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Daily sitting 35

Thursday, May 7, 2026

*1 o'clock p.m.*

Prayers.

The Honourable the Premier welcomed David Alward, former Premier and Progressive-Conservative MLA for Woodstock (1999-2014) and Carleton (2014-2015). Ms. Scott-Wallace and Mr. Coon joined in this regard.

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Madam Speaker introduced Anna Houston and Grace Cunningham, participants in the seventh year of the Legislative Internship Program.

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Mr. Robichaud welcomed Denis Landry, former Liberal MLA for Centre-Péninsule (1995-1999, 2003-2006), Centre-Péninsule-Saint-Sauveur (2006-2014) and Bathurst East-Nepisiguit-Saint-Isidore (2014-2022).

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

May 7, 2026

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 eighth report.

Your Committee met on May 6, 2026, and had under consideration:

Bill 27, *An Act to Amend the Limitation of Actions Act*;  
Bill 29, *Court Jurisdiction and Proceedings Transfer Act*;  
Bill 30, *An Act Respecting the Probate Court Act and the Public Trustee Act*;  
Bill 31, *Procedures Respecting Complaints Against Provincial Court Judges and Adjudicators Act*;  
Bill 32, *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act*;  
Bill 33, *An Act Respecting the Apprenticeship and Occupational Certification Act*;

and have agreed to the same.

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Your Committee also had under consideration:

Bill 28, *Enforcement of Canadian Judgments Act*;

and have agreed to the same with certain amendments.

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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Ms. Scott-Wallace gave Notice of Motion 35 that on Thursday, May 14, 2026, she would move the following resolution, seconded by Ms. M. Johnson:

WHEREAS animal agriculture is a vital part of the province's economy valued at approximately \$500 million, and reliable, local food production benefits all New Brunswickers;

WHEREAS the Agricultural Alliance of New Brunswick's Industry Vet & Lab Services Response Committee has expressed serious concerns over the lack of consultation between the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries and stakeholders in the agricultural sector on the planned phase-out of provincial veterinary services and closure of the provincial veterinary laboratory;

WHEREAS timely access to veterinary services for livestock in all areas of the province is vital to both animal welfare and food and agricultural product safety;

WHEREAS an entirely privatized system for large animal veterinarians could leave gaps in coverage in rural areas;

WHEREAS the provincial veterinary laboratory provides services critical to public health and animal health by working to prevent the spread of rabies and many foreign animal diseases including avian influenza, African swine fever, and foot and mouth disease;

WHEREAS fees for various provincial veterinary and veterinary laboratory services are explicitly set at fixed values per NB Regulation 86-32, and in many cases do not reflect the true cost of delivering services, particularly in the case of veterinary laboratory service fees which have not been updated since 2014;

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WHEREAS the Vet & Lab Services Response Committee has expressed a willingness for the program to move to a full cost-recovery model for fees;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to cease the proposed phase-out of provincial veterinary services and the planned closure of the provincial veterinary laboratory;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to consult with veterinarians, farmers, and other stakeholders in the agricultural sector to develop a mutually acceptable cost-recovery model for veterinary and veterinary laboratory fees and secure these critical public services for the long term.

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Pursuant to Notice of Motion 33, Mr. Lee moved, seconded by Mr. Hogan:

WHEREAS medical isotopes are required to provide radiation treatments for cancers;

WHEREAS medical isotopes are also used in positron emission tomography (PET) and single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) scans to diagnose various cancers, heart diseases, and brain disorders, and have contributed to early detection of cancers, notably raising the 5-year survival rate of cervical cancer from 25% to 75%;

WHEREAS both of New Brunswick's regional health authorities provide radiation treatment for cancers, and have PET scanners at the Saint John Regional Hospital and Dr. Georges-L.-Dumont Hospital, but currently rely on reactors and cyclotrons outside the province to supply them with medical isotopes;

WHEREAS numerous medical isotopes, including Cobalt-60 used for radiation treatments and Technetium-99m used in diagnostic imaging, can be produced in nuclear reactors;

WHEREAS New Brunswick's existing nuclear reactor, the CANDU reactor at Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station, is particularly well suited to medical isotope production due to its high concentration of free neutrons and sophisticated refuelling procedure, and NB Power has expressed interest in producing medical isotopes at Point Lepreau;

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WHEREAS, after isotopes are harvested, further chemical processing and purification is required to produce a marketable pharmaceutical grade product;

WHEREAS the Fundy Shores community has been receptive to medical isotope production and processing in the area;

WHEREAS medical isotope production is expected to be a \$42 billion industry by 2031, presenting a significant revenue opportunity for nuclear facilities and medical isotope processing facilities;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to support incorporating medical isotope production and processing into New Brunswick's nuclear infrastructure, opening New Brunswick to a growing industry and providing New Brunswick's hospitals with a local supply of cancer-fighting, life-saving medical isotopes.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Mr. Arseneault, the Deputy Speaker, took the chair as Acting Speaker.

And after some further time, Hon. Mr. Legacy, seconded by Hon. Mr. Dornan, moved in amendment:

#### AMENDMENT

That Motion 33 be amended by striking out the first three whereas clauses and substituting the following:

“WHEREAS medical isotopes are required for certain radiation treatments for cancers;

WHEREAS reactor produced medical isotopes are also used in nuclear medicine imaging scans to diagnose various cancers, heart diseases, and brain disorders, and have contributed to early detection of cancers;

WHEREAS both New Brunswick's regional health authorities provide radiation treatment for cancers, and offer nuclear medicine imaging services, but currently rely on reactors from outside the province to supply them with medical isotopes”

Mr. Deputy Speaker put the question on the proposed amendment and a debate ensued.

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At 3.47 p.m. the House recessed. At 3.54 p.m. the House resumed.

And after some time, Madam Speaker resumed the chair.

And the debate being ended, and the question being put, the amendment was adopted.

Madam Speaker put the question on Motion 33 as amended as follows:

WHEREAS medical isotopes are required for certain radiation treatments for cancers;

WHEREAS reactor produced medical isotopes are also used in nuclear medicine imaging scans to diagnose various cancers, heart diseases, and brain disorders, and have contributed to early detection of cancers;

WHEREAS both New Brunswick's regional health authorities provide radiation treatment for cancers, and offer nuclear medicine imaging services, but currently rely on reactors from outside the province to supply them with medical isotopes.

WHEREAS numerous medical isotopes, including Cobalt-60 used for radiation treatments and Technetium-99m used in diagnostic imaging, can be produced in nuclear reactors;

WHEREAS New Brunswick's existing nuclear reactor, the CANDU reactor at Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station, is particularly well suited to medical isotope production due to its high concentration of free neutrons and sophisticated refuelling procedure, and NB Power has expressed interest in producing medical isotopes at Point Lepreau;

WHEREAS, after isotopes are harvested, further chemical processing and purification is required to produce a marketable pharmaceutical grade product;

WHEREAS the Fundy Shores community has been receptive to medical isotope production and processing in the area;

WHEREAS medical isotope production is expected to be a \$42 billion industry by 2031, presenting a significant revenue opportunity for nuclear facilities and medical isotope processing facilities;

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BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to support incorporating medical isotope production and processing into New Brunswick's nuclear infrastructure, opening New Brunswick to a growing industry and providing New Brunswick's hospitals with a local supply of cancer-fighting, life-saving medical isotopes.

And the question being put, Motion 33 as amended was resolved in the affirmative.

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Pursuant to Notice of Motion 13, Ms. M. Wilson moved, seconded by Ms. S. Wilson:

WHEREAS New Brunswick homeowners have experienced significant and unsustainable increases in property assessment values since the pandemic;

WHEREAS the sharp increases in assessment values mean that the current cost of assessment fee of \$19.40 for every \$100,000 of a property's assessed value increasingly represents an unbearable cost burden for homeowners;

WHEREAS CBC News in March 2024 reported that the assessment fee doubled for homeowners in some New Brunswick communities in the previous three years;

WHEREAS 30 percent of New Brunswickers cited housing affordability as a top issue of concern in an Angus Reid poll conducted in September 2025 and the same poll found that 60 percent of New Brunswickers cited the cost of living as a top issue of concern;

WHEREAS municipalities also pay the Government of New Brunswick the cost of assessment fee;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge the government to eliminate the "cost of assessment" fee associated with the property assessment process.

And the question being put, a debate ensued.

And after some time, Madam Speaker interrupted proceedings and announced that the hour of daily adjournment had arrived.

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And then, 6 p.m., the House adjourned.