

*Legislative
Activities*

2022

Legislative
Assembly of
New Brunswick



Legislative Activities

2022



New Brunswick

Prepared for The Honourable Bill Oliver

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

New Brunswick



October 25, 2023

The Honourable Bill Oliver
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Room 31, Legislative Building
Fredericton, New Brunswick
E3B 1C5

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have the honour of submitting this, the thirty-fourth annual report of *Legislative Activities*, for the year ended December 31, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Shayne Davies
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly



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YEAR IN REVIEW

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly — Shayne Davies

The year 2022 was eventful for the Office of the Legislative Assembly. The First Session of the 60th Legislature concluded after its second year and the second session of the 60th Legislature began. In total, the House sat for 55 days during the calendar year and committees held 104 meetings. The year was marked by three cabinet shuffles, two floor crossings, the swearing-in of two new Members, a new leader of the official opposition, and the resignation of three Members.

A cabinet shuffle occurred on February 23, when Bill Hogan was sworn in as the Minister responsible for Public Safety by Lieutenant-Governor Brenda Murphy during a virtual ceremony.

Since 2020, the proceedings in the House were modified to reduce the number of Members seated on the floor from 49 to 27 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Following a decision by the Legislative Administration Committee on March 16, all Members were permitted to take their seats on the floor of the House provided they wore a face mask, which could be removed when addressing the House. Members continued to be permitted to participate in proceedings from the gallery.

The first session of the 60th Legislature, which adjourned on December 17, 2021, resumed sitting on March 22, 2022. Finance and Treasury Board Minister Ernie Steeves delivered the 2022-2023 Main Estimates, which was the second budget tabled during this two-year session. The reply to the budget speech was delivered on March 24 by Official Opposition Finance and Treasury Board Critic Robert McKee.

On March 30, former People's Alliance of New Brunswick Members Kris Austin and Michelle Conroy joined the Government Caucus, bringing the standings in the House to 28 Progressive Conservatives, 16 Liberals and 3 Greens. The next day, at the request of Mr. Austin and in accordance with the *Elections Act*, the People's Alliance of New Brunswick ceased to be a registered political party. The People's Alliance of New Brunswick was represented in the House for the first time in 2018 with three seats, which was reduced to two seats following the 2020 provincial election.

May 6 marked the end of all COVID-19 pandemic restrictions that had been in effect at the Legislative Assembly in various forms for more than two years. Members and staff were no longer required to wear a mask in the Legislative Assembly Building, its main Chamber, and Committee Rooms. While still recommended, masks became optional. As well, the main Legislative Assembly Building, including the Gallery, was opened to the public for the first time since March 2020.

On May 13, Chief Electoral Officer Kim Poffenroth issued the writs for by-elections in the electoral districts of Miramichi Bay-Neguac and Southwest Miramichi-Bay du Vin. These two seats had been vacant since mid-August 2021 when the Members for the two ridings resigned to offer as candidates in the federal election. Advance voting occurred on June 11 and 13, and polling day was June 20. The Progressive Conservatives claimed both ridings, with Réjean Savoie elected in Miramichi Bay-Neguac and Mike Dawson elected in Southwest Miramichi-Bay du Vin. The newly elected Members took and subscribed the oath of allegiance before Lieutenant-Governor Brenda Murphy at a ceremony in the Legislative Assembly Chamber on July 5.

A second cabinet shuffle occurred on July 15, when two ministers changed portfolios: Dorothy Shephard moved from Health to Social Development and Bruce Fitch moved from Social Development to Health.

At its leadership convention held in Fredericton on August 6, the New Brunswick Liberal Association elected Susan Holt as its new leader. The first woman to lead the provincial Liberal party, Ms. Holt is a former business leader and advisor to a previous Liberal government. As she did not then hold a seat in the Legislative Assembly, on September 21, the Liberal caucus named



Robert McKee as Leader of the Opposition. On the same day, Francine Landry was appointed Opposition Whip and Chuck Chiasson was appointed Opposition Caucus Chair.

On May 5, it was announced that the Legislative Administration Committee had named an independent committee to review MLA salaries and benefits, which had not increased since 2008. The committee sought input from the public as well as current and former MLAs. A report with recommendations was subsequently filed with the Clerk on October 3. The report recommended an increase in the annual MLA indemnity from \$85,000 to \$93,126 and an increase in constituency office funding from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

The first session of the 60th Legislature resumed on October 4 to consider legislation designed to provide a new funding mechanism for local governments and rural districts. The continuation of the session in the fall was another exceptional development during the extended first session that opened in November 2020. The House has traditionally reconvened in the fall each year solely to prorogue the current session without transacting any substantive business, followed by the opening of a new session the same day. On this day, Mr. Dawson and Mr. R. Savoie were also formally introduced in the House and took their seats in the Chamber for the first time.

On October 13, Dominic Cardy announced his resignation from cabinet. On the same day, several changes to cabinet were announced in a swearing-in ceremony presided over by the Lieutenant-Governor. Joining cabinet or with changed portfolios were as follows:

Kris Austin as Minister of Public Safety; Jeff Carr as Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure; Bill Hogan as Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development; Gary Crossman as Minister of Environment and Climate Change; Réjean Savoie as Minister responsible for the Regional Development Corporation; and Jill Green as Minister of Service New Brunswick and Minister responsible for Housing.

On October 14, Mr. Cardy ceased to be a member of the Progressive Conservative Caucus and became an Independent Member.

On October 21, Roger Melanson resigned as the Member for Dieppe. First elected in the 2010 general election, Mr. Melanson was re-elected in 2014, 2018 and 2020. During his time at the Legislature, Mr. Melanson served in many capacities, including as Minister of Finance, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, and Leader of the Official Opposition.

The Lieutenant-Governor prorogued the first session of the 60th Legislature the morning of October 25. The House sat for 93 days during this session, for a total of 315 hours. This compares to 31 sitting days during the previous session, or 91 hours. A total of 120 bills were introduced during the first session, 106 of which received royal assent. The Standing Committee on Economic Policy spent 212 hours considering legislation.

The second session of the 60th Legislature opened the afternoon of October 25. The Lieutenant-Governor delivered the province's first speech from the throne in two years. The Leader of the Official Opposition, Robert McKee, delivered the reply to the speech from the throne two days later.

On November 30, Denis Landry and Daniel Guitard resigned from the House. They represented Bathurst East-Nepisiguit-Saint-Isidore and Restigouche-Chaleur, respectively.

First elected in the 1995 general election, Mr. Landry was re-elected in 2003, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018 and 2020. During his time at the Legislature, Mr. Landry served in many capacities, including as Minister of Transportation, Minister of Natural Resources, Minister of Justice and Public Safety, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Official Opposition Whip.

Mr. Guitard was first elected in the 2014 general election and was re-elected in 2018 and 2020. During his time at the Legislature, Mr. Guitard served as Government Whip, Government Caucus Chair, and as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly from 2018 until 2020.



The Electoral Boundaries and Representation Commission, an independent body established by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on recommendation of the Legislative Administration Committee, released its preliminary report on December 12. The report outlined a proposed new electoral map that redraws the boundaries of the province's 49 electoral districts.

Resolutions of note introduced during the fall sitting related to the Legislature or its Officers included Motion 10, which directed the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers to examine the options for a fixed legislative calendar and return to the Legislative Assembly with recommendations. The resolution was adopted on December 15.

Legislation of note introduced during the fall sitting related to the Legislature or its Officers included Bill 8, *An Act to Amend the Elections Act*, which requires by-elections to be scheduled within six months of a vacancy. The Bill received Royal Assent on December 16.

The House adjourned on December 16, after 24 sitting days. The standings in the House at year end were 29 Progressive Conservatives, 13 Liberals, three Greens, one Independent, and three vacancies.



Lieutenant-Governor Brenda Murphy delivered the province's speech from the throne in the main Chamber of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick. This event served to open the second session of the 60th Legislature on October 25, 2022.



NOTABLE EVENTS

Demise of the Crown

Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II passed away peacefully the afternoon of September 8 at Balmoral Castle in Scotland. On the same day, a memorial table was placed in the rotunda of the Legislative Assembly to provide Members and anyone visiting the Legislative Assembly with an opportunity to pay their respects and offer condolences to His Majesty Charles III, King of Canada, and all members of the Royal Family.

When the Legislature reconvened on October 4, the House marked the passing of Her late Majesty with speeches by Premier Blaine Higgs, Official Opposition Leader Robert McKee, and Green Party Leader David Coon. Later that day, Premier Higgs moved, seconded by



Mr. McKee, a resolution presented to His Majesty King Charles III expressing condolences, which was adopted following further tributes to Her late Majesty.

Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's legacy continues in those whose lives were impacted by the example she set through her faith, loyalty, service and love for Canada and Canadians. In New Brunswick, 13 Lieutenant-Governors and 12 Premiers served during her 70-year reign. Her late Majesty devoted her whole life to her people. She was a force of stability, continuity, and tradition, who was Queen to several generations of New Brunswickers.

Portrait Unveiling

On October 27, the portrait of former Lieutenant-Governor, the Honourable Graydon Nicholas, was unveiled in the foyer of the Legislative Assembly. The official unveiling was hosted by Speaker Oliver. Following remarks by the current Lieutenant-Governor, Hon. Brenda Murphy and the unveiling of the portrait, guests were invited to the Legislative Library for a reception.

The Legislative Assembly houses the portraits of former New Brunswick Lieutenant-Governors dating back to the late 1800s. Hon. Graydon Nicholas was the 30th Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick and served in that role between 2009 and 2014.

He was the first Indigenous person to hold this office, in addition to being a provincial court judge, an advocate on behalf of First Nations, a noted Wolastoqey Elder, and a proponent of human rights.



The portrait artist, Natalie Sappier, stands between Hon. Graydon Nicholas to the right and his wife, Beth Nicholas, to the left.



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



ROLE OF SPEAKER

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly is elected by secret ballot by all Members of the Legislative Assembly at the opening of a new Legislature, or when a vacancy occurs. The Speaker assumes the position of highest authority in the House. As the representative of the Legislative Assembly, the Speaker is the guardian of its privileges and its presiding officer.



*Hon. Bill Oliver, Speaker of the
Legislative Assembly*

To facilitate the orderly flow of business, the House observes certain parliamentary rules, both written and traditional. The Speaker must ensure that these rules of procedure are observed and must protect the rights and privileges of the Assembly and its Members. The Speaker maintains order, interprets the standing rules and calls on Members to speak, ensuring a fair representation of opinion. The Speaker presides over the debates of the House with impartiality. The Speaker does not participate in debate and does not vote except in the case of a tie.

The Speaker is the head of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and is responsible for the services, staff and facilities directly related to the Legislative Assembly. The Speaker is president of the New Brunswick Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and serves as the representative of the Legislative Assembly on ceremonial and official occasions.

In addition to these responsibilities, the Speaker remains a Member of the Legislative Assembly and is expected to carry out various duties on behalf of his constituents.

ROLE OF MEMBERS

The Parliament of New Brunswick, composed of the Crown and the elected Members, is constituted as the Legislative Assembly. The King of Canada, His Majesty King Charles III, is the official Head of State and is represented in New Brunswick by the Lieutenant-Governor. The primary function of the Legislature, making laws, is vested jointly in the Lieutenant-Governor and the Legislative Assembly, with the Assembly passing legislation and the Lieutenant-Governor assenting to it. This follows centuries-old British tradition in which the power of the state rests with the Crown, while the exercise of that power rests with elected Members.

New Brunswick's system of government, like the federal system in Ottawa, is based on the British parliamentary system. Each of the 49 Members is individually elected to represent the voters in one constituency. Although a Member need not be affiliated with an organized political party, this has generally been the tradition in New Brunswick.



The three main functions of the Legislature are law-making, surveillance and representation. The legislative process (law-making) claims a predominant share of the Assembly's sitting time.

Surveillance refers to holding the government accountable. The job of examining and criticizing the actions of government is primarily a task for the opposition. Oral Question period is the most visible means of surveillance.

Representation refers to serving and representing constituents. For many Members, the constituency is a defining characteristic of their job. Serving constituents is viewed by many Members as one of their primary roles and most spend a great deal of time and effort directed toward this end.

HOUSE ACTIVITY

The term *Legislature* generally refers to the institution which exercises the legislative power. More specifically, the term is used by parliamentarians to refer to the period between two general elections. Each general election brings about a new Legislative Assembly.

The annual meeting of the Assembly is called a session. There may be any number of sessions during the life of a Legislature. The term *session* refers to the period of time between the opening of the Legislative Assembly, when the Lieutenant-Governor delivers the throne speech, and the prorogation of parliamentary work. Any business not completed before prorogation dies on the *Order and Notice Paper*. A session may also be ended by dissolution, in which case a general election would follow.

The daily meeting of the Assembly is called a sitting. Under the Constitution, at least one sitting of the Legislature must be held each year. A sitting is not necessarily synonymous with a calendar day. Some sittings are very brief and others have extended over more than one calendar day. A sitting is concluded by the adjournment of the House.

The ordinary sitting hours for the House during the year in question were:

Tuesday	1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Friday	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The ordinary sitting hours are prescribed by the standing rules and may be varied on occasion to include evening sittings.

Each sitting day is divided into two parts: Routine Business and Orders of the Day.



Routine Business

Routine Business is devoted to both new business and to providing Members with an opportunity to bring a variety of matters to the attention of the House. The same items of business reappear daily and include:

Prayers

The prayers consist of two separate invocations followed by the Lord's Prayer and are read partly in English and partly in French.

Introduction of Guests

Members have an opportunity to introduce persons from their constituency or other noteworthy individuals who are present in the House.

Statements by Members

Members who are not Ministers may be recognized to make a brief statement related to any matter of importance to the Member.

Oral Questions

Each sitting day, 30 minutes is set aside for the purpose of asking oral questions. During Oral Questions, Members may ask concise and clear questions on matters of urgency addressed to Ministers. Ministers may respond or take the matter under advisement.

Tabling of Documents

A Minister may table with the House any return, report or other paper within the administrative competence of the government. Many statutes require that certain reports and documents be laid before the House each session or year. Other documents may be tabled pursuant to a standing rule or resolution of the House.

Statements by Ministers

A Minister may make a brief statement on, or explanation of, government policy or administration. Debate is not permitted on such a statement or explanation but a representative of each recognized party in opposition may comment briefly.

Presentations of Petitions

The public has the right to petition the Legislature, or government, to take certain action. Individuals or groups with petitions must enlist the aid of Members to have their petitions presented in the House.

Answers to Petitions and Written Questions

A Minister, on behalf of government, may table with the House a response to any petition or written question previously presented in the House.

Presentations of Committee Reports

Any information to be transmitted to the House from a committee is presented in the form of a committee report. Committees submit reports on a variety of subjects, including: bills, estimates, procedural matters and subject-matter inquiries.



Introduction of Bills

Ministers and other Members have an opportunity to introduce new bills in the House and give a brief explanation as to their purpose.

Notices of Motions

In order for Members to be fully prepared when matters are called for debate in the House, two days' written notice is required for important House business. Members may give such notice under this item.

Notice of Opposition Members' Business

Opposition Members' Business is taken under consideration at 2:30 p.m. on Thursdays. An item of Opposition Members' Business may be considered in an order different from its order of priority or its order of presentation in the House provided that one day's notice has been given under this item.

Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House

Motions moved under this item are those relating to the business of the House and are moved by the Government House Leader. The Government House Leader will also announce the scheduling and order in which the daily business of the House will be considered.

Deferred Recorded Divisions

The will of the House is usually ascertained by means of a voice vote. Once debate on a motion has concluded, the Speaker puts the question and determines whether the yeas or nays have it and declares the motion carried or lost. A recorded division may be requested on any voice vote. A recorded division requires those voting in the affirmative or negative to rise so their names can be entered in the Journal. A recorded division, if requested, need not be held immediately. At the request of the Government House Leader or Whip, it may be deferred to the next sitting day under this item.

Orders of the Day

This item refers to the business that is to come before the House each day, as set out in the *Order and Notice Paper*. An item of business may include consideration of bills at various stages, estimates, or motions for which notice has already been given.

Condolences and Congratulations

While no longer a part of Routine Business following the rule changes in 2015, Members have an opportunity to present a statement of condolence or extend congratulations to any person, group or association before the Speaker motions for the daily adjournment of the House. In 2022, by motion of the House, this item was considered by the House following Prayers.

























