
Daily sitting 14Wednesday, November 22, 2023
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Mr. Bourque, Member for Kent South, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to implement pay equity across the community care sector. (Petition 6)

The following Bill was introduced and read a first time:

By Hon. Mr. Steeves,
Bill 16, *Consumer Protection Act*.

Mr. J. LeBlanc gave Notice of Motion 27 that on Thursday, November 30, 2023, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. M. LeBlanc:

WHEREAS New Brunswick municipalities underwent a consequential, once-in-a-generation local governance reform;

WHEREAS effective and efficient municipal governance is essential for the well-being and progress of New Brunswick's communities;

WHEREAS there is growing demand for a thorough examination of current municipal governance and administrative practices and structures to identify areas for improvement and enhancement;

WHEREAS a government summit on fiscal reform scheduled for Fall 2023 has been postponed and no date has been set;

WHEREAS completing the project of municipal reform in New Brunswick, including the fiscal reform as indicated in the White Paper, requires a collaborative effort involving various stakeholders, including government officials, community leaders, and citizens;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to appoint a select committee on municipal reform to:

1. review the current state of municipal governance in New Brunswick;
2. identify challenges and opportunities to improve existing municipal structures;
3. consult with relevant stakeholders to gather feedback on the reforms;

4. examine best practices from other jurisdictions that have successfully implemented municipal reforms;
 5. develop recommendations for legislative and policy changes to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of municipal governance in New Brunswick.
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Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 28 that on Thursday, November 30, 2023, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Arseneau:

WHEREAS the conservation of New Brunswick's Crown forests and waters is essential to the well-being of our environment, biodiversity, and the overall health of our communities;

WHEREAS Crown lands were never ceded or surrendered to the Crown by First Nations;

WHEREAS currently 10% of Crown lands are designated as protected natural areas, while another 15% of Crown lands are farmed for high volume wood production in plantations that are harvested by clearcutting, leaving 75% of Crown lands to meet multiple objectives;

WHEREAS research led by Dr. Matt Betts of Oregon State University shows that New Brunswick forestry companies' practice of clearcutting natural forest has significantly degraded the habitat of between 33 and 104 million forest birds since 1985;

WHEREAS the weight of the evidence in the scientific literature shows that exposure to glyphosate-based herbicides leads to reduced biodiversity in freshwater ecosystems and forests and poses numerous human health risks;

WHEREAS there is a pressing need for enhanced oversight and management of Crown lands and waters to ensure ecologically sustainable practices and responsible stewardship;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to replace clearcut logging of Crown land with ecologically-based harvesting practices;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ban the spraying of herbicides, including glyphosate, on Crown land;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to negotiate shared management agreements for Crown lands with First Nations communities.

Mr. Arseneault, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, November 23, 2023, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 6 and 17.

Hon. Mr. G. Savoie gave notice that on Friday, November 24, 2023, Bill 16 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 Bill 13 be called for second reading.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 2, *An Act to Repeal the Beverage Containers Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

And after some time, Ms. Mitton, seconded by Mr. Arseneau, moved in amendment:

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for third reading be amended by deleting all the words after the word "that" and substituting the following:

"Bill 2, *An Act to Repeal the Beverage Containers Act*, be not now read a third time but that the bill be read a third time this day six months hence."

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

At 1.17 p.m. the House recessed. At 1.23 p.m. the House resumed.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the amendment, it was resolved in the negative.

And the question being put that Bill 2 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 2, *An Act to Repeal the Beverage Containers Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 6, *An Act to Amend the Clean Environment Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 6 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 6, *An Act to Amend the Clean Environment Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 7, *An Act to Amend the Trespass Act*.

Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Private Investigators and Security Services Act*.

Bill 9, *An Act Respecting Child and Youth Well-Being*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, a debate arose thereon.

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

AMENDMENT

THAT the motion for third reading be amended by deleting all the words after the word “that” and substituting the following:

“the House decline to give third reading to Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, because it is not in the best interest of NB Power’s ratepayers.”

Mr. Speaker put the question on the proposed amendment and it was resolved in the negative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 17

Mr. Arseneault
Mr. Legacy
Ms. Holt
Mr. McKee
Ms. Thériault
Mr. Gauvin

Mr. C. Chiasson
Mr. Coon
Ms. Mitton
Mr. J. LeBlanc
Mr. K. Chiasson
Mr. D’Amours

Mr. Bourque
Mr. Mallet
Mr. Arseneau
Mr. Losier
Ms. Landry

NAYS - 21

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

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 10 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative on the following recorded division:

YEAS - 22

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

NAYS - 17

Mr. Arseneault	Mr. Coon	Mr. Mallet
Mr. Legacy	Ms. Mitton	Mr. Arseneau
Mr. McKee	Mr. J. LeBlanc	Mr. Losier
Ms. Thériault	Mr. K. Chiasson	Mr. M. LeBlanc
Mr. Gauvin	Mr. D'Amours	Ms. Landry
Mr. C. Chiasson	Mr. Bourque	

Accordingly, Bill 10, *An Act to Amend the Electricity Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The following Bills were read a third time:

Bill 11, *An Act to Amend the Fish and Wildlife Act*.

Bill 12, *An Act Respecting Trespass on Agricultural Lands*.

Ordered that the said Bills do pass.

Debate resumed on the adjourned debate on the motion that Bill 13, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*, be now read a second time.

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 Executive Council Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

And then, 2.25 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 2022-2023
New Brunswick Legal Aid
Services Commission

November 21, 2023