
Daily sitting 10

Wednesday, December 11, 2024
10 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. M. LeBlanc rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Hogan used unparliamentary language when he accused the Premier of “encouraging voters to mislead themselves”. Ms. M. Johnson spoke on the point of order. Madam Speaker took the matter under advisement.

Ms. Wilcott, from the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

December 10, 2024

To The Honourable
The Legislative Assembly of
The Province of New Brunswick

Madam Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers begs leave to submit their First Report of the First Session of the 61st Legislature.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 92, all Standing Rules and practices of the House, together with any matter referred by the Speaker, stand permanently referred to the Committee.

Your Committee’s Report contains recommendations for amendments to the Standing Rules to create a new Standing Committee on Official Languages.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Kate Wilcott, M.L.A.
Chair

The full report of the Committee as presented follows:

Further to its permanent order of reference, your Committee held a meeting on November 26 and December 3, 2024, to consider creating a standing committee on official languages.

Your Committee reviewed the Standing Orders governing the House of Commons Standing Committee on Official Languages, and considered the “Report of the 2021 Review of the *Official Languages Act* of New Brunswick, Organization, Communication and Commitment”, which recommended the establishment of a committee, specifically:

“1.1 That this committee be specifically charged with monitoring the progress of the application of the Act, the regulations and instructions made under it, with considering the reports of the Premier, the Commissioner of Official Languages and the Department of Official Languages, and with making recommendations as appropriate.”

Following deliberations, your Committee recommends the establishment of a Standing Committee on Official Languages.

Amendments to the Standing Rules

Your Committee therefore recommends for adoption the following amendments to the Standing Rules:

1 *Standing Rule 89 is repealed and the following is substituted:*

89 The Standing Committees shall be appointed on motion at the commencement of each House and shall be:

- (a) the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship;
- (b) the Standing Committee on Economic Policy;
- (c) the Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy;
- (d) the Standing Committee on Law Amendments;
- (e) the Legislative Administration Committee;
- (f) the Standing Committee on Official Languages;
- (g) the Standing Committee on Private Bills;
- (h) the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers;
- (i) the Standing Committee on Public Accounts;
- (j) the Standing Committee on Social Policy.

2 *The Standing Rules are amended by adding before Standing Rule 91 the following:*

90.1 The mandate of the Standing Committee on Official Languages shall include, among other matters, the review of and report on official languages policies and programs, including reports of the Commissioner of Official Languages and of the Secretariat of Official Languages, which shall be deemed permanently referred to the Committee.

Ordered that the report be received, and leave granted.

With leave of the House, Mr. M. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Ms. Wilcott: (Motion 11)

THAT the recommendations contained in the First Report of the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers be concurred in by the House.

And the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

With leave of the House, Mr. M. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mr. Bourque: (Motion 12)

THAT, pursuant to Standing Rule 89, the Standing Committee on Official Languages be appointed for the duration of the 61st Legislative Assembly and that the membership of the said Committee be as follows:

Mr. Bourque, Ms. Wilcott, Mr. M. LeBlanc, Ms. Sodhi, Mr. Doucet, Hon. Ms. Thériault, Hon. Mr. Randall, Mr. Savoie, Ms. M. Johnson, Mr. Oliver and Mr. Coon.

And the question being put, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Hon. Mr. Legacy gave Notice of Motion 13 that on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, he would move the following resolution, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT this House approves in general the budgetary policy of the government.

Ms. M. Johnson, Opposition House Leader, gave notice that on Thursday, December 12, 2024, Opposition Members' Business would be considered in the following order: Motion 5 and 7.

Mr. M. LeBlanc, Government House Leader, announced that following third reading, it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the Capital Estimates of the Departments of Health, Education and Early Childhood Development and Transportation and Infrastructure.

The following Bill was read a third time:

Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*.

Ordered that the said Bill does pass.

The Order being read for third reading of Bill 3, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, a debate arose thereon.

At the request of Mr. M. LeBlanc, it was agreed by unanimous consent to recess from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 3 be now read a third time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 3, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*, was read a third time and passed.

The House, according to Order, resolved itself into a Committee of Supply with Mr. Arseneault in the chair.

At 11.30 a.m. the Committee recessed. At 1.30 p.m. the Committee resumed.

And after some time, Mr. Bourque, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker and Mr. Arseneault, the Chair, after requesting that Mr. Deputy Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee had had under consideration the matters referred to them, had made some progress therein and asked leave to sit again.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.2, Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on the motion deemed to be before the House, that the report be concurred in, and it was resolved in the affirmative.

And then, 2.31 p.m., the House adjourned.

The following documents, having been deposited with the Clerk of the House, were deemed laid upon the table of the House pursuant to Standing Rule 39:

Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume II, Performance Audit, 2024	December 10, 2024
Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick, Volume III, Financial Audit, 2024	December 10, 2024
Annual Report 2023-2024 Department of Justice and Public Safety	December 10, 2024