

Daily sitting 71

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace offered condolences to the family of the late LeRoy Armstrong, former Liberal MLA for Kings East (1995-1999, 2003-2006).

Following Oral Questions, Mr. Speaker reminded Members that supplementary questions must relate to the original question.

Mr. Arseneau, Member for Kent North, laid upon the table of the House a petition in support of a ban on the spraying of glyphosate in Crown forest management. (Petition 44)

Ms. Mitton, Member for Memramcook-Tantramar, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to halt the construction and operation of quarries in the village of Calhoun. (Petition 45)

Mr. Wetmore, from the Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy, presented the Second Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

May 10, 2022

To The Honourable
The Legislative Assembly of
The Province of New Brunswick

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy begs leave to submit this, their Second Report.

Your Committee met in the Legislative Assembly Chamber on April 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28 and 29, to consider the estimates referred to your Committee by resolution of the House adopted April 1, 2022.

Your Committee wishes to report that they have passed all estimates referred to them and outlined in this report. Your Committee recommends that these estimates be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Ross Wetmore, M.L.A.
Chair

The following are the items that were passed by the Committee:

MAIN ESTIMATES, 2022-2023

RESOLVED, that there be granted to Her Majesty sums not exceeding the following to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2023:

ORDINARY ACCOUNT	Voted (\$)
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	
Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries	45,451,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	45,404,000
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	
Corporate and Other Education Services	92,768,000
School Districts.....	1,252,306,000
Early Childhood Development	227,554,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	1,572,581,000
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
Corporate Services and Community Funding.....	2,244,000
Policy, Public Education and Engagement	1,118,000
Local Government	151,117,000
Assessment and Planning Appeal Board	317,000
Authorizations and Compliance.....	7,120,000
Environmental Science and Protection	4,155,000
Climate Change Secretariat.....	1,585,000
Less amounts authorized by law	94,000
Voted.....	167,562,000
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE	
Office of the Clerk, Chief Operating Officer and Head of the Public Service and Executive Council Secretariat ...	3,498,000
Corporate Communications	6,802,000
Office of the Lieutenant-Governor	455,000
Women’s Equality Branch.....	4,639,000
Voted.....	15,394,000
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND TREASURY BOARD	
Budget and Financial Management	851,000
Corporate Services	5,601,000
Treasury Management and Fiscal Policy	2,692,000
Office of the Chief Human Resources Officer.....	4,777,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer.....	7,396,000
Office of the Comptroller.....	3,054,000
Revenue Administration	5,413,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	29,737,000

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
Aboriginal Affairs.....	7,157,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	7,110,000
Commissions Paid to Collectors of Pari-Mutuel Taxes....	455,000
Enterprise Resource Planning.....	31,619,000
Equal Employment Opportunity Program	688,000
Intergovernmental Affairs.....	8,027,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	7,980,000
Legislated Pension Plans, Benefit Accruals, Subsidies, and Supplementary Allowances	85,630,000
Less amounts authorized by law	180,000
Voted.....	85,450,000
Natural Gas Distribution Program	14,000,000
Pension and Employee Benefits Plan	344,723,000
Less amounts authorized by law	2,000
Voted.....	344,721,000
Provision for Losses.....	14,200,000
Revenue Sharing Agreements with First Nations.....	65,300,000
Service New Brunswick.....	194,061,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	194,014,000
Supplementary Funding Provision.....	289,031,000
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Corporate and Other Health Services	210,001,000
Medicare	747,850,000
Drug Programs.....	238,238,000
Part III Health Services.....	2,004,867,000
Provincial Health Plan	38,430,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	3,239,339,000
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY	
Technical Safety and Corporate Services Division.....	17,282,000
Community Safety Division	191,354,000
Security and Emergencies Division.....	47,336,000
Office of the Attorney General	21,981,000
Justice Services Division	25,468,000
Legal Aid	10,855,000
Less amounts authorized by law	94,000
Voted.....	314,182,000

