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Journals

(Unrevised)

Legislative Assembly

Province of New Brunswick

Hon. Herménégilde Chiasson
Lieutenant-Governor

Speaker: Hon. Eugene McGinley

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

**First Session of the 56th Legislative Assembly
Fredericton, New Brunswick**

JOURNALS

of the

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

of the

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SIXTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2007

THE HONOURABLE HERMÉNÉGILDE CHIASSON LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

Fredericton, N.B.
Tuesday, February 6, 2007.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the third session of the fifty-fifth Legislative Assembly of this Province was dissolved on the eighteenth day of August 2006;

AND WHEREAS I have thought fit to call the first session of the fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly of this Province into session, I hereby issue a Proclamation that the same be called to meet on the sixth day of February 2007, at 11 o'clock in the morning.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the Province at Fredericton on this 23rd day of November, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Six and in the fifty-fifth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

BY COMMAND OF THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

Thomas J. Burke, Q.C.
Attorney General

Herménégilde Chiasson.
Lieutenant-overnor.

This being the day appointed for the opening of the First Session of the Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick for the dispatch of business pursuant to the proclamation hereinbefore annexed, and the oath having been already administered to the Members of the Legislative Assembly as named in the roll, delivered to the Clerk of the House by the Chief Electoral Officer, the said Members took their seats in the House.

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly then addressed herself to the House as follows:

Members of the Legislative Assembly:

I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to inform you that he doth not think fit to declare the causes for which he has summoned this Legislative Assembly until a Speaker thereof shall have been chosen.

It is therefore His Honour's will that you, the Members of the Legislative Assembly, do proceed forthwith to choose a fit and proper person to be your Speaker, and that you present the person so chosen to His Honour in this Assembly Chamber.

The Clerk informed the House of the list of Members eligible for the first ballot as follows:

HUNTJENS, Antoon
McGINLEY, Eugene
STILES, Wally
WILLIAMS, Claude

Mr. Claude Williams having requested that his name be withdrawn from the first ballot, the Clerk advised that it was her duty to preside over the election of Speaker in accordance with the Standing Rules and according to these Rules, members could not withdraw as candidates for the election except after the first ballot.

The Clerk further advised that the House may dispense with the application of any rules by unanimous consent on any occasion and that, if it was the will of the Assembly to dispense with this requirement then she would abide by the wishes of the Assembly.

Having ascertained that there was agreement to dispense with the requirement of Standing Rule 11(8)(l), the Clerk invited the eligible members who wished to withdraw from the election to rise in their place and indicate their intention to withdraw.

Whereupon, Mr. Williams, Member for Kent South, rose in his place and announced his intention to withdraw as a candidate for the election of Speaker.

The Clerk informed the House that pursuant to the provisions of Standing Rule 11 of the *Standing Rules of the Legislative Assembly*, it was her duty to preside over the election of Speaker.

The Clerk then proceeded to give an explanation of the process of election of Speaker:

The voting booths installed at tables on either side of the Throne will be open in a few moments. Members should proceed to the appropriate voting booth, in accordance with the floor plan on their desk, to pick up a ballot and vote for the candidate of their choice by printing on the ballot the first and last name of the candidate.

I would ask the Clerks Assistant to prepare to distribute the ballots.

The voting booths are now open.

The House then proceeded to the election of a Speaker pursuant to the provisions of Standing Rule 11.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 11(8)(e), the Clerk then invited Members to cast their ballots.

The Clerk called the Assembly to Order:

If there are any honourable members who have not voted and wish to do so, will they please vote now.

All members having voted, pursuant to the provisions of the Standing Rules, the Clerks at the Table will now retire and proceed with the counting of the ballots.

Before I suspend the sitting, may I bring to the attention of honourable members that when the counting of the ballots has been completed, the bells to call the members back will be sounded for not more than five minutes.

The Clerk informed the House that all Members having voted, pursuant to the provisions of the Standing Rules, the Clerks-at-the Table would retire and proceed with the counting of the ballots. Before suspending the sitting, the Clerk brought to the attention of the honourable Members that when the counting of the ballots was completed, the bells to call the Members back to the House would sound for not more than five minutes.

At 11.27 o'clock p.m. the sitting was suspended during the counting of the ballots.

At 11.44 o'clock p.m. the sitting resumed.

Pursuant to Standing Rule 11(8)(g), the Clerk announced that Eugene McGinley, Member for the Electoral District of Grand Lake-Gagetown, had been duly elected as Speaker of the House.

The Honourable the Premier, Shawn Graham, Member for the electoral district of Kent, and the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Volpé, Member for the electoral district of Madawaska-les-Lacs, escorted Mr. McGinley to the dais where, standing on the upper step, he addressed the House as follows:

Members of the Legislative Assembly:

It is my pleasure today to express my grateful and humble acknowledgment to the House for the great honour you have been pleased to confer on me by choosing me to be your Speaker.

Conscious as I am of my comparative inexperience of parliamentary procedure, I should have hesitated before accepting a position involving so much responsibility were it not for the fact that I shall be able at all times to rely with confidence upon the courtesy, forbearance and kindness of every member of the Assembly.

Again thanking you, I now submit myself to the House.

Thereupon Mr. McGinley took the chair, and the mace was placed upon the Clerk's Table.

The Honourable the Premier, Shawn Graham, communicated to the House the following message from His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor:

Mr. Speaker, the Clerk having signified to the House His Honour's permission to proceed with the immediate election of a Speaker, I have now to inform the House that it is His Honour's pleasure that the House should present their Speaker at 3 o'clock p.m. this afternoon in this Chamber for his Honour's approbation.

At 11.52 o'clock a.m., Mr. Speaker declared a recess until 3 o'clock p.m.

3 o'clock p.m.

His Honour the lieutenant-Governor was announced and having been bidden to enter, took his seat in the chair upon the Throne.

The Speaker then addressed His Honour to the following effect:

May It Please Your Honour:

Your Honour having communicated your pleasure to the House, they proceeded to choose a Speaker. They have elected me to that important and honourable position, and I am now presented for Your Honour's approval.

The Clerk of the House then said:

Mr. McGinley, I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to declare to you that he is fully sensible of your zeal for the public service and of your sufficiency to execute the duties of the office to which you have been elected by the Legislative Assembly, and that he doth readily approve of their choice, and allow and confirm you to be their Speaker.

Mr. Speaker then addressed His Honour in the following words:

May It Please Your Honour:

Your Honour having been pleased to approve the choice of the Assembly in electing me to be their Speaker, it now becomes my duty in the name and on behalf of the Assembly, to claim and demand that they have all their ancient and accustomed rights and privileges, especially freedom from arrest, freedom of speech in debate, access to Your Honour when they think the public service requires it, and that the most favourable construction be put on all their proceedings and on my own behalf I have to request that any error of mine may not be imputed to the Assembly.