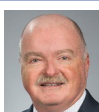

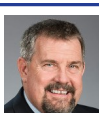







HOUSE STATISTICS

	59 th Legislature		60 th Legislature
	<i>Second Session</i>	<i>Third Session</i>	<i>First Session</i>
	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2022
<i>Daily Sitzings</i>			
Number of Sitting Days	41	31	93
Evening Sitzings	0	0	0
<i>Government Bills</i>			
Introduced	31	46	100
Received Royal Assent	26	33	97
<i>Private Bills</i>			
Introduced	1	1	8
Received Royal Assent	1	0	8
<i>Private Members' Public Bills</i>			
Introduced	8	9	12
Received Royal Assent	1	0	1
<i>Government Motions</i>			
Total	14	12	33
Number debated	4	2	11
Number agreed to	13	11	30
Number withdrawn	0	0	0
<i>Private Members' Motions</i>			
Total	50	64	86
Number debated	10	8	24
Number agreed to	8	8	14
Number withdrawn	0	0	0
<i>Committee of Supply</i>			
In House (Days)	3	3	7
In Committee on Estimates	13	3	28
In other Committees	0	0	0
<i>Annual Reports Tabled</i>			
	86	48	162
<i>Petitions</i>			
	18	29	52
<i>Written Questions</i>			
	0	0	0



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022 Seating Arrangement

 Richard Ames Carleton-York	 Kris Austin Fredericton-Grand Lake	 Réjean Savoie Miramichi Bay-Neguac	 Trevor Holder Portland-Simonds
 Mike Dawson Southwest Miramichi-Bay du Vin	 Jeff Carr New Maryland-Sunbury	 Tammy Scott-Wallace Sussex-Fundy-St. Martins	 Glen Savoie Saint John East
 Kathy Bockus Saint Croix	 Greg Turner Moncton South	 Jill Green Fredericton North	 Blaine Higgs Quispamsis
 Michelle Conroy Miramichi	 Sherry Wilson Moncton Southwest	 Arlene Dunn Saint John Harbour	 Ernie Steeves Moncton Northwest
	 Mary Wilson Oromocto-Lincoln-Fredericton	 Gary Crossman Hampton	 Dorothy Shephard Saint John Lancaster
	 Ryan Cullins Fredericton-York	 Margaret Johnson Carleton-Victoria	 Hugh Flemming Rothesay
	 Andrea Anderson-Mason Fundy-The Isles-Saint John West	 Daniel Allain Moncton East	 Bruce Fitch Riverview
	 Ross Wetmore Gagetown-Petitcodiac	 Bill Hogan Carleton	 Mike Holland Albert

	PC
	L
	GP
	IND

Note: There are three vacancies following the resignations of Roger Melanson on October 21, and Denis Landry and Daniel Guitard on November 30.



Bill Oliver
Speaker
Kings Centre



Guy Arseneault
Campbellton-
Dalhousie



Robert Gauvin
Shediac
Bay-Dieppe



Jacques LeBlanc
Shediac-
Beaubassin-
Cap-Pelé



Robert McKee
Moncton Centre



Gilles LePage
Restigouche West



René Legacy
Bathurst West-
Beresford



Benoît Bourque
Kent South



Isabelle Thériault
Caraquet



Eric Mallet
Shippagan-
Lamèque-Miscou



Keith Chiasson
Tracadie-Sheila



**Jean-Claude
D'Amours**
Edmundston-
Madawaska
Centre



Chuck Chiasson
Victoria-La Vallée



Francine Landry
Madawaska Les
Lacs-Edmundston



Dominic Cardy
Fredericton West-
Hanwell



David Coon
Fredericton South



Megan Mitton
Memramcook-
Tantramar



Kevin Arseneau
Kent North



Shayne Davies
Clerk

John-Patrick McCleave
Clerk Assistant

Patrick Dunn
Law Clerk



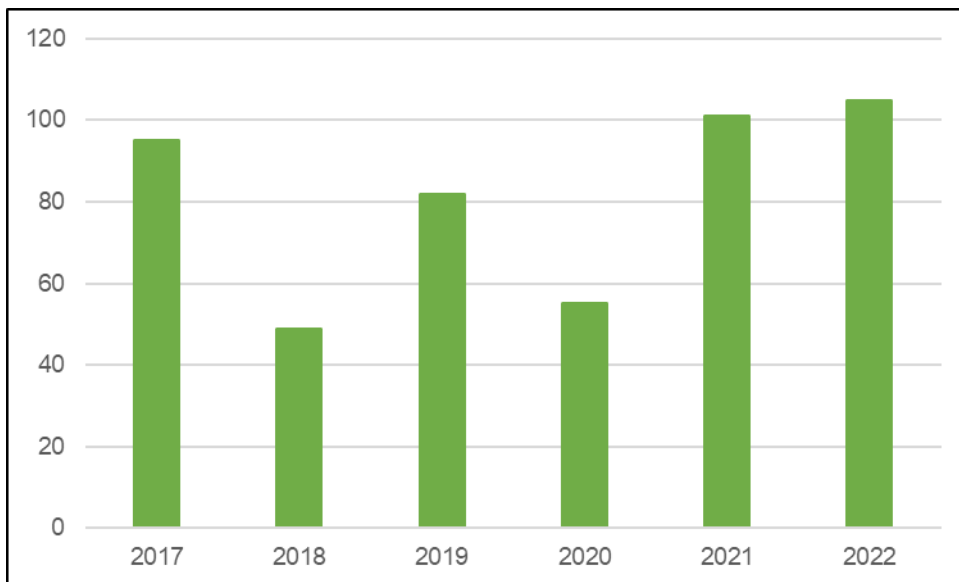
COMMITTEE ACTIVITY



Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees — John-Patrick McCleave

A significant amount of work is carried out by legislative committees. These committees are an extension of the House and undertake responsibilities that the Assembly as a whole would find difficult, if not impossible, to carry out. Committees exist to expedite the work of the House and to allow for more thorough study of complex or technical questions. Committees are also able to consult with the public on important matters, and travel when necessary, allowing Members to hear from people in all areas of the province.

In 2022, there were 9 standing committees and 2 select committees, which held a total of 104 meetings. Standing committees are appointed by the House and exist for the life of a Legislature. Select committees are appointed by the House to examine specific issues and exist until the presentation of their final reports or until the dissolution of the House, whichever occurs first.



Yearly Number of Committee Meetings



The following is a list of committees, their membership, mandate and activities, as of December 31, 2022.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Legislative Administration Committee

Members	Hon. Mr. Oliver (C) Ms. S. Wilson Ms. Anderson-Mason, K.C. Hon. Mr. G. Savoie Hon. Ms. Green Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Turner Mr. McKee Mr. K. Chiasson Mr. Coon Mr. Arseneau
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Mandate

The Committee is responsible for the administration and operation of the legislative buildings and grounds, and generally for all matters relating to the Legislative Assembly and its Members, including budgets, financial policies, allowances and expenses of Members, and terms and conditions of employment of officers and employees.

Activities

The Committee held 9 meetings, on February 8, 9 and 17, March 16, April 5 and 19, May 6, June 9 and October 26 to discuss various issues related to the operation and administration of the Legislature.

Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship

Members	Mr. Cullins (C) Mr. Ames (VC) Hon. Mr. Holland Hon. Ms. Johnson Hon. Mr. Crossman Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Dawson Mr. LePage Mr. Mallet Mr. Arseneault Ms. Mitton
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Mandate

The Committee receives updates from the Department of Environment and Local Government on progress towards the implementation of New Brunswick's Climate Change Action Plan; calls on specific departments, agencies, key stakeholders and subject matter experts to provide updates on implementation efforts; and gathers factual information on climate change, environmental stewardship and any other related issues by engaging with experts and stakeholders in the fields of natural environment and natural resource management.

Activities

The Committee held 12 meetings, on January 13, 14, 18, 19 and 20, February 10, March 24 and 31, September 22, October 12, November 3 and December 13. In January and February the Committee received an update from the Climate Change Secretariat regarding implementation of the existing Climate Change Action Plan and the context in which a renewed plan will be developed, followed by presentations from invited subject matter experts, stakeholders, and Indigenous representatives. The Committee tabled a report on March 31 which included recommendations to be included in a renewed Climate Change Action Plan. In October the Committee received another update from the Climate Change Secretariat on the Climate Change Action Plan.



Standing Committee on Economic Policy

Members	Mr. Ames (C)	Mr. Dawson
	Ms. Conroy (VC)	Mr. D'Amours
	Ms. Bockus	Mr. Bourque
	Mr. Turner	Mr. Legacy
	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Arseneau
	Ms. S. Wilson	

Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain government legislation related to economic policy.

Activities

The Committee held 35 meetings, on January 25, 26, 27 and 28, February 1, May 13, 17, 18, 20, 24, 25, 26 and 31, June 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 and 9, October 6, 7 and 11, November 3, 8, 9, 16, 18, 22, 23 and 30 and December 1, 2, 7, 9 and 14. The Committee presented reports to the House on March 23, May 17, 18, 19 and 31, June 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 and 10, October 11, November 15, 23 and 24, December 6, 8, 13 and 15.

Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy

Members	Mr. Turner (C)	Ms. Anderson-Mason, K.C.
	Mr. Wetmore (VC)	Mr. Legacy
	Mr. Ames	Mr. C. Chiasson
	Mr. Cullins	Mr. LeBlanc
	Ms. Conroy	Mr. Arseneau
	Ms. S. Wilson	

Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review the estimates of certain government departments and related entities.

Activities

The Committee held 15 meetings, on April 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28 and 29 and November 3. The Committee presented a report to the House on May 10.

Standing Committee on Law Amendments

Members	Hon. Mr. Flemming, K.C. (C)	Ms. Conroy
	Ms. Anderson-Mason, K.C. (VC)	Mr. D'Amours
	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Mallet
	Ms. Bockus	Mr. McKee
	Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Coon
	Mr. Cullins	



Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain bills prior to second reading. This referral is often made to allow for public consultation.

Activities

The Committee held a meeting on May 27. The Committee was referred Bill 28, *An Act to Amend the Municipal Elections Act*, and met with representatives from the Department of Environment and Local Government to discuss the subject matter of the bill. The Committee also had under consideration the subject matter of Bill 75, *An Act to Amend the Mining Act*. The Committee presented two reports to the House on May 31.

Standing Committee on Private Bills

Members	Ms. Anderson-Mason, K.C. (C)	Ms. Conroy
	Ms. M. Wilson (VC)	Mr. Gauvin
	Mr. Ames	Mr. Arseneault
	Mr. Turner	Mr. Mallet
	Ms. Bockus	Mr. Arseneau
	Mr. Cullins	

Mandate

The Committee reviews all private bills prior to second reading. Any person affected by a private bill may appear before the Committee.

Activities

The Committee held 4 meetings, on May 27, June 7, September 27 and November 3. The Committee presented reports to the House on May 31, June 7 and October 4.

Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers

Members	Mr. Wetmore (C)	Ms. Conroy
	Ms. Bockus (VC)	Mr. D'Amours
	Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. K. Chiasson
	Mr. Ames	Ms. Thériault
	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Coon
	Mr. Cullins	

Mandate

All standing rules and practices of the House, together with any matter referred by the Speaker, stand permanently referred to the Committee. The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to consider a matter or question of privilege concerning the House, a committee or Member. The Committee also reviews reports of Legislative Officers.

Activities

The Committee held 2 meetings, on March 11 and November 3. In March, the Committee reviewed the latest annual report from the Commissioner of Official Languages and reviewed a request from the legislative officers for changes to their legislative process.



Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Members	Mr. C. Chiasson (C)	Mr. Dawson
	Mr. Wetmore (VC)	Mr. Cullins
	Ms. Anderson-Mason, K.C.	Mr. LeBlanc
	Ms. M. Wilson	Mr. Bourque
	Mr. Turner	Ms. Mitton
	Ms. Bockus	

Mandate

The Committee reviews reports to the House of the Auditor General, Public Accounts, and annual reports of government departments, provincial agencies, boards and commissions.

Activities

The Committee held 19 meetings, on February 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24 and 25, March 3, June 23, September 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15 and 16 and November 29. The Committee reviewed the annual reports and Auditor General recommendations pertaining to the following entities: Cannabis NB Ltd.; Horizon Health Network; New Brunswick Health Council; New Brunswick Human Rights Commission; New Brunswick Liquor Corporation; Opportunities New Brunswick (ONB); Vitalité Health Network; and the Executive Council Office and the Departments of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries; Environment and Local Government; Health; Finance and Treasury Board; Justice and Public Safety; Natural Resources and Energy Development; Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; Social Development; Tourism, Heritage and Culture; and Transportation and Infrastructure. The Committee reviewed Reports of the Auditor General of New Brunswick on February 24, June 23 and November 29. The Committee presented a report to the House on May 17.

Standing Committee on Social Policy

Members	Ms. Conroy (C)	Ms. Bockus
	Mr. Dawson (VC)	Mr. LeBlanc
	Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. Thériault
	Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Gauvin
	Ms. Anderson-Mason, K.C.	Ms. Mitton
	Mr. Ames	

Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain government legislation related to social policy.

Activities

The Committee held a meeting on November 3.



SELECT COMMITTEES

Select Committee on Accessibility in New Brunswick

Members	Ms. Bockus (C)	Ms. Conroy
	Mr. Turner (VC)	Ms. Landry
	Mr. Dawson	Mr. Bourque
	Mr. Ames	Mr. LePage
	Mr. Cullins	Mr. Coon
	Ms. S. Wilson	

Mandate

The Committee was appointed by the House on June 9, 2021, to conduct consultations with community stakeholders and government departments involved with the disability community, and report to the House with recommendations.

Activities

The Committee held 5 meetings, on March 1, October 18 and 19 and December 6 and 14. The following entities appeared before the Committee: Accessibility Standards Canada; Office of the Child, Youth and Senior Advocate of New Brunswick; New Brunswick Disability Executives' Network; Premier's Council on Disabilities; New Brunswick Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Centre of Excellence; and the Departments of Health and Social Development. The Committee tabled an interim report on December 16 which included initial recommendations for government consideration.

Select Committee on Public Universities

Members	Ms. S. Wilson (C)	Mr. Dawson
	Mr. Cullins (VC)	Mr. K. Chiasson
	Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. Landry
	Ms. Bockus	Ms. Thériault
	Ms. Anderson-Mason, K.C.	Mr. Coon
	Mr. Turner	

Mandate

The Committee was appointed by the House on June 10, 2021, to invite representatives of New Brunswick's publicly funded universities and the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission to appear before the Committee to discuss and provide insight into university administration, programming, performance measurement, accountability and transparency.

Activities

The Committee held a meeting on November 3.



CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT



VISITORS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Parliament Square, which includes the Legislative Assembly Building, the Departmental Building, and the Old Education Building, was officially declared a protected historic site under the *Historic Sites Protection Act* in November 2000. The present Legislative Assembly Building in Fredericton has been the seat and symbol of democracy in New Brunswick since 1882, when it replaced a building destroyed by fire two years earlier.

The historic value of the site is shared with tourists, students, official visitors, and internal and external conference delegations. Bilingual guided tours or self-guided tours of the building are offered year-round and focus on the craftsmanship of the structure, artifacts and artwork on the site, and the functioning of New Brunswick's parliamentary system. All COVID-19 pandemic restrictions that had been in effect at the Legislative Assembly in various forms for more than two years were lifted on May 6, signaling the opening of Parliament Square to visitors for the first time since 2020. Approximately 3,293 people visited the Legislature in 2022.

The outdoor lighting system of the Legislature permits special illuminations of the building as a way for organizations to promote a charitable cause. In 2022, the Legislative Assembly participated in the following campaigns and events: 211 Day, Bastille Day, Bell Let's Talk, Colour NB Pink, Easter Seals Canada 100th Anniversary, Eczema Awareness Month, Food Day Canada, Green Shirt Day, International Awareness Day for Chronic Immunological and Neurological Diseases, International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Light it Up in Blue for Alzheimer's Disease, Lyme Awareness Month, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Show Your 4-H Colours Day, World AIDS Day, World Blood Donor Day, World Duchenne Awareness Day, World Mitochondrial Disease Week, World Pancreatic Cancer Day, World Tuberculosis Day, World Water Day, and World Wish Day.

Marking the second official visit by a diplomat to the Legislative Assembly since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Speaker met with the Consul General of Japan in Montreal, Mr. Jun Saito on May 18.

In recognition of National Deafblind Awareness Month in Canada and Disability Awareness Week, the New Brunswick chapter of the Canadian Deafblind Association yarn bombed a tree on the Legislature's grounds in June. The initiative symbolizes the coming together of people in the field of deafblindness by increasing awareness and knowledge of deafblindness as a unique disability.

Bard in the Barracks Inc. utilized the legislative grounds to stage Shakespeare's play, *Julius Caesar*, from June 15 to July 3. Bard in the Barracks Inc., an incorporated non-profit Fredericton theatre company that produces site-specific outdoor productions of the plays of William Shakespeare, has been staging outdoor productions for the past 15 years.

On June 21, the Wolastoqey Tribal Council Inc., the Joint Economic Development Initiative, and Mawiw Council Inc. organized a day of events on the grounds of the Legislature in celebration of National Indigenous Peoples Day. Members of the public honoured the day by



hearing messages from community leaders, singing and chanting, performing traditional dances, listening to drums, and observing a moment of silence.

The Canadian Square and Round Dance Society held their Banner Parade and Dancing on the front lawn of the Legislature on July 22 during their annual convention. The Canadian Square and Round Dance Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of square, round, line, contra, and clog dancing across Canada.

New Brunswick Day was celebrated on the grounds of the Legislative Assembly on August 1. The Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture invited the public to join the celebration by raising the New Brunswick flag, participating in family-focused activities, and enjoying musical and artistic performances by a variety of New Brunswick artists. Artisans were set up to sell their made-in-New Brunswick products on the surrounding green spaces, along with an assortment of food trucks.

