



## **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW BRUNSWICK**

### **First Session, 61<sup>st</sup> Legislative Assembly**

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**ORDER AND NOTICE PAPER – Sitting No. 28**  
**Friday, May 16, 2025**

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#### **ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS**

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

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#### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

## **GOVERNMENT BILLS AND ORDERS**

### **GOVERNMENT BILLS FOR THIRD READING**

Bill 7, An Act Respecting Travel Nurses – Hon. Mr. Dornan  
 Bill 8, An Act Respecting the Degree Granting Act – Hon. Mr. D'Amours  
 Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Judicature Act – Hon. Mr. McKee, K.C.  
 Bill 13, An Act Respecting the Firefighters' Compensation Act and the Workers' Compensation Act  
 – Hon. Mr. D'Amours  
 Bill 15, An Act Respecting the Highway Act – Hon. Mr. C. Chiasson  
 Bill 16, An Act to Amend the Judicature Act – Hon. Mr. McKee, K.C.

### **GOVERNMENT BILLS FOR SECOND READING**

#### ***Bills Ordered for Second Reading***

Bill 24, An Act to Amend the Mental Health Act – Hon. Mr. McKee, K.C.  
 Bill 25, An Act Respecting Subordinate Judicial Officials – Hon. Mr. McKee, K.C.  
 Bill 26, An Act to Amend the Atlantic Provinces Harness Racing Commission Act – Hon. Mr. Legacy  
 Bill 27, An Act to Amend the Provincial Court Act – Hon. Mr. McKee, K.C.  
 Bill 28, An Act to Amend the Trespass Act – Hon. Mr. Herron  
 Bill 29, An Act to Amend the Executive Council Act – Hon. Mr. McKee, K.C.  
 Bill 30, Loan Act 2025 – Hon. Mr. Legacy  
 Bill 35, Status of the Artist Act – Hon. Ms. Thériault

#### ***Adjourned Debates***

Bill 4, An Act Respecting Petroleum Products Pricing – Hon. Mr. Legacy  
 Bill 20, Special Appropriation Act 2025 – Hon. Mr. Legacy  
 Bill 22, An Act Respecting Property Tax Affordability Measures – Hon. Mr. Legacy  
 Bill 23, An Act Respecting the Prescription Monitoring Act – Hon. Mr. Dornan  
 Bill 33, An Act to Amend the Community Funding Act – Hon. Mr. Kennedy

### **STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC POLICY**

Bill 10, An Act Respecting Motorcycle Safety – Hon. Mr. Gauvin  
 Bill 12, An Act to Repeal the Pension Plan Sustainability and Transfer Act – Hon. Mr. Legacy  
 Bill 17, An Act Respecting Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs – Hon. Mr. Gauvin  
 Bill 21, An Act to Amend the New Brunswick Income Tax Act – Hon. Mr. Legacy

### **STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS**

Bill 18, An Act to Amend An Act Incorporating the New Brunswick Association of Speech-Language  
 Pathologists and Audiologists – Mr. Bourque  
 Bill 34, Massage Therapy Act – Mr. J. LeBlanc

## BILLS AWAITING ROYAL ASSENT

Bill 6, An Act to Amend the Liquor Control Act – Hon. Mr. Gauvin

Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Act – Hon. Mr. Herron

Bill 14, An Act to Amend the Fair Registration Practices in Regulated Professions Act  
– Hon. Mr. D'Amours

Bill 31, Appropriations Act 2025-2026 – Hon. Mr. Legacy

Bill 32, Supplementary Appropriations Act 2023-2024 (1) – Hon. Mr. Legacy

## GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

**Motion 1 by Mr. M. LeBlanc**, seconded by Hon. Mr. K. Chiasson to propose the following resolution on Tuesday, November 26, 2024:

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick is focused on strengthening relationships with First Nations communities that are built on trust and collaboration;

WHEREAS recognizing and paying respect to the First Nations on whose territories we live and work is an important part of the ongoing commitment to truth and reconciliation;

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2024, the Government of New Brunswick invited government employees to use a land acknowledgement at formal meetings, at events, in publications, and in other government venues and settings;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick acknowledge that the Province of New Brunswick is situated on the unceded and unsurrendered territories of the Wolastoqey, Mi'gmaq and Peskotomuhkati peoples and that the Members of the Legislative Assembly seek to repair and rebuild meaningful relationships with Indigenous peoples and honour these lands which hold the hopes of future generations.

