

Daily sitting 55

Thursday, April 17, 2014

*1 o'clock p.m.*

Prayers.

Mr. Gallant offered condolences to the family of the late Allison Delong, former Liberal MLA for Carleton Centre (1987-1995).

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During Statements by Members, Mr. Speaker interrupted the proceedings on a number of occasions to advise certain Members that they could no longer continue their statements, as the statements contained personal attacks against other Members.

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Pursuant to Notice of Motion 37, Mr. Doucet moved, seconded by Mr. Kenny:

WHEREAS the Harper government has announced the closure of eight regional Veterans Affairs offices across Canada including two offices in Atlantic Canada; and

WHEREAS the regional offices provide much needed support services to Canadian veterans across the country; and

WHEREAS veterans and many veteran support groups have expressed concern that the move to close these offices and deliver veteran support services on-line and through Service Canada outlets, will result in a significant reduction of service; and

WHEREAS a concern has been raised that the lack of a dedicated service for veterans will result in many veterans having to travel great distances to receive the services and support they require; and

WHEREAS our veterans who have served and sacrificed on behalf of our country deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, and many see this decision by the Harper government as a betrayal of trust;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick unanimously call upon the Harper government to reverse its decision to close the Veterans Affairs regional offices.

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, Mr. C. Landry took the chair.

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 37 was resolved in the negative.

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Pursuant to Notice of Motion 48, Mr. Boudreau moved, seconded by Mr. Collins:

WHEREAS post-secondary education and training is crucial to the future growth and prosperity of our province;

WHEREAS the tuition at our post-secondary institutions has risen an average of over 10% in the past four years;

WHEREAS rising tuition costs represent a barrier to access for those wishing to enroll in post-secondary education;

WHEREAS the Alward government has done very little to improve access to post-secondary education;

WHEREAS the Alward government has done very little to address issues of student debt;

WHEREAS despite committing to a review of access issues, we have yet to see any positive changes;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour to immediately bring forward a plan that will address barriers in access to post-secondary education.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Urquhart resumed the chair.

And after some further time, Mr. Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

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And then, 6 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

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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 33

April 16, 2014