To which the Clerk of the House replied:

Mr. Speaker, His Honour hath the utmost confidence in the loyalty and attachment of this Assembly of Her Majesty's person and government and in the wisdom, temper and prudence which will accompany all their proceedings, and he doth most readily and willingly grant and allow them all their privileges in as full and ample a manner as they have at any time heretofore been granted and allowed.

With respect to yourself, Mr. Speaker, though His Honour is sensible that you do not stand in need of such assurance, His

Honour will ever put the most favourable construction on your words and actions.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was pleased to open the Session with the following gracious speech.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly, invited guests and all New Brunswickers. Welcome to the opening of the First Session of the 56th Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick.

On behalf of this Assembly, I welcome the Honourable Shawn Graham to his first Session as Premier of New Brunswick. I also welcome the newly-elected Members of the Legislative Assembly and extend best wishes to all those taking on new roles in this session. I also offer best wishes and thanks to those former members not returning to the Legislature.

I also want to take this opportunity to extend thanks and appreciation to former Premier Bernard Lord for his years of dedicated service to his province. Mr. Lord has served the people of Moncton East and this province faithfully for the past eight years. We offer him and his family our most sincere good wishes as they embark on this new chapter in their lives.

Our Assembly looks forward to welcoming the next representative that will be chosen by the people of Moncton East.

New Brunswick is the great province it is because of the contributions made by New Brunswickers. On November 24, 2006, nine new members were inducted into the Order of New Brunswick. They are Richard Gorham of Kingston Peninsula; Joyce Hudson of Hopewell Hill; Audrey Ingalls of Grand Manan; Martin J. Légère of Caraquet; John W. Meagher of Hanwell; Arthur Motyer of Sackville; Robert Pichette of Moncton; Benedict Pothier of Campbellton; and Jean-Claude Savoie of Saint-Quentin.

In 2006, three New Brunswickers became Members of the Order of Canada. They are Susan Butler, Norman Whitney and Aldéa Landry.

Peter Powning was awarded the 2006 Saidye Bronfman Award, the pre-eminent distinction in craft in Canada.

Marie-Jo Thériot brought home the Félix award for contemporary folk album of the year for *Les Matins Habitables* while Annie Blanchard was awarded the Félix for song of the year for "Évangéline."

At the Commonwealth Games in Sydney, Monique Allain was part of Canada's mission staff while Fredericton native Sarah Forbes

competed in field hockey.

We also take this opportunity to recognize the many athletes, coaches and officials who will be representing New Brunswick at the Canada Winter Games in Whitehorse, Yukon later this month. We wish them the best of luck.

Each time this Legislature convenes, we remember those former members who have passed away since we last met. Today we remember Bruce Smith, who entered provincial politics in 1987 as the member for Carleton South, becoming Minister of Supply and Services. He was re-elected in September 1991 and served as Solicitor General until April 1994.

In September 1995, Mr. Smith was re-elected as the member for the newly established constituency of Woodstock, and served as Minister of Supply and Services until he stepped down in July 1997. He continued to serve the people of Woodstock until his retirement from politics in 1999.

Canada continues to take an active role in bringing order and hope to centres of conflict around the world. This contribution often comes at a high price. We remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the interest of bringing peace to those caught in the grip of war: Bathurst-native Chief Warrant Officer Robert Girouard, Regimental Sergeant Major of the First Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group, who was serving in Afghanistan and Sgt. Michael Todd Seeley of Fredericton who was serving with the U.S. 28th Infantry Unit in Iraq.

We also offer our thoughts and best wishes for a successful mission and safe return to the soldiers of the Second Battalion, Royal Canadian Regiment (2RCR) Battle Group from Canadian Forces Base Gagetown who have departed or are preparing to depart for their mission in Afghanistan.

Since this Legislature last met, our province also lost a number of distinguished residents. These include former Chief Justice of New Brunswick Charles Hughes, Canadian boxing legend Yvon Durelle, noted philanthropist and businessman Mitchell Franklin, former president of l'Université de Moncton and champion of bilingualism Jean Cadieux, and former Fredericton city councillor, provincial and municipal trail system pioneer and rugby advocate Bill Thorpe.

As we embark today on a new legislative session, let us remember the duties and responsibilities placed upon us. Over the course of

the coming months, this Assembly will undertake deliberations and debate on issues of immediate and intimate importance to the people of New Brunswick. Debate will be vigorous, opinions will differ and passions will run high. Throughout this work, let us all be vigilant of our obligation to conduct ourselves in a manner befitting the tradition of this House.

There are many examples of how New Brunswick set the course for a better province and a better Canada. New Brunswick formed the first Department of Health, implemented one of the most significant transformations of local governance through Equal Opportunity and remains the only officially bilingual province in Canada. Our province was the first to seize the opportunity of the information economy. Your government is committed to restoring New Brunswick's place as a national leader.

From August 8 to 10, New Brunswick will host the 2007 annual summer meeting of the Council of the Federation at which time the Premier will assume the Chair of the Council. Our Premier looks forward to working with his provincial and territorial colleagues to strengthen the Canadian federation during his one-year term as chair.

For New Brunswick to become self-sufficient in the future, it needs a fair and principled Equalization program today. Your government will continue to advocate for a program that uses a ten-province standard and 100 per cent revenue coverage, including resource revenues.

Your government will also promote partnerships with the federal government in programs such as post-secondary education and transfers in support of infrastructure.

Your government is committed to building partnerships with other provinces. That's why New Brunswick recently led the Atlantic Canada mission to Alberta. This mission demonstrated how New Brunswick can put our manufacturing experience to work for business in Alberta.

Your government will continue to work closely with Acadian organizations and stakeholders to further the development of Francophone and Acadian residents of this province. Your government has created a deputy minister position under the Department of Health in order to meet the needs of Francophones and Acadians and to put mechanisms in place for ongoing collaboration.

Your government will continue to work with organizers of the 2009 Congrès mondial acadien to ensure the success of this world-

class event and to maximize spin-offs for the Acadian Peninsula and New Brunswick. Your government will continue to promote our distinctiveness and dynamism as the only officially bilingual province, both within Canada and internationally.

Your government also recognizes the importance of living within our means. New Brunswickers are prudent and responsible each and every day and expect that prudence from their elected officials. Your government is committed to balanced budgets, fiscal responsibility and transparency. Your government will live in accordance with the *Fiscal Responsibility and Balanced Budget Act*. To that end, your government will table its first budget on March 13, 2007.

On October 3, 2006, your new government took office with a commitment to approach each day with a strong sense of purpose. This commitment was demonstrated by the initiatives announced on Day One of their mandate. Your government reduced the provincial tax on gasoline by 3.8 cents per litre. Grants were created for first-year university students and parental and spousal contribution requirements for student loans were eliminated. Seniors' homes, assets and life savings were removed from the calculation of nursing home fees. And your government delivered a memorandum of understanding to the Mayor of Saint John on harbour clean-up.

Legislation supporting these initiatives will be introduced during this session.

Your government is driven by the goal of making New Brunswick self-sufficient over the next 20 years. This means increasing New Brunswick's population, economic output, productivity and income levels. With a larger pool of self-generated revenue, your government will have greater flexibility to fund public services and infrastructure. A stronger, sustainable economy will reduce the province's dependence on equalization.

In order to achieve this goal, your government has established the Task-Force on Self-Sufficiency which, following consultations with New Brunswickers, will present its report in April. Your government will provide a response to this report in the upcoming session of the Legislative Assembly.

These actions will mark the next steps on the road to self-sufficiency. They will chart the course for the kind of transformational change that has not been witnessed in New Brunswick in more than a generation.

Before embarking on any significant journey, there are preparations which must be undertaken. It is this preparatory work that will be the focus of this legislative session.

Your government earned the trust of New Brunswickers by outlining the *Charter for Change* which will form the basis for many of the initiatives that will be introduced in the coming months. The cornerstones of the *Charter for Change* are the Three Es – education, energy and economic development.

Your government will work with New Brunswick's teachers, District Education Councils and academic institutions to build the best education system in Canada. This year, your government will release a new Plan for Education. The Minister of Education has been consulting with teachers, District Education Councils, parents and students on this action plan of new ideas and programs to begin transforming our schools.

This year, your government will begin its commitment to implement the MacKay Report recommendations for improving our inclusive education system and meeting the diverse needs of all our students. The Minister of Education will appear before the Standing Committee on Education in order to initiate the discussion on how to ensure that each child in New Brunswick has the chance to reach his or her full potential.

Your government will further demonstrate its commitment to inclusive education by ensuring that new hope is given to children with autism. A plan will be announced this session to increase the number of trained autism support workers in the system.

Your government understands the importance of a school to the community around it. Your government will move forward on a new community schools policy that will enhance the quality of education in rural and urban communities alike by transforming schools into true centres of learning for the whole community.

Truly innovative change will be driven by teachers and your government will announce new measures to support our best teachers and principals in being leaders in innovative education.

During the upcoming session, your government will unveil a new accountability agenda for improving results for early literacy and exceptional learners.

The Departments of Education and Family and Community Services will work jointly and in partnership with stakeholders to develop a long-term plan for child care and early learning.

In creating a self-sufficient province, access to quality post-secondary education and training is critically important. Your government will work with our educational institutions to ensure that New Brunswickers are getting the skills and education they need to meet their full potential.

Last month, your government launched the Post-Secondary Education Commission to examine accessibility as well as relevance, quality, competitiveness and collaboration within New Brunswick's post-secondary education sector.

This commission will focus on New Brunswickers of all ages, whether they are planning to enroll on a part-time or a full-time basis and wherever they live in the province. It will examine the entire post-secondary education and training sector, including public and private universities, the New Brunswick Community College network, apprenticeship, private training and other aspects of literacy and lifelong learning.

Many believe that high tuition is discouraging some young New Brunswickers from pursuing university study. Currently, New Brunswick university graduates have the second-highest student debt load in the country.

In addition to the commitments undertaken on the first day of their mandate, your government will also introduce a new *Post-Secondary Student Financial Assistance Act* to accommodate the evolution of student financial assistance in New Brunswick and Canada.

Improving literacy rates in New Brunswick will be important in order to achieve self-sufficiency. A Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly will be established to engage New Brunswickers in a discussion on the literacy challenges we face and how we can collectively address them over the long-term.

To improve opportunities and services for adults, your government will be integrating our community-based adult learning programs. Your government will also enhance the public library system and establish targets for strengthening public library service as outlined in the *Charter for Change*.

Your government will support New Brunswick's transformation as a North American leader in energy conservation and generation. These two goals do not have to be mutually exclusive. Your government has already demonstrated a commitment to green energy, an example of which is the announcement of a 75-

megawatt wind power project for Albert County. Your government will continue to seek partners to further explore the potential of tidal power from our coastal waters.

With a focus on renewable and alternative energy sources, your government will work closely with Ottawa to ensure New Brunswick can capitalize on recently-announced federal programs on efficiency, research and development and new technologies in the energy sector.

Your government has followed through on the commitment to establish a \$2,000 home-efficiency grant. Through Efficiency NB, your government went even further by introducing a more comprehensive plan that makes New Brunswick the leader in all of Canada in home energy efficiency programs.

In the months ahead, your government will examine how to best assist the commercial and industrial sectors to become more energy efficient.

There are two other commitments that your government has fulfilled, and they include making improvements to the gasoline regulation model and implementing a no-disconnect policy to make sure that no one in the province with legitimate economic needs will have the power turned off during the cold winter months.

In addition, your government will follow through on the commitment to study the feasibility of a second nuclear reactor at Point Lepreau as well as examine the potential of sending natural gas to the northern area of our province.

Your government will explore potential new markets in Atlantic Canada and the New England states in its quest to grow the energy sector in New Brunswick.

As well, the Department of Energy will develop a new energy policy and review the existing *Electricity Act* to ensure it is meeting its public policy goals. Your government will continue its collaboration with a number of partners in the private and public sector to build on the momentum the province currently enjoys in the energy sector.

Finally, the department will continue to work closely with NB Power to ensure the publicly-owned utility operates as efficiently as possible for years to come.

New Brunswick's declining population is one of the most significant challenges facing our economy and our province today. New Brunswick must address a declining birth rate, an aging

population, significant out-migration to other provinces, and labour shortages. New Brunswick businesses have identified human resource shortages as the biggest challenge for the next five years.

Your government recognizes that the goal of self-sufficiency cannot be met without addressing the challenge of population decline. Your government will very shortly outline a comprehensive plan to address the demographic challenges faced by our province.

Your government will redouble efforts to encourage economic development and job creation in all regions of the province. The Department of Business New Brunswick will aggressively pursue development opportunities in Canada and abroad and will reposition the province as being once again open for business.

Small and medium-sized businesses are the backbone of New Brunswick's economy. In the *Charter for Change*, a commitment was made to provide start-up capital of up to \$100,000 for new businesses and up to \$60,000 for business expansion and diversification. Your government will keep this commitment and will bring forward a program this year to stimulate capital investment for small business start-up, expansion, diversification and productivity improvement.

In order to encourage economic development, we must also ensure that the rights of those investing in our economy are protected.

A new *Franchises Act* will be introduced to provide a more level playing field for franchisors and franchisees. The legislation will benefit both small- and medium-size businesses and prospective businesses that operate in the franchise sector.

As well, your government will increase protection of consumers and investors by introducing amendments to the *Securities Act*. Your government will also be introducing legislation to modernize the regulation structure in the petroleum and mining sectors.