The King's Counsel Ceremony was held in the Legislative Assembly Chamber on November 14. The distinction of King's Counsel is bestowed upon experienced lawyers in the province. The 13 recipients this year were: Clarence Lee Bennett, Saint John; Catherine M. Bowlen, Fredericton; Marc-Antoine Chiasson, Moncton; Matthew W.J. Cripps, Miramichi; Jamie C. Eddy, Fredericton; Lisa Anne Keenan, Rothesay; W. Rodney Macdonald, Saint John; Michael Marin, Fredericton; Michèle Morin, Mazerolle Settlement; Michèle Pelletier, Charlo; Tracy Peters, Dieppe; Talia Profit, Moncton; and Christopher T. Titus, Saint John.

A commemorative Platinum Jubilee medal was created to mark the 70th anniversary of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the Throne as a tangible way to honour Her late Majesty's service to Canada. In a ceremony held in the Legislative Assembly Chamber on November 15, Lieutenant-Governor Brenda Murphy bestowed the medal to Members of the Legislative Assembly in recognition of their dedication to the public service as community leaders.

The annual Provincial Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony took place on December 8 in front of the Legislative Assembly. Special guests included Deputy Speaker Sherry Wilson, Premier Blaine Higgs, Leader of the Official Opposition Rob McKee, Leader of the Third Party David Coon, and Santa Claus. Hot apple cider and hot chocolate were served to the public by Epsilon Y's Service Club and the evening's entertainment was provided by the Calithumpians.

PAGE PROGRAM

The New Brunswick Legislative Page Program offers postsecondary students of all backgrounds a paid part-time work opportunity to immerse themselves in the province's legislative processes. Pages witness first-hand New Brunswick's parliamentary history unfold as legislation is debated, amended, and becomes law. They also witness legislative committees conduct consultations, discussions, and draft reports that influence public policy. Within the historic chambers and in other parts of the building, Pages support parliamentary democracy by performing various duties to assist Members of the Legislative Assembly and staff. This work experience broadens their knowledge of the rich traditions of the province's parliamentary system. The Pages who served during the spring 2022 sittings were Nora Ahmed, Brad Doucet, Maggie Jardine, Brock Johnson, Rosalind Keyes, Jane Landry, Claudia Ruiz, Emily Simon, Emma Wagner, and Graci Young (Head Page). The Pages who served during the fall 2022 sittings were Peyton Carmichael, Jillian Coggan, Seiku Diakite, Brad Doucet, Olivia Elliott, Andrea Escobar, Sunaa Hansen, Maggie Jardine, Brock Johnson, Rosalind Keyes (Head Page), Warren Peters, and Keira Vnuk.



BROADCASTING AND WEBCASTING

The Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick has been televising its proceedings since 1988. New Brunswick was among the first Canadian provinces to bring video cameras into its Legislature. In 1988, the Legislature televised the previously recorded Routine Proceedings of each sitting day on a community-access channel. Coverage of the proceedings went live in 1989.

In the 1990s, the live coverage was expanded to include almost an entire sitting day. In 2006, the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service was launched to provide gavel-to-gavel television coverage of all sitting days on a channel dedicated solely to the broadcast of legislative proceedings.

The Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service broadcasts the daily proceedings each sitting day in both official languages. In 2022, the proceedings continued to be televised on Rogers cable channel 70 in New Brunswick communities served by the company. On channel 70 in Fredericton, Moncton, Saint John, Miramichi, and surrounding communities, English, whether spoken on the floor of the House or translated from French, was the primary audio feed. On channel 70 in Bathurst, Edmundston and surrounding communities, French was the primary audio feed. Secondary Audio Programming was also available in all communities.

In 2022, Rogers continued to televise daily proceedings of the Legislature on various community channels. In addition, repeats of the daily proceedings were televised on the dedicated channel, usually commencing within 30 minutes after the adjournment of the House each sitting day.

On September 6, Bell Aliant broadcast the daily proceedings of the Legislature in both official languages on two new dedicated channels: Channel 230 in English and channel 811 in French. Broadcasts of daily proceedings was formerly hosted on community channels. The new dedicated channels were available to all New Brunswickers with access to Bell Aliant, as well as those individuals with access throughout Atlantic Canada.

LMB Interpretation Systems and Services Inc. was hired to install technical hardware and software in the Legislative Council Chamber to support permanent virtual hybrid capability using the Zoom platform and the capability for interpreters to participate virtually. These upgrades open the possibility for legislative committees to hear from persons located anywhere in the world, to accommodate witnesses with a variety of disabilities, and to hire interpreters on a national scale.

Proceedings of the Legislature and its committees continued to be streamed live on the Internet in 2022. With the assistance of iSi Live, the Legislature also continued to permanently archive its proceedings online. This included the audio and video of all House sittings and, when available, all public committee meetings.

When the Legislature was not in session, a graphics computer generated a rotating sequence of messages on sitting schedule; tour information; upcoming events; and the Legislature's function, history and traditions. A photograph of each Member was shown with accompanying party affiliation, ministerial portfolio (where applicable), riding and contact information.

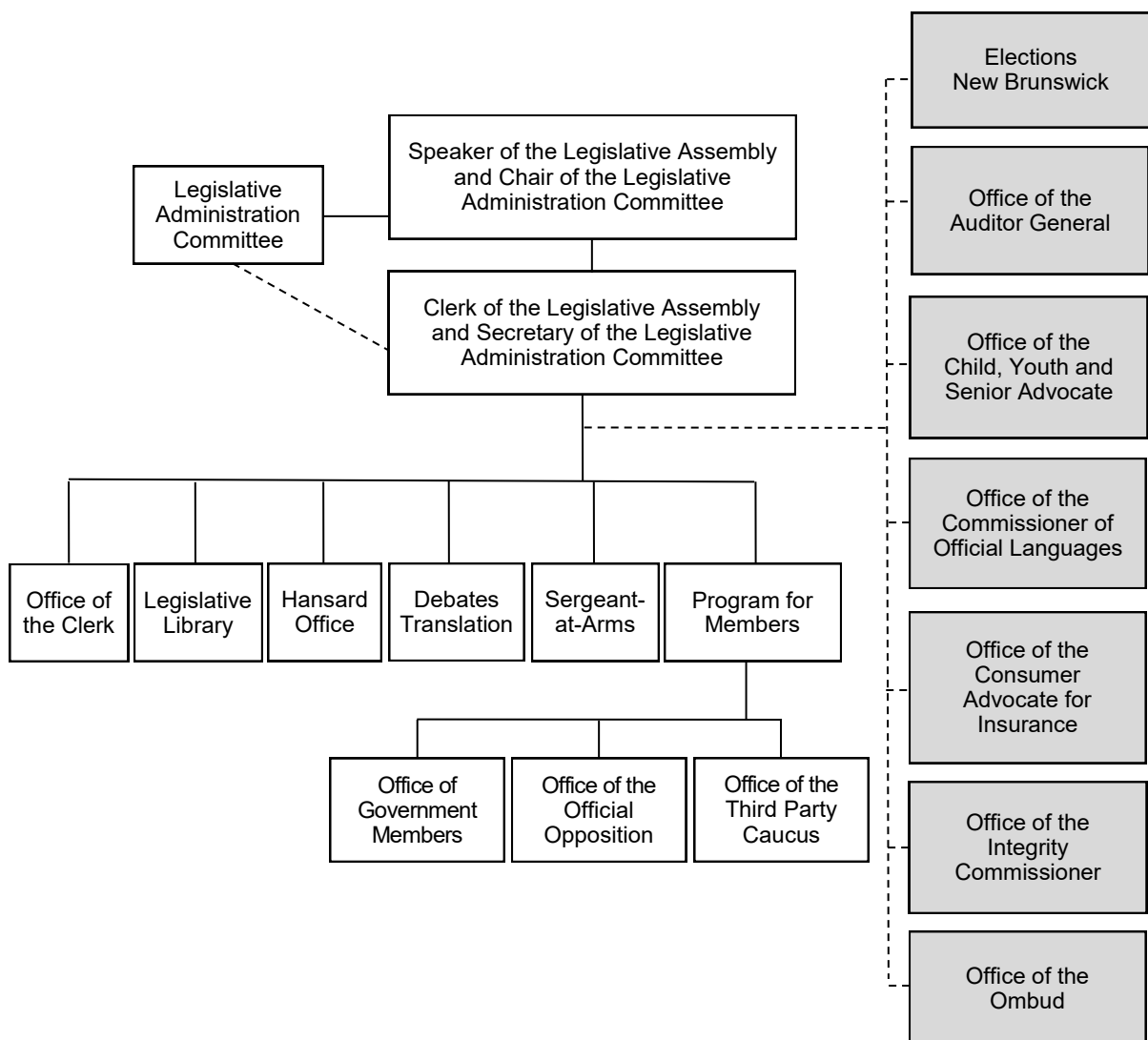


OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MISSION STATEMENT

- To assist the Legislative Assembly in fostering respect for the institution and privileges of parliamentary democracy.
- To provide assistance and support to all Members of the Legislative Assembly, their staff and the public.
- To provide impartial and confidential service to all Members of the Legislative Assembly.
- To record the proceedings and maintain the records of the Legislative Assembly.
- To provide public education and information services on behalf of the Legislative Assembly.
- To provide administrative, financial, and human resource services to certain statutory offices reporting to the Legislative Assembly.

