

No. 79

Votes and Proceedings

Legislative Assembly of Ontario

Procès-verbaux

Assemblée législative de l'Ontario

Monday December 6, 2010 Lundi 6 décembre 2010

2nd Session, 39th Parliament

2^e session 39^e législature PRAYERS 10:30 A.M.

PRIÈRES 10 H 30

ORAL QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ORALES

DEFERRED VOTES

VOTES DIFFÉRÉS

The deferred vote on Private Member's Notice of Motion Number 64, was lost on the following division:-

La motion portant Avis de motion numéro 64 émanant d'un député, mise aux voix sur le vote différé, est rejetée par le vote suivant:-

AYES / POUR - 17

Chudleigh Hillier Sterling Munro Clark Wilson Jones O'Toole Dunlop Klees **Ouellette** Witmer Elliott Savoline Yakabuski Miller (Parry Sound-Muskoka)

Hardeman

NAYS / CONTRE - 49

Aggelonitis Chiarelli Jaczek Naqvi Albanese Delaney Jeffrey Phillips Arthurs Dickson Kwinter Prue Balkissoon Lalonde Pupatello DiNovo Ruprecht Bartolucci Dombrowsky Leal Bentley Duguid Levac Sandals Best Flynn McNeely Smith Bisson Fonseca Meilleur Takhar **Bradley** Gélinas Millov Van Bommel Mitchell Broten Gravelle Wilkinson Wynne Brown Hampton Moridi Zimmer Brownell Hoskins Murray

Chan

The Speaker delivered the following ruling:-

Le Président a rendu la décision suivante :-

On Wednesday, October 6, the Member for Carleton-Mississippi Mills (Mr. Sterling) rose on what he claimed was a point of order concerning a reception that was held the previous evening in the Legislative Dining Room. The member complained that the event did not comply with the established rules for the use of the public spaces in the Legislative Building. The Government House Leader (Ms. Smith) also spoke to this matter.

As I said when this matter was raised, a matter of parliamentary procedure was not at issue and therefore the House was not the proper venue for this issue to be raised. It is the common and expected practice for matters relating to the internal administration of the Assembly to be raised privately, directly with the Speaker. However, I did commit to review and report back on this matter, and I now welcome the chance to do so because I think there is some value in confirming our policies and practices, there having been some uncertainty in the past respecting appropriate uses of the parliamentary precinct.

Events held in the public spaces of the Legislative Building, most commonly one of the committee rooms or the Legislative Dining Room, are subject to policies that have been established for use of those facilities. One of the key aspects of this policy requires that events held by or on behalf of outside organizations must include invitations to all MPPs.

The Member for Carleton-Mississippi Mills raised two specific issues. The first had to do with what I have just mentioned, being the inclusiveness of the event. The member claimed that he was not certain that all MPPs had been invited to the event or, if they had, that it was impractical for some members to attend because the invitations were issued at the last minute.

I can confirm that this event was properly booked according to the existing policy, and that the requirement to include all Parties was both conveyed by Assembly officials to, and acknowledged by, the organizer. Since it is the organizer's responsibility to issue invitations, I am not in a position to address how they were issued or whether the gap between confirming the event and notifying all members of it was both reasonable and sufficient. However, in principle, I do consider it extremely important that as much notice as possible is given to members of all Parties when events of this type are to be held. Not only are members entitled to such basic consideration, but the overall success of such events is surely more likely to be achieved with good attendance by many members from all Parties, and this is only possible when members have the time they need to make the required arrangements in their calendars.

The Member for Carleton-Mississippi Mills' second issue was with an alleged partisan tone of the remarks made by some of those who spoke at the event. As I'm sure he can appreciate, there is a significant difference between the Speaker's jurisdiction, under the existing policy, to insist upon invitations for all members to attend these events, on the one hand, and the Speaker's ability to vet or regulate remarks made at those same events on the other. However, one might hope and expect that an event with the diplomatic stature of the one that is at issue here would be non-partisan in tone. Suffice it to say that the very attendance of members from all Parties should, in itself, work toward ensuring the fair dissemination of various viewpoints at such events, and that is why it is so important that all members are invited and all parties can participate.

Finally, the raising of this matter has accelerated consideration that was already being given to ways of enhancing the dissemination of information around the Legislative Assembly about the various activities that go on here each day, whether it be a committee meeting, construction or other work of some type, temporary entrance closures, or events of the type raised by the Member for Carleton-Mississippi Mills.

I am considering ways to get this information out more proactively. One method I am looking at is mounting video displays in various parts of the building, including the Members' Lobbies, where this information can be prominently displayed and updated as required. I would appreciate your thoughts on this idea and others that would serve to keep members better informed about the numerous activities that take place here.

I thank the Member for Carleton-Mississippi Mills for raising this matter, and the Government House Leader for her contribution.

The House recessed at 11:52 a.m. À 11 h 52, l'Assemblée a suspendu la séance.