Self-sufficiency is a goal for all regions of New Brunswick whether they are rural or urban. Your government recognizes that some regions of the province face greater barriers to achieving self-sufficiency. That is why your government will create the Northern New Brunswick Initiative (NNBI), as outlined in the *Charter for Change*. This new initiative will be designed to ensure adequate infrastructure is made available for economic development in the northern parts of the province. This initiative will see government work with residents of Northern New Brunswick to develop a new,

bold agenda for development, including the development of a new infrastructure program for northern and Miramichi regions.

Our rural-based resource industries are the historic cornerstones of New Brunswick's economy. These industries will continue to be economic pillars if they strive to adapt and modernize. Your government will continue to work with these sectors to ensure they are able to respond to current and future challenges and opportunities.

Our forest industry has been working hard to cut costs and remain profitable as it navigates through the challenges it faces. Your government will provide strategic financial assistance where industry can demonstrate it has a need, has a focused and realistic business plan, and is prepared to make a major financial investment in its own future.

In order to help reduce industry's reliance on fossil fuels, your government will make forest biomass available for co-generation. Biomass availability will be limited to the amount that can safely be removed from the forest floor without compromising the long-term health of our forests.

Your government will take steps to ensure that wood from private woodlots has equal and fair access to mills by requiring proportional movement of fibre from Crown land and private woodlots to mills throughout the year.

As well this spring, the Minister of Natural Resources will amend the current moose license draw system to improve the chances of success for those hunters who have not been successful in obtaining a moose license over many years.

Farming, both on land and on water, plays an important role in New Brunswick's economy. Your government will enter into negotiations with the federal government to renew the current Agriculture Policy Framework for 2008, following the extensive series of stakeholder consultations currently underway. The new policy will continue to provide income stabilization to help support the family farm, and it will also focus additional resources to support a competitive and innovative agriculture and agri-food sector for the long-term benefit of our rural economy.

Similarly, your government will enter into negotiations with the federal government for the development and implementation of a national aquaculture framework agreement, which will include business risk management programming.

In order for fishing communities to prosper, industry must be able to respond to changes in this sector. To help the province's fishermen and seafood processors meet the challenges facing the industry and take advantage of opportunities, your government will host the New Brunswick Fisheries Summit.

New Brunswickers have long recognized the lure of our province's natural beauty and rich culture. Your government is committed to working with the tourism industry to ensure New Brunswick remains a destination of choice.

The *Tourism Development Act*, which dates back to the 1970s, no longer adequately addresses the needs of the tourism industry. Your government is conducting an extensive consultation process with industry and will ensure a full consideration of industry's concerns with the current Act, particularly with respect to the licensing system for tourism accommodations.

Your government will dedicate resources to establishing and assisting a new agency that will work with all levels of government and the private sector on the development of a tourism strategy and action plan for Northern New Brunswick to capture the tourism growth opportunities of this beautiful and culturally rich area of the province.

Safe and efficient transportation links are essential to the economic development of our province. The completion of the four-lane Trans-Canada Highway this fall will provide an efficient trade corridor to move our products to export markets.

Your government will pursue the cooperation and partnership of the federal government in order to upgrade other roads that are part of Canada's national highway system, including routes 1, 7, 8, 11 and 17. During their mandate, your government will also significantly address the road infrastructure needs of rural New Brunswick.

Your government will be releasing, in conjunction with the other Atlantic Provinces, an Atlantic Canada Transportation Strategy. As part of the Atlantic region, we will be pressing the federal government to establish an Atlantic Gateway to take advantage of emerging global trading patterns and provide for significant economic development opportunities in our area. In addition, your government will be releasing a New Brunswick Multimodal Transportation Strategy later this year.

Your government met its commitment to provide the people of Grand Manan with a year-round, four-trip per day ferry schedule and your government intends to enter into contractual agreements for a new ferry to replace the MV Grand Manan.

Wildlife collisions on our highways will be addressed through the launch of an awareness campaign and other measures, including the start of the erection of wildlife fencing in June in areas with high incidence of moose/vehicle collisions.

A New Brunswick Intelligent Transportation Strategy document will be released late this year. The strategy will outline the development and deployment of new technologies for New Brunswick's transportation sector.

It is not only important that our highways be efficient, they must also be safe.

Your government will chart a course for safety by introducing legislation to make our highways and streets safer by introducing amendments to the *Motor Vehicle Act*. These changes will enable law enforcement to get tough on impaired drivers. Other measures will be introduced to reduce speeding, increase seat belt use and improve the safety of children travelling in vehicles.

As well, your government will make changes to the *Off-Road Vehicle Act* with specific attention to age of operation, training requirements, public awareness and education. Enforcement of these new changes will also be a priority.

Your government is committed to safe communities. We have seen the effects of organized crime and the illegal drug trade on our communities and your government will take steps to combat this.

Your government values the advice of its residents. In response to recommendations from a stakeholder review committee, your government will introduce amendments to the *Police Act*.

Your government recognizes the need to protect New Brunswickers' right to information pertaining to public policy decisions while at the same time protecting the private information of individuals. A review of access to information legislation will be initiated, including privacy legislation as it relates to health issues and the use of electronic health record technology.

In order to fully succeed on the road to self-sufficiency, your government is committed to ensuring that no New Brunswicker is left behind. Your government is committed to taking steps

to protect those who are vulnerable and to ensure that all New Brunswickers are treated fairly and have their rights protected.

Your government is committed to protecting New Brunswick children and providing greater assistance to families. As a first step, the Department of Family and Community Services will be hiring 20 new legal assistants who will assume tasks related to the preparation of court documentation that have been performed by social workers. This will enable social workers to focus more on prevention and clinical therapeutic interventions.

Secondly, your government will introduce a mediation model as the primary form of dispute resolution in child protection cases. This model will enable families to become a key part of the process of resolving crisis situations and will also make court-ordered interventions an option of last resort.

Thirdly, your government will commence work on a new prevention-based multiple response service delivery model for providing services to families that fit their situation, from minor support to intensive services.

Adoption services are an integral part of building families in New Brunswick. In order to help children find permanent families, your government will modernize the adoption process by amending the *Family Services Act* as well as creating a new *Intercountry Adoption Act*. These changes will ensure that the best interests of the child are kept at the forefront of the adoption process. These amendments will also ensure a more effective delivery of services to New Brunswickers wishing to adopt a child.

Food, clothing and shelter are among the most basic and essential needs of a society. If New Brunswick is to achieve this vision of self-sufficiency, we must ensure that housing in New Brunswick is affordable and available. Your government will reinstate the New Brunswick Housing Corporation as a strong, proactive housing agency in order to address housing needs in both rural and urban New Brunswick. The corporation will partner with the private sector, municipalities, non-profit associations and other stakeholders to achieve its goal.

Additionally, the Department of Local Government anticipates the proclamation and filing of regulations pertaining to substandard housing by the end of this fiscal year.

