

# FROM THE CELLAR

Updates from the Office of the Third Party



## OVERVIEW:

- Events
- Update from the MLAs
- Q & A
- FOIPP

The Office of the Third Party have been working hard on all fronts: public engagement; policy development; upcoming legislative activities; bills and motions; constituency work and keeping the public informed about what we are up to. This newsletter is to highlight some of the things we are focused on over the next few weeks.

## MARCH EVENTS

### Standing Committees

[CLICK HERE](#) to view schedule

### Community

- March 12, 7pm - Commonwealth Day Event
- March 14, 1pm - Charlottetown Rural Career Day
- March 14, 7pm - CBC Mental Health Forum
- March 15, 1pm - Easter Beef Show & 4H
- March 16 - Housing Forum in District 11
- March 16, 11am - PEI Shellfish Seminar
- March 22, 6pm - Reopening Crapaud Library

## UPDATE FROM PETER BEVAN-BAKER

It's been a busy last few weeks. Some of my time has been spent on:

- standing committee meetings, - preparations for the upcoming sitting
- visiting communities across PEI meeting with engaged, enthusiastic and energetic Islanders who want to help make PEI better.

I love hearing what's on people's minds and love even more that they are willing and able to share their ideas for solutions to some of PEI's most difficult challenges. Thank you to all who have shared with me their dreams and hopes for PEI.

Back in the district: I was honoured to have had the chance to participate in a music therapy session at South Shore Villa. An incredible day in District 17.



Peter at South Shore Villa

## UPDATE FROM HANNAH BELL

What a great last few weeks it has been. I'm really enjoying the standing committee meetings and working toward making positive change. The prep work is rewarding and even more so when progress is made.

I am genuinely struck by the trust my constituents have in me and the conversations I have with them about their concerns.

And thanks to all who sponsored our team in the Big Brothers Big Sisters, Bowl for Kids' Sake Event in Summerside.



## Q & A

**Q:**  
What do Standing Committees do?

**A:**  
There are eight Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly, which meet regularly to discuss important policy issues.

The committees are composed of members from each party, and are intended to provide a relatively non-partisan forum for discussion and give MLAs an opportunity to call witnesses and subject matter experts to present on matters of

public interest. For example, a recent meeting of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries had a briefing on the new wastewater treatment plan by executives of the Northern Pulp Mill in Pictou, Nova Scotia. (Click here to view Waste Water Treatment Plan Briefing) The Office of the Third Party has one representative on each standing committee:

### Hannah Bell

- Public Accounts
- Education & Economic Development
- Infrastructure & Energy
- Rules, Regs, Private Bills & Privilege

### Peter Bevan-Baker

- Health & Wellness
- Community Lands & Environment
- Agriculture & Fisheries
- Legislative Management

Standing committee meetings are streamed live and video archived on the Legislative Assembly website.

[CLICK HERE](#)

*to view current or past meetings, read transcripts and obtain an up-to-date list of all committee meetings.*



## FOIPP RESPONSE

The government has recently completed public consultations on the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP)". The Office of the Third Partys made many recommendations, including:

- include universities and municipalities under the Act;
- address how instant messaging is being used to circumvent the Act;
- implement a duty to document so records will exist on the decisions of government; and
- make background material and reasons for decisions publicly available when the decision is announced.

[CLICK HERE](#)

*to view the Office of the Third Party response*

## HAVE A QUESTION YOU WANT ANSWERED?

### SUBMIT A QUESTION

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION](#)

## THE OFFICE OF THE THIRD PARTY WANTS TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK.

### SUBMIT YOUR FEEDBACK

**Q:** Are you concerned about the process being used for amalgamation and how should it be improved?

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT YOUR FEEDBACK](#)

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