

---

Daily sitting 22

Wednesday, December 14, 2022  
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Ms. Bockus gave Notice of Motion 25 that on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Turner:

THAT, notwithstanding the Standing Rules of the Legislative Assembly, following the adoption of this motion, there shall be 5 hours allocated for the order for third reading and passage of Bills 3, 10, 11, 13, 15, 19 and 21, which shall include the hours spent considering said Bills from December 13, 2022, and onward, and at the expiration of the said 5 hours, unless sooner concluded, the Speaker shall interrupt the proceedings and put every question necessary to dispose of the order for third reading and passage of said Bills.

---

Mr. Arseneault rose on a point of order and submitted that Motion 25 was out of order as the Standing Rules do not address time allocation motions and that such a motion should not have been introduced by a Private Member. Mr. Speaker took the matter under advisement.

---

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, December 15, 2022, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Third Party Item; Motion 20 and 10.

Mr. Arseneau gave notice that the Third Party item would be Bill 27.

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House take into consideration Motion 18; following which Bill 25 would be called for third reading until 2.30 p.m.

---

Mr. Speaker delivered the following ruling:

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER

Members,

I wish to rule on the point of order raised by the Opposition House Leader on December 6 with respect to Notice of Motion 18, which is a time allocation motion. I have ruled on the acceptability of time allocation motions twice already. In December of 2021 and in October of 2022.

The wording of Notice of Motion 18, introduced by the Member for Carleton-York, is almost identical to the wording of previous time allocation motions, ruled to be in order by me and previous Speakers.

Regarding the Opposition House Leader's point that the motion should not have been introduced by a Private Member, this is the practice that has been accepted in our House for over 15 years, as it limits the debate on the motion to two hours. If the House wishes to change this practice, and require a member of the Executive to move such a motion, it can certainly do so through changes to the Standing Rules.

The Opposition House Leader also suggested it was inappropriate for the Member for Carleton-York to introduce the motion, as he is the Chair of the Standing Committee on Economic Policy and the motion may limit debate in that Committee. I understand the argument, and would caution the government to consider whether it is advisable to have a Chair of a Committee move a motion in the House to limit debate in his own Committee.

That said, there have never been any restrictions in this House on which Private Member may introduce a time allocation motion, and I see no reason to do so now in these circumstances. As I would note that the Member for Carleton-York is also the Government Whip, and a motion of this nature could reasonably fall under his responsibilities in that position.

With respect to the point raised by the Member for Kent North, that the time allocation motion is not in order as there are additional days the House could sit in 2022 and in early 2023, it is not for the Speaker to determine when or how long the House will sit, or how much debate is necessary or appropriate for the Bills under consideration. That is a decision for the House to make.

This will be the fifth ruling in nine years related to these types of motions, and the previous rulings have all found that the use of time allocation motions, in this manner, is acceptable and not contrary to the practices, conventions and Standing Rules of this House.

Hopefully, this ruling today will finally resolve the issue. As has been said before, if the House wishes to change or clarify how time allocation is applied to Bills, it should do so by amending the Standing Rules. Until then, this is the practice that has developed and been accepted in our House.

---

To conclude, I find Notice of Motion 18 to be in order and will allow it to proceed to debate.

---

At the request of Mr. Ames, it was agreed by unanimous consent to remove Bill 24 from Notice of Motion 18.

---

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 18, Mr. Ames moved, seconded by Ms. Bockus:

THAT, notwithstanding the Standing Rules of the Legislative Assembly, following the adoption of this motion, there shall be 12 hours allocated for the proceedings at all stages of the passage of Bills 16, 18, 22, 23 and 25 which shall include the hours spent considering said Bills from December 6, 2022, and onward, and at the expiration of the said 12 hours, unless sooner concluded, the Speaker, or the Chair of the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as the case may be, shall interrupt the proceedings and put every question necessary to dispose of the order for second reading of the said Bills; the order for consideration of the said Bills in committee and report of the Bills to the House; and the order for third reading and passage of the said Bills; and where necessary, the said Bills shall be allowed to advance more than one stage in one day;

THAT, notwithstanding the expiry of the said 12 hours, there shall be, if necessary, 20 minutes allocated at committee stage for the consideration of any of the said Bills, if requested by the Government House Leader.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

At 12 p.m. the House recessed. At 1 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, Motion 18 was resolved in the affirmative

---

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 25, *An Act Respecting Residential Tenancies*, a debate arose thereon.

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

---

And then, 2.30 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 2021-2022  
New Brunswick Arts Board

December 13, 2022