New Brunswick's seniors have built our province. Your government is committed to treating them with dignity and respect. As our population ages, it will be imperative that we be

prepared to provide our seniors with the right services at the right time. To achieve this end, your government will renew its long-term care strategy, with the objective to strengthen the continuum of care to ensure that it meets the current and future needs of seniors. This renewed strategy will establish goals which will guide your government as it addresses the challenges facing the long-term care system over the next 10 years.

On December 4, 2006, your government fulfilled its commitment to New Brunswick consumers to negotiate a fairer and improved automobile insurance product. As promised, all insurance companies have removed gender as a rating criterion to be effective March 1, 2007. Your government's objective of having industry reduce its 2006 rates, effective March 1, by a cumulative 13.5 per cent has also been realized.

Although much has been done, your government remains committed to ensuring the stability of automobile insurance rates. To this end, amendments will be made to the *Insurance Act* to make certain that the necessary tools are in place to allow New Brunswick drivers to continue to benefit from reasonable insurance rates and a fair insurance product.

As well, the process for establishing new territories will begin with the objective of having a redefined territorial structure in place by June 30, 2007, to permit the 2008 rate filings to reflect this more modern insurance regime.

In order that all New Brunswickers can participate in the journey to self-sufficiency, your government is committed to enabling more persons with disabilities to obtain the services and supports they need to be able to fully participate in the economic and social opportunities available to other residents of New Brunswick.

The Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons is working on a new provincial disability action plan and strategy based on input from the public. They are distributing a questionnaire on disability issues across the province and will be hosting a major Disability Stakeholders Summit at the end of May 2007. The final report and recommendations will be completed and presented to government and released publicly before the end of the coming fiscal year.

To be a self-sufficient province, New Brunswick must also be a well province.

By starting families early on the path to healthy lifestyles, we will see increased levels of wellness across our province. A new

Select Committee on Wellness will be established to engage New Brunswickers on how to improve wellness in our province. Your government will also establish a Premier's Committee on Healthy Families to conduct an ongoing dialogue with New Brunswickers on healthy lifestyle choices.

By supporting and encouraging New Brunswickers to eat healthier, become more physically active, develop mental fitness and resiliency, and live tobacco-free lives, we can all help reduce illnesses and provide a healthy and positive role model for our children.

Rural communities have unique social, geographic, health and other characteristics that offer challenges, and more importantly, exciting opportunities to be innovative in our approach to improving both the health of rural New Brunswickers and access to services in rural areas.

Your government is strongly committed to providing quality health care in rural New Brunswick. We believe that New Brunswick can and will be a national leader in rural health delivery. To this end, your government will establish a provincial Rural Health Framework to improve access to services in rural areas. It will engage communities, health care providers and other key groups in the development of the framework.

Your government will consolidate ambulance services under a single ambulance operator to provide a province-wide ambulance system that will meet international standards of the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services.

Existing ambulance operators will be treated fairly as New Brunswick transitions to the new province-wide system. As well, ambulance personnel working in the current system will be offered jobs in the new system and provided an opportunity to upgrade their skills to that of a primary care paramedic.

National and provincial reports on health care renewal highlight the importance of utilizing health care providers to their full competence and of health care providers working as part of a collaborative team. Your government will enhance the role of nurses, nurse practitioners and licensed practical nurses. Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner positions will also be created in all New Brunswick health regions to work in settings including sexual health clinics, community mental health centres and nursing homes.

Your government will modernize New Brunswick's public health legislation to make it more responsive to current needs and emerging issues like pandemic influenza. The *Public Health Act* will be proclaimed following amendments to better protect public health and make the public health system more flexible.

Many New Brunswickers are dealing with the daily reality of managing a lifelong chronic disease. Your government will undertake consultation with key advocacy and professional stakeholder groups to build on existing programs and best practices in New Brunswick. It will be implementing a staged approach to assist persons with diabetes to access necessary medications, supplies and devices.

In order to address issues associated with the misuse and abuse of narcotics and controlled drugs, your government will establish a Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) for New Brunswick. The PMP will be designed, in consultation with pharmacists and physicians, to provide information to prescribers to assist in patient care decision-making and promote optimal prescribing and utilization of monitored drugs. It is the first component of an Electronic Patient Record.

Building on the work to date accomplished by the Regional Health Authorities and the Department of Health, a provincial addictions strategy will be established to identify strategic directions and initiatives. Opportunities to further link addiction services with mental health and primary health care will be defined.

As part of its *Charter for Change*, your government made a commitment to commence legal action against tobacco companies to recover health care costs related to tobacco consumption and to make the tobacco industry publicly accountable in New Brunswick. Through the public tendering process, your government is seeking to retain a law firm on a contingency fee basis to advise it on how to proceed with this matter and to provide legal services and representation as required.

Our health care system must be accountable and responsible to the public. Your government will promote best practices, interregional cooperation and use of new e-Health technologies. Long-term planning will be implemented for health human resources as well as capital and technological investments. Your government will be accountable on management of wait lists and access to clinical care. Additionally, your government will address health care delivery needs in francophone communities, particularly in the Acadian Peninsula.

Your government believes that Service New Brunswick (SNB) has an important role to play in connecting New Brunswickers to the government services they require.

Today, SNB is one step closer to establishing a fully electronic and totally paperless Land Registry. This modernization will make it one of the world's most advanced property registries.

In addition, amendments will be made to the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act* to allow for the collection of voluntary fine payments for provincial offence tickets by Service New Brunswick. This will improve the administration of justice by providing a more efficient means of collection of fines for ticketed offences. It will also facilitate the expansion of the ticketing scheme under the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act* to other areas of provincial enforcement.

A self-sufficient province would be impossible without the contributions of New Brunswick workers. New Brunswick's public service has long been viewed as one of the most dedicated and competent in the country. Your government recognizes the vital role these 44,000 men and women play in improving the lives of New Brunswickers each and every day. Your government thanks them for their ongoing dedication in pursuit of the goal of self-sufficiency.

An ongoing dialogue has been established between your government and the leadership of organized labour in New Brunswick in both the private and public sector. This dialogue will help to strengthen the relationship between your government and labour organizations.

Your government is committed to protecting New Brunswickers in the workplace.

In keeping with its *Charter for Change* commitment, your government will undertake a comprehensive review of the Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission. Your government will fulfill this important commitment. This review will identify where our Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission excels. It will also identify if any improvements are needed.

Amendments to the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* will be introduced to make Joint Health and Safety Committees function better for all New Brunswick workplaces where they are required.

Culture is a central part of creating vibrant communities in which New Brunswickers can live and flourish. When communities

invest in culture, it not only improves the quality of life of their residents, but also helps to attract and retain a skilled workforce, important elements of a strong economy. Your government will develop, in consultation with industry representatives, a Cultural Industry Development Strategy that will provide a comprehensive plan for the growth of this sector, thus contributing to the achievement of self-sufficiency.

