

May 5, 2017

**Standing Committee on Communities, Land and Environment
Fourth Report of the Second Session Sixty-fifty General Assembly
Committee Activities**

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

The Standing Committee on Communities, Land and Environment is charged with matters concerning municipal affairs and provincial planning, land and local governance, environment, water, forests, wildlife; and justice and public safety, intergovernmental affairs, Aboriginal affairs, Acadian and Francophone affairs, Status of Women, the PEI Human Rights Commission, charities and emergency measures.

Committee Membership

Kathleen Casey, Chair (District 14, Charlottetown-Lewis Point)

Peter Bevan-Baker (District 17, Kellys Cross-Cumberland)

Richard Brown (District 12, Charlottetown-Victoria Park) (*as of March 10, 2017*)

Hon. Sonny Gallant (Minister of Workforce and Advanced Learning; District 24, Evangeline-Miscouche) (*until March 10, 2017*)

Hon. Heath MacDonald (Minister of Economic Development and Tourism; District 16, Cornwall-Meadowbank) (*as of March 10, 2017*)

Sidney MacEwen (District 7, Morell-Mermaid)

Hon. Pat Murphy (Minister of Rural and Regional Development; District 26, Alberton-Roseville)

Hal Perry (District 27, Tignish-Palmer Road)

Bradley Trivers (District 18, Rustico-Emerald)

The following members served as a temporary member:

S. Forrest (Bush) Dumville (District 15, West Royalty-Springvale)

Committee Activities

Your committee met **4** times during the time frame covered by this report:

At its meeting of **February 2, 2017**, your committee discussed its work plan for the next several months. A number of issues were brought forward for consideration by committee members. As a result of the discussion, your committee prioritized its work plan for the winter months.

Your committee met next on **February 9, 2017**, to receive a briefing on the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission (HRC). The Chair of the Commission, John Rogers, and executive director, Brenda Picard, Q.C., provided an overview of the work of the HRC.

On **March 14, 2017**, your committee began its review of *the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP Act)*. Motion No. 50 (Calling for a review of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*) was debated and passed unanimously on November 24, 2016:

BE IT RESOLVED that this Legislative Assembly instruct the Legislative Committee on Communities, Land and Environment to conduct a review of the *Freedom of Information and*

Protection of Privacy Act through expert witness and public testimony, and report back to this Assembly with detailed recommendations.

Your committee received an overview of the current *FOIPP Act* from Karen Rose, Information and Privacy Commissioner. Your committee intends to continue its review of the *FOIPP Act*, and will report on its work during the next sitting of the Legislative Assembly.

One of the topics your committee intended to study during the winter months was the proposed Myers Industries Recycling Facilities on Baldwin Road, St. Teresa's, Prince Edward Island. A meeting was planned for March 29, 2017, to be held in St. Teresa's. The meeting was cancelled after the proposal was withdrawn from the Department of Environment.

Your committee met in camera on **May 3, 2017**, to consider appointments to the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission and its report to the Legislative Assembly.

Conclusion

Your committee thanks the organizations that met with it to provide information and advice in matters relating to the mandate of the Standing Committee on Communities, Land and Environment.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Casey, MLA
Chair
Standing Committee on Communities, Land and Environment