## CONCLUDED

**Motion 2 by Mr. M. LeBlanc.** Carried November 20, 2024.

**Motion 3 by Hon. Mr. Legacy.** Debated and carried December 10, 2024.

**Motion 4 by Mr. M. LeBlanc.** Carried November 20, 2024.

**Motion 9 by Mr. M. LeBlanc.** Carried November 28, 2024.

**Motion 10 by Mr. M. LeBlanc.** Carried November 28, 2024.

**Motion 11 by Mr. M. LeBlanc.** Carried December 11, 2024.

**Motion 12 by Mr. M. LeBlanc.** Carried December 11, 2024.

**Motion 13 by Hon. Mr. Legacy.** Debated March 18, 20, 21, 25, 26 and 28 and carried March 28, 2025.

**Motion 24 by Mr. M. LeBlanc.** Debated and carried March 26, 2025.

## GOVERNMENT PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

**Motion 33 by Mr. J. LeBlanc**, seconded by Mr. Doucet to propose the following resolution on Wednesday, May 28, 2025:

THAT in addition to the existing sitting hours prescribed in Standing Rule 29, the House may sit on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 p.m. until midnight;

THAT this Special Order shall come into effect on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, and shall remain in effect for the duration of the First Session of the 61<sup>st</sup> Legislative Assembly.

## OPPOSITION MEMBERS' BUSINESS

### OPPOSITION MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS FOR SECOND READING

#### *Adjourned Debates*

Bill 19, An Act Respecting the Right to a Healthy Environment – Mr. Coon

### OPPOSITION MEMBERS' MOTIONS

#### *Debatable Motions*

**Motion 8 by Mr. Austin**, seconded by Mr. Ames to propose the following resolution on Thursday, December 12, 2024:

WHEREAS the Premier has openly mused about reviewing the Central NB Correctional Facility Project;

WHEREAS New Brunswick's current correctional facilities are over capacity, leading to repeat offenders being released on house arrest before they have completed their full sentence;

WHEREAS the Province has already invested over 5 million dollars into the Project, as well as a significant financial contribution from the local municipality;

WHEREAS the people of Grand Lake are relying on the facility for increased public safety and the betterment of their economy;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick urge the government to continue with the Central NB Correctional Facility located in the Minto Industrial Park.

**Motion 14 by Ms. M. Johnson**, seconded by Mr. Weir to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 20, 2025:

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.

**Motion 18 by Mr. Savoie**, seconded by Ms. Scott-Wallace to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 27, 2025:

WHEREAS the Canadian economy thrives on the principles of free trade, innovation, and collaboration, and interprovincial trade plays a pivotal role in uniting our diverse regions, fostering economic growth, and enhancing the overall quality of life for all Canadians;

WHEREAS New Brunswick, as a vital part of the Atlantic region, possesses unique resources, industries, and cultural assets that can greatly benefit from increased interprovincial trade, leading to enhanced job creation, economic diversification, and sustainable development;

WHEREAS the current barriers to interprovincial trade, including regulatory discrepancies, tariffs, and licensing challenges, hinder New Brunswick's ability to fully leverage its potential in key sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, technology, and tourism, thereby limiting opportunities for local businesses and entrepreneurs;

WHEREAS breaking down these barriers will allow New Brunswick to access larger markets, attract investment, and promote innovation, ultimately leading to a stronger, more resilient economy that benefits not only businesses but also the residents of New Brunswick through increased employment opportunities, better access to goods and services, and improved public services;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government of New Brunswick to commit to actively pursuing the removal of interprovincial trade barriers in collaboration with other provinces and territories, to create a more seamless and integrated economic environment that fosters growth, prosperity, and a higher quality of life for all New Brunswickers.

**Motion 19 by Ms. Conroy**, seconded by Mr. Hogan to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 27, 2025:

WHEREAS the retention and recruitment of nurses are critical to the future sustainability and success of our healthcare system, ensuring that all New Brunswickers have access to high-quality, timely care when they need it;

WHEREAS the Premier has recognized the essential role of casual nurses in the healthcare system and expressed a commitment to improving programs that support them, yet many critical groups of nurses, such as casual nurses, LPNs in special care facilities, hospice nurses, and public health nurses, were excluded from the current bonus program despite promises made in the Liberal election platform to provide bonuses to all nurses;

WHEREAS the Holt government has made the decision to redirect significant funds, amounting to \$180.6 million, from the WorkSafe return of premiums, which could instead be invested in a much-needed retention bonus program for New Brunswick nurses, including those currently not receiving the recognition and compensation they deserve for their essential contributions;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to invest the WorkSafe funds into a retention bonus program for New Brunswick nurses currently not feeling respected and valued by the government, to help address recruitment and retention challenges and ensure that all nurses in New Brunswick are supported and recognized for their vital roles in our healthcare system.