Your government is committed to implementing a Book Policy that will include a program to support literary translation in order to encourage the exchange of ideas between our linguistic and cultural communities.

Canadians, including New Brunswickers, are increasingly concerned about the environment. As your government looks ahead to its long-term goal of a self-sufficient province in twenty years, it must also ensure that on our quest to reach this goal, we are good environmental stewards.

This year, your government will present a Climate Change Action Plan. This plan will provide a framework for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change. The Action Plan will contain a set of achievable actions to reduce emissions and promote the use of the best available technologies.

It will also contain strategies to integrate climate change considerations in planning and development decisions.

Your government will also be introducing changes to the *Community Planning Act* in order to establish a Provincial Planning Policy through regulation. This policy will provide statements of provincial interest relating to development, such as coastal areas protection, settlement patterns, location of industrial activities and water protection.

Following the results of the Environmental Impact Assessment, your government will select a preferred option for the remediation of the Petitcodiac River.

As well, your government will be continuing its emphasis on green building construction, following the principles of Leadership in Environmental and Engineering Design to ensure that government buildings are designed in a way that is environmentally responsible.

The steps taken by your government in the upcoming session will set the foundation for making New Brunswick a self-sufficient province. Government alone cannot achieve this goal.

In an effort to engage New Brunswickers, your government has taken numerous actions. The Community Non-Profit Task Force will work with the leaders of this important sector to strengthen their relationship with government. The report of this task force will be presented to government in September 2007.

A new relationship is being forged with New Brunswick's First Nations communities. Your government will address an issue that has been a source of conflict for decades, designate a day to celebrate this new relationship and move to establish a forum that will take us well into the future.

Your government will initiate a process to remove the Ganong Line. This arbitrary line was established in the nineteenth century to divide the Mi'kmaq and Maliseet peoples. It has been the source of much conflict between aboriginal peoples and the province of New Brunswick.

September 24 will be designated as Treaty Day to celebrate the signing of a Treaty of Cooperation between the British and the Mi'kmaq and Maliseet at Saint John on September 24, 1778. In this treaty, aboriginal peoples and the settlers of what became New Brunswick pledged to work together to defend this territory from those who sought to incite rebellion.

And, finally, your government will work with our federal and First Nations partners to establish a Bilateral and Tripartite Forum in which issues of mutual concern can be discussed and fair and equitable solutions can be developed.

Your government also respects the important role of local governments and is eager to work in partnerships with New Brunswick communities of all sizes. In order to achieve the goal of self-sufficiency, communities large and small, rural and urban must participate in pursuing this vision. Your government looks forward to working with municipal councils, Rural Communities and Local Service Districts.

Your government will continue to engage both individuals and groups to chart this new course for our province.

Achieving self-sufficiency will take all New Brunswickers working together, believing in our province and embracing our provincial motto: "Hope restored."

Over the course of this session, ministers will provide more details regarding the initiatives contained in this Speech from the Throne.

Amendments to a variety of Acts of the Legislative Assembly will be introduced and debated in order to ensure your government continues to improve services offered to the public.

Your government will also provide details on additional policy and program matters of importance to the people of New Brunswick.

May divine Providence continue to bless New Brunswick and its residents, and guide this Assembly in its' deliberations.

His Honour then retired from the Chamber.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Ordered that the Hon. Shawn Graham, Premier, have leave to introduce a Bill entitled *An Act to Perpetuate a Certain Ancient Right*. (Bill 1)

He accordingly presented the Bill to the House and the same was received and read the first time.

Pursuant to the provisions of the *Elections Act*, Mr. Speaker laid upon the table of the House the returns of votes polled in the several electoral districts of the province in the general election held September 18, 2006.

On motion of the Honourable the Premier, seconded by Hon. Mr. Jamieson:

RESOLVED, that the returns be entered in the *Journals* of the House.

And they are as follows:

RETURNS OF THE GENERAL ELECTION FOR
MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
HELD ON THE 18th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2006

CAMPBELLTON-RESTIGOUCHE CENTRE # 1

Roy Boudreau	L	4185
Greg Davis	PC	3297
Edouard Maltais		
Returning Officer		

DALHOUSIE-RESTIGOUCHE EAST # 2

Donald Arseneault	L	5502
Ronald Joseph Barriault	PC	2081
Lyndsey Gallant	NDP	454
Scott Chedore		
Returning Officer		

NIGADOO-CHALEUR # 3

Roland Haché	L	4313
Gérald Mallais	PC	2597
Lucie Marie Edith Desaulniers	NDP	334
Solange Basque-Rhéaume Returning Officer		

BATHURST # 4

Brian Kenny	L	3224
Nancy McKay	PC	3037
Blair Lindsay	NDP	328
Gilles Pratt Returning Officer		

NEPISIGUIT # 5

Cheryl Lavoie	L	2827
Gerry Legere	PC	2436
Charles Fournier	NDP	487
Nathalie Raymond Returning Officer		

CARAQUET # 6

Hédard Albert	L	4580
Claude L'Espérance	PC	1677
Stephane Doiron	NDP	966
Aurélien Lanteigne Returning Officer		

LAMÈQUE-SHIPPIGAN-MISCOU # 7

Denis Roussel	L	2795
Paul Robichaud	PC	4348
Juliette Paulin	NDP	418
Jean-Eudes Savoie Returning Officer		

CENTRE-PÉNINSULE-SAINT-SAUVEUR # 8

Denis Landry	L	4146
Louis-Philippe McGraw	PC	3164
Sylvie Robichaud Returning Officer		

TRACADIE-SHEILA # 9

Serge Rousselle	L	3281
Claude Landry	PC	4043
Stéphane Richardson	IND	250
Yves Renaud Returning Officer		

MIRAMICHI BAY-NEGUAC # 10

Carmel Robichaud	L	3074
Guy Vautour	PC	1927
Roger Duguay	NDP	1778
Nathalie Rousselle-LeClair Returning Officer		

MIRAMICHI-BAY DU VIN # 11

Bill Fraser	L	4171
Michael J. (Tanker) Malley	PC	2713
Dwayne R. Hancock	NDP	177
Thomas G. Williston Returning Officer		

MIRAMICHI CENTRE # 12

John Winston Foran	L	3746
George Smith	PC	2732
Douglas T. Mullin	NDP	258
B. Gilmore Stothart Returning Officer		

SOUTHWEST MIRAMICHI # 13

Rick Brewer	L	3310
Brent Taylor	PC	2826
Lydia Calhoun	NDP	216
Leslie I. Greene Returning Officer		

ROGERSVILLE-KOUCHIBOUGUAC # 14

Emery Comeau	L	3112
Rose-May Poirier	PC	4332
Oscar Doucet	NDP	356
Jean-Louis Gigou Returning Officer		

KENT # 15

Shawn Michael Graham	L	3508
Aldeo Saulnier	PC	3049
Graham Cox	NDP	209
Shirley Warren Returning Officer		

