

24 May 2018

**Standing Committee on Communities, Land and Environment
First Report of the Third Session Sixty-fifty General Assembly
Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission**

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)
Colin LaVie (District 1, Souris-Elmira)
Alan McIsaac (District 5, Vernon River-Stratford)
Hon. Pat Murphy (Minister of Rural and Regional Development; District 26, Alberton-Roseville)
Hal Perry (District 27, Tignish-Palmer Road)
Allen Roach (District 3, Montague-Kilmuir)
Bradley Trivers (District 18, Rustico-Emerald)

Background

The terms of appointment for the following Commissioners are set to expire on July 9, 2018:

- Mr. George Lyle, Commissioner (term expiring July 9, 2018)
- Mr. Maurice Rio, Commissioner (term expiring July 9, 2018)

Members of your committee agreed to seek applications from interested individuals across Prince Edward Island. As such, advertisements were placed in the *Guardian* and the *Journal-Pioneer* and in *La voix Acadienne*, the *Eastern Graphic* and the *Western Graphic*. The advertisements were posted on the Legislative Assembly's social media. The advertisements requested that Islanders interested in serving as a commissioner on the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission submit their resumes by **May 7, 2018**.

Your committee met next *in camera* on **May 22, 2018**, to discuss the appointment of Commissioners to the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission and to consider its report to the Legislative Assembly.

Recommendations:

As a result of its deliberations on this matter, your committee is pleased to recommend to the Legislative Assembly:

- 1) That Ms. Carolyn Francis be appointed to the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commissioner

for a term of three years, starting July 9, 2018 and to expire on July 9, 2021.

- 2) That Ms. Deborah Gross be appointed to the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commissioner for a term of three years, starting July 9, 2018 and to expire on July 9, 2021.

As of July 9, 2018, the composition of the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission will be as follows:

Mr. John Rogers, Chairperson (term expiring May 5, 2020)
Ms. Carmen de Pontbriand, Commissioner (term expiring May 5, 2019)
Ms. Carolyn Francis, Commissioner (as of July 9, 2018 and term expiring July 9, 2021)
Ms. Deborah Gross, Commissioner (as of July 9, 2018 and term expiring July 9, 2021)
Ms. Joanne Ings, Commissioner (term expiring May 5, 2019)
Ms. Lori St. Onge, Commissioner (term expiring May 5, 2020)

Conclusion

Your committee would like to take this opportunity to formally thank all individuals who expressed an interest as serving as a commissioner on the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission. We applaud their interest in serving their communities.

Your committee thanks the members of the Prince Edward Island Human Rights Commission for their continued role in upholding human rights in our province.

Your committee also thanks outgoing Commissioners Mr. George Lyle and Mr. Maurice Rio for their dedicated service on the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

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