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Daily sitting 17

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

1 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Following Oral Questions, Mr. M. LeBlanc rose on a point of order and submitted that Mr. Austin used unparliamentary language when he used the term “misled”. Madam Speaker ruled the point well taken and requested that Mr. Austin withdraw the remark, which he did.

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Madam Speaker laid upon the table of the House the *Independent Auditor’s Report on the financial statements of the Office of the Auditor General for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2025*.

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Ms. Vautour, from the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, presented the Fifth Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

December 2, 2025

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

Madam Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Economic Policy begs leave to submit this, their fifth report.

Your Committee met on November 21, 2025, and had under consideration:

Bill 12, *An Act to Amend the Commissioners for Taking Affidavits Act*;  
Bill 15, *An Act Respecting Pension Benefits*;  
Bill 18, *Macquac Life Achievement Project Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

(Sgd. :) Natacha Vautour, M.L.A.  
Chair

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Pursuant to Standing Rule 78.1, Madam 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.

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Mr. Doucet, from the Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the First Report of the Committee for the session which was read and is as follows:

December 2, 2025

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

Madam Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Private Bills begs leave to submit this, their first report.

Your Committee met on November 26, 2025, and had under consideration:

Bill 19, *An Act Respecting the New Brunswick Association of Occupational Therapists*;  
Bill 20, *An Act to Amend An Act Respecting Certain Parks and Streets in The City of Fredericton*;

which it recommends to the favourable consideration of the House.

And your Committee begs leave to make a further report.

I move, seconded by the Member for Shippagan-Les-Îles, that the report be concurred in by the House.

(Sgd. :) Alexandre Cédric Doucet, M.L.A.  
Chair

Madam Speaker put the question on the motion of concurrence in the report of the Committee, and it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Coon gave Notice of Motion 19 that on Thursday, December 11, 2025, he would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Mitton:

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

WHEREAS the April 2014 forest management deal signed with JD Irving under Premier David Alward significantly increased the annual allowable cut and broadly deregulated conservation measures;

WHEREAS the Department of Natural Resources is projecting a 20% increase in annual allowable cut between 2027 and 2031;

WHEREAS JD Irving's License 7 represents a third of the Crown land in New Brunswick;

WHEREAS JDI is proposing that the area of forest converted to tree plantations on Licence 7 increase by 33% in 2027 and every year thereafter through 2031;

WHEREAS JDI is requesting to increase the annual volume of spruce and fir to be logged by 34%, which will mean a 17% increase in the area of conservation forest being logged;

WHEREAS the dramatic increase in conversion of forest to plantations and the replanting of harvested plantations will increase the spraying of glyphosate and decrease forest biodiversity;

WHEREAS there is increasing scientific evidence of the risk glyphosate poses to the health of our forest ecosystems and wildlife;

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

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

Hon. Mr. Legacy, Minister of Finance and Treasury Board, delivered to Madam Speaker a Message from Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and the said Message was read by Madam Speaker, all the Members standing, and is as follows:

Fredericton, New Brunswick.  
December 2, 2025.

Her Honour the Lieutenant-Governor transmits the *Capital Estimates* for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2027, required for the services of the Province, not otherwise provided for, and in accordance with the provisions of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, recommends these estimates to the House.

(Sgd. :) Louise Imbeault.  
Lieutenant-Governor.

Pursuant to Notice of Motion 16, Hon. Mr. Legacy moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

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

And the question being put, Hon. Mr. Legacy proceeded to deliver the 2026-2027 capital budget speech.

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

Mr. M. LeBlanc, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply to be granted to His Majesty forthwith.

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

And after some time, Madam Speaker resumed the chair and Mr. Arseneault, the Chair, after requesting that Madam Speaker revert to Presentations of Committee Reports, reported that the Committee proceeding in the matter under consideration, had passed the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Supply be granted to His Majesty.

And he was directed to ask leave to sit again.

Mr. Arseneault moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT the House does concur with the Committee of Supply in its report and agrees in its resolution that Supply be granted to His Majesty.

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

Mr. M. LeBlanc, after requesting that Madam Speaker revert to Government Motions for the Ordering of the Business of the House, moved, seconded by the Honourable the Premier:

THAT consideration of estimates in Committee of Supply be added to the Orders of the Day until such time as they are dispatched.

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

With leave of the House, Mr. M. LeBlanc moved, seconded by Mr. J. LeBlanc: (Motion 20)

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship be amended by substituting Mr. Russell for Mr. Weir;

THAT the membership of the Legislative Administration Committee be amended by substituting Hon. Ms. Thériault for Hon. Mr. Hickey;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers be amended by substituting Mr. Russell for Mr. Austin;

THAT the membership of the Standing Committee on Social Policy be amended by substituting Mr. Russell for Mr. Dawson.

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

Mr. M. LeBlanc, Government House Leader, announced that it was the intention of government that Bill 21 be called for second reading.

The Order being read for second reading of Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Child and Youth Well-Being Act*, a debate arose thereon.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put that Bill 21 be now read a second time, it was resolved in the affirmative.

Accordingly, Bill 21, *An Act to Amend the Child and Youth Well-Being Act*, was read a second time and ordered referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Policy, as designated by the Government House Leader.

And then, 3.23 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:

Response to Petition 4	November 24, 2025
Annual Report 2024-2025	
Department of Intergovernmental Affairs	November 25, 2025
Annual Report 2024-2025	
Executive Council Office	November 25, 2025
Annual Report 2023-2024	
Midwifery Council of New Brunswick	November 27, 2025
Annual Report 2024-2025	
Department of Transportation and Infrastructure	November 28, 2025
Annual Report 2024-2025	
Department of Social Development	November 28, 2025