KENT SOUTH # 16

Nadine Hébert	L	3463
Claude Williams	PC	4890
Roseline Maillet Returning Officer		

SHEDIAC-CAP-PELÉ # 17

Victor E. Boudreau	L	5151
Léo Doiron	PC	3572
Charles Vautour	NDP	281
Jacques Côté		
Returning Officer		

TANTRAMAR # 18

John Higham	L	1718
Mike Olscamp	PC	2690
Virgil Hammock	NDP	536
Denise Martin		
Returning Officer		

MEMRAMCOOK-LAKEVILLE-DIEPPE # 19

Bernard LeBlanc	L	3845
Fortunat Duguay	PC	2680
Carl Bainbridge	NDP	287
Simone Smith		
Returning Officer		

DIEPPE CENTRE-LEWISVILLE # 20

Bruno Roy	L	4289
Cy (Richard) LeBlanc	PC	4347
Valier Santerre	NDP	271
O'Neil Arseneau		
Returning Officer		

MONCTON EAST # 21

Brian Gallant	L	2828
Bernard Lord	PC	3816
Mark Robar	NDP	319
Donald Estey		
Returning Officer		

MONCTON WEST # 22

Gene Joseph Devereux	L	3015
Joan MacAlpine-Stiles	PC	3318
Boyd Anderson		
Returning Officer		

MONCTON NORTH # 23

Michael B. Murphy	L	2946
Marie-Claude Blais	PC	2462
Cindy Rix	NDP	317
Alan Taylor		
Returning Officer		

MONCTON CRESCENT # 24

Shirley Smallwood	L	3278
John W. Betts	PC	4273
Ian Thorn	NDP	283
Kelly Power Returning Officer		

PETITCODIAC # 25

Terry Keating	L	2093
Wally Stiles	PC	4603
Rebecca Lewis-Marshall	NDP	396
Rose E. Horsman Returning Officer		

RIVERVIEW # 26

Ward White	L	2296
R. Bruce Fitch	PC	4326
Richard Grant	NDP	204
Harry Lord Returning Officer		

ALBERT # 27

Clark Butland	L	1902
Wayne Steeves	PC	4439
Lois C. Butland Returning Officer		

KINGS EAST # 28

LeRoy Armstrong	L	2790
Bruce Northrup	PC	4065
Dana Robert Brown	NDP	248
Nancy F. McLeod Returning Officer		

HAMPTON-KINGS # 29

Linda Watson	L	1775
Bev Harrison	PC	4187
Pat Hanratty	NDP	915
John Sabine	IND	255
Richard Thorne Returning Officer		

QUISPAMISIS # 30

Mary Schryer	L	3625
Brenda Fowlie	PC	3108
Lorena (L. A.) Henry	NDP	334
Joanne Nice Returning Officer		

SAINT JOHN-FUNDY # 31

Stuart Jamieson	L	3123
Jim Huttges	PC	2132
Mark LeBlanc	NDP	377
Susan Ewing		
Returning Officer		

ROTHESAY # 32

Paul Barry	L	2765
Margaret-Ann Blaney	PC	2856
Troy Polchies	NDP	249
Lorne McGuigan		
Returning Officer		

SAINT JOHN EAST # 33

Roly MacIntyre	L	3390
Joe Mott	PC	1856
Maureen E. Michaud	NDP	392
Vince Fletcher		
Returning Officer		

SAINT JOHN HARBOUR # 34

Ed Doherty	L	2788
Idee Inyangudor	PC	1139
Dan Robichaud	NDP	547
David Raymond Amos	IND	44
David J. (Paddy) Addison		
Returning Officer		

SAINT JOHN PORTLAND # 35

Colleen Knudson	L	2710
Trevor Arthur Holder	PC	2987
Clare A. Mudge	NDP	281
Jane Beyea		
Returning Officer		

SAINT JOHN LANCASTER # 36

Abel LeBlanc	L	4002
Peter Hyslop	PC	2499
Jennifer Carkner	NDP	283
David Lake		
Returning Officer		

FUNDY-RIVER VALLEY # 37

Jack Keir	L	2800
Borden DeLong	PC	2594
Percy Ward	NDP	285
Colby Fraser	IND	386
Margaret Lawson		
Returning Officer		

CHARLOTTE-THE ISLES # 38

Rick Doucet	L	3619
Wayne Sturgeon	PC	2627
Sharon Greenlaw	NDP	267
Jeanette Mitchell Returning Officer		

CHARLOTTE-CAMPOBELLO # 39

Robert N. Tinker	L	2876
Tony Huntjens	PC	3157
Andrew Graham	NDP	317
James G. McKim Returning Officer		

OROMOCTO # 40

Shelby Mercer	L	1451
Jody Carr	PC	3181
Stephen Beam	NDP	157
Marie J. Smith Returning Officer		

GRAND LAKE-GAGETOWN # 41

Eugene McGinley	L	3528
Jack Carr	PC	3309
Helen Marie Partridge (MacLean)	NDP	411
Alvena Bailey Returning Officer		

FREDERICTON-NASHWAAKSIS # 42

T. J. Burke	L	3862
Mike Smith	PC	3697
Aaron Doucette	NDP	304
Fred Trites Returning Officer		

FREDERICTON-FORT NASHWAAK # 43

Kelly Lamrock	L	3817
Heather Hughes	PC	2800
Barb Garrity Returning Officer		

FREDERICTON-LINCOLN # 44

Greg Byrne	L	3273
William Forrestall	PC	2410
Allison Brewer	NDP	1040
Connie Ladds Returning Officer		

FREDERICTON-SILVERWOOD # 45

Rick Miles	L	3329
Brad Green	PC	2866
Dennis Atchison	NDP	812
Alberta (Bobbie) McNutt		
Returning Officer		

NEW MARYLAND-SUNBURY WEST # 46

Les Smith	L	2654
Keith Ashfield	PC	3209
Brecken Rose Hancock	NDP	306
Terence E. Youngblood		
Returning Officer		

YORK # 47

Trent Jewett	L	2943
Carl Urquhart	PC	3100
Derek Simon	NDP	382
Lynn Thornton		
Returning Officer		

YORK NORTH # 48

Larry Jewett	L	2854
Kirk MacDonald	PC	4061
Anne M. Leslie	NDP	379
Reginald C. Davis		
Returning Officer		

WOODSTOCK # 49

Art Slipp	L	2936
David N. Alward	PC	3868
Garth Derrald Brewer	NDP	345
Heather A. Craig		
Returning Officer		

CARLETON # 50

Gwen Cullins-Jones	L	2086
Dale A. Graham	PC	4148
Jason Robar	NDP	235
Lori Ann Tweedie		
Returning Officer		

VICTORIA-TOBIQUE # 51

Larry R. Kennedy	L	4024
Chris McLaughlin	PC	1443
Paul Kendal	NDP	153
Marietta J. Inman		
Returning Officer		