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY	
Members' Allowances, Committees and Operations.....	9,162,000
Less amounts authorized by law	4,272,000
Voted.....	4,890,000
Office of the Legislative Assembly	4,065,000
Office of the Auditor General	3,408,000
Offices of Leaders and Members of Registered	
Political Parties.....	2,247,000
Less amounts authorized by law	95,000
Voted.....	2,152,000
Elections New Brunswick.....	12,699,000
Office of the Ombud	1,790,000
Office of the Child, Youth and Senior Advocate.....	1,398,000
Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages.....	735,000
Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance	601,000
Office of the Integrity Commissioner	330,000
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	
Administration	8,031,000
Natural Resources	84,425,000
Energy and Mines	6,547,000
Land Management	2,728,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	101,684,000
OFFICE OF THE PREMIER	
Administration	1,516,000
Less amounts authorized by law	67,000
Voted.....	1,449,000
OPPORTUNITIES NEW BRUNSWICK	
Administration and Business Development Services	15,272,000
Financial Assistance	25,000,000
Population Growth.....	9,843,000
Strategic Investments - Productivity / Global competitiveness.....	5,000,000
Voted.....	55,115,000
OTHER AGENCIES	
Consolidated Entities	398,151,000
Less amounts authorized by law	398,151,000
Voted.....	0
Council of Atlantic Premiers	642,000
Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation	2,802,000
Labour and Employment Board.....	655,000

New Brunswick Police Commission	671,000
New Brunswick Women's Council	468,000
Premier's Council on Disabilities	304,000
DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Labour and Strategic Services	12,134,000
Post-Secondary Affairs	483,833,000
WorkingNB.....	137,325,000
New Brunswick Public Library Service	15,674,000
Apprenticeship and Occupational Certification	7,449,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	656,368,000
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	
Development Projects and Operations.....	50,637,000
SERVICE OF THE PUBLIC DEBT	
Service of the Public Debt	634,000,000
Less amounts authorized by law	629,100,000
Voted.....	4,900,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Corporate and Other Services	11,056,000
Seniors and Long Term Care	860,463,000
Child Welfare and Youth Services	155,484,000
Income Security	246,995,000
Housing Services	120,132,000
Other Benefits	73,443,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	1,467,526,000
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, HERITAGE AND CULTURE	
Administration	2,957,000
Parks and Trails	12,551,000
Culture, Heritage and Sport	35,803,000
Tourism.....	17,433,000
Less amounts authorized by law	47,000
Voted.....	68,697,000
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Administration	15,193,000
Policy and Legislative Affairs, Strategic Partnerships and Trade Corridors.....	1,783,000
Maintenance.....	90,438,000
Winter Maintenance.....	73,967,000
Bridge and Highway Construction.....	3,011,000
Buildings Group.....	138,709,000
New Brunswick Highway Corporation.....	26,800,000
Less amounts authorized by law	24,809,000
Voted.....	325,092,000

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	
Capital Equipment	65,000
Strategic Infrastructure	400,000
Voted.....	465,000
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT	
Public Schools – Capital Equipment.....	1,745,000
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
Local Service Districts.....	1,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Public Hospitals – Capital Equipment	27,050,000
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	
Mine Reclamation.....	250,000
Musquash Watershed Infrastructure –	
Capital Improvements	6,920,000
Sentier NB Trail Infrastructure	750,000
Voted.....	7,920,000
DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Deferred Maintenance Program	2,000,000
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	
Canada - New Brunswick Integrated Bilateral Agreement...	16,500,000
Strategic Infrastructure Initiative	18,500,000
Voted.....	35,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Nursing Home Services - Capital Improvements	9,000,000
Nursing Home Services - Capital Maintenance	3,000,000
Voted.....	12,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, HERITAGE AND CULTURE	
Capital Improvements.....	4,400,000
Strategic Infrastructure	4,620,000
Voted.....	9,020,000
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Bridges	60,886,000
Highways	181,125,000
Municipal Designated Highway Program.....	15,000,000
Federal-Provincial Cost-Shared Program	81,834,000
Vehicle Management Agency.....	22,000,000
Public Works and Infrastructure	289,749,000
Less amounts authorized by law	26,970,000
Voted.....	623,624,000

