

# FROM THE CELLAR

Updates from the Office of the Third Party

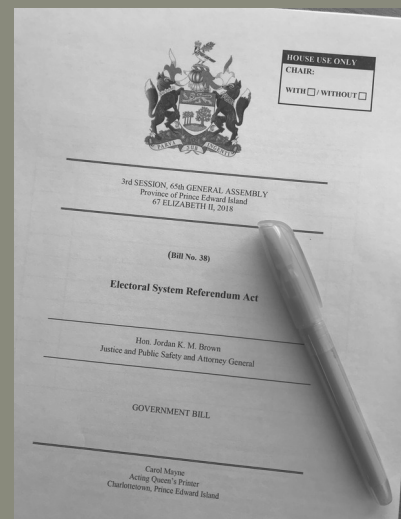


## OVERVIEW:

- Events
- Update from the MLAs
- Q & A
- Electoral System Referendum 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 7

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch LIVE

[CLICK HERE](#) to view sitting archives

## UPDATE FROM PETER BEVAN-BAKER

Highlights in the legislature this week:

Bill No. 38 Electoral System Referendum Act.

Had a wonderful time with PEI's Special Olympics National Bowling Tournament. Congratulations to PEI 10-pin team for winning bronze



*I am so inspired by people who step up to make a difference in our community. Darlene Lund, creator/owner of Friendly the Spud (character) along with a published children's storybook. Friendly the Spud is all about helping people accept each others differences, big and small. Ultimately, this story is about being friendly to people, and being people friendly.*

[FRIENDLY THE SPUD WEBSITE](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

## UPDATE FROM HANNAH BELL

Legislature update:

QP: Referendum Commissioner and asking the Premier when the election will be held.

Motion 65 urging government to work more closely with the Community Sector Network.



*The Boys and Girls Club of Charlottetown held their AGM on Wednesday to showcase all of our highlights from 2017. New board members were welcomed and former ones thanked. Above: Hannah with Amanda Beasley and Adam Ross.*

## Q & A

Q: What does Freedom of Expression mean?

A: Freedom of speech is the freedom of an individual or a community to articulate their opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship, or sanction. The term "freedom of expression" is sometimes used synonymously but includes any act of seeking, receiving, and imparting information or ideas, regardless of the medium used.

Freedom of expression is recognized as a human right under article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and recognized in international human rights law in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Freedom of expression in Canada is not absolute; Section 1

of the Charter allows the government to pass laws that limit free expression so long as the limits are reasonable and can be justified in a free and democratic society.

This can often be the subject of controversy as some feel the conditions for reasonable justification are vague and/or politically manipulative, granting the government an unreasonable amount of control over freedom of expression.

A legal case to refer to: British Columbia Teachers' Federation v. British Columbia (Attorney General), 2009 BCSC 436 (CanLII) where government legislation was found to be unconstitutional.

[CAN LII](#)

[view the B.C. Court case](#)

## BILL NO. 38 ELECTORAL SYSTEM REFERENDUM ACT

There are three separate but interrelated purposes, or principles to Bill No. 38. Firstly, to establish the referendum question, secondly to appoint an independent Referendum Commissioner, and thirdly to create, as the bill says "a level playing field" for those who wish to participate in the debate. We are fully debating the principle(s) of the bill by way of a motion during second reading, which allows members to introduce and debate a motion specifically on the purpose, scope and/or principle of a bill. We intend on bringing amendments to the Bill with the intention to improve upon the purposes of the bill. We have also been asking questions during Question Period about some of the details of the Bill and are hoping during the Committee of the Whole we can have a better chance on getting some of those questions answered.

[BILL 38](#)

[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