**Motion 20 by Mr. Coon**, seconded by Ms. Mitton to propose the following resolution on Thursday, March 27, 2025:

WHEREAS providing paid sick days is a public health measure that helps reduce the risk of spreading illness among coworkers and customers, minimizing the negative impacts on productivity;

WHEREAS, without paid sick days, workers are forced to choose between their health and financial security, potentially risking their own well-being and the health of others;

WHEREAS 45% of full-time workers in New Brunswick earn under \$50,000 annually and a significant portion of these workers do not have access to paid sick days, making it harder for them to recover from illness or care for family members;

WHEREAS the *Employment Standards Act* allows only for up to five days of unpaid sick days, leaving many workers vulnerable to financial hardship when they are ill;

WHEREAS the federal government, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and British Columbia provide paid sick days to their employees;

WHEREAS, since instituting paid sick days, British Columbia has reported multiple benefits, including increased productivity, better staff retention, a decline in workplace injuries, and an increase in morale;

WHEREAS the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training, and Labour's consultation on sick days indicated broad support for paid sick days in New Brunswick;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to ensure that all New Brunswick workers have access to paid sick days.

**Motion 22 by Mr. Hogan**, seconded by Mr. Ames to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 8, 2025:

WHEREAS the pharmacy engagement pilot project was designed to integrate pharmacists more effectively into the healthcare system by expanding their roles in patient care, including medication management, chronic disease monitoring, and minor ailment prescribing;

WHEREAS this initiative demonstrated tangible benefits, including improved patient outcomes, reduced wait times in emergency departments, and enhanced efficiency within the healthcare system;

WHEREAS pharmacists, as highly trained and accessible healthcare professionals, play a crucial role in alleviating pressure on primary care providers and emergency services, particularly during a time of healthcare workforce shortages in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS discontinuing this pilot project would result in decreased access to essential healthcare services, increased strain on physicians and emergency departments, and potential negative impacts on patient health outcomes;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick urge the government to strongly advocate for the immediate reinstatement and expansion of the pharmacy engagement pilot project;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government of New Brunswick to allocate the necessary funding and resources to support pharmacists in delivering essential healthcare services as part of a sustainable and integrated healthcare system.

**Motion 23 by Ms. Bockus**, seconded by Ms. M. Wilson to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 8, 2025:

WHEREAS the SEED (Student Employment and Experience Development) grants in New Brunswick have proven to be an effective way for MLAs to support projects that address specific community needs, but the current allocation limits do not provide sufficient flexibility for MLAs to meet the growing demands of their constituents;

WHEREAS other provinces, such as Alberta, have implemented systems that allow for a higher number of funded positions or grants per riding, resulting in more inclusive community support, better outcomes for local initiatives, and enhanced relationships between elected officials and the communities they serve;

WHEREAS increasing the number of SEED grants available in each riding will enable MLAs to provide greater support to local initiatives, foster stronger connections with constituents, and ensure that community-driven projects can thrive across New Brunswick, contributing to social and economic development at the grassroots level;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government of New Brunswick to increase the funding for SEED grants to enable MLAs to award 30 positions in each riding, empowering them to better address local needs and contribute to the ongoing development of their communities.

**Motion 25 by Mr. Austin**, seconded by Ms. Scott-Wallace to propose the following resolution on Thursday, April 3, 2025:

WHEREAS New Brunswick is endowed with vast natural resources, including untapped reserves of natural gas, which present a significant opportunity to contribute to the province's economic development, job creation, and energy security;

WHEREAS a jurisdictional scan of other Canadian provinces demonstrates the economic impact of natural gas exploration, seeing billions in economic benefits from its natural gas sector;

WHEREAS New Brunswick, with its unique geological formations, has the potential to explore and develop its natural gas resources, ensuring that the economic benefits of this resource can be realized in a way that protects the province's natural environment for future generations;

WHEREAS the development of natural resources in New Brunswick will strengthen the province's economy;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government of New Brunswick to initiate comprehensive research and a consultative process to explore the responsible development of its natural resources in order to unlock new economic opportunities and contribute to the long-term prosperity of the province.