 GRAND FALLS-DRUMMOND-SAINT-ANDRÉ # 52

Ronald Ouellette	L	3752
Maurice Picard	PC	2733
Pierre Cyr	NDP	260
Rachel Thériault		
Returning Officer		

RESTIGOUCHE-LA-VALLÉE # 53

Burt Walter Paulin	L	2806
Percy Mockler	PC	3835
Alain Martel	NDP	599
Louiselle Bastille		
Returning Officer		

EDMUNDSTON-SAINT-BASILE # 54

Jean Louis Johnson	L	2000
Madeleine (Mado) Dubé	PC	5631
Michel Bossé	NDP	240
Gérard Y. Verret		
Returning Officer		

MADAWASKA-LES-LACS # 55

Elaine Albert	L	2299
Jeannot Volpé	PC	4271
Jeff Thibodeau	NDP	183
Gérard Dubé		
Returning Officer		

Mr. Speaker then informed the House that in order to prevent mistakes he had obtained a copy of His Honour's speech, which he offered to read. (Reading dispensed)

On motion of Ms. Lavoie, seconded by Mr. Brewer ,

RESOLVED, that the speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be forthwith taken into consideration.

Ms. Lavoie, a Member for the electoral district of Nepisiguit, proposed an Address to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in answer to the speech, which she read in her place, and being seconded by Mr. Brewer, a Member for the electoral district of Southwest Miramichi, it was handed to the Chair where it was again read and is as follows:

Fredericton, N.B.

February 6, 2007.

To His Honour,

The Honourable Herménégilde Chiasson,

Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick.

May It Please Your Honour:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of New Brunswick, now in session, beg leave to extend our humble thanks to Your Honour for the gracious speech which Your Honour has addressed to us, and we assure Your Honour that all matters which may be submitted to us during the session will receive our most careful attention and consideration.

And a debate arising, after some time, it was on motion of Mr. Volpé, the Leader of the Opposition and the Member for the electoral district of Madawaska-les-Lacs, adjourned over.

On motion of the Honourable the Premier, seconded by Hon. Mr. Jamieson:

RESOLVED, THAT Roy Boudreau, Member for the electoral District of Campbellton-Restigouche Centre, and Brian Kenny, Member for the electoral district of Bathurst, be appointed Deputy Speakers.

And then, 4.45 o'clock p.m., the House adjourned.

The following documents, having been deposited with the clerk of the House, were laid upon the table of the House, pursuant to Standing Rule 39:

New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation 2005	June 26, 2006
Conflict of Interest Commissioner 2005-2006	June 30, 2006
Report to the Stakeholders - Working Together, 2005	July 7, 2006
A Report on Air Quality Monitoring Results in New Brunswick for the year 2004	July 17, 2006
Legislative Activities 2005	August 8, 2006
Reporting to New Brunswickers - The New Brunswick Health Care Report Card 2005	August 16, 2006
Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2006	August 16, 2006
New Brunswick Liquor Corporation, Annual Report 2005-2006	September 22, 2006
New Brunswick Investment Management Corporation Annual Report	September 27, 2006
Service New Brunswick, Annual Report 2005-2006	October 1, 2006
Research and Productivity Council, Annual Report 2005-2006	October 20, 2006
Office of the Consumer Advocate for Insurance, Annual Report 2005	October 25, 2006
New Brunswick Highway Corporation, Annual Report 2005-2006	November 7, 2006
New Brunswick Advisory Council on Seniors, Annual Report 2005-2006	November 10, 2006
New Brunswick Forest Products Commission, Annual Report 2005-2006	November 10, 2006
Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons, Annual Report 2005-2006	November 10, 2006
Department of Transportation, Annual Report 2005-2006	November 10, 2006
Department of Natural Resources, Annual Report, 2005-2006	November 15, 2006
Department of Intergovernmental and International Relations, Annual Report 2005-2006	November 15, 2006
Office of Human Resources, Annual Report, 2005-2006	November 15, 2006
Department of Public Safety, Annual Report 2005-2006	November 16, 2006
Labour and Employment Board, Annual Report 2005-2006	November 17, 2006
Department of Tourism and Parks, Annual Report 2005-2006	November 20, 2006
Le Centre communautaire Sainte-Anne, Annual Report 2005-2006	November 22, 2006
Department of Finance, Annual Report 2005-2006	November 23, 2006
New Brunswick Power Holding Corporation, Annual Report	November 28, 2006

Department of Supply and Services, Annual Report 2005-2006	December 6, 2006
Provincial Holdings Ltd., Annual Report 2005-2006	December 7, 2006
New Brunswick Human Rights Commission, Annual Report 2005-2006	December 12, 2006
New Brunswick Electric Finance Corporation, Annual Report 2005-2006	December 13, 2006
New Brunswick Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, Annual Report 2005-2006	December 20, 2006
Regional Development Corporation, Annual Report 2005-2006	December 20, 2006
Department of Business New Brunswick, Annual Report 2005-2006	January 2, 2007
Lotteries Commission of New Brunswick Annual Report, 2005-2006	January 3, 2007
Training and Employment Development Annual Report, 2005-2006	January 4, 2007
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture, Annual Report 2005-2006	January 8, 2007
Department of Health, Annual Report 2005-2006	January 17, 2007
Department of Justice and Consumer Affairs and Attorney General, Annual Report 2005-2006	January 18, 2007
New Brunswick Advisory Council on Youth, Annual Report 2005-2006	January 23, 2007
Department of Environment and Local Government, Annual Report 2005-2006	January 24, 2007
New Brunswick Police Commission, Annual Report 2005-2006	January 31, 2007
office of the Comptroller, Annual Report 2005-2006	February 1, 2007
Department of Family and Community Services, Annual Report 2005-2006	February 5, 2007
Report to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick of the Investigation by the Hon. Patrick A.A. Ryan, Q.C., Conflict of Interest Commissioner, into allegations by Mr. Donald Arseneault, MLA for Dalhousie-Restigouche East, of violations of the Members' Conflict of Interest Act by Deputy Premier Dale Graham, MLA for Carleton, and Minister of the Office of Human Resources	October 17, 2006
Public Accounts for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2006 - Volume 2 - Supplementary Information	December 8, 2006
Public Accounts for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2006 - Volume 5 - Salary Listings of Organizations	December 8, 2006
Report of the Auditor General of New Brunswick - Volume 1 - 2006	December 12, 2006
The Public Forest - 2006 State of the Forest Report	December 15, 2006

Public Accounts for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2006 - Volume 3 - Financial Statements of Crown Corporations, Boards, Commissions	January 12, 2007
A Report by the Minister of Finance on Members' Expenses, pursuant to section 30(3) of the Legislative Assembly Act	January 25, 2007
Independent Review of the Province's Financial Position - December 2006 (Grant Thornton Report) and the Executive Summary	February 2, 2007