

Daily sitting 15

Thursday, November 24, 2022
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Ames, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Third Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

November 24, 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 third report.

Your Committee met on November 23, 2022, and had under consideration:

Bill 6, *An Act Respecting the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act and the Wills Act*;

Bill 17, *Disclosure to Protect Against Intimate Partner Violence Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Richard Ames, 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 Bills were introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Holder,
Bill 23, *An Act to Amend the Public Service Labour Relations Act*.
By Hon. Ms. Green,
Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Business Corporations Act*.
Bill 25, *An Act Respecting Residential Tenancies*.

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie gave notice that on Friday, November 25, 2022, Bills 23, 24 and 25 would be called for second reading.

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that Bills 13, 21 and 22 be called for second reading; following which Opposition Members' Business would be considered.

On motion of Hon. Mr. G. Savoie, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

RESOLVED, that when the Assembly adjourns on Friday, November 25, 2022, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, December 6, 2022.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 14, *An Act Respecting the Assessment Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

Mr. Speaker recognized Mr. Landry to make a farewell speech in the House

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Salvage Dealers Licensing Act*, a debate arose thereon.

At 11.57 a.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 13 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Salvage Dealers Licensing Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

At 1.24 p.m. the House recessed. At 1.27 p.m. the House resumed.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Health Council Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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 2, Mr. Bourque moved, seconded by Mr. Gauvin:

WHEREAS the province has reached a crisis situation with respect to the lack of affordable housing in many areas of the province;

WHEREAS this crisis has deepened because rents in many existing housing units have increased dramatically, beyond affordability for many tenants;

WHEREAS the temporary rent cap is set to expire;

WHEREAS there is not enough subsidized housing to meet the demand and many units that should be housing low-income tenants are awaiting repairs which the government has not undertaken;

WHEREAS cold weather is upon us and there are people who have been sleeping in cars and tents and unheated trailers as they have no place to live;

WHEREAS, although the government made an announcement in support of affordable housing, it was inadequate to address the need and failed to provide a framework for partnerships with not-for-profits, municipalities and co-operatives;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government of New Brunswick to immediately make significant investments in affordable housing and to fund a comprehensive affordable housing plan in the upcoming budget;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to extend the rent cap.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And after some further time, Mr. Coon, seconded by Mr. Arseneau, moved in amendment:

 AMENDMENT

That Motion 2 be amended by adding after the last resolution clause the following:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly recognize that affordable housing is a human right.”

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was defeated on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 12

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Mallet
Mr. Gauvin	Mr. Coon	Ms. Landry
Mr. McKee	Mr. Guitard	Mr. Arseneau
Ms. Thériault	Mr. Bourque	Mr. Landry

NAYS - 25

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. M. Wilson
Hon. Mr. G. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Crossman	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Mr. Higgs	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Ames
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Mr. Dawson
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Austin	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Mr. Holland	Hon. Mr. Carr	Ms. Conroy
Hon. Mr. R. Savoie	Mr. Turner	
Hon. Ms. Green	Ms. S. Wilson	

Madam Deputy Speaker delivered the following ruling:

STATEMENT BY DEPUTY SPEAKER

Members,

The amendment proposed by the Member for Fredericton South is identical to the resolution clause in Notice of Motion 16, currently on the Order and Notice Paper by the said Member. As the House has now made a decision on the proposed amendment, Notice of Motion 16 will be deemed withdrawn and removed from the Order and Notice Paper.

Madam Deputy Speaker put the question on Motion 2 and it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 14

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. Mallet
Mr. Gauvin	Mr. C. Chiasson	Ms. Landry
Mr. McKee	Mr. Coon	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Legacy	Mr. Guitard	Mr. Landry
Ms. Thériault	Mr. Bourque	

NAYS - 24

Hon. Mr. Holder	Hon. Ms. Dunn	Ms. S. Wilson
Hon. Mr. G. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Crossman	Ms. M. Wilson
Hon. Mr. Steeves	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Mr. Cullins
Hon. Ms. Shephard	Hon. Mr. Allain	Mr. Wetmore
Hon. Mr. Fitch	Hon. Mr. Hogan	Mr. Ames
Hon. Mr. Holland	Hon. Mr. Austin	Mr. Dawson
Hon. Mr. R. Savoie	Hon. Mr. Carr	Ms. Bockus
Hon. Ms. Green	Mr. Turner	Ms. Conroy

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 11, Mr. McKee moved, seconded by Mr. Bourque:

WHEREAS many New Brunswickers throughout the province are worried about the difficulty they and their family members are having in obtaining crucial health services in a timely manner;

WHEREAS it is widely acknowledged that a severe shortage of health care professionals and health support workers has left our New Brunswick health care system in crisis;

WHEREAS this challenge must be recognized as a top priority that we must tackle without delay;

WHEREAS many frontline health care workers and professional health organizations have offered their insights and advice on how these challenges in our health care system can best be addressed;

WHEREAS it is in everyone's interest to heed this advice and move forward with a comprehensive health action plan;

WHEREAS Liberal Leader Susan Holt has outlined a plan to improve health care delivery and tackle our health care crisis;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to take the following actions:

1. address the challenges that have led to emergency room service reductions and closures through the establishment of multidisciplinary care centres staffed by a mixed team of health professionals; provide additional funding for after hours community care and for training and hiring of allied health workers;
2. treat health care workers with respect, provide competitive wages, create incentives for retaining and attracting health care professionals and ensure a positive working environment that recognizes work-life balance;
3. develop an aggressive, focussed recruitment strategy that targets new graduates and promises them permanent, full-time jobs; provide targeted tuition relief and educational incentives for new entrants into programs that provide training to address health labour shortages;
4. collaborate with post-secondary training institutions and professional associations to provide enhanced training opportunities and effective recruitment programs;
5. work in tandem with communities on health care recruitment strategies and programs;
6. create a results-oriented office of health staff recruitment with laser focus, targeted objectives, and accountability.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

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

And after some further time, Hon. Mr. Fitch, seconded by Hon. Mr. Crossman, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

That Motion 11 be amended in the resolution clause by striking out “urge the government to take” and substituting “acknowledge the government and Regional Health Authorities for taking”.

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

At 5.40 p.m. the House recessed. At 5.55 p.m. the House resumed.

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.