**Motion 26 by Mr. Austin**, seconded by Ms. Conroy to propose the following resolution on Thursday, April 3, 2025:

WHEREAS security threats and incidents targeting public and private institutions, including places of worship and non-profit organizations, have become an increasing concern across Canada, with religious and community organizations often being vulnerable to acts of vandalism, theft, and other forms of violence;

WHEREAS the recent vandalism of the Fredericton Synagogue, an act that undermines the principles of tolerance, respect, and inclusion, highlights the critical need for greater community support and collaboration, and religious organizations, through their longstanding commitment to fostering understanding, unity, and social responsibility, are essential partners in promoting healing, reconciliation, and a stronger, more inclusive New Brunswick society, making their inclusion in the New Brunswick Community Investment Fund vital for the betterment of all communities;

WHEREAS religious organizations in New Brunswick have a long history of providing essential community services, including food programs, mental health support, youth mentorship, and senior care, which contribute to the overall well-being and resilience of local communities, particularly in underserved and vulnerable populations;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to expand the CIF eligibility requirements to include security apparatus and equipment for religious and non-profit organizations, ensuring that these essential institutions are equipped to protect their staff, members, and facilities from emerging threats.

**Motion 27 by Ms. S. Wilson**, seconded by Ms. Scott-Wallace to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 8, 2025:

WHEREAS data from Statistics Canada and local Jewish organizations indicate a disturbing rise in antisemitic incidents across New Brunswick over recent years;

WHEREAS, since October 2023, New Brunswick's Jewish community has experienced alarming incidents, including threats to safety at communal facilities, vandalism of Jewish-owned businesses, and intimidation faced by Jewish students in educational institutions;

WHEREAS local law enforcement agencies in New Brunswick have reported significant increases in hate crimes, with the Jewish community being disproportionately targeted;

WHEREAS a provincial summit to combat antisemitism would serve as a vital platform for stakeholders, including government officials, law enforcement, educators, and community leaders, to collaborate, share insights, and develop actionable strategies to counter the rising tide of hate;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick urge the government of New Brunswick to direct the appointed representatives on Holocaust Remembrance and Combatting Antisemitism to convene a provincial summit to address antisemitism in New Brunswick to foster dialogue among stakeholders and to establish comprehensive measures to protect the Jewish community and combat hate in all its forms within the province.

**Motion 28 by Ms. Scott-Wallace**, seconded by Mr. Savoie to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 8, 2025:

WHEREAS physical activity and sports play a significant role in promoting health, well-being, and community engagement among residents of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS athletes competing at various levels contribute to the province's reputation and pride, representing New Brunswick in regional, national, and international competitions;

WHEREAS several provinces, including British Columbia and Ontario, have established funding programs that provide financial support to athletes competing in recognized sports, ensuring they have the resources necessary to train and excel;

WHEREAS, despite the demonstrated benefits of supporting athletes, New Brunswick currently lacks a comprehensive funding program tailored to assist local athletes competing in recognized sports, which could hinder their development and potential success;

WHEREAS investing in our athletes not only fosters individual excellence but also strengthens the overall sporting community in New Brunswick, encouraging youth participation and enhancing our province's profile in the sports arena;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to begin funding programs that directly support New Brunswick athletes who are competing in recognized sports according to SportNB guidelines.

**Motion 30 by Mr. Coon**, seconded by Ms. Mitton to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 15, 2025:

WHEREAS access to affordable solar energy can significantly lower household energy costs, reduce dependence on fossil fuels, and create local jobs in New Brunswick's growing renewable energy sector;

WHEREAS the Premier has committed to establishing a provincial solar retrofit program to make solar energy more accessible and affordable for New Brunswickers;

WHEREAS high upfront costs remain a significant barrier to installing solar power systems, preventing many New Brunswickers from benefiting from clean, renewable energy;

WHEREAS innovative and affordable solar solutions, such as plug-in solar panels widely available in European countries, enable tenants to reduce their power costs with free energy from the sun;

WHEREAS expanding access to solar energy will empower New Brunswickers to save money, strengthen energy resilience, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions;



BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to implement a comprehensive and accessible solar retrofit program that removes financial barriers and expands access to solar energy for all New Brunswickers.

