

Daily sitting 62

Thursday, May 8, 2014

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Mr. Leonard, Member for Fredericton-Lincoln, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging the government to fully fund abortions at the Fredericton Morgentaler Clinic, and repeal the *Medical Services Payment Act* regulation restricting abortion payment. (Petition 10)

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Macdonald,
Bill 88, *An Act to Amend the Civil Service Act*.

Mr. D. Landry gave Notice of Motion 60 that on Thursday, May 15, 2014, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Melanson:

WHEREAS the Alward government has indicated that participation in the shared risk pension plan would be voluntary;

WHEREAS the Premier imposed the shared risk pension plan on civil servants and retirees without giving them an opportunity for negotiation;

WHEREAS the Alward government provided the New Brunswick Teachers' Federation with an opportunity to negotiate the reform of its pension plan;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the provincial government to halt plans for implementation of the shared risk pension plan model and to immediately announce a new and inclusive process of engagement for public pension reform whereby the government would meet with bargaining and non-bargaining groups as well as other pension plan representatives to review all relevant financial information, discuss all possible options for pension reform, and establish a process for negotiation.

Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud gave notice that on Friday, May 9, 2014, Bill 88 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud, Government House Leader, announced that following Opposition Members' Business, it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the estimates of the Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons; Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat; and Executive Council Office.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 56, Mr. Arseneault, on behalf of Mr. Collins, moved, seconded by Mr. Boudreau:

WHEREAS the Official Opposition has been calling upon the government to produce an education plan;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Education has repeatedly failed to produce one;

AND WHEREAS it has become obvious that there is no education plan to provide;

AND WHEREAS it is virtually unheard of that a province would not have an education plan to guide the direction of education;

AND WHEREAS an education plan is mandated by virtue of the *Education Act*;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislature urge the Premier and the Minister of Education to bring forward an education plan that will establish priorities, set goals, provide for the measurement of outcomes and chart a consistent course for the future of quality education in our province.

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 the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 56 was resolved in the negative.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 51, Mr. Haché moved, seconded by Mr. Arseneault:

WHEREAS, after four years of delay, the New Brunswick government finally announced a plan for the forestry sector on March 12, 2014;

WHEREAS the New Brunswick government has not revealed several important details regarding its forestry plan, including details on its consultations, the scientific evidence upon which the decisions were based, the locations of conservation areas, and the forestry businesses with which the government met to discuss increased timber allocations, detailed contracts for Crown timber allocations, and the price charged to forestry businesses for Crown timber;

WHEREAS New Brunswickers deserve to know all the details concerning this government's forestry strategy;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly call upon the New Brunswick government to release all information about the preparation and release of its forestry plan, including, but not limited to, details on its consultations, the scientific evidence upon which the decisions were based, the locations of conservation areas, and the forestry businesses with which the government met to discuss increased timber allocations, detailed contracts for Crown timber allocations, and the price charged to businesses for Crown timber.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Hon. Mr. P. Robichaud, seconded by Mr. Stewart, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 51 be amended:

In the first WHEREAS clause by deleting the words “, after four years of delay,” and “finally”;

By deleting the second WHEREAS clause; and

In the resolution clause, by adding the words “, in accordance with the provisions of the *Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*,” after the words “release all information”.

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

And after some time, Mr. Deputy Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the time allotted for consideration of Opposition Members' Business had expired.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. C. Landry in the chair.

At 6 o'clock p.m., Mr. C. Landry left the chair to resume again at 7 o'clock p.m.

7 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed.

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

At 9 o'clock p.m., Mr. Urquhart declared a recess.

Prior to leaving the chair it was agreed by unanimous consent that the duration of the recess count towards the time allocated for the consideration of estimates.

9.13 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed.

At 10.27 o'clock p.m., Mr. Urquhart declared a recess and left the chair.

10.37 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed.

At 11.12 o'clock p.m., Mr. Urquhart declared a recess and left the chair.

11.19 o'clock p.m.

The Committee resumed with Mr. C. Landry in the chair.

And after some time, due to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Urquhart, the Deputy Speaker, resumed the chair as Acting Speaker, and Mr. C. Landry, the Chair, after requesting that Mr. Deputy Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee had had under consideration the matters referred to them, had made some progress therein, had passed several items, and asked leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.2, Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on the motion deemed to be before the House, that the report be concurred in, and it was resolved in the affirmative.

The following are the items reported:

MAIN ESTIMATES, 2014-2015
ORDINARY ACCOUNT

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding \$15,852,000 to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2015:

Executive Council Secretariat	3,278,000
Corporate Communications	1,157,000
Office of the Lieutenant-Governor	336,000
Women's Equality Branch	2,974,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer	5,336,000
Intergovernmental Affairs	2,771,000
Voted	15,852,000

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE

Voted, Supply in the following amount to defray the expenses of the following program allocation for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2015:

Aboriginal Affairs Secretariat	1,395,000
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GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Voted, Supply in the following amounts to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2015:

Council of Atlantic Premiers	642,000
Intergovernmental Conferences	23,000
Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons . . .	284,000

The said items were concurred in by the House.

And then, 11.21 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

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

Annual Report 2012-2013

Regional Development Corporation

May 8, 2014