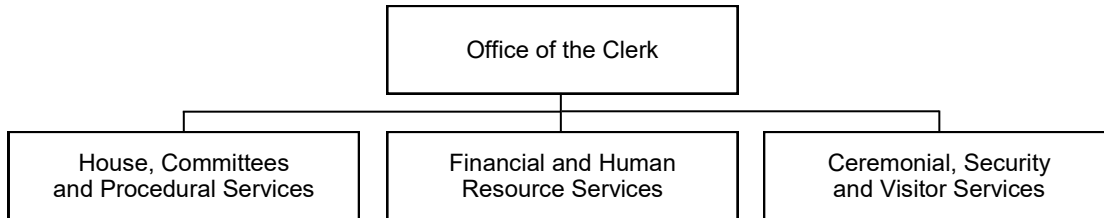
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Law Clerk and Committee Clerk — Patrick Dunn



In 2022, the dedicated staff of the Office of the Clerk met the primary goal of the office: to assist Members in carrying out their parliamentary functions as legislators and representatives of their constituents.

Procedural Services

Members were supported in their parliamentary functions by services administered with impartiality by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. As the senior permanent officer of the Legislative Assembly and chief procedural adviser, the Clerk advised the Speaker and Members on administrative matters, questions of parliamentary law and procedure, and the interpretation of the Standing Rules, precedents and practices of the House. The Clerk is the Speaker's chief administrative deputy and has authority and responsibility similar to that of a Deputy Minister of a government department. The Office of the Clerk and its staff supported the activities of the Clerk.

The Clerk Assistant and the Law Clerk served alongside the Clerk as Table Officers in the House, providing advice to Members and presiding officers on parliamentary procedure and House operations. In addition to their duties as Table Officers, the Clerk and Law Clerk served as Law Clerks in the House. They assisted Members in the interpretation and application of the *Legislative Assembly Act* and other legislation, and in the drafting and review of floor amendments, Private Members' Public Bills, and Private Bills.

During the year, the Clerks met regularly with the Speaker and other presiding officers to provide advice as required, draft rulings, and prepare procedural documentation. In addition, the Clerks met with committee Chairs to advise on committee procedure, arrange meetings and public hearings, and prepare documentation and reports to the House.

Journals and Publications

In 2022, the Clerk Assistant compiled 55 unrevised journals. The journals of the House are the official record of matters considered and decisions taken by the House. Unrevised journals are posted online as soon as they are available in both official languages. At the conclusion of a session, unrevised journals are finalized, indexed and published.

First reading bills continued to be published online. During the 2022 calendar year, 63 bills were introduced. The online status of legislation, which tracks the progress of bills as they proceed through various stages in the House, continued to be produced and regularly updated.

The online archiving of daily sittings and committee meetings continued to be regularly updated. Biographical information and photographs of Members of the 60th Legislature were also updated during the year. Changes to the Executive Council, shadow cabinet and seating plans were reflected in published and online updates. The Legislature's calendar was updated to reflect daily sittings and special events. Committee memberships were also updated when necessary and reports were posted online.



Renovations

Extensive renovations to both the exterior and interior of the Departmental Building, which began in 2020, continued to be the focus of restoration work in the Legislative Precinct. The project is scheduled for completion in 2023.

Other renovations undertaken in 2022 included the continuation of a project to install more energy-efficient windows in the Legislative Assembly Building and Old Education Building. Notably, windows in the Legislative Assembly Chamber were replaced and electronic blinds were installed.

Interparliamentary Relations

In addition to regular duties, staff of the Clerk's Office prepared itineraries and coordinated business session topics for Members attending the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference; the Canadian Regional Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), which included meetings of the Canadian Regional Council and Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP); the CPA Canadian Regional Seminar; the annual meeting and regional policy forum of the Council of State Governments Eastern Regional Conference; conferences of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF); and the annual meeting of the Canadian Council of Public Accounts Committees.



The windows in the Legislative Assembly Chamber were installed over the winter break in January 2022.

Association of Clerks-at-the-Table in Canada

The Association of Clerks-at-the-Table in Canada is an organization composed of the Table Officers from every provincial and territorial legislature in Canada, as well as the House of Commons and the Senate. The objective of the Association is to advance the professional development of its members by enabling them to expand their knowledge of the foundations and principles of the parliamentary system and procedure in Canada.

The Association of Clerks-at-the-Table list server (CATS) allows an open exchange of ideas and information. CATS is used by members of the Association to contribute information, pose questions, conduct surveys, and seek advice on a wide variety of procedural and administrative issues.

In 2022, Clerks responded to numerous inquiries posted to CATS. Topics canvassed during the year included: the power to send for persons, papers and records, motions to extend sitting hours, sponsorship of bills, rules regarding Statements by Members, voting (deferred, pairing, and by proxy), childcare for Members, the oath of allegiance, and precautionary exclusion of Members.

Canadian Parliamentary Review

Staff of the Clerk's Office prepared quarterly submissions to the *Canadian Parliamentary Review*. The purpose of the publication is to inform Canadian legislators about the activities of the various branches of the Canadian Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and to promote interest in Canadian parliamentary institutions. In 2022, staff ensured that a summary of legislative activities in New Brunswick was included in each edition under the "Legislative Reports" section.



Tributes

Five former Members passed away in 2022:

Héliodore Côté (Liberal) on February 6. Mr. Côté was elected in a general election on October 23, 1978, to represent the riding of Madawaska South.

Évêrard H. Daigle (Liberal) on March 2. Mr. Daigle was first elected in 1974 to represent the riding of Grand Falls and again in 1978 and 1982. During his time at the Legislature, he served as a member on several standing committees.

LeRoy Armstrong (Liberal) on April 27. Mr. Armstrong was first elected in the general election of 1995 to represent the riding of Kings East and again in 2003. During his time at the Legislature, he served as a member on several standing committees.

Hon. Mabel M. DeWare (Progressive Conservative) on August 17. Ms. DeWare was first elected in the general election of 1978 to represent the riding of Moncton West and again in 1982. During her time at the Legislature, she served as Minister of Labour and Manpower; Minister of Continuing Education; Minister of Community Colleges; and Minister of Advanced Education and Training. In 1990, Hon. Ms. DeWare was appointed to the Senate where she served until 2001.

Conrad Landry (Liberal) on October 29. Mr. Landry was first elected in the general election of 1982 to represent the riding of Kent North and again in 1987 and 1991. During his time at the Legislature, he served as Solicitor General and was a member on several standing and select committees.



FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

Director, Finance and Human Resources — Katie Hill, CPA, CA

The Finance and Human Resources Branch is accountable for the proper and effective management of the financial and human resource services of the Legislative Assembly. In addition, the Branch provides financial and human resources support to the following statutory offices: Elections New Brunswick; Office of the Auditor General; Office of the Child, Youth and Senior Advocate; Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance; Office of the Integrity Commissioner; and Office of the Ombud.

Financial Services Section

The House sat a total of 46 days during the 2021-2022 fiscal year, compared to 33 days in 2020-2021 and 42 days in 2019-2020.

The accompanying Financial Summary shows total actual expenditures of \$14,341,500 based on a revised total budget of \$15,170,200 for the 2021-2022 fiscal year (excluding statutory officers). This compares with total actual expenditures of \$13,618,600 based on a revised total budget of \$15,107,400 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

For certain offices, actual expenditures exceeded their budget allotment primarily due to the implementation of new pay rates for employees retroactive to 2019. In addition, the Office of the People's Alliance Caucus exceeded their budget allotment due to expenses associated with the closure of the office.

