

From: [Matheson, Math \(MacGregor, Alistair - MP\)](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: Seeking Support for Bill C-277
Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 11:29:19 AM
Attachments:

Good morning, Mayor, and Council.

Please find attached a letter from Alistair MacGregor, MP for Cowichan-Malahat-Langford seeking your support for of his Private Member's [Bill C-277, National Strategy on Brain Injuries Act](#). You will also find attached the full text of Bill C-277, *National Strategy on Brain Injuries Act*.

Sincerely,

Math

Constituency Assistant

Alistair MacGregor, MP

Cowichan-Malahat-Langford

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Alistair MacGregor

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April 5, 2024

Dear Municipality of North Cowichan Mayor and Council,

I write to you on behalf of my constituents and all Canadians to bring to your attention to, and ask for your support of, my Private Member's [Bill C-277, National Strategy on Brain Injuries Act](#).

I am sure you are aware, traumatic brain injuries (TBIs) whether resulting from a concussive car accident, a sports injury, or a fall outside their home, can be long-lasting and life altering. Despite there being over 160,000 new cases of acquired brain injury each year, with an estimated 1.5 million Canadians currently living with brain injury, there is currently no coordinated approach to addressing the issue at the federal level.

My Bill C-277 is the culmination of several years of working alongside the CGB Centre for Traumatic Life Losses, Brain Injury Canada, the Cowichan Brain Injury Society, the BC Brain Injury Association, and university researchers and brain injury survivors across the country. Further, I have had the privilege of meeting with constituents and have seen firsthand the devastating impact that brain injuries can have on individuals and their families.

The correlation between TBIs and homelessness, incarceration, substance use, and mental health issues is impossible to ignore. New research also shows a clear intersection between brain injuries and intimate partner violence as well as nonfatal drug overdoses – a condition known as Toxic Brain Injury.

My *National Strategy on Brain Injuries Act*, would implement a national strategy on TBI by:

- Promoting the implementation of preventive measures to reduce risk
- Identifying the training, education and guidance needs of health care professionals
- Promoting research and improve data collection
- Creating national guidelines on the prevention, diagnosis, and management of brain injuries

- Encouraging the use of consulting psychologists to create a national support system
- Developing and maintain a government website to provide current facts, research, and best practices

While it may be indirectly, this issue affects all Canadians, and it's my hope that you will support Bill C-277 *National Strategy on Brain Injuries Act*. Given the difficulty of tackling issues of mental health and addictions at a local level and the opportunities and solutions my bill seeks to establish, I would like to ask the Municipality of North Cowichan to offer its support for the bill by:

- Passing a motion in council in support of C-277
- Writing to other municipalities in BC urging them to support C-277
- Writing to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Federal Minister of Health Mark Holland noting the Municipality of North Cowichan's support for Bill C-277 the *National Strategy on Brain Injuries Act*.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,



Alistair MacGregor, MP

Cowichan-Malahat-Langford

First Session, Forty-fourth Parliament,
70-71 Elizabeth II, 2021-2022

Première session, quarante-quatrième législature,
70-71 Elizabeth II, 2021-2022

HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES DU CANADA

BILL C-277

PROJET DE LOI C-277

An Act to establish a national strategy on
brain injuries

Loi prévoyant l'élaboration d'une stratégie
nationale sur les lésions cérébrales

FIRST READING, JUNE 2, 2022

PREMIÈRE LECTURE LE 2 JUIN 2022

MR. MACGREGOR

M. MACGREGOR

SUMMARY

This enactment provides for the development of a national strategy to support and improve brain injury awareness, prevention and treatment as well as the rehabilitation and recovery of persons living with a brain injury.

SOMMAIRE

Le texte prévoit l'élaboration d'une stratégie nationale visant à promouvoir et à améliorer la sensibilisation aux lésions cérébrales, la prévention et le traitement de ces lésions ainsi que la réadaptation et le rétablissement des personnes cérébrolésées.

BILL C-277

An Act to establish a national strategy on brain injuries

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

Short Title

Short title

1 This Act may be cited as the *National Strategy on Brain Injuries Act*.

National Strategy

Development

2 (1) The Minister of Health must, in consultation with representatives of the provincial governments responsible for health, Indigenous groups and relevant stakeholders, develop a national strategy to support and improve brain injury awareness, prevention and treatment as well as the rehabilitation and recovery of persons living with a brain injury.

Content

(2) The strategy must include measures designed to

- (a)** promote the implementation of preventive measures to reduce the risk of brain injuries;
- (b)** identify the training, education and guidance needs of health care and other professionals related to brain injury prevention and treatment and the rehabilitation and recovery of persons living with a brain injury;
- (c)** promote research and improve data collection on the incidence and treatment of brain injuries and on the rehabilitation and recovery of persons living with a brain injury;

PROJET DE LOI C-277

Loi prévoyant l'élaboration d'une stratégie nationale sur les lésions cérébrales

Sa Majesté, sur l'avis et avec le consentement du Sénat et de la Chambre des communes du Canada, édicte :

Titre abrégé

Titre abrégé

1 *Loi relative à la stratégie nationale sur les lésions cