Melanson | Mr. Bernard LeBlanc | Mr. Haché |
| Mr. Gallant | Mr. Collins | Mr. D. Landry |
| Mr. Fraser | Mr. Albert | |
| Mr. Boudreau | Mr. Kenny | |
| | | |

NAYS - 23

| Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud | Hon. Ms. Shephard | Ms. Lynch |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Hon. Ms. Dubé | Hon. Mr. Flemming | Mr. Malloch |
| Hon. Mr. Jody Carr | Hon. Mr. Lifford | Mr. S. Robichaud |
| Hon. Mr. Holder | Mr. Harrison | Mr. Tait |
| Hon. Ms. Stultz | Ms. Wilson | Mr. Savoie |
| Hon. Mr. Olscamp | Mr. Riordon | Mr. C. Landry |
| Hon. Mr. Trevors | Mr. Killen | Mr. Jack Carr |
| Hon. Mr. Leonard | Mr. McLean | |

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 62 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 62, *An Act to Amend the Energy and Utilities Board Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Committee of the Whole House.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 51, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*, be now read a second time.

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.

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

Documents requested in Notice of Motion 52

May 28, 2013