

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW BRUNSWICK Second Session, 60th Legislative Assembly

ORDER AND NOTICE PAPER – Sitting No. 11 Thursday, November 17, 2022

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

Prayers Introduction of Guests Statements of Condolence and Congratulation Statements by Members Oral Questions (30 minutes) Tabling of Documents Statements by Ministers Presentations of Petitions Answers to Petitions and Written Questions Presentations of Committee Reports Introduction of Bills **Notices of Motions** Notice of Opposition Members' Business Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House **Deferred Recorded Divisions** Orders of the Day

ORDERS OF THE DAY

GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS

GOVERNMENT BILLS FOR SECOND READING

Bills Ordered for Second Reading

- Bill 6, An Act Respecting the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act and the Wills Act Hon. Mr. Flemming, K.C.
- Bill 13, An Act to Amend the Salvage Dealers Licensing Act Hon. Mr. Austin
- Bill 16, An Act Respecting Local Governance Reform, 2022, no. 2 Hon. Mr. Allain
- Bill 17, Disclosure to Protect Against Intimate Partner Violence Act Hon. Mr. Austin
- Bill 18, An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Museum Act Hon. Ms. Scott-Wallace

Adjourned Debates

- Bill 10, An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act Hon. Mr. Steeves
- Bill 15, An Act Respecting Petroleum Products Pricing Hon. Mr. Holland

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC POLICY

- Bill 3, An Act Respecting Surgical Facilities Hon. Mr. Fitch
- Bill 11, An Act Respecting the Health and Safety of Fishers Hon. Mr. Holder
- Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act Hon. Mr. Holder
- Bill 14, An Act Respecting the Assessment Act Hon. Ms. Green

BILLS AWAITING ROYAL ASSENT

- Bill 2, An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act Hon. Mr. Steeves
- Bill 4, An Act to Amend the Public Works Act Hon. Mr. Carr
- Bill 5, Missing Persons Act Hon. Mr. Austin
- Bill 7, Private Woodlot Sustainability Act Hon. Mr. Holland
- Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Real Property Tax Act Hon. Mr. Steeves

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

CONCLUDED

Motion 5 by Hon. Mr. G. Savoie. Carried October 28, 2022.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS

[Order in accordance with notice provided pursuant to Standing Rule 44(4)]

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Debatable Motions

Motion 7 by Mr. Legacy, seconded by Mr. K. Chiasson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 10, 2022:

WHEREAS the reduction in personal income tax benefits those with higher incomes but ignores people struggling to make ends meet;

WHEREAS the rising cost of living for necessities including rent, fuel, and groceries is forcing people to make difficult choices;

WHEREAS the government cancelled the Home Energy Assistance Program, which helped over 33,000 New Brunswickers with their energy costs;

WHEREAS the government brags about its record of service but is doing little to help those in need:

WHEREAS the heat pump program will not be rolled out in time for this winter to help many New Brunswickers reduce their heating costs;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to reinstate and enhance the Home Energy Assistance Program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to remove the HST from heating fuels.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS FOR SECOND READING

Bill 8. An Act to Amend the Elections Act – Mr. McKee

OPPOSITION MEMBERS' MOTIONS

Debatable Motions

Motion 2 by Mr. Bourque, seconded by Mr. Gauvin to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 3, 2022:

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.

Motion 3 by Ms. Landry, seconded by Mr. Bourque to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 3, 2022:

WHEREAS, as a result of educational disruptions caused by COVID-19 over the past two years, many parents are concerned that their children have fallen behind with respect to their education and learning;

WHEREAS the last two years have been stressful for teachers and students alike;

WHEREAS there is uncertainty as to whether there may be new instructional disruptions if there are further significant outbreaks of COVID-19 in the future;

WHEREAS there is a need to ensure that New Brunswick schoolchildren do not fall behind educationally as a result of learning disruptions;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to assess the educational impact of learning disruption, bring forward a comprehensive and detailed plan to address educational "catch-up", and provide sufficient resources to implement it;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to develop a plan to address any future disruptions in learning so that students are not educationally disadvantaged should this occur again.

[Debate interrupted due to expiration of time.]

Motion 4 by Mr. Coon, seconded by Ms. Mitton to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 3, 2022:

THAT the Legislative Assembly recognizes that fracking and burning natural gas releases gases into the air, mainly carbon dioxide and methane, which exacerbates the climate crisis.

Motion 6 by Mr. K. Chiasson, seconded by Mr. LePage to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 10, 2022:

WHEREAS the government cancelled the Free Tuition Program and the Tuition Relief for the Middle Class program that provided many students with the opportunity to enroll in a postsecondary institution;

WHEREAS the province decided to cancel the NB-EI Connect Program that helped students pay for their food and lodging as they pursued their studies;

WHEREAS the program brought forward by the government for interest relief on the provincial portion of student loans does not support access to post-secondary education;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to bring forward a comprehensive assistance program to support access to post-secondary education.

Motion 8 by Mr. Coon, seconded by Ms. Mitton to propose the following resolution on Thursday, November 24, 2022:

WHEREAS Efficiency Canada identified that, in 2021, 37% of New Brunswick households, or 114,790 households, were living in energy poverty, defined as spending over 6% of after-tax income on home energy costs;

WHEREAS NB Power's Enhanced Energy Savings Program is assisting low-income homeowners in New Brunswick to reduce their energy consumption and energy costs by offering a free mini-split heat pump and upgraded insulation to those who qualify to the program;

WHEREAS only homeowners who use electric baseboard heating and have a combined gross household income under \$70,000 are eligible to receive a free mini-split heat pump offered by the Enhanced Energy Savings Program;

WHEREAS heat pumps are more efficient than oil furnaces;

WHEREAS oil and gas heat results in carbon emissions, while heat pumps are emissionsfree;

WHEREAS Canadians for Affordable Energy estimated that over 46,200 New Brunswick households relied on furnace oil to heat their homes in 2019;

WHEREAS New Brunswick households dependent on furnace oil are struggling to pay their heating bills due to the recent spike in furnace oil prices over the last months;

WHEREAS the demand for heating oil and gas will continue to increase as temperatures drop during winter months;

WHEREAS a provincial program providing free heat pumps to reduce energy consumption and energy costs is needed for households dependent on furnace oil to heat their homes:

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge NB Power to expand the eligibility of its Enhanced Energy Savings Program to include central or ductless heat pumps for New Brunswick households that use oil or gas to heat their homes.

CONCLUDED

Motion 1 by Ms. Landry. Debated and defeated November 3, 2022.

PETITIONS

Petition 1: Mr. LeBlanc, October 28, 2022.

Petition 2: Mr. Coon, November 1, 2022.

Petition 3: Mr. Arseneau, November 2, 2022.

Petition 4: Mr. Arseneault. November 3, 2022.

Petition 5: Ms. Mitton, November 3, 2022.

Petition 6: Mr. LePage, November 3, 2022.

Petition 7: Ms. Mitton, November 15, 2022.

Petition 8: Mr. Arseneau, November 15, 2022.

Petition 9: Mr. Coon, November 16, 2022.

(Response, November 16, 2022)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Standing Committee on Economic Policy

First Report, November 15, 2022

WRITTEN QUESTIONS (see Appendix A)

Shayne Davies Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

APPENDIX A

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question No. 1 by Ms. Mitton

Directed to: Hon. Mr. Hogan

Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development

How many students will graduate at Intermediate Plus or above under the new program that will be replacing French Immersion?