
Daily sitting 12

Friday, December 13, 2024

9 o'clock a.m.

Prayers.

Ms. M. Johnson rose on a point of order and submitted that Hon. Mr. Legacy used unparliamentary language when he used the term “false narrative” in reference to the Official Opposition. Madam Speaker ruled the point not well taken.

During Statements by Ministers, the Honourable the Premier welcome to the House the Honourable Brenda Murphy, Lieutenant-Governor, in recognition of her service as Lieutenant-Governor, which was expected to conclude in January of 2025. Mr. Savoie and Mr. Coon joined in this regard.

Mr. Cullins, Member for Fredericton-York, laid upon the table of the House a petition urging government to provide temporary access during repairs to Taymouth Bridge #5. (Petition 4)

Mr. M. LeBlanc moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT, when the Assembly adjourns at the end of this sitting day, it stand adjourned until Tuesday, March 18, 2025, provided always that if it appears to the satisfaction of Madam Speaker, after consultation with the Government, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment, Madam Speaker may give notice that she is so satisfied and in such notice shall state a time at which the House shall meet, and thereupon the House shall meet at the time so stated and shall transact its business as if it has been duly adjourned to that time, and

THAT in the event of Madam Speaker being unable to act owing to illness or other cause, either of the Deputy Speakers shall act in her stead for the purpose of this order.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put on the motion, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Madam Speaker, at the request of Ms. M. Johnson, reverted to Notices of Motions.

Ms. M. Johnson gave Notice of Motion 14 that on Thursday, March 20, 2025, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Weir:

WHEREAS drug addiction and recovery are critical public health issues that deeply impact individuals, families, and communities across New Brunswick;

WHEREAS privately and not-for-profit owned drug recovery programs operate within the province and play a significant role in offering support to individuals seeking treatment;

WHEREAS concerns have been raised about the potential for harm caused by unregulated or inadequately monitored private and not-for-profit recovery programs, or lack of evidence-based practices;

WHEREAS it is the responsibility of the provincial government to ensure that all drug recovery programs, whether public or private and not-for-profit, adhere to high standards of accountability, safety, and efficacy for the well-being of those they serve;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to move towards a recovery-based model in treating those suffering from addictions and to re-evaluate current harm reduction models.

Ms. M. Johnson gave Notice of Motion 15 that on Thursday, March 20, 2025, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Lee:

WHEREAS suicide is one of the leading causes of death among youths, especially adolescents aged 15 to 19;

WHEREAS New Brunswick is grappling with rising rates in mental health challenges, including anxiety, depression and suicidal ideation;

WHEREAS suicide rates among Indigenous youth in New Brunswick and Canada are notably higher than among non-Indigenous youth;

WHEREAS stigmas around mental health issues often prevent students from seeking help;

WHEREAS educational institutions play a critical role in fostering a supportive environment;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick urge the government to support the implementation of comprehensive suicide awareness and prevention programs in schools across the province, including mandatory training for educators and staff, the integration of mental health education into the curriculum, and the establishment of supportive resources for students, with the goal of fostering a safe and inclusive environment that encourages open discussions about mental health and provides effective interventions for those in need.

Her Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor, was announced, and having been bidden to enter, took her seat in the chair upon the Throne.

Madam Speaker addressed Her Honour as follows:

May It Please Your Honour:

The Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick has passed several Bills at the present sittings of the Legislature to which, in the name and on behalf of the said Legislative Assembly, I respectfully request Your Honour's assent.

The Law Clerk then read the titles of the Bills as follows:

Bill 2, *An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act*.
Bill 3, *An Act to Amend The Residential Tenancies Act*.
Bill 5, *Supplementary Appropriations Act 2024-2025 (1)*.

Her Honour signified Her Assent as follows:

It is the King's wish. Le roi le veut.

To these Bills, Her Honour's assent was announced by the Clerk Assistant in the following words:

In His Majesty's name, Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor assents to these Bills, enacting the same and ordering them to be enrolled.

Her Honour was pleased to deliver the following message:

Good morning,

As I complete my term as Lieutenant-Governor, I have been incredibly honoured to represent His Majesty in our beautiful province. I am deeply appreciative and grateful to each of you for your support, your kindness, and the respect you have shown me these past 5 years.

I also want to thank you for all you do to improve the lives of New Brunswickers. As Lieutenant-Governor, my motto is “Every Voice Matters”. As elected members, you make sure the voice of everyone you represent is heard in this Legislative Assembly.

Every voice matters within these walls and in communities across the province. As the next chapter begins for me, I will watch from outside this Chamber with great interest as you continue to represent the people of New Brunswick.

Thank you for your public service.

Her Honour then retired and Madam Speaker resumed the chair.

And then, 11.28 a.m., the House adjourned.