



Prince Edward Island Île-du-Prince-Édouard

Legislative Assembly

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Gord McNeilly, Chair
Standing Committee on Health and Social Development
Legislative Assembly of PEI

Hon. George Coles Building
175 Richmond Street
Charlottetown, PE
C1A 1H8

23 August 2022

Subject: Meeting to receive briefing from Premier King and Minister Hudson on health system plan for PEI

Dear Mr. McNeilly:

In light of recent meetings between Premier Dennis King, Ontario Premier Doug Ford, and the other Conservative Maritime Premiers, and given the lack of a transparent public plan for our crumbling healthcare system on PEI, we are writing today to request that you call a meeting of the Health and Social Development Committee as soon as possible. The purpose for the meeting would be to receive a detailed briefing from Premier King and Minister of Health and Wellness Ernie Hudson regarding their plan for health care on PEI.

We request that the briefing include plans to address the following challenges in the PEI health system:

- Rural Emergency Departments and hospital closures.
- Patient registry growing to over 25,000 Islanders.
- Loss of family doctors.
- Retention issues across all frontline healthcare professions.
- Reports of neglect in private long term care homes.

We also request that the Premier provide the committee with the following documents before the meeting is held:

- All correspondence with the Conservative Premiers prior to August 22, 2022 in relation to these meetings.

- All documents and briefing notes shared or taken during the meetings with the Conservative Premiers.

Maintaining a strong public healthcare system is a serious matter that has had profound impacts on all Islanders. Islanders deserve transparency, especially if Premier King and Minister Hudson intend to weaken and dismantle our public healthcare institutions and increase privatization, as Premier Ford is doing in Ontario. Clear answers to the public about plans and intentions for healthcare delivery in Prince Edward Island are long overdue.

We ask that this be treated as a priority matter so the Committee can prepare and table relevant recommendations in the upcoming fall sitting.

Sincerely,



Michele Beaton
Official Opposition Critic for Health and Wellness
MLA, Mermaid-Stratford



Karla Bernard
Official Opposition Critic for Social Development and Housing
MLA, Charlottetown-Victoria Park



Peter Bevan-Baker
Leader of the Official Opposition
MLA, New Haven-Rocky Point

Cc: Zack Bell, MLA Charlottetown-Winsloe
Robert Henderson, MLA O'Leary-Inverness
Sidney MacEwen, MLA Morrell-Donagh
Samantha Lilley, Committee Clerk