

MOTION

No. 50

Drug Treatment Courts

Lynne Lund gives notice that tomorrow she will move, seconded by Stephen Howard, the following motion:

WHEREAS Prince Edward Island saw the largest increase in incarceration rates among Canadian provinces in 2017/2018;

AND WHEREAS the province saw increases in the rate of drug offences related to the use of cocaine and methamphetamine within those same years;

AND WHEREAS the City of Summerside has the highest rate of incarceration related to drug-related offences in the province;

AND WHEREAS traditional punitive measures for drug-related offences have failed to address the underlying issues of addiction and mental health which lead to recidivism;

AND WHEREAS drug treatment courts, which combine judicial supervision with addiction services and long-term supports for non-violent offenders, have been proven to lower rates of substance abuse and reincarceration among participating offenders;

AND WHEREAS the federal government has partnered with the governments of Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia to establish successful drug treatment court pilot programs in those provinces;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge government to work with the federal government in the implementation of a voluntary drug treatment court pilot in the City of Summerside.

Signed: Lynne Lund

Signed: Stephen Howard

15 November 2019