1:00 P.M.

The Speaker addressed the House as follows:-

Le Président s'adresse à l'Assemblée comme suit:-

I beg to inform the House that I have today laid upon the Table the 2010 Annual Report from the Auditor General of Ontario (Sessional Paper No. 358).

REPORTS BY COMMITTEES

Mr. Sterling from the Standing Committee on Public Accounts presented the Committee's Report on the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat (Section 3.07, 2009 Annual Report of the Auditor General of Ontario) and moved the adoption of its recommendations (Sessional Paper No. 359).

On motion by Mr. Sterling,

Ordered, That the debate be adjourned.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

The following Bill was introduced and read the first time:-

Bill 146, An Act to ban organic waste from landfill sites. Mr. Sterling.

The following Bill was introduced, read the first time and referred to the Standing Committee on Regulations and Private Bills:-

RAPPORTS DES COMITÉS

M. Sterling du Comité permanent des comptes publics présente le rapport du comité concernant le Secrétariat de la littératie et de la numératie (Rapport annuel 2009 du vérificateur général de l'Ontario, section 3.07) et propose l'adoption de ses recommandations (document parlementaire n° 359).

Sur la motion de M. Sterling,

Il est ordonné que le débat soit ajourné.

DÉPÔT DES PROJETS DE LOI

Le projet de loi suivant est présenté et lu une première fois:-

Projet de loi 146, Loi visant à interdire l'enfouissement des déchets organiques. M. Sterling.

Le projet de loi suivant est présenté, lu une première fois et renvoyé au Comité permanent des règlements et des projets de loi d'intérêt privé:-

Bill Pr42, An Act to revive Bahram & Hamid Inc. Mr. Zimmer.

Following remarks by Ms. Broten, Mrs. Witmer and Ms. DiNovo, the House observed a moment of silence regarding the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence against Women.

PETITIONS PÉTITIONS

Petition relating to the new 13% sales tax (Sessional Paper No. P-4) Mr. Clark.

Petition relating to making PET scans available through the Sudbury Regional Hospital (Sessional Paper No. P-14) M^{me} Gélinas.

Petition relating to banning the use of replacement workers during a strike (Sessional Paper No. P-72) M^{me} Gélinas.

Petition relating to receiving treatment for Parkinson's disease (Sessional Paper No. P-138) Mr. O'Toole.

Petition relating to smart meters (Sessional Paper No. P-147) Mr. Ouellette.

Petition relating to real estate development of burial grounds (Sessional Paper No. P-151) Mr. Brownell.

Petition relating to scholarships for foreign students (Sessional Paper No. P-163) Mr. O'Toole and Mr. Ouellette.

Petition relating to the King Township peaker plant (Sessional Paper No. P-164) Mrs. Munro.

Petition relating to Special Services At Home (SSAH) (Sessional Paper No. P-168) Mr. Clark, Ms. Jones and Mr. McMeekin.

Petition relating to revising the Green Energy Act (Sessional Paper No. P-172) Mr. O'Toole.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

ORDRE DU JOUR

With unanimous consent, on motion by Ms. Smith,

Avec le consentement unanime, sur la motion de M^{me} Smith,

Ordered, That the Orders for Second and Third Reading of the following Private Bills shall be called consecutively, and the questions on the motions for Second and Third Reading of the Bills put immediately without debate or amendment:-

Bill Pr37, An Act respecting The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Diocese of Peterborough, in Ontario.

Bill Pr38, An Act respecting Big Bay Resort Association.

Bill Pr41, An Act to revive Tonum Ltd.; and

That Mr. Yakabuski may move the motions for Second and Third Reading of Bill Pr41 on behalf of Mr. Shurman.

The following Bills were read the second time and Ordered for Third Reading:-

Les projets de loi suivants sont lus une deuxième fois et ordonnés pour la troisième lecture:-

Bill Pr37, An Act respecting The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Diocese of Peterborough, in Ontario.

Bill Pr38, An Act respecting Big Bay Resort Association.

Bill Pr41, An Act to revive Tonum Ltd.

The following Bills were read the third time and were passed:-

Les projets de loi suivants sont lus une troisième fois et adoptés:-

Bill Pr37, An Act respecting The Sisters of St. Joseph of the Diocese of Peterborough, in Ontario.

Bill Pr38, An Act respecting Big Bay Resort Association.

Bill Pr41, An Act to revive Tonum Ltd.

Debate was resumed on the motion for Third Reading of Bill 110, An Act to promote good government by amending or repealing certain Acts. Le débat réprend sur la motion portant troisième lecture du projet de loi 110, Loi visant à promouvoir une saine gestion publique en modifiant ou en abrogeant certaines lois.

After some time, the House then adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Après quelque temps, à 18 h 02, la chambre a ensuite ajourné ses travaux.

le président

STEVE PETERS

Speaker