Financial Summary—Legislative Assembly For the Year Ended March 31, 2022 (in \$ 000s)

	Budget	Actual
<i>Members' Allowances, Committees and Operations</i>		
Allowances to Members	8 906.2	8 191.6
Legislative Committees	231.0	283.2
Subtotal	9 137.2	8 474.8
<i>Office of the Legislative Assembly</i>		
Legislative Library	598.0	619.6
Office of the Clerk (includes Speaker's Office)	1 831.0	1 656.3
Hansard Office	617.0	658.9
Debates Translation	753.0	847.2
Subtotal	3 799.0	3 782.0
<i>Offices of the Members of Registered Political Parties</i>		
Office of Government Members	640.0	641.6
Office of the Official Opposition	950.0	732.2
Office of the Green Party Caucus	335.0	331.3
Office of the People's Alliance Caucus	309.0	379.6
Subtotal	2 234.0	2 084.7
<i>Total : Legislative Assembly</i>	15 170.2	14 341.5

Total expenditures for capital repair and restoration of the Legislative Assembly buildings were approximately \$54,003 in 2021-2022 and related to the general maintenance and preservation of legislative buildings.



The 2022-23 operating budget for the Legislative Assembly was increased by \$304,000 to account for economic increases of \$47,000; \$25,000 to support the committee translation of public submissions; \$100,000 to increase staffing within Debates Translation to enable the translation of current Hansard; \$120,000 to hire two transcribers within the Hansard Office; and a small increase of \$12,000 to support Library operations. The total operating budget approved for the Legislative Assembly in the fiscal year 2022-2023 was \$15,474,000.

Human Resource Services Highlights

In 2022, staff coordinated and participated in the recruitment process for 19 competitions of statutory and legislative offices. In total, staff administered payroll services for approximately 125 positions, including the commencement of 24 full-time employees and the termination arrangements for 18 employees who either retired, resigned or otherwise ceased to be employees of the Legislative Assembly.

Economic increases and retroactive wage payments were processed for employees during 2022 as a result of amendments to pay plans effective April 1, 2019. Eligible employees also received merit increases depending on employee anniversary date, performance and current salary level. The Members' and Ministers' indemnities and salaries were not adjusted during this period.

Throughout the year, a total of 102 individuals were employed under various casual or term employment programs administered by the Finance and Human Resource section. Responsibilities included coordination of the employment programs and the commencement (payroll setup and notices of hiring), payment (weekly time sheet input) and subsequent termination (removal from payroll and issuance of a Record of Employment) of each of the related employees.

The section continued to host employee wellness sessions provided by the Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP), recognized National Public Service Week, and oversaw the 2022 GNB United Way campaign for the Legislative Assembly. Staff also participated in various professional development sessions offered by the Province, the Chartered Professionals in Human Resources New Brunswick, and the CPA New Brunswick, as well as second language training to facilitate financial and human resource services in both official languages.

Human Resource Summary—Legislative Assembly

	<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>Sessional</i>	<i>Casual</i>	<i>Payroll Constituency Offices</i>
<i>Office of the Clerk</i>					
House and Committee Support	5	0	0	0	0
General Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Finance and Human Resources	7	0	0	1	0
Technology	2	0	0	0	0
Sergeant-at-Arms	3	0	0	1	0
Speaker's Office	2	0	0	0	0
<i>Legislative Library</i>	8	0	0	1	0
<i>Hansard Office</i>	8	0	0	0	0
<i>Debates Translation</i>	11	0	0	0	0
<i>Office of Government Members</i>	8	0	0	2	0
<i>Office of the Official Opposition</i>	4	0	0	3	0
<i>Office of the Green Caucus</i>	4	0	0	2	0
<i>Office of the People's Alliance Caucus</i>	4	0	0	1	0
<i>Pages and Tour Guides (students)</i>	0	0	15	0	0
<i>Members</i>	0	49	0	0	57
<i>Total</i>	66	49	15	11	57



LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY

Legislative Librarian — Kenda Clark-Gorey

According to the *Legislative Library Act*, the Legislative Library shall operate primarily for the use of the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the staff of departments of government in order that they may better serve the people of New Brunswick.

The Legislative Library is designated as the official library for the deposit of New Brunswick government publications. The King's Printer and government departments are required to deposit with the Legislative Library four copies of every government publication issued under their authority within 30 days of its printing date. The Legislative Library has broadened its mandate to automatically receive all "online" or "born digital" New Brunswick government publications. An e-repository for New Brunswick electronic government publications has been established whereby selected publications will be downloaded for long-term preservation and better access. It should be noted that the Library still maintains a print collection of all government documents. The Legislative Library continues to stress the importance of producing print copies, as well as electronic versions of government publications for future generations and for today's public.

Library Events and News

After the Legislative Assembly Building reopened to the public in May, the Library saw a large increase in the number of visitors.

A volume of John James Audubon's *Birds of America* was put on display. This was the first summer since 2007 that a volume was available for public viewing.

On October 27, the reception after the unveiling of the portrait of former Lieutenant-Governor Graydon Nicholas was held in the library.

Collection Development

The Legislative Library's New Brunswick Collection is an important part of New Brunswick's heritage and is an incredible resource for the province. In 2022, several publishers and individuals donated materials. The Legislative Library is grateful to the following publishers and individuals who donated books during the past year: Bouton d'or Acadie, La Grande Marée, Georgette Bourgeois, Chuck Chiasson, Tracy MacDonald, and Anne McCluskey.

Government Documents

There was a noticeable increase in the number of requests to borrow government documents in 2022.

In addition to adding physical copies of government documents to the Library's collection, library staff continued to add electronic government documents as well. In 2022, 317 electronic documents were added to the Library's electronic repository. These documents included monographs as well as annual reports.

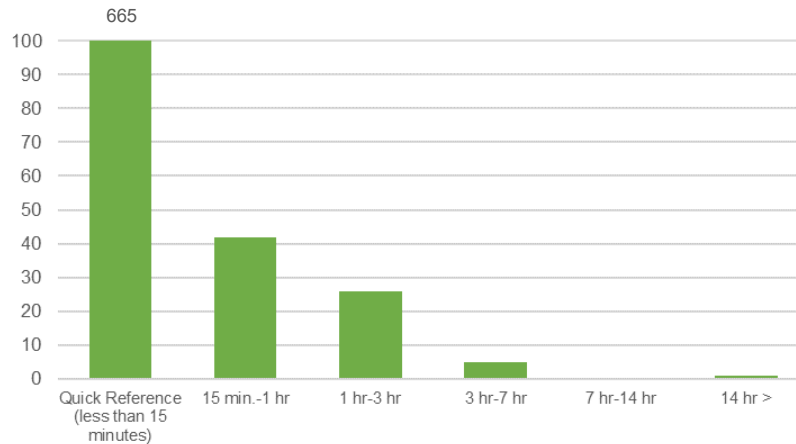
Outreach and Reference Services

Library outreach was still limited during 2022 due to the pandemic. The library did produce two Selected Accessions Lists which were published and distributed to Members, Legislative Assembly staff and government department staff.

After the building reopened to the public, two displays were prepared for the Library's display case in the rotunda. They included: Queen Elizabeth 1926-2022 and Christmas in New Brunswick.



Library staff were busy in 2022 answering reference questions. Several of these questions were large, which took several hours to answer. The Library's statistics reporting system allows staff to record the amount of time spent to answer each question. The following graph shows the number of questions corresponding to the time ranges.



Number of Questions Per Time Range

Initiatives and Projects

The Library continued with its document digitization and archival projects. In 2022, 49 press releases, 396 consolidated acts, and 408 Royal Gazettes were digitized and added to the library's content management system.

At the start of the new year the Library completed an upgrade of their ILS, Koha, to the most current version. The previous version was out of date and the update corrected many security and functionality issues. Changes to the hosting platform (AWS) also ensures that future updates can be applied in a timelier manner.

The Library began the initial design stage for a new website. The current website is almost ten years old and requires changes to bring it up to date with current web standards and technologies.

Research Services

Over the past year, the Research Officer fielded 46 requests from Members and legislative staff and two requests from external clients. The Research Officer saw steady committee work in 2022, and prepared presentation summaries and reports for the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship and the Select Committee on Accessibility in New Brunswick. The Research Officer also worked with the Office of the Auditor General to prepare questions for departments and other government entities appearing before the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

In January, the Legislative Assembly welcomed two interns, whom the Research Officer supervised. Together, the interns responded to 29 requests from Members of all parties, the Clerk's Office, and Legislative Officers.

Staffing

Jessica Breau joined the library staff in February as the new Government Documents Assistant.



HANSARD OFFICE

Official Reporter — Linda Fahey

The Hansard Office produces edited, researched transcripts from audio recordings of House sittings and committee meetings and provides audio and recording services for legislative proceedings and events. The *Journal of Debates*, which is produced by the office, is the official report of the debates of the Legislative Assembly and is commonly referred to as *Hansard*, as is customary in most British Commonwealth jurisdictions. Use of the Hansard name originated in the 1800s when publisher Thomas Curson Hansard titled the report of the British parliamentary debates as *Hansard's Parliamentary Debates*.