 LOANS AND ADVANCES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES	
New Brunswick Agricultural Insurance Commission	1,600,000
Loan Programs	9,500,000
Voted.....	11,100,000
OPPORTUNITIES NEW BRUNSWICK	
Financial Assistance to Industry	50,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LABOUR	
Student Loan Advances	69,900,000
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	
Financial assistance under the Development	
Loans Program	5,000,000
Financial assistance under the New Brunswick	
Small Business Emergency Working Capital	
Loan Program.....	5,000,000
Voted.....	10,000,000
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Housing.....	3,224,000

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 2020-2021, Volume II

RESOLVED, that there be granted to Her Majesty sums not exceeding the following to defray the expenses of the following program allocations for the fiscal year ending the 31st of March, 2021:

ORDINARY ACCOUNT	Voted (\$)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
Provision for Losses.....	1,040,520.67
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY	
Law Enforcement and Inspections Division.....	882,869.66
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT	
Energy and Mines	5,431,654.03
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	
Public Hospitals – Capital Equipment	3,533,284.69

 LOANS AND ADVANCES

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	
New Brunswick Small Business Working Capital	
Loan Program.....	168,208.96

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.2, Mr. 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 Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
 Bill 101, *Appropriations Act 2022-2023*.
 Bill 102, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (2)*.

Mr. Speaker announced that pursuant to Standing Rule 42.3(1), Bills 101 and 102 were ordered for second and third reading forthwith.

The following Bills were read a second time:

Bill 101, *Appropriations Act 2022-2023*.
 Bill 102, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (2)*.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 101, *Appropriations Act 2022-2023*.
 Bill 102, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2020-2021 (2)*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
 Bill 103, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act*.
 By Hon. Ms. Shephard,
 Bill 104, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act*.
 By Hon. Ms. Green,
 Bill 105, *An Act to Amend the Highway Act*.
 Bill 106, *An Act to Amend the Marshland Infrastructure Maintenance Act*.
 By Hon. Mr. Savoie,
 Bill 107, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*.
 Bill 108, *An Act to Amend the Accountability and Continuous Improvement Act*.

By Hon. Mr. Cardy,
Bill 109, *An Act Respecting the Early Childhood Services Act*.
By Hon. Mr. Allain,
Bill 110, *An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform, 2022*.
By Hon. Mr. Holder,
Bill 111, *An Act to Amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act*.
Bill 112, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*.
By Hon. Mr. Hogan,
Bill 113, *An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act*.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, delivered to Mr. Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and the said Message was read by Mr. Speaker, all the Members standing, and is as follows:

Fredericton, New Brunswick.
May 10, 2022.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, having been informed of the subject matter of Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, recommends the Bill to the House in accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution Act, 1867*.

(Sgd. :) Brenda L. Murphy.
Lieutenant-Governor.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bills 99, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98 and 100 be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. Savoie gave notice that on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, Bills 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112 and 113 would be called for second reading.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 99 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 99, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 86, *Special Appropriation Act 2022*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 86 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 86, *Special Appropriation Act 2022*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 87, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 87 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 87, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 88, *An Act to Amend the Financial and Consumer Services Commission Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 88 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 88, *An Act to Amend the Financial and Consumer Services Commission Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 89, *An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 89 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 89, *An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 90, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 90 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 90, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 91, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 91 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 91, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 92, *An Act to Amend the Plumbing Installation and Inspection Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 92 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 92, *An Act to Amend the Plumbing Installation and Inspection Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 93, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 93 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 93, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 94, *An Act to Amend An Act to Amend the Police Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 94 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 94, *An Act to Amend An Act to Amend the Police Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 95, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

And then, 6 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:

Response to Petition 41	April 7, 2022
Response to Petition 42	April 13, 2022
Annual Report 2020-2021	
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	April 19, 2022
Response to Petition 43	April 19, 2022
Annual Report 2020-2021	
New Brunswick Human Rights Commission	April 21, 2022
Atlantic Provinces' Joint Follow-up of Recommendations to the Atlantic Lottery Corporation, Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, April 2022	April 26, 2022
Annual Report 2020-2021	
Kings Landing Corporation	April 29, 2022
Report to the Legislative Assembly: Issues and Recommendations Arising from the Decision of the Department of Health and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to Lift Certain COVID-19 Restrictions in New Brunswick Schools, Kelly A. Lamrock, Q.C., Child, Youth and Seniors' Advocate for New Brunswick, April 21, 2022	May 3, 2022