

Daily sitting 77

Thursday, May 19, 2022

10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. C. Chiasson, Member for Victoria-La Vallée, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to suspend the proposed education governance reform until consultations are held. (Petition 46)

Mr. Turner, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Twenty-third Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

May 19, 2022

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

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Economic Policy begs leave to submit this, their twenty-third report.

Your Committee met on May 18, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 86, *Special Appropriation Act 2022*;
Bill 87, *An Act to Amend the Gasoline and Motive Fuel Tax Act*;
Bill 88, *An Act to Amend the Financial and Consumer Services
Commission Act*;
Bill 97, *An Act Respecting the Beaverbrook Auditorium*;

and have agreed to the same.

Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 89, *An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act*;

and have made certain progress therein.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Greg Turner, M.L.A.
Chair

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, 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 Private Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Mr. Ames,
Bill 115, *An Act to Amend An Act to Incorporate the Cosmetology Association of New Brunswick.*

Ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Mr. Carr requested leave of the House to move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Bockus: (Motion 109)

WHEREAS the Leader of the Official Opposition publicly stated that the Premier “can take the amount generated through this carbon tax and just give it to New Brunswickers for a period of four months if he wants”;

WHEREAS more weight will be given to this motion by the federal government if given full support by all Members of this Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Federal Government for permission to eliminate the federal carbon tax of 11 cents per litre of gasoline and diesel to provide immediate relief at the pump.

Leave to dispense with notice of Motion 109 was denied. Accordingly, notice was given for Wednesday, June 1, 2022.

Mr. Melanson requested leave of the House to move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. McKee: (Motion 110)

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers are struggling financially because of the high price of gasoline;

WHEREAS New Brunswickers need and deserve relief to cope with high gas prices;

WHEREAS it is within the authority of the Province of New Brunswick to lower the provincial tax on gasoline;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to eliminate the 10.87¢ per litre of provincial tax on gasoline for a period of four months commencing at midnight on Friday, May 20, 2022;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to provide a payment of \$500.00 to all New Brunswickers earning less than \$25,000.00 a year.

Leave to dispense with notice of Motion 110 was denied. Accordingly, notice was given for Thursday, May 26, 2022.

Hon. Mr. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that the House consider an adjournment motion; following which Bill 114 would be called for second reading; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 90, *An Act to Amend the Prescription and Catastrophic Drug Insurance Act.*

Bill 91, *An Act to Amend the Public Health Act.*

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

Hon. Mr. Savoie moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT when the Assembly adjourns on Friday, May 20, 2022, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, May 31, 2022.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the motion, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division after leave was granted to dispense with the ten-minute time allotted for the ringing of the bells:

YEAS - 24

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Mr. Holland	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Savoie	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Mr. Turner
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Mr. Cardy	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Flemming	Hon. Mr. Allain	Ms. Anderson-Mason
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Carr
Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Austin	Mr. Cullins

NAYS - 16

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. Gauvin
Ms. Thériault	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Melanson	Mr. LeBlanc	Mr. Mallet
Mr. McKee	Mr. LePage	Mr. Landry
Mr. Guitard	Mr. Bourque	
Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. D'Amours	

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And after some time, Ms. Anderson-Mason, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Mr. Gauvin, seconded by Mr. McKee, 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:

“Bill 114, *Child and Youth Well-Being 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.”

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

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed with Mr. Speaker in the chair.

And after some time, Mr. Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the time designated for Opposition Members' Business had arrived.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 104, Mr. Arseneau moved, seconded by Mr. Coon:

WHEREAS the New Brunswick Commission on Legislative Democracy, established in 2003 by PC Premier Bernard Lord, designed and recommended a mixed-member proportional representation system for New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the 2017 Commission on Electoral Reform recommended that consideration be given to some form of proportional representation during the process of considering the redistribution of electoral boundaries;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of New Brunswick to direct the Electoral Boundaries and Representation Commission to propose options for proportional representation as part of its review of New Brunswick's electoral boundaries before the next scheduled provincial election in 2024.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 104 was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 3

Mr. Coon

Ms. Mitton

Mr. Arseneau

NAYS - 35

Hon. Mr. Holder

Mr. Austin

Ms. Landry

Hon. Mr. Savoie

Ms. Bockus

Mr. Guitard

Hon. Ms. Shephard

Mr. Ames

Mr. C. Chiasson

Hon. Mr. Fitch

Mr. Wetmore

Mr. LeBlanc

Hon. Ms. M. Wilson

Ms. Anderson-Mason

Mr. K. Chiasson

Hon. Mr. Crossman

Mr. Carr

Mr. LePage

Hon. Mr. Holland

Ms. Conroy

Mr. Bourque

Hon. Ms. Dunn

Mr. Cullins

Mr. D'Amours

Hon. Mr. Cardy

Mr. Arseneault

Mr. Gauvin

Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace

Ms. Thériault

Mr. Mallet

Hon. Mr. Allain

Mr. Melanson

Mr. Landry

Hon. Ms. Johnson

Mr. McKee

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 101, Ms. Landry moved, seconded by Mr. Bourque:

WHEREAS Bill 61, *An Act to Amend the Human Tissue Gift Act*, was introduced on May 11, 2021, debated at second reading on May 13, 2021, and referred to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments;

WHEREAS there was widespread support for the Bill and the government agreed to bring it back to the Legislature;

WHEREAS the Bill has not yet been considered by the Standing Committee on Law Amendments;

WHEREAS the two commissioners appointed to undertake a review of the *Official Languages Act* and second language learning have filed two reports, the latest of which was filed on February 2, 2022;

WHEREAS the government has yet to respond to the findings and recommendations of the commissioners;

WHEREAS there have been motions passed by the Legislative Assembly that the government has yet to respond to;

WHEREAS the actions of the government in ignoring the will of the Members of the Legislative Assembly show a contempt for its authority and the will of the people;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to respond in a timely manner to motions and legislation passed in the Legislative Assembly and outline a plan for implementing the measures and initiatives supported which includes regular reporting and progress updates;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to respond in a timely manner to reports that have been commissioned by the government.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

Response to Petition 45

May 18, 2022