There had been only incomplete newspaper summaries of the debates until 1837-38, when a report of the House of Assembly proceedings was published. The report was compiled by a succession of contracted shorthand reporters, who printed and published it and also sent it out for newspaper publication. The report was completed only intermittently and sometimes not at all until 1870, when its publication ceased. In 1874, the first *Synoptic Report of the Proceedings of the House of Assembly of New Brunswick* was published, but it was not until 1884 that it was regularly published for each session. In 1942, the Legislature established a reporter position in the Clerk's Office, ending the contracting process. On March 14, 1978, the first *Synoptic Report* to contain the original Hansard text as well as its translation was published. By that time, the report had evolved from a summary into a full account of Assembly proceedings; thus, on March 11, 1980, it was renamed the *Journal of Debates*, which continues today.

Hansard Transcripts

During 2022, the Hansard Office staff processed 320 hours of House and committee audio into edited, researched transcripts, as shown in the following table.

HOUSE AND COMMITTEE TRANSCRIPT PRODUCTION IN 2022						
Transcripts Processed	Transcripts Produced			Audio Hours Processed into Transcripts	Transcript Word Counts	Percent of Total Word Count
	Blues	Finalized	Dual-Column Format			
House, 2021-2022	51	54	58	169	1,299,915	58%
Committees pre-2022	10	-	-	53	939,452	42%
Committees 2022	16	-	-	98		
TOTALS	77	54	58	320	2,239,367	100%

The transcripts progress from blues to finalized to dual-column format. The blues are transcripts that have had one edit while the finalized are those that have had a second listen and final edit and opening pages attached. The dual-column transcripts are those that have been formatted to contain both the original Hansard text and its translation. The number of transcripts produced, as reported in the table, reflects only the fully completed sitting and meeting transcripts, excluding requested excerpts. The audio hours represent all recording hours transcribed, and the word counts reflect all words produced.

Availability of Transcripts

Hansard transcripts are available for every sitting of the Legislative Assembly from 1900 to 2023. Through their work on the historical Hansard project, the staff have made available scanned issues of the *Synoptic Report* and the *Journal of Debates* dating from 1900 to 1989. The office also has available blues transcripts for all sessions from 1990 to the present day and finalized



transcripts for all except some portions between 2015 and 2019. In 2021, the office was included in an initiative to have current transcripts translated for posting on the new Assembly website, thus, the staff advanced the finalization work from 2015-16 to the 2020-22 session.

While all blues and finalized transcripts have ordinarily been posted to the Assembly's internal network, as of January 2023, finalized transcripts will also be posted to its public website. When finalized, the Hansard transcripts are released by the Hansard Office for translation, and upon receipt of the translation, the staff arrange the original and the translation in dual-column format for posting. All House and committee transcripts will continue to be available through the reference desk staff of the Legislative Library.

In 2022, the staff finalized and posted 48 question period transcripts and completed and distributed a total of 152 requested transcripts, 69 for House and 83 for committees. With the office focus having been on the finalizing of House transcripts for posting, there has been a significantly reduced output of committee transcripts. Hence, the office is keeping informed on the merits of speech recognition software with the view that it be implemented to help expedite the completion and provision of committee transcripts.

Audio and Recording Operations

In 2022, the office managed the recording services for 152 events, involving 493 recording hours: 55 House sittings over 191 hours and 97 committee meetings over 302 hours. The Hansard staff continued throughout 2022 to provide relief and replacement as necessary at the console desks and also to organize audio and recording tests in the Chambers.

Activities

The office continued active membership in the Hansard Association of Canada (HAC) and the Commonwealth Hansard Editors Association (CHEA). Preparations commenced in 2022 for hosting the association's conference in Fredericton in August 2024.

Throughout the year, staff attended second language training courses and health and professional development workshops.

Hansard Highlights

The office welcomed two new staff members in the summer of 2022. Both had mentors who worked closely with them while they took training on Hansard editing and for one new staff member, on console operations.

Throughout 2022, the continual streamlining of work processes and the implementation of new technology produced efficiencies that allowed staff to focus on Hansard priorities and productivity. All members of the Hansard Office staff look forward to continuing to build on the achievements of 2022.



DEBATES TRANSLATION

Chief Translator — Rebecca Colborne

Debates Translation provides professional translation services for the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick. The Debates Translation team includes a senior reviser, three senior (autonomous) translators, three intermediate translators, two junior translators, a terminologist, and the Chief Translator. The office also has access to freelance translators who work on a contract basis.

Debates Translation translates motions, the daily Journal, the proceedings of the House (Hansard), committee reports, and procedural and other material for the offices of the Legislative Assembly.

House

Debates Translation staff members translate the records and journals of Legislative Assembly proceedings (Hansard and Journal), as well as motions introduced in the House, Speaker's rulings, and various other documents. During the legislative session, Debates Translation gives priority to the translation of oral questions for immediate posting to the Legislative Assembly website. In 2022, 54 oral question periods were translated, posted on the website in French and English, and incorporated into Hansard. The remainder of the 92 Hansard daily sittings for session 60-1 in 2020-22, 60 sitting days, were translated and posted to the internal network of the Legislative Assembly in 2022. One sitting day for the 60-2 session, 2022-23, was also translated. About 31% of this translation was into English. Translation of Hansard, including oral questions, represents a total of 1,943,324 words, or about 89% of total production. In 2022, translation of the daily Journal represented 3.6% of production. Translation of the Journal is usually completed shortly after the session ends. Notices of motion and amendments to motions accounted for 0.7% of production. These documents are translated the day the request is received.

Committees

Debates Translation staff members translate reports, agendas, notices of meetings, and other documents for standing and select committees of the Legislative Assembly. There were 115 requests for translation for legislative committees, representing 2.6% of total production in 2022.

Offices of the Legislative Assembly

The Debates Translation office is responsible for translating material of a procedural and administrative nature for the Speaker's Office, the Office of the Clerk, the Hansard Office, the Legislative Library, Finance and Human Resource Services, and the Sergeant-at-Arms. Translation for the offices of the Legislative Assembly represented about 2.3% of total production in 2022.

Human Resources

Senior staff members continued to coach and train junior and intermediate translators and to develop tools and resources to refine procedures and enhance production. Most of the staff attended one or more online workshops during the year on topics related to their work.

A competition was held for a new translator in the spring of 2022, and a new senior translator was hired in June 2022. She was trained, equipped, and supplied with access to online resources for work from Dieppe, New Brunswick. Competitions begun in 2021 also led to establishing a slate of freelance translators to be called on to translate Hansard on a contract basis.



Conclusion

In 2022, 558 translation requests were processed, and frequent requests for prompt translation made by telephone and email were also dealt with. Documents translated by Debates Translation staff included 54 oral question periods, 61 Hansard daily sittings, 190 documents for the offices of the Legislative Assembly, 115 documents for committees, 77 documents related to motions or amendments to motions, 64 Journals, and various miscellaneous documents. Staff members were trained and prepared in order to continue providing the service for which the office is known, meeting the highest standards of professional translation for the Legislative Assembly of our bilingual province.



PROGRAM FOR MEMBERS

The other branches of the Legislative Assembly Office are the Office of Government Members, the Office of the Official Opposition, and the Office of the Third Party Caucus.

Each caucus of elected Members is a branch of the Legislative Assembly Office. The Speaker has authority over the administration of each caucus office; however, for obvious reasons, these branches operate with considerable autonomy.

These branches received financial, administrative and personnel services, as well as other support services from other branches of the Legislative Assembly Office under the direction of the Clerk.

Funding and Support

Under the Program for Members, private Members of the Legislative Assembly are provided with furnished offices in the Legislative complex in Fredericton.

The Legislative Administration Committee approves annual funding for private Members for secretarial, research and other assistance incidental to the performance of their duties. Members of each caucus combine this funding to obtain and share resources and personnel.

Funding is also approved annually for private Members who are leaders of registered political parties represented in the House to be used for salaries and expenses of the leaders and their staff, and other expenses related to the operation of the respective offices.

The staff of each office provides research support with respect to topics and issues of interest to the Members. Each office helps handle correspondence relating to Members' legislative and public duties and provides many other support functions.

Office of Government Members

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, secretarial and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Government Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy Edgecombe House.

Office of the Official Opposition

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, policy development, secretarial and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Official Opposition Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the Old Education Building.

Office of the Third Party Caucus

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, policy development, secretarial and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Third Party Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the second floor of Jewett House.