**Motion 31 by Mr. Coon**, seconded by Ms. Mitton to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 15, 2025:

WHEREAS mental health needs are not being adequately addressed by the healthcare system;

WHEREAS less than half of New Brunswickers perceive their mental health as very good or excellent;

WHEREAS New Brunswick has the third-highest suicide rate among all Canadian provinces, at 15.7 deaths per 100,000 population;

WHEREAS 24-hour emergency mental health crisis services are essential to the health and well-being of New Brunswickers;

WHEREAS there are no designated 24-hour mental health crisis services outside of ERs, except for a phone line answered by home-based call centre agents employed by an Ontario-based company;

WHEREAS the government has outsourced access to triage for its Mobile Crisis Mental Health Response Teams to a privately managed company with home-based call centre agents;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to fund its community mental health centres to provide 24-hour walk-in emergency services;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to reinstate direct public access to the Mobile Crisis Mental Health Response Teams and extend their operating hours to provide round-the-clock service.

**Motion 32 by Ms. Mitton**, seconded by Mr. Coon to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 29, 2025:

WHEREAS New Brunswickers facing serious illnesses, such as cancer, should not have to choose between seeking life-saving treatment and job security;

WHEREAS the current length of job-protected leave in New Brunswick is insufficient to cover the average treatment and recovery period for many common cancers, which can last over 36 weeks;

WHEREAS the federal government has extended the EI sickness benefit to 26 weeks, yet New Brunswick workers risk losing their jobs if provincial job protection is not extended accordingly;

WHEREAS other provinces, including Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba, and Ontario, have extended job-protected leave to at least 26 weeks, aligning with the federal EI sickness benefit;

WHEREAS 85% of New Brunswickers support extending job-protected leave to 26 weeks;

WHEREAS extending job protection would ensure New Brunswick workers can focus on recovery without the fear of losing employment;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to introduce legislation extending unpaid job-protected leave for serious illness from the current 5 days to 26 weeks.

### ***Motions for Returns***

**Motion 29 by Ms. Mitton**, seconded by Mr. Coon to propose the following resolution on Thursday, May 8, 2025:

THAT an address be presented to Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that she cause to be laid upon the table of the House detailed expenditure plans for each provincial department and agency for 2025-2026.

### **CONCLUDED**

**Motion 5 by Mr. Ames**. Debated and carried as amended December 12, 2024.

**Motion 6 by Mr. Hogan**. Debated and carried as amended November 28, 2024.

**Motion 7 by Ms. Scott-Wallace**. Debated and carried as amended May 15, 2025.

**Motion 15 by Ms. M. Johnson**. Debated and carried May 15, 2025.

**Motion 16 by Mr. Austin**. Debated and defeated March 27, 2025.

**Motion 17 by Mr. Hogan**. Debated and carried as amended May 15, 2025.

**Motion 21 by Ms. Bockus**. Debated and defeated May 8, 2025.

### **PETITIONS**

Petition 1: Mr. Coon, November 26, 2024.	(Response, January 10, 2025)
Petition 2: Ms. S. Wilson, December 10, 2024.	(Response, January 23, 2025)
Petition 3: Ms. Mitton, December 10, 2024.	(Response, December 19, 2024)
Petition 4: Mr. Cullins, December 13, 2024.	(Response, December 19, 2024)
Petition 5: Mr. Lee, March 21, 2025.	(Response, April 11, 2025)
Petition 6: Mr. Austin, March 27, 2025.	(Response, April 11, 2025)
Petition 7: Mr. Coon, May 6, 2025.	
Petition 8: Mr. Bourque, May 7, 2025.	
Petition 9: Mr. Coon, May 9, 2025.	
Petition 10: Mr. Coon, May 14, 2025.	
Petition 11: Mr. Coon, May 15, 2025.	

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Standing Committee on Economic Policy	First Report, December 10, 2024 Second Report, May 7, 2025 Third Report, May 8, 2025 Fourth Report, May 13, 2025 Fifth Report, May 14, 2025 Sixth Report, May 15, 2025
Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy	First Report, May 6, 2025
Standing Committee on Law Amendments	First Report, May 6, 2025
Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers	First Report, December 11, 2024 Second Report, March 26, 2025

Shayne Davies  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly