

Legislative Activities

2024

Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick



Cover photo:

The main doors to the Departmental Building,
which is situated in the legislative precinct.

Extensive renovations to the interior of the building were completed in 2024.

The offices of all Private Members, the press gallery, and certain Assembly staff
are now located in the building.

Legislative Activities

2024



New Brunswick

Prepared for The Honourable Francine Landry

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

New Brunswick



February 9, 2026

The Honourable Francine Landry
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Room 31, Legislative Building
Fredericton, New Brunswick
E3B 1C5

Dear Madam Speaker:

I have the honour of submitting this, the thirty-sixth annual report of *Legislative Activities*, for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' and 'D' followed by a horizontal line.

Shayne Davies
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly



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YEAR IN REVIEW

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly — Shayne Davies

The 2024 calendar year was eventful for the offices of the Legislative Assembly. The third and final session of the 60th Legislature concluded and the first session of the 61st Legislature began. In total, the House sat for 36 days during the calendar year and committees held 67 meetings. The year was marked by a select committee's final report, the resignation of four Members, a change in government after a provincial general election, the election of a new Speaker, and the creation of a new standing committee.

On February 2, Arlene Dunn resigned from cabinet. First elected in the 2020 general election, Ms. Dunn served in many capacities, including as Minister responsible for Economic Development and Small Business; Minister responsible for Opportunities NB; Minister responsible for Immigration; Minister of Aboriginal Affairs; and Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour. The resignation triggered the reassignment of her portfolios in a swearing-in ceremony of the Executive Council: Mike Holland became the Minister of Indigenous Affairs and Greg Turner became the Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour. Ms. Dunn subsequently resigned as a Member on February 8.

The third session of the 60th Legislature, which adjourned on December 13, 2023, resumed sitting on March 19, 2024. Finance Minister Ernie Steeves delivered the government's sixth budget. The reply to the budget speech was delivered on March 21 by Opposition Finance Critic René Legacy.

The Select Committee on Accessibility in New Brunswick was appointed by the House on June 9, 2021. The committee was charged with conducting public consultations with community stakeholders and government departments involved with the disability community and reporting to the House with recommendations. Throughout the life of the committee, public hearings took place and the committee also received briefings from experts. After releasing an interim report on December 16, 2022, the committee released its final report on March 28. Together, the reports contained 9 recommendations on how accessibility legislation in New Brunswick should be drafted and what it should contain, including the creation of an independent accessibility commission.

On April 19, Gary Crossman resigned from cabinet, transferring his ministerial responsibilities to Glen Savoie, who assumed the role in an acting capacity. On May 2, Mr. G. Savoie officially assumed Mr. Crossman's former position as Minister of Environment and Climate Change in addition to his other portfolios as Minister of Local Government, Minister responsible for La Francophonie, and Government House Leader. On April 30, Mr. Crossman resigned as a Member. First elected in the 2014 general election, Mr. Crossman was re-elected in 2018 and 2020. During his time at the Legislature, in addition to serving as Minister of Environment and Climate Change, he served as Minister responsible for the Regional Development Corporation and as a chair and member of various standing committees.

Also on April 30, Trevor Holder resigned as a Member. First elected in the 1999 general election, Mr. Holder was re-elected in 2003, 2006, 2010, 2014, 2018 and 2020. During his time at the Legislature, he served as Minister of Environment and Local Government; Minister of Tourism and Parks; Minister of Wellness, Culture and Sport; Minister of Culture, Tourism and Healthy Living; Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; and Deputy Speaker. He served on various standing and select committees, most notably as Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

A total of 48 bills were introduced during the third session, 41 of which received Royal Assent. The House adjourned on June 7, sitting for 50 days during the session, for a total of 172 hours. This compares to 49 days during the previous session, or 188 hours. The Committee of the Whole and Standing Committee on Economic Policy spent 76 hours considering legislation, and the Committee of Supply and Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy spent the prescribed 80 hours considering estimates.



On June 20, Mike Holland resigned from cabinet and as a Member. First elected in the 2018 general election, Mr. Holland served as Minister of Energy and Resource Development, later called Natural Resources and Energy Development, and as Minister of Indigenous Affairs. He also served on various standing and select committees during his time at the Legislature. His portfolio as Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Development was reassigned to Hugh J.A. Flemming, K.C., Minister of Justice and Attorney General, and his portfolio of Minister of Indigenous Affairs was reassigned to Réjean Savoie, Minister responsible for the Regional Development Corporation.

The 60th Legislature was dissolved on September 19 and the 41st provincial general election was held on October 21. At dissolution, the standings in the House were 25 Progressive Conservatives, 16 Liberals, three Greens, one Independent, and four vacancies.

The Liberal Party, led by Susan Holt, Member for Fredericton South-Silverwood, formed a new majority government with 31 seats. The Progressive Conservative Party won 16 seats and the Green Party won two seats. Although a redistribution and redrawing of the electoral map occurred since the previous election, the number of seats remained the same at 49.

The general election was historic as it was the first time in New Brunswick history that a woman was elected Premier and that a person identifying as being of Indian origin was elected to the Legislature. A record number of women were elected to the Legislature: 17 women were elected across all three parties represented in the House, representing 35% of its membership, an increase of three seats compared to the 2020 provincial general election results. Nineteen new Members were elected in total, representing a 40% turnover rate from the previous Assembly.

Blaine Higgs, who served as Premier since November 2018, lost his seat in the riding of Quispamsis. Following a career with Irving Oil Limited, Mr. Higgs was first elected in the 2010 provincial general election and was subsequently re-elected in 2014, 2018 and 2020. During his time at the Legislature, he also served as Minister of Finance, Minister of Human Resources, Minister responsible for the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation, Minister responsible for the New Brunswick Investment Management Corporation, Minister Responsible for the New Brunswick Lotteries and Gaming Corporation, and served as Leader of the Official Opposition and on a standing committee.

Upon Mr. Higgs's resignation as Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of New Brunswick, Glen Savoie was named Leader of the Official Opposition. Since his election in 2010, Mr. Savoie has served as Government House Leader, Minister of Local Government, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Minister responsible for La Francophonie, and served on various standing and select committees.

On November 2, Premier Holt was sworn into office by Lieutenant-Governor Brenda Murphy in a ceremony held in the Legislative Assembly Chamber. Including the Premier, a Cabinet of 19 was sworn-in, consisting of: René Legacy, Minister of Finance and Treasury Board and Minister responsible for Energy; Robert McKee, K.C., Minister of Justice, Attorney General and Minister responsible for Addictions and Mental Health Services; Dr. John Dornan, Minister of Health; Claire Johnson, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development; Keith Chiasson, Minister of Indigenous Affairs; Cindy Miles, Minister of Social Development; Chuck Chiasson, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure; Gilles LePage, Minister of Environment and Climate Change and Minister responsible for the Regional Development Corporation; Aaron Kennedy, Minister of Local Government and Minister responsible for Service New Brunswick; Isabelle Thériault, Minister of Tourism, Heritage and Culture; Robert Gauvin, Minister of Public Safety and Minister responsible for la Francophonie; Alyson Townsend, Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour and Minister responsible for the Research and Productivity Council; John Herron, Minister of Natural Resources; Pat Finnigan, Minister of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries; Lyne Chantal Boudreau, Minister responsible for Seniors and Minister responsible for Women's Equality; Jean-Claude D'Amours, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Minister responsible for Immigration and Minister responsible for Military Affairs; David Hickey, Minister



responsible for the New Brunswick Housing Corporation; and Luke Randall, Minister responsible for Opportunities NB, Minister responsible for Economic Development and Small Business and Minister responsible for NB Liquor and Cannabis NB.

The First Session of the 61st Legislative Assembly was convened the morning of November 19 for the purpose of electing a Speaker. Francine Landry was elected by acclamation to this position. Ms. Landry is the first Francophone woman to serve in this position and only the second woman to serve in this role in the history of the province. She was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in the 2014 provincial general election and was re-elected in 2018, 2020 and 2024. During her time at the Legislature, she has served in various cabinet and legislative roles.

In the afternoon of November 19, the Assembly reconvened for the formal Opening and delivery of the Speech from the Throne by the Lieutenant-Governor. Deputy Speakers Guy Arseneault and Benoît Bourque were appointed on this day. Other appointments were as follows: Marco LeBlanc as Government House Leader, Jacques LeBlanc as Government Whip, Natacha Vautour as Government Caucus Chair, Margaret Johnson as Official Opposition House Leader, former Speaker Bill Oliver as Official Opposition Whip and Ryan Cullins as Official Opposition Caucus Chair.

On November 20, a motion was adopted by the House to allow the Green caucus certain rights and privileges only conferred to recognized parties for the duration of the first session, despite not having elected the requisite five Members per the Standing Rules. The motion also referred the definition of “recognized party” to the Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers for its consideration.

On November 21, the Leader of the Official Opposition, Glen Savoie, delivered the reply to the Speech from the Throne.

The Legislature created a new committee on December 11 called the Standing Committee on Official Languages. It is tasked with the responsibility of reviewing and reporting on official languages policies and programs, including reports of the Commissioner of Official Languages and of the Secretariat of Official Languages.

In a rare procedural occurrence on December 13, Lieutenant-Governor Brenda Murphy and her spouse, Her Honour Linda Boyle, were invited onto the floor of the House during Statements by Ministers to be present for tributes delivered by the Premier and other party leaders recognizing her term in office. In this instance, the Lieutenant-Governor was seated as a guest on the floor of the Chamber, whereas the King’s representative would typically be escorted to the Throne by the Sergeant-at-Arms holding the black rod after the Speaker admits them. This occurred as Her Honour’s term was due to end with the installation of the 33rd Lieutenant-Governor early in 2025.

During the fall sitting, five bills were introduced. The House adjourned on December 13, after 12 sitting days. The standings in the House at year end were 31 Liberals, 16 Progressive Conservatives, and two Green.



NOTABLE EVENTS

Swearing-in of Members

Lieutenant-Governor Brenda Murphy presided over the swearing-in ceremony for the Members of the 61st Legislative Assembly on Saturday, November 2. On that day, Members took their Oath of Allegiance and signed the Members' Roll in the historic Chamber.

Following a general election, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly receives from the Chief Electoral Officer a certified list of Members returned under the terms of the *Elections Act*. In order for the elected Members to take their seats in the House, it is required by section 128 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, that they first take and subscribe to an Oath of Allegiance.

After swearing or affirming the oath, Members sign the Members' Roll, which is a register in witness of their oath. This swearing-in ceremony returned to the practice of all Members being sworn-in together, which had been altered due to the requirement for physical distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Her Honour Brenda Murphy completes the required jurats in the Members' Roll.

Election of Speaker



Speaker Francine Landry addresses the House from the dais for the first time on November 19.

The first session of the 61st Legislative Assembly convened on November 19 for the purpose of electing a new Speaker. As only one Member allowed their name to stand for election, the Clerk declared MLA Francine Landry elected as Speaker. Speaker Landry was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in a provincial general election on September 22, 2014, and again in the general elections of 2018, 2020 and 2024 to represent the riding of Madawaska Les Lacs-Edmundston.

She previously served as Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; Minister responsible for la Francophonie; Minister of Economic Development; and Minister responsible for Opportunities NB. She has also served as Official Opposition Whip, as a member of the Standing Committees on Estimates and Fiscal Policy, Law Amendments, and Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship, and the Select Committees on Public Universities and Accessibility in New Brunswick.

Speaker Landry has dedicated her career to promoting economic development, advocating for the rights of the Francophone community, and creating job opportunities in the rural regions of the province. As the first Francophone woman to serve as Speaker in New Brunswick, her speakership is of historic, social and cultural importance to the province.



Visit of the Governor General of Canada

After the adjournment of the House on June 4, former Premier Blaine Higgs and former Speaker Bill Oliver officially welcomed Their Excellencies Mary Simon and Whit Fraser to the Legislative Assembly. This marked the first official visit to New Brunswick by the Governor General, who was installed in July 2021 as the first Indigenous Governor General and the 30th to hold the position since Confederation.

After her inspection of the military guard of honour and salute, Her Excellency greeted the assembled Members, including the recognized party leaders, outside on the grounds of the Legislature and then proceeded inside to meet with various dignitaries.

The Governor General is the King's representative in Canada at the federal level, akin to Lieutenant-Governors at the provincial level. In addition to viceregal parliamentary responsibilities like summoning, proroguing and dissolving Parliament and granting Royal Assent, governors general are also Commander-in-Chief of Canada.



The Right Honourable Mary Simon signs the Distinguished Visitors Book in the Office of the Speaker.

Portrait Unveiling

On August 16, the portrait of the late former Lieutenant-Governor, the Honourable Jocelyne Roy Vienneau, was unveiled in the foyer of the Legislative Assembly. Following remarks by the Lieutenant-Governor and remarks from Hon. Ms. Roy Vienneau's husband, Mr. Ronald Vienneau, guests were invited to the Legislative Library for a reception.

The Legislative Assembly houses the portraits of former New Brunswick Lieutenant-Governors dating back to the late 1800s. Hon. Jocelyne Roy Vienneau was the 31st Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick and served in that role from 2014 until her passing in 2019.

Hon. Jocelyne Roy Vienneau was the first Acadian woman to hold this office. In addition to her many personal and professional achievements, she was respected for her steadfast leadership in the fulfillment of her constitutional obligations after the historic results of the 2018 general election that saw a minority government in New Brunswick.



The portrait artist, Donald McGraw, addresses Hon. Jocelyne Roy Vienneau's family and guests during the unveiling of the late former Lieutenant-Governor's portrait.



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



ROLE OF SPEAKER

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly is elected by secret ballot by all Members of the Legislative Assembly at the opening of a new Legislature, or when a vacancy occurs. The Speaker assumes the position of highest authority in the House. As the representative of the Legislative Assembly, the Speaker is the guardian of its privileges and its presiding officer.

To facilitate the orderly flow of business, the House observes certain parliamentary rules, both written and traditional. The Speaker must ensure that these rules of procedure are observed and must protect the rights and privileges of the Assembly and its Members. The Speaker maintains order, interprets the Standing Rules and calls on Members to speak, ensuring a fair representation of opinion. The Speaker presides over the debates of the House with impartiality. The Speaker does not participate in debate and does not vote except in the case of a tie.

The Speaker is the head of the Office of the Legislative Assembly and is responsible for the services, staff and facilities directly related to the Legislative Assembly. The Speaker is president of the New Brunswick Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and serves as the representative of the Legislative Assembly on ceremonial and official occasions.



*Hon. Francine Landry, Speaker
of the Legislative Assembly*

In addition to these responsibilities, the Speaker remains a Member of the Legislative Assembly and is expected to carry out various duties on behalf of their constituents.

ROLE OF MEMBERS

The Parliament of New Brunswick, composed of the Crown and the elected Members, is constituted as the Legislative Assembly. The King of Canada, His Majesty King Charles III, is the official Head of State and is represented in New Brunswick by the Lieutenant-Governor. The primary function of the Legislature, making laws, is vested jointly in the Lieutenant-Governor and the Legislative Assembly, with the Assembly passing legislation and the Lieutenant-Governor assenting to it. This follows centuries-old British tradition in which the power of the state rests with the Crown, while the exercise of that power rests with elected Members.

New Brunswick's system of government, like the federal system in Ottawa, is based on the British parliamentary system. Each of the 49 Members is individually elected to represent the voters in one constituency. Although a Member need not be affiliated with an organized political party, this has generally been the tradition in New Brunswick.



The three main functions of the Legislature are law-making, surveillance and representation. The legislative process (law-making) claims a predominant share of the Assembly's sitting time.

Surveillance refers to holding the government accountable. The job of examining and criticizing the actions of government is primarily a task for the opposition. Oral Question period is the most visible means of surveillance.

Representation refers to serving and representing constituents. For many Members, the constituency is a defining characteristic of their role. Serving constituents is viewed by many Members as one of their primary functions and most spend a great deal of time and effort directed toward this end.

HOUSE ACTIVITY

The term *Legislature* generally refers to the institution which exercises the legislative power. More specifically, the term is used by parliamentarians to refer to the period between two general elections. Each general election brings about a new Legislative Assembly.

The annual meeting of the Assembly is called a session. There may be any number of sessions during the life of a Legislature. The term *session* refers to the period of time between the opening of the Legislative Assembly, when the Lieutenant-Governor delivers the Speech from the Throne, and the prorogation of parliamentary work. Any business not completed before prorogation dies on the *Order and Notice Paper*. A session may also be ended by dissolution, in which case a general election would follow.

The daily meeting of the Assembly is called a sitting. Under the Constitution, at least one sitting of the Legislature must be held each year. A sitting is not necessarily synonymous with a calendar day. Some sittings are very brief and others have extended over more than one calendar day. A sitting is concluded by the adjournment of the House.

The ordinary sitting hours for the House are:

Tuesday	1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Friday	9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The ordinary sitting hours are prescribed by the Standing Rules and may be varied on occasion to include evening sittings.

Each sitting day is divided into two parts: Routine Business and Orders of the Day. Routine Business is devoted to both new business and to providing Members with an opportunity to bring a variety of matters to the attention of the House. Orders of the Day refers to the business that is to come before the House each day, as set out in the *Order and Notice Paper*. An item of business may include consideration of bills at various stages, estimates, or motions for which notice has already been given.



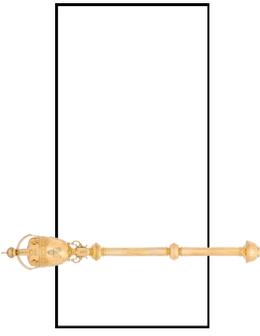
MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AS OF JUNE 7, 2024 Seating Arrangement

 <p>Mike Dawson Southwest Miramichi- Bay du Vin</p>	 <p>Kathy Bockus Saint Croix</p>	 <p>Réjean Savoie Miramichi Bay- Neguac</p>	 <p>Bill Hogan Carleton</p>
 <p>Andrea Anderson-Mason Fundy-The Isles- Saint John West</p>	 <p>Mary Wilson Oromocto- Lincoln- Fredericton</p>	 <p>Tammy Scott-Wallace Sussex-Fundy- St. Martins</p>	 <p>Glen Savoie Saint John East</p>
 <p>Michelle Conroy Miramichi</p>	 <p>Ryan Cullins Fredericton-York</p>	 <p>Kris Austin Fredericton- Grand Lake</p>	 <p>Blaine Higgs Quispamsis</p>
 <p>Jeff Carr New Maryland- Sunbury</p>	 <p>Daniel Allain Moncton East</p>	 <p>Margaret Johnson Carleton-Victoria</p>	 <p>Ernie Steeves Moncton Northwest</p>
	 <p>Ross Wetmore Gagetown- Petitcodiac</p>	 <p>Sherry Wilson Moncton Southwest</p>	 <p>Jill Green Fredericton North</p>
	 <p>Dorothy Shephard Saint John Lancaster</p>	 <p>Richard Ames Carleton-York</p>	 <p>Hugh Flemming Rothesay</p>
		 <p>Greg Turner Moncton South</p>	 <p>Bruce Fitch Riverview</p>
			 <p>Mike Holland Albert</p>

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	GP
	IND



Bill Oliver
Speaker
Kings Centre

Shayne Davies
Clerk

John-Patrick McCleave
Clerk Assistant

Patrick Dunn
Law Clerk



Guy Arseneault
Campbellton-
Dalhousie



Jacques LeBlanc
Shediac-
Beaubassin-
Cap-Pelé



René Legacy
Bathurst West-
Beresford



Keith Chiasson
Tracadie-Sheila



Richard Losier
Dieppe



Susan Holt
Bathurst-East-
Nepisiguit-
Saint-Isidore



**Jean-Claude
D'Amours**
Edmundston-
Madawaska
Centre



Marco LeBlanc
Restigouche-
Chaleur



Robert McKee
Moncton Centre



Gilles LePage
Restigouche West



Francine Landry
Madawaska
Les Lacs-
Edmundston



Isabelle Thériault
Caraquet



Benoît Bourque
Kent South



Robert Gauvin
Shediac Bay-
Dieppe



Eric Mallet
Shippagan-
Lamèque-Miscou



Chuck Chiasson
Victoria-La Vallée



Dominic Cardy
Fredericton West-
Hanwell



David Coon
Fredericton South



Megan Mitton
Memramcook-
Tantramar



Kevin Arseneau
Kent North



MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024 Seating Arrangement

 <p>Jacques LeBlanc Shediac- Cap-Acadie</p>	 <p>David Hickey Saint John Harbour</p>	 <p>Jean-Claude D'Amours Edmundston- Vallée-des-Rivières</p>	 <p>Robert Gauvin Shediac Bay- Dieppe</p>
 <p>Alexandre Cédric Doucet Moncton East</p>	 <p>Luke Randall Fredericton North</p>	 <p>Rob McKee Moncton Centre</p>	 <p>Marco LeBlanc Belle-Baie- Belledune</p>
 <p>Natacha Vautour Dieppe- Memramcook</p>	 <p>Aaron Kennedy Quispamsis</p>	 <p>Isabelle Thériault Caraquet</p>	 <p>Susan Holt Fredericton South- Silverwood</p>
 <p>Tania Sodhi Moncton Northwest</p>	 <p>Alyson Townsend Rothesay</p>	 <p>Chuck Chiasson Grand Falls- Vallée-des-Rivières- Saint-Quentin</p>	 <p>René Legacy Bathurst</p>
 <p>Sam Johnston Miramichi Bay- Neguac</p>	 <p>Kate Wilcott Saint John West- Lancaster</p>	 <p>Lyne Chantal Boudreau Champdoré- Irishtown</p>	 <p>Claire Johnson Moncton South</p>
 <p>Luc Robichaud Hautes-Terres- Nepisiguit</p>	 <p>Eric Mallet Shippagan-Les-Îles</p>	 <p>Keith Chiasson Tracadie</p>	 <p>John Dornan Saint John Portland-Simonds</p>
	 <p>Guy Arseneault Restigouche East</p>	 <p>Pat Finnigan Kent North</p>	 <p>Cindy Miles Hanwell- New Maryland</p>
	 <p>Benoît Bourque Beausoleil- Grand-Bouctouche- Kent</p>	 <p>John Herron Hampton- Fundy-St. Martins</p>	 <p>Gilles LePage Restigouche West</p>



PC



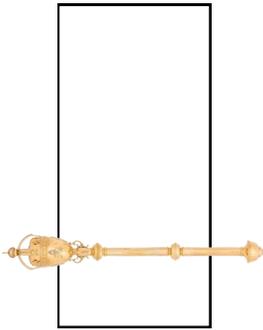
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GP



Francine Landry
Speaker
Madawaska Les
Lacs-Edmundston



Shayne Davies
Clerk

John-Patrick McCleave
Clerk Assistant

Patrick Dunn
Law Clerk



Bill Hogan
Woodstock-Hartland



Rob Weir
Riverview



Margaret Johnson
Carleton-Victoria



Michelle Conroy
Miramichi East



Glen Savoie
Saint John East



Bill Oliver
Kings-Centre



Tammy Scott-Wallace
Sussex-
Three Rivers



Sherry Wilson
Albert-Riverview



Kris Austin
Fredericton-
Grand Lake



Ryan Cullins
Fredericton-York



Don Monahan
Arcadia-
Butternut Valley-
Maple Hills



Kathy Bockus
Saint Croix



Richard Ames
Carleton-York



Ian Lee
Fundy-The Isles-
Saint John Lorneville



Mary Wilson
Oromocto-Sunbury



Mike Dawson
Miramichi West



David Coon
Fredericton Lincoln



Megan Mitton
Tantramar



HOUSE STATISTICS

	59 th Legislature		60 th Legislature	
	<i>Third Session</i>	<i>First Session</i>	<i>Second Session</i>	<i>Third Session</i>
	<i>2019-2020</i>	<i>2020-2022</i>	<i>2022-2023</i>	<i>2023-2024</i>
<i>Daily Sittings</i>				
Number of Sitting Days	31	93	49	50
Evening Sittings	0	0	0	0
<i>Government Bills</i>				
Introduced	46	100	52	40
Received Royal Assent	33	97	50	38
<i>Private Bills</i>				
Introduced	1	8	1	3
Received Royal Assent	0	8	0	3
<i>Private Members' Public Bills</i>				
Introduced	9	12	8	5
Received Royal Assent	0	1	2	0
<i>Government Motions</i>				
Total	12	33	8	9
Number debated	2	11	2	5
Number agreed to	11	30	6	8
Number withdrawn	0	0	0	0
<i>Private Members' Motions</i>				
Total	64	86	43	71
Number debated	8	24	14	16
Number agreed to	8	14	10	9
Number withdrawn	0	0	2	0
<i>Committee of Supply</i>				
In House (Days)	3	7	3	3
In Committee on Estimates	3	28	13	14
In other Committees	0	0	0	0
<i>Annual Reports Tabled</i>	48	162	76	66
<i>Petitions</i>	29	52	17	21
<i>Written Questions</i>	0	0	1	23



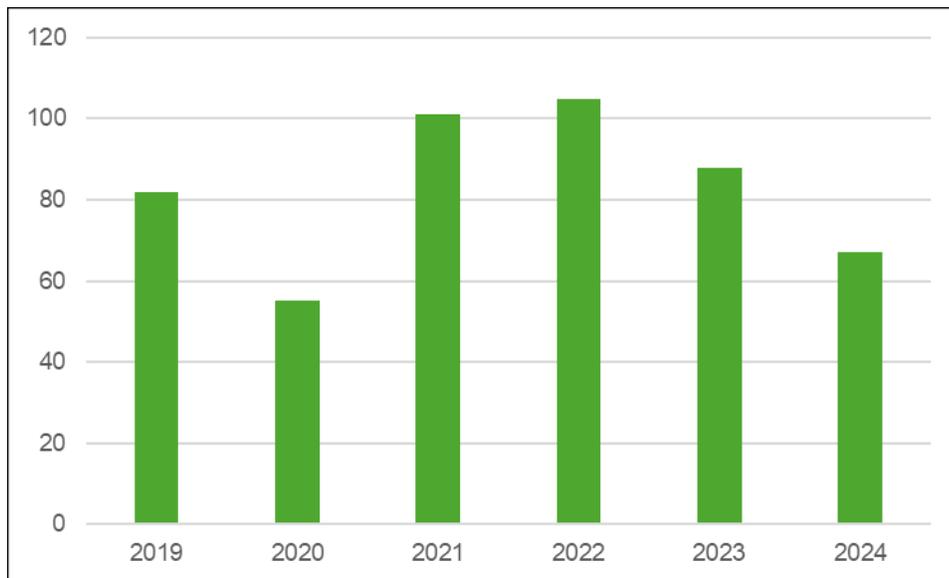
COMMITTEE ACTIVITY



Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Committees — John-Patrick McCleave

A significant amount of work is carried out by legislative committees. These committees are an extension of the House and undertake responsibilities that the Assembly as a whole would find difficult, if not impossible, to carry out. Committees exist to expedite the work of the House and to allow for more thorough study of complex or technical questions. Committees are also able to consult with the public on important matters, and travel when necessary, allowing Members to hear from people in all areas of the province.

In 2024, a new standing committee was established, resulting in a total of 10 standing committees and 2 select committees, which held a total of 67 meetings. Standing committees are appointed by the House and exist for the life of a Legislature. Select committees are appointed by the House to examine specific issues and exist until the presentation of their final reports or until the dissolution of the House, whichever occurs first.



Yearly Number of Committee Meetings



The following is a list of committees, their membership, mandate and activities, as of the dissolution of the 60th Legislature on September 19. Additional activities and changes to memberships post-election are also noted.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Legislative Administration Committee

Members	Hon. Mr. Oliver (C)	Mr. Dawson
	Ms. Conroy	Mr. M. LeBlanc
	Ms. Anderson-Mason, K.C.	Mr. J. LeBlanc
	Hon. Mr. G. Savoie	Mr. Coon
	Hon. Mr. Ames	Mr. Arseneau
	Mr. Cullins	

Mandate

The Committee is responsible for the administration and operation of the legislative buildings and grounds, and generally for all matters relating to the Legislative Assembly and its Members, including budgets, financial policies, allowances and expenses of Members, and terms and conditions of employment of officers and employees.

Activities

The Committee held 3 meetings, on February 13 and 14 and November 28, to discuss various issues related to the operation and administration of the Legislature. Following the October 21 provincial election, the House ratified the new Committee membership as follows: Hon. Ms. Landry (C), Mr. Bourque (VC), Mr. Arseneault, Hon. Mr. Hickey, Hon. Mr. C. Chiasson, Ms. Wilcott, Mr. M. LeBlanc, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Hogan and Mr. Coon.

Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship

Members	Mr. Cullins (C)	Mr. Wetmore
	Mr. Dawson (VC)	Mr. LePage
	Mr. Allain	Mr. Mallet
	Hon. Mr. Holland	Mr. Losier
	Hon. Ms. Johnson	Ms. Mitton
	Hon. Mr. Crossman	

Mandate

The Committee receives updates from the Department of Environment and Local Government on progress towards the implementation of New Brunswick's Climate Change Action Plan; calls on specific departments, agencies, key stakeholders and subject matter experts to provide updates on implementation efforts; and gathers factual information on climate change, environmental stewardship and any other related issues by engaging with experts and stakeholders in the fields of natural environment and natural resource management.

Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2024 prior to the dissolution of the 60th Legislature. Following the election, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Mr. J. LeBlanc (C), Ms. Sodhi (VC), Mr. M. LeBlanc, Ms. Vautour, Ms. Wilcott, Hon. Mr. Herron, Hon. Mr. LePage, Mr. Cullins, Ms. Conroy, Mr. Weir and Ms. Mitton. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on November 21.



Standing Committee on Economic Policy

Members	Ms. Conroy (C)	Mr. Carr
	Mr. Dawson (VC)	Mr. D'Amours
	Mr. Cullins	Mr. Bourque
	Mr. Holder	Mr. Legacy
	Ms. Shephard	Mr. Arseneau
	Mr. Wetmore	

Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain government legislation related to economic policy.

Activities

The Committee held 17 meetings, on February 27, May 7, 8, 10, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 29 and 31, June 4 and 5, November 21, December 3, 4 and 5. The Committee presented reports to the House on March 20, May 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 28 and 30, June 4 and 6. Following the election, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Ms. Vautour (C), Ms. Wilcott (VC), Ms. Sodhi, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Robichaud, Mr. Bourque, Mr. J. LeBlanc, Ms. Scott-Wallace, Mr. Ames, Mr. Austin and Ms. Mitton. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on November 21 and the Committee presented a report to the House on December 10.

Standing Committee on Estimates and Fiscal Policy

Members	Mr. Cullins (C)	Mr. Allain
	Mr. Holder (VC)	Mr. Legacy
	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. C. Chiasson
	Mr. Carr	Mr. J. LeBlanc
	Mr. Dawson	Mr. Arseneau
	Ms. Shephard	

Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review the estimates of certain government departments and related entities.

Activities

The Committee held 15 meetings, on April 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24 and 25, and November 21. The Committee presented a report to the House on May 7. Following the election, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Mr. Robichaud (C), Mr. Doucet (VC), Ms. Vautour, Mr. Bourque, Mr. Mallet, Mr. Johnston, Ms. Sodhi, Ms. Bockus, Mr. Monahan, Ms. S. Wilson and Ms. Mitton. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on November 21.



Standing Committee on Law Amendments

Members	Hon. Mr. Flemming, K.C. (C)	Ms. Conroy
	Mr. Holder	Mr. D'Amours
	Mr. Wetmore	Mr. Mallet
	Mr. Allain	Mr. McKee
	Ms. Shephard	Mr. Coon
	Mr. Carr	

Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain bills prior to second reading. This referral is often made to allow for public consultation.

Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2024 prior to the dissolution of the 60th Legislature. Following the election, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Hon. Mr. McKee, K.C. (C), Ms. Sodhi (VC), Mr. Arseneault, Mr. M. LeBlanc, Mr. Doucet, Mr. Mallet, Mr. Robichaud, Ms. M. Wilson, Mr. Hogan, Ms. Conroy and Mr. Coon. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on November 21.

Standing Committee on Official Languages

Members See Activities below.

Mandate

The Committee reviews, among other matters, reports to the House on official languages policies and programs, including reports of the Commissioner of Official Languages and of the Secretariat of Official Languages.

Activities

Pursuant to amendments to the Standing Rules creating the Committee on December 11, the House appointed the Committee on the same day with the following membership: Mr. Bourque (C), Ms. Wilcott (VC), Mr. M. LeBlanc, Ms. Sodhi, Mr. Doucet, Hon. Ms. Thériault, Hon. Mr. Randall, Mr. G. Savoie, Ms. M. Johnson, Mr. Oliver and Mr. Coon. The Committee held one meeting on December 12 to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair.

Standing Committee on Private Bills

Members	Mr. Cullins (C)	Ms. Conroy
	Ms. Anderson-Mason, K.C. (VC)	Mr. Gauvin
	Mr. Dawson	Mr. McKee
	Mr. Allain	Mr. Mallet
	Mr. Holder	Mr. Arseneau
	Mr. Wetmore	

Mandate

The Committee reviews all private bills prior to second reading. Any person affected by a private bill may appear before the Committee.



Activities

The Committee held 2 meetings, on May 28 and November 21. The Committee presented a report to the House on May 28. Following the election, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Mr. Doucet (C), Mr. Mallet (VC), Mr. Arseneault, Ms. Sodhi, Mr. Johnston, Ms. Vautour, Ms. Wilcott, Ms. M. Wilson, Ms. Bockus, Mr. Lee and Mr. Coon. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on November 21.

Standing Committee on Procedure, Privileges and Legislative Officers

Members	Mr. Wetmore (C)	Mr. Cullins
	Ms. Conroy (VC)	Mr. M. LeBlanc
	Ms. Shephard	Mr. K. Chiasson
	Mr. Carr	Ms. Thériault
	Mr. Allain	Mr. Coon
	Mr. Holder	

Mandate

All standing rules and practices of the House, together with any matter referred by the Speaker, stand permanently referred to the Committee. The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to consider a matter or question of privilege concerning the House, a committee or Member. The Committee also reviews reports of Legislative Officers.

Activities

The Committee held 8 meetings, on February 8, 15 and 16, March 20 and 28, November 21 and 26 and December 3. In February, the Committee reviewed the latest annual reports of Elections New Brunswick; the Office of the Child, Youth and Senior Advocate; the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages; the Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance; and the Office of the Ombud. The Committee presented a report to the House on March 28 to recommend modifications to the Standing Rules to adopt a fixed legislative calendar. Following the election, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Ms. Wilcott (C), Mr. Arseneault (VC), Mr. M. LeBlanc, Mr. Bourque, Mr. J. LeBlanc, Mr. Robichaud, Mr. Doucet, Mr. Austin, Ms. S. Wilson, Ms. M. Johnson and Mr. Coon. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on November 21, and on December 11, the Committee presented a report to the House to recommend amendments to the Standing Rules to establish a Standing Committee on Official Languages.

Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Members	Mr. C. Chiasson (C)	Ms. Shephard
	Mr. Wetmore (VC)	Mr. Cullins
	Ms. Conroy	Mr. K. Chiasson
	Mr. Carr	Mr. Bourque
	Mr. Allain	Ms. Mitton
	Mr. Holder	

Mandate

The Committee reviews reports to the House of the Auditor General, Public Accounts, and annual reports of government departments, provincial agencies, boards and commissions.



Activities

The Committee held 16 meetings, on February 1, 2, 20, 21, 22 and 23, June 4, 6, 18, 19 and 20, July 23, November 21 and December 4, 10 and 12. The Committee reviewed the annual reports and Auditor General recommendations pertaining to the following entities: Horizon Health Network; New Brunswick Power Corporation; Regional Development Corporation; Vitalité Health Network; and the Departments of Education and Early Childhood Development; Finance and Treasury Board; Health; Justice and Public Safety; Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; Social Development; and Transportation and Infrastructure. The Committee reviewed a report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick in June. Following the election, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Ms. Scott-Wallace (C), Mr. Doucet (VC), Mr. Robichaud, Mr. J. LeBlanc, Mr. Johnston, Mr. M. LeBlanc, Ms. Vautour, Mr. Mallet, Mr. Lee, Mr. Weir and Ms. Mitton. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on November 21. The Committee reviewed Reports of the Auditor General of New Brunswick in December.

Standing Committee on Social Policy

Members	Ms. Conroy (C)	Hon. Ms. Bockus
	Mr. Dawson (VC)	Mr. J. LeBlanc
	Hon. Ms. M. Wilson	Ms. Thériault
	Hon. Ms. S. Wilson	Mr. Gauvin
	Ms. Anderson-Mason, K.C.	Ms. Mitton
	Hon. Mr. Ames	

Mandate

The Committee may be directed by the Legislature to review certain government legislation related to social policy.

Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2024 prior to the dissolution of the 60th Legislature. Following the election, the House appointed a new Committee with the following membership: Mr. Johnston (C), Mr. Mallet (VC), Mr. Arseneault, Mr. Bourque, Mr. J. LeBlanc, Mr. M. LeBlanc, Ms. Sodhi, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Monahan, Ms. S. Wilson and Ms. Mitton. The Chair and Vice-Chair were elected at a meeting held on November 21.



SELECT COMMITTEES

Select Committee on Accessibility in New Brunswick

Members	Hon. Ms. Bockus (C)	Mr. Allain
	Ms. Conroy (VC)	Ms. Landry
	Ms. Shephard	Mr. Losier
	Mr. Dawson	Mr. LePage
	Mr. Holder	Mr. Coon
	Mr. Carr	

Mandate

The Committee was appointed by the House on June 9, 2021, to conduct consultations with community stakeholders and government departments involved with the disability community, and report to the House with recommendations.

Activities

The Committee held 2 meetings, on February 7 and March 21. The House referred a tabled document entitled *Achieving Greater Accessibility: New Brunswick's Framework for Accessibility Legislation* to the Committee. The Committee therefore consulted with the following entities on the document: Ability New Brunswick; the Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour; the New Brunswick Coalition of Persons with Disabilities; the New Brunswick Disability Executives' Network; and the Wabanaki Council on Disability and Mawita'mk Society. The Committee presented a final report to the House on March 28 entitled *Nothing About Us, Without Us: Moving Together Towards an Accessible New Brunswick*. Per the Standing Rules, the Select Committee ceased to exist on this day at the presentation of its final report.

Select Committee on Public Universities

Members	Mr. Holder (C)	Mr. Dawson
	Mr. Allain (VC)	Mr. M. LeBlanc
	Mr. Carr	Ms. Landry
	Mr. Wetmore	Ms. Thériault
	Ms. Anderson-Mason, K.C.	Mr. Coon
	Ms. Shephard	

Mandate

The Committee was appointed by the House on June 10, 2021, to invite representatives of New Brunswick's publicly funded universities and the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission to appear before the Committee to discuss and provide insight into university administration, programming, performance measurement, accountability and transparency.

Activities

The Committee did not meet in 2024. Per the Standing Rules, the Select Committee ceased to exist on September 19, the day the House dissolved.



CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT



VISITORS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

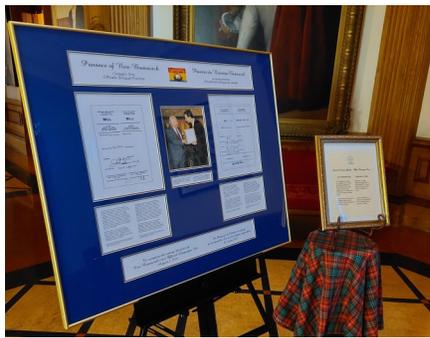
Parliament Square, which includes the Legislative Assembly Building, the Departmental Building, and the Old Education Building, was officially declared a protected historic site under the *Historic Sites Protection Act* in November 2000. The present Legislative Assembly Building in Fredericton has been the seat and symbol of democracy in New Brunswick since 1882, when it replaced a building destroyed by fire two years earlier.

The historic value of the site is shared with tourists, students, official visitors, and internal and external conference delegations. Bilingual guided tours or self-guided tours of the building are offered year-round and focus on the craftsmanship of the structure, artifacts and artwork on the site, and the functioning of New Brunswick's parliamentary system. Approximately 4,304 people visited the Legislature in 2024.

In previous years, the Legislative Assembly accepted requests to illuminate the building in various colours, as a way for organizations to promote charitable causes. Effective January 1, the Legislative Assembly suspended its lighting program to consider the development of a policy that fairly addresses the growing number of lighting requests.

The Fredericton Heritage Trust filmed two videos at the Legislative Assembly showcasing historical points of interest. The videos were posted to their Facebook page on March 3 and March 17. The Fredericton Heritage Trust is a volunteer non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the preservation of the provincial capital's historical and architectural heritage.

On April 29, the Legislative Assembly welcomed the Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Montreal, Mr. Jae Wan Lee, who met with the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly after a guided tour of the building.



Visitors were greeted with a display commemorating the Official Languages Act.

On June 21, the Wolastoqey Tribal Council Inc., the Joint Economic Development Initiative, and MAWIW Council Inc. organized events on the grounds of the Legislature in honour of National Indigenous Peoples Day.

New Brunswick Day was celebrated on the grounds of the Legislative Assembly on August 5. The public were invited to join the celebration by touring the Legislative Assembly, participating in family-focused activities, and enjoying musical and artistic performances by a variety of New Brunswick artists. Artisans were set up to sell their made-in-New Brunswick products on the surrounding green spaces, along with an assortment of food trucks.

On September 12, the Legislative Assembly recognized the second annual Official Languages Day with a display in the rotunda. The day serves as a celebration of New Brunswick's unique status as the only officially bilingual province in Canada. This year's theme was the history of the *Official Languages Act*.



The Canadian Student Debating Federation held its model parliament at the Legislative Assembly on October 17 as part of its annual National Seminar program. The seminar, founded in 1967, aims to expose students to the art of debating while providing an opportunity for cultural exchange among young people from all regions of the country.

The annual Tree Lighting Ceremony was celebrated on the grounds of the Legislative Assembly on November 29. Special Guests included Lieutenant-Governor Brenda Murphy, Speaker Francine Landry, Premier Susan Holt, Member of the Official Opposition Ryan Cullins, Leader of the Third Party David Coon, and Santa Claus. Hot apple cider and hot chocolate were served to the public by the Epsilon Y's Service Club and the evening's entertainment was provided by Les Chanterelles.



The Speaker gives remarks at the Tree Lighting Ceremony, as the Lieutenant-Governor looks on.

