

# FROM THE CELLAR

Updates from the Office of the Third Party



## OVERVIEW:

- Events
- Update from the MLAs
- Q & A
- Cannabis Act

Our office is working hard on some important Bills before the House. Bill 29, An Act to Respond to the Legislation of Cannabis and Bill 38, Electoral System Referendum Act. Keep the emails coming with your ideas and suggestions.

Feel free to SHARE this newsletter with your friends.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Legislature - Week 6

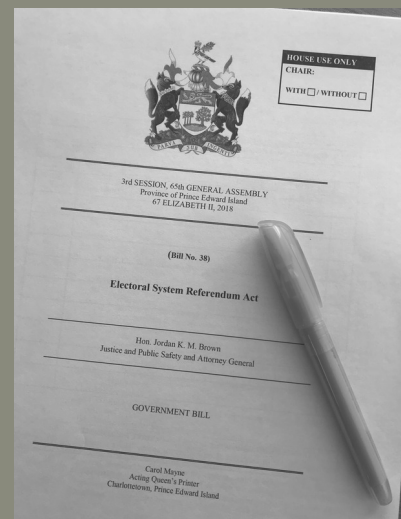
[CLICK HERE](#) to watch LIVE

[CLICK HERE](#) to view sitting archives

## UPDATE FROM PETER BEVAN-BAKER

Highlights in the legislature this week: Questions to government on the Referendum Act, Parliamentary Sovereignty. Motion 70 - Calling on government to establish a universal free Island-Wide school lunch program, Motion No. 73 - Seeking improved governance. My members' statement this week was about South Shore Soaps. Stephen and Molly McGrath own and operate this family business located on corner of South Melville Road and Old Tryon Road.

[CLICK HERE](#) video clip of Members' Statement



[CONTACT US](#)

## UPDATE FROM HANNAH BELL

Legislature update:  
Motions/Bills - Motion 57 - Urging an audit of the Provincial Nominee Program. Members' Statement - "No Choice" Kate McKenna's book on the struggle for reproductive rights on PEI.



*Hannah's mum and daughter helping out with the Women's Institute Roadside Clean-up Campaign*

## Q & A

Q: What is Public Engagement?

A: What is Public Engagement?

Public engagement has become the buzzword of politics of late. As indicators of political apathy have increased and trust in politics has fallen, efforts to engage citizens into politics have become a common theme in today's democratic processes.

There are many definitions to pull from to help better understand the meaning of public engagement.

Here is a hybrid:

Public engagement is a process that brings people together to address issues of common importance, to solve shared problems, and to bring about positive social change.

Effective public engagement invites average citizens to get involved in deliberation, dialogue and action on public issues that they care about. And it

helps leaders and decision makers better understand the perspectives, opinions, and concerns of citizens stakeholders.

Public engagement is used in a variety of sectors, from arts and heritage to science policy and local government. When done well, public engagement means that decision making will be guided not just by the usual suspects – the vocal minority who may not be representative of the community as a whole.

Public Engagement is much more wide reaching as it is designed to include those members of the community whose voices have traditionally been left out of community debates.

Decision-makers who fully understand the interests of concerned citizens are better able to explain decisions in terms ordinary people understand and in ways that relate to the values and concerns of the citizens.

## ACT TO RESPOND TO THE LEGALIZATION OF CANNABIS

Some highlights of the Bill:

**Minimum Age-** The minimum age to purchase, possess and use recreational cannabis will be set at 19 years of age.

**Consumption of Cannabis -** Cannabis use will be restricted to private residences, with some exceptions for certain designated spaces, to limit impacts on communities and public health.

**Purchasing Cannabis Products -** PEI will have four dedicated government-owned retail locations for cannabis sales in 2018, as well as an e-commerce platform with direct-to-home delivery.

**Household Cultivation -** A household will be permitted to have four (4) cannabis plants, inaccessible to minors.

**Cannabis Production, Processing and Business -** The production and processing of cannabis products will continue to be regulated through federal licensing.

**BILL 29**

*to view the bill*

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

**SUBMIT YOUR FEEDBACK**

Q: Do you think politicians do a good job engaging the public ?

**CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT  
YOUR FEEDBACK**

**WHAT WOULD YOUR QUESTION  
BE FOR QUESTION PERIOD?**

**CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT  
YOUR QUESTION**

### CONTACT:

Office of the Third Party  
web: [thirdpartypei.ca](http://thirdpartypei.ca)  
Phone: 902-620-3977

### LOCATION:

1. Basement, Coles Building  
2. Attic, J. Angus MacLean Building  
175 Richmond Street  
Charlottetown, PE