

Daily sitting 44

Friday, March 21, 2014

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Riordon rose on a point of privilege concerning remarks made by Mr. Fraser the previous sitting day regarding the reasons for the cancellation of an event. Mr. Arseneault spoke on the point of privilege. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling in relation to the point of privilege:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Members,

A point of privilege was raised earlier today by the Member for Nepisiguit, concerning the reasons for the cancellation of an event. The Member for Dalhousie-Restigouche East also spoke on the point. In my opinion, this is a matter of debate, not a matter of privilege.

It is not the role of the Speaker to ascertain whether something said in debate is factual or not. I would ask Members to keep this in mind when determining whether they should raise such matters. If a Member believes there is a valid point of privilege to be raised in the House, I would also ask that the Member follow the procedures outlined in the *Standing Rules*.

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Lifford,
Bill 50, *Legal Aid Act*.

Mr. Bernard LeBlanc gave Notice of Motion 44 that on Thursday, March 27, 2014, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Doucet:

WHEREAS the government intends to implement new natural gas royalties effective April 1; and

WHEREAS the proposed royalties are much lower than were recommended in the LaPierre Report; and

WHEREAS the new natural gas royalties are poised to be the lowest in North America; and

WHEREAS the new royalties are structured to promote rapid, indiscriminate development of shale gas reserves without regard to any long term benefit from the resource; and

WHEREAS in this race for the bottom in resource value, the government is squandering the potential for any real wealth that might come to the province from these resources; and

WHEREAS these are non-renewable resources which, if squandered now, cannot be replaced; and

WHEREAS the government has not shared the advice papers on which these radically low royalty plans have been developed; and

WHEREAS this matter is vitally important to New Brunswick people and our future;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick urge the provincial government to delay the implementation of the new royalties to allow for the proposed natural gas royalty regulations to be referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments along with the relevant studies and recommendations supporting the royalty plan, and provide a reasonable opportunity for New Brunswick citizens to review this information, provide feedback and receive responses from officials of the Department of Energy and Mines in regards to the rationale for the implementation of this particular royalty scheme.

Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud gave notice that on Tuesday, March 25, 2014, Bills 41, 42, 45, 47, 49 and 50 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bill 27 be called for third reading.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 27, *Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act*, the motion for third reading was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 43

Hon. Mr. Fitch	Mr. Steeves	Mr. Stewart
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Mr. Harrison	Mr. Arseneault
Hon. Mr. Alward	Ms. Wilson	Mr. Gallant
Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Fraser
Hon. Ms. Dubé	Mr. Riordon	Mr. Betts
Hon. Mr. Jody Carr	Mr. Killen	Mr. C. Landry
Hon. Ms. Stultz	Ms. Coulombe	Mr. Bernard LeBlanc
Hon. Mr. Olscamp	Mr. MacDonald	Mr. Albert
Hon. Mr. Williams	Mr. McLean	Mr. Kenny
Hon. Mr. Leonard	Ms. Lynch	Mr. Jack Carr
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Mr. Malloch	Mr. Urquhart
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Mr. Macdonald	Mr. Haché
Hon. Mr. Soucy	Mr. S. Robichaud	Mr. D. Landry
Hon. Mr. Lifford	Mr. Tait	
Hon. Mr. Northrup	Mr. Savoie	

Accordingly, Bill 27, *Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act*, was read a third time and passed.

And then 10.35 o'clock a.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 Notices of
Motions 30, 31, 34

March 20, 2014