On December 16, the Legislative Assembly hosted the King's Counsel Ceremony. The distinction of King's Counsel is bestowed upon experienced lawyers in the province. The 12 recipients this year were: Jill Knee, Saint John; Caroline Lafontaine, Fredericton; Stéphanie Luce, Moncton; Duane McAfee, Saint John; Josie Marks, Moncton; Alison Ménard, Champdoré; Charles Murray, Fredericton; Jade Spalding, Fredericton; Maurice Richard, Moncton; Erik Roy, Bathurst; Denis Thériault, Fredericton; and Kevin Toner, Fredericton.

PAGE PROGRAM

The New Brunswick Legislative Page Program offers postsecondary students of all backgrounds a paid part-time work opportunity to immerse themselves in the province's legislative processes. Pages witness first-hand New Brunswick's parliamentary history unfold as legislation is debated, amended, and becomes law. They also witness legislative committees conduct consultations, discussions, and draft reports that influence public policy. Within the historic chambers and in other parts of the building, Pages support parliamentary democracy by performing various duties to assist Members of the Legislative Assembly and staff. This work experience broadens their knowledge of the rich traditions of the province's parliamentary system.

BROADCASTING AND WEBCASTING

The Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick has been televising its proceedings since 1988. New Brunswick was among the first Canadian provinces to bring video cameras into its Legislature. In 1988, the Legislature televised the previously recorded Routine Proceedings of each sitting day on a community-access channel. Coverage of the proceedings went live in 1989.

In the 1990s, the live coverage was expanded to include almost an entire sitting day. In 2006, the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service was launched to provide gavel-to-gavel television coverage of all sitting days on a channel dedicated solely to the broadcast of legislative proceedings.

The Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick Television Service broadcasts the daily proceedings each sitting day in both official languages. In 2024, the proceedings continued to be televised on Rogers cable channel 70 in New Brunswick communities served by the company. On channel 70 in Fredericton, Moncton, Saint John, Miramichi, and surrounding communities, English, whether spoken on the floor of the House or translated from French, was the primary audio feed. On channel 70 in Bathurst, Edmundston and surrounding communities, French was the primary audio feed. Secondary Audio Programming was also available in all communities.



In 2024, Rogers continued to televise daily proceedings of the Legislature on various community channels. In addition, repeats of the daily proceedings were televised on the dedicated channel, usually commencing within 30 minutes after the adjournment of the House each sitting day.

Bell Aliant also continued to broadcast the daily proceedings of the Legislature in both official languages on two dedicated channels: Channel 230 in English and channel 811 in French. Broadcast of daily proceedings was formerly hosted on community channels.

Over the year, regular maintenance continued on the broadcast equipment, including upgrading the Zoom hybrid system hardware in the Legislative Council Chamber. The Legislative Assembly's website, which houses archived and live proceedings, also received regular maintenance.

Proceedings of the Legislature and its committees continued to be streamed live on the Internet in 2024. With the assistance of iSi Live, the Legislature also continued to permanently archive its proceedings online. This included the audio and video of all House sittings and public committee meetings.

When the Legislature was not in session, a graphics computer generated a rotating sequence of messages on sitting schedule; tour information; upcoming events; and the Legislature's function, history and traditions. A photograph of each Member was shown with accompanying party affiliation, ministerial portfolio (where applicable), riding and contact information.

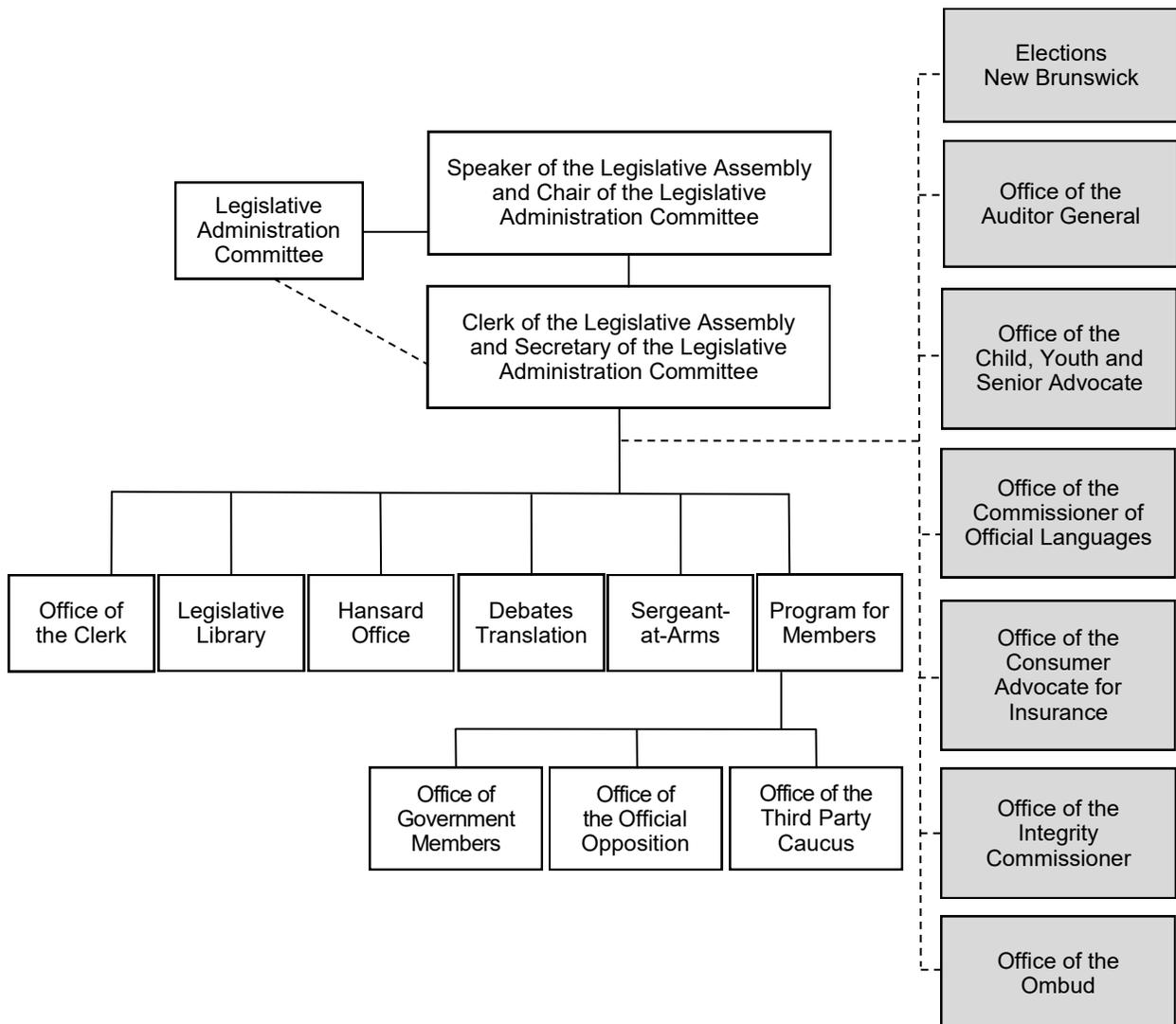


OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MISSION STATEMENT

- To assist the Legislative Assembly in fostering respect for the institution and privileges of parliamentary democracy.
- To provide assistance and support to all Members of the Legislative Assembly, their staff and the public.
- To provide impartial and confidential service to all Members of the Legislative Assembly.
- To record the proceedings and maintain the records of the Legislative Assembly.
- To provide public education and information services on behalf of the Legislative Assembly.
- To provide administrative, financial, and human resource services to certain statutory offices reporting to the Legislative Assembly.

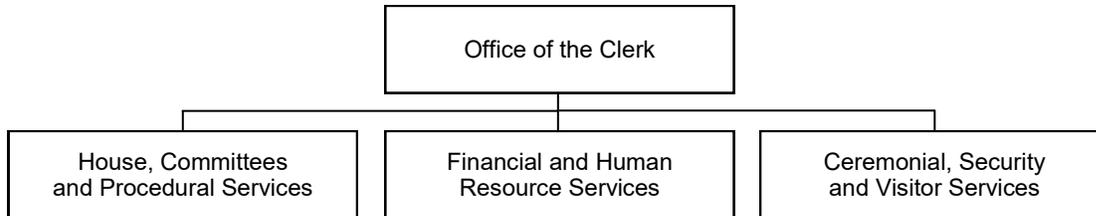
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Law Clerk and Committee Clerk — Patrick Dunn



In 2024, the dedicated staff of the Office of the Clerk met the primary goal of the office: to assist Members in carrying out their parliamentary functions as legislators and representatives of their constituents.

Procedural Services

Members were supported in their parliamentary functions by services administered with impartiality by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. As the senior permanent officer of the Legislative Assembly and chief procedural adviser, the Clerk advised the Speaker and Members on administrative matters, questions of parliamentary law and procedure, and the interpretation of the Standing Rules, precedents and practices of the House. The Clerk is the Speaker's chief administrative deputy and has authority and responsibility similar to that of a Deputy Minister of a government department. The Office of the Clerk and its staff supported the activities of the Clerk.

The Clerk Assistant and the Law Clerk served alongside the Clerk as Table Officers in the House, providing advice to Members and presiding officers on parliamentary procedure and House operations. In addition to their duties as Table Officers, the Clerk and Law Clerk served as law clerks in the House. They assisted Members in the interpretation and application of the *Legislative Assembly Act* and other legislation, and in the drafting and review of floor amendments, Private Members' Public Bills and Private Bills.

During the year, the Clerks met regularly with the Speaker and other presiding officers to provide advice as required, draft rulings and prepare procedural documentation. In addition, the Clerks and the Committee Clerk met with committee Chairs to advise on committee procedure, arrange meetings and public hearings, and prepare documentation and reports to the House.

Journals and Publications

In 2024, the Clerk Assistant compiled 36 unrevised journals. The journals of the House are the official record of matters considered and decisions taken by the House. Unrevised journals are posted online as soon as they are available in both official languages. At the conclusion of a session, unrevised journals are finalized, indexed and published.

First reading bills continued to be published online. During the 2024 calendar year, 33 bills were introduced. The online status of legislation, which tracks the progress of bills as they proceed through various stages in the House, continued to be produced and regularly updated.

The online archiving of daily sittings and committee meetings continued to be regularly updated. Biographical information and photographs of Members of the 60th Legislature were also updated during the year. Following dissolution, the information was removed from the website and archived. Biographical information and photographs of the newly elected Members of the 61st Legislature were prepared and posted online following the election. Changes to the Executive Council, shadow cabinet and seating plans were reflected in published and online updates.



The Legislature's calendar was updated to reflect daily sittings and special events. Committee memberships were also updated when necessary and reports were posted online.

Renovations

Significant renovations to the buildings within the Legislative Precinct continued in 2024. The renovation of the Departmental Building's interior, begun in 2021, was completed early in the year, allowing Members, staff and the press gallery to move into their offices beginning in April. With the relocation of the Office of the Official Opposition to the Departmental Building, the Old Education Building was vacated, allowing it to be assessed for a planned renovation in the coming years.

The installation of more energy-efficient windows in the Legislative Assembly Building continued in 2024 with approximately 70 installed, and windows in the dome and turrets are slated for replacement in 2025. Other renovations in the Legislative Precinct included extensive work on the exterior and interior of the Government Documents Building including window replacement and repointing all brickwork, installation of copper flashing on the Legislative Assembly Building, and the replacement of Jewett House's roof.

Interparliamentary Relations

In addition to regular duties, staff of the Clerk's Office supported Members attending meetings of interparliamentary associations. Staff also prepared quarterly legislative reports for publication in the *Canadian Parliamentary Review*. The purpose of this publication is to inform Canadian legislators about the activities of the various branches of the Canadian Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and to promote interest in Canadian parliamentary institutions.

Staff of the Clerk's Office participated in seminars and exchanges of information with their colleagues from the provincial and territorial legislatures, the House of Commons and the Senate of Canada, and legislatures in other countries. These cross-jurisdictional encounters allowed staff to share best practices and keep abreast of current issues affecting Canadian and international legislatures.

Tributes

Three former Members passed away in 2024:

Sue Stultz (Progressive Conservative) on April 8. Ms. Stultz was elected in the 2010 general election to represent the riding of Moncton West. During her time at the Legislature, she served as Minister of Social Development; Minister responsible for Seniors, Housing and Community Non-Profit Organizations; Minister of Government Services; Minister responsible for the New Brunswick Internal Services Agency; and Minister responsible for Service New Brunswick.

Leo A. McAdam (Liberal) on July 17. Mr. McAdam was elected in the 1987 and 1991 general elections to represent the riding of Saint John North and again in 1995 to represent Saint John Portland. During his time at the Legislature, he served as Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. He also served as a member on several standing committees.

Keith Dow (Progressive Conservative) on September 18. Mr. Dow was elected in the 1982 general election to represent the riding of Saint John West. During his time at the Legislature, he served as a member on several standing and select committees.



FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES

Director — Katie Hill, CPA, CA

The Finance and Human Resources Branch is accountable for the proper and effective management of the financial and human resource services of the Legislative Assembly. In addition, the Branch provides financial and human resources support to the statutory offices.

Financial Services Section

The House sat a total of 50 days during the 2023-2024 fiscal year, compared to 56 days in 2022-2023 and 46 days in 2021-2022.

The accompanying Financial Summary shows total actual expenditures of \$15,795,900 based on a revised total budget of \$17,175,000 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year (excluding statutory officers). This compares with total actual expenditures of \$14,575,600 based on a revised total budget of \$15,705,000 for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Financial Summary—Legislative Assembly for the Year Ended March 31, 2024 (in \$ 000s)

	Budget	Actual
<i>Members' Allowances, Committees and Operations</i>		
Allowances to Members	10 421.0	9 425.3
Legislative Committees	<u>376.0</u>	<u>329.3</u>
Subtotal	10 797.0	9 754.6
<i>Office of the Legislative Assembly</i>		
Legislative Library	663.0	659.8
Office of the Clerk (includes Speaker's Office)	1 958.0	1 917.4
Hansard Office	783.0	716.8
Debates Translation	<u>929.0</u>	<u>891.7</u>
Subtotal	4 333.0	4 185.7
<i>Offices of the Members of Registered Political Parties</i>		
Office of Government Members	668.0	627.9
Office of the Official Opposition	996.0	872.5
Office of the Green Party Caucus	356.0	355.2
Member of Fredericton West-Hanwell	<u>25.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>
Subtotal	2 045.0	1 855.6
<i>Total: Legislative Assembly</i>	17 175.0	15 795.9

Total expenditures for capital repair and restoration of the Legislative Assembly buildings were approximately \$59,573 in 2023-2024 and related to the purchase of new heat pumps as well as general maintenance and preservation of legislative buildings.

The 2024-2025 operating budget for the Legislative Assembly was increased by \$659,000 to account for economic increases of \$29,000; \$168,000 related to recommendations made by an independent committee on Members' compensation; \$35,000 related to Members' indemnity increase of 0.825% effective October 1, 2023; \$30,000 related to kilometric and meal allowance increases as determined by the Department of Finance and Treasury Board; \$37,000 to account for a new Deputy Sheriff; a temporary \$25,000 increase for the Hansard Office to host an annual conference; \$145,000 increase for the Clerk's Office for two new positions; a \$138,000 temporary increase to the Library for research staff; and a \$52,000 increase to the Library for the internship and co-op programs. The total operating budget approved for the Legislative Assembly in the fiscal year 2024-2025 was \$17,834,000.



Human Resource Services Highlights

In 2024, staff coordinated and participated in the recruitment process for 30 competitions of statutory and legislative offices. In total, staff administered payroll services for approximately 166 positions, including the commencement of 39 full-time employees and the termination arrangements for 29 employees who either retired, resigned, or otherwise ceased to be employees of the Legislative Assembly.

The 2024 provincial general election resulted in the election of 19 new Members, the defeat of seven Members, and eight Members who did not reoffer. Additionally, four Members resigned prior to the dissolution of the Legislature. Staff processed the workload associated with the Members not re-elected, closing their constituency offices, and terminating constituency staff. In addition, staff administered the payroll, expenses, and benefits of newly elected Members and their constituency office staff, including onboarding orientations and support required for opening those offices. Staff also administered the subsequent role changes within the Legislative Assembly, including Members of the Executive Council, Speaker, Deputy Speakers, Leader of the Official Opposition, Caucus Chairs, Whips, and House Leaders, as well as the resulting staffing changes in the offices of the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Economic increases were processed for employees during the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Eligible employees also received merit increases depending on employee anniversary date, performance, and current salary level. Adjustments to Members' and Ministers' indemnities and salaries were required and processed, effective October 1, 2023, in accordance with provisions of the *Legislative Assembly Act* and the *Executive Council Act*.

Throughout the year, a total of 128 individuals were employed under various casual or term employment programs. Responsibilities included coordination of the employment programs and the commencement, payment and subsequent termination of each of the related employees.

The section continued to host employee wellness sessions provided by the Employee and Family Assistance Program, recognized National Public Service Week, and oversaw the 2024 GNB United Way campaign and GNB Wellness Challenge for the Legislative Assembly. Staff also participated in various professional development sessions offered by the Province, the Chartered Professionals in Human Resources New Brunswick, and the CPA New Brunswick, and second language training to facilitate services in both official languages.

Human Resource Summary—Legislative Assembly

	<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>Sessional</i>	<i>Casual</i>	<i>Payroll Constituency Offices</i>
<i>Office of the Clerk</i>					
House and Committee Support	5	0	0	0	0
General Administration	1	0	0	0	0
Finance and Human Resources	8	0	0	0	0
Technology	2	0	0	0	0
Sergeant-at-Arms	3	0	0	1	0
Speaker's Office	2	0	0	0	0
<i>Legislative Library</i>	9	0	0	6	0
<i>Hansard and Debates Translation</i>	18	0	0	2	0
<i>Office of Government Members</i>	6	0	0	2	0
<i>Office of the Official Opposition</i>	7	0	0	1	0
<i>Office of the Third Party</i>	4	0	0	1	0
<i>Pages and Tour Guides (students)</i>	0	0	12	0	0
<i>Members</i>	0	49	0	0	56
<i>Total</i>	65	49	12	13	56



LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY

Legislative Librarian — Kenda Clark-Gorey

According to the *Legislative Library Act*, the Legislative Library shall operate primarily for the use of the Members of the Legislative Assembly and government departmental staff to better serve the people of New Brunswick. The Legislative Library is designated as the official library for the deposit of New Brunswick government publications. The King's Printer and departments are required to deposit with the Legislative Library four copies of every government publication issued under their authority within 30 days of its printing date. The Library has broadened its mandate to automatically receive all "online" or "born digital" New Brunswick government publications.

Collection Development

The Legislative Library's New Brunswick Collection is an important part of New Brunswick's heritage and is an incredible resource for the province. The Library is grateful to the following publishers and individuals who donated books during the past year: Bouton d'or Acadie Inc., Les éditions La Grande Marée Ltée., Goose Lane Editions, Les Éditions de la Francophonie Inc., Dawn Bell, Andrew MacLean, Morris Green, Margie Pacey, Jacques Poitras, and Donald J. Savoie.

Reference and Outreach

The Library produced two Selected Accessions Lists that were published and distributed to Members, legislative staff and government departmental staff. Four displays were prepared for the Library's display case in the rotunda: "New Brunswick Place Names," "History of Hansard," "Remembrance Day," and "Christmas in New Brunswick."

In preparation of welcoming new Members following the election, Library staff prepared a new library services booklet to be handed out to Members as well as newly designed bookmarks and library cards. Staff participated in the orientation sessions provided to new Members.

Government Documents

In addition to adding physical copies of government documents to the Library's collection, Library staff continued to add electronic government documents as well. In 2024, 1,104 electronic documents were added to the Library's electronic repository. These documents included monographs as well as annual reports.

Initiatives and Projects

The Library continued with its document digitization and archival projects.

Research Services

Over the past year, the Research Officer fielded 27 requests from Members and legislative staff and three requests from non-legislative staff. In January, the Legislative Assembly welcomed two interns, whom the Research Officer supervised and assisted with requests. As mandated under the *Transparency in Election Commitments Act*, from May until October, research assistance was offered to all registered parties for the 2024 provincial general election. In total, 119 questions were received. The Research Officer completed 50 of these requests, with the others completed by research staff hired for the election period and the Legislative Librarian.



HANSARD AND DEBATES TRANSLATION

Director — Rebecca Colborne

HANSARD OFFICE

The Hansard Office produces the Journal of Debates, commonly known as Hansard, for the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick. Hansard staff record sittings of the House, committee meetings, and special events in digital recording systems and use the recordings to produce transcripts of the proceedings.

Hansard transcripts are available for every sitting of the Legislative Assembly from 1900 to 2024, and access may be requested from the reference desk at the Legislative Library. In 2024, the Hansard Office received 51 requests for transcription, including 25 for committee meetings and 26 for daily sittings of the House.

When translated, the Hansard for each daily sitting is posted to the website of the Legislative Assembly. In 2024, Hansard staff produced finalized transcriptions of 53 daily sittings of the House, which were prepared for translation to be posted to the website.

Also, in 2024, the staff finalized and posted 33 question period transcripts and completed and distributed a total of 147 requested transcripts, 28 for the House and 119 for committees.

Activities

The office continued active membership in the Hansard Association of Canada and the Commonwealth Hansard Editors Association. The annual conference of the Hansard Association of Canada was held in Fredericton from August 19 to 23, 2024. The Hansard office welcomed 59 delegates and guests, representing provincial and territorial assemblies, the Canadian House of Commons and Senate, as well as the Irish and Scottish parliaments and the House of Commons and House of Lords in London. During business sessions, delegates dealt with topics such as recruitment, setting staff up for success, automatic speech recognition, indexing and information accessing tools, Canadian English and the new Oxford Canadian Dictionary project, gender-inclusive language, and jurisdictional updates.

Hansard Highlights

The Hansard Office and Debates Translation continued to share resources and streamline procedures. Processes and procedures were fine-tuned for both transcription and translation to produce finalized transcripts earlier and facilitate public access to Hansard in both official languages.

DEBATES TRANSLATION

Debates Translation provides professional translation services for the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick. The Debates Translation team includes two senior revisers, one senior translator, two intermediate translators, two junior translators, and a terminologist. The office also has access to freelance translators who work on a contract basis.

House

Debates Translation staff members translate the records and journals of Legislative Assembly proceedings (Hansard and Journal), as well as motions introduced in the House, Speaker's rulings, and various other documents. During the legislative session, Debates Translation gives priority to the translation of oral questions for immediate posting to the Legislative Assembly website. In 2024, 33 oral question periods were translated, posted on the website in French and



English, and incorporated into Hansard. The remainder of the 50 Hansard daily sittings for session 60-3 in 2023-2024, 45 sitting days, were translated and posted to the website of the Legislative Assembly in 2024. As well, five daily sittings in session 59-3, 2019-2020, were translated and posted to the internal network of the Legislative Assembly. Three daily sittings for the 61-1 session, 2024-2025, were also translated and posted to the website of the Legislative Assembly. About 28% of Hansard translation was into English. Translation of Hansard, including oral questions, represented 87.5% of total production. In 2024, translation of the daily Journal represented 3.5% of production. Translation of the Journal is usually completed shortly after the session ends. Notices of motion and amendments to motions accounted for 0.5% of production. These documents are translated the day the request is received.

Committees

Debates Translation staff members translate reports, agendas, notices of meetings, and other documents for standing and select committees of the Legislative Assembly. There were 46 requests for translation for legislative committees, representing 1% of total production in 2024.

Offices of the Legislative Assembly

The Debates Translation office is responsible for translating material of a procedural and administrative nature for the Speaker's Office, the Office of the Clerk, the Hansard Office, the Legislative Library, Finance and Human Resource Services, and the Sergeant-at-Arms. Translation for the offices of the Legislative Assembly represented about 7.5% of total production in 2024.

Conclusion

In 2024, 488 translation requests were processed, and frequent requests for prompt translation made by telephone and email were also dealt with. Documents translated by Debates Translation staff included 33 oral question periods, 53 Hansard daily sittings, 238 documents for the offices of the Legislative Assembly, 46 documents for committees, 73 documents related to motions or amendments to motions, and 45 Journals or indexes to Journals. Staff members were trained and prepared in order to continue providing the service for which the office is known, meeting the highest standards of professional translation for the Legislative Assembly of our bilingual province.



PROGRAM FOR MEMBERS

The other branches of the Legislative Assembly Office are the Office of Government Members, the Office of the Official Opposition, and the Office of the Third Party Caucus.

Each caucus of elected Members is a branch of the Legislative Assembly Office. The Speaker has authority over the administration of each caucus office; however, for obvious reasons, these branches operate with considerable autonomy.

These branches received financial, administrative and personnel services, as well as other support services from other branches of the Legislative Assembly Office under the direction of the Clerk.

Funding and Support

Under the Program for Members, private Members of the Legislative Assembly are provided with furnished offices in the Legislative Precinct in Fredericton.

The Legislative Administration Committee approves annual funding for private Members for secretarial, research and other assistance incidental to the performance of their duties. Members of each caucus combine this funding to obtain and share resources and personnel.

Funding is also approved annually for private Members who are leaders of registered political parties represented in the House to be used for salaries and expenses of the leaders and their staff, and other expenses related to the operation of the respective offices.

The staff of each office provides research support with respect to topics and issues of interest to the Members. Each office helps handle correspondence relating to Members' legislative and public duties and provides many other support functions.

Office of Government Members

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, administrative and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Government Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the Departmental Building.

Office of the Official Opposition

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, policy development, administrative and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Official Opposition Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the Departmental Building.

Office of the Third Party Caucus

The staff of this office report to a Chief of Staff who is responsible for all communications, research, policy development, administrative and receptionist duties required to support the elected Members of the Third Party Caucus. Members and staff of this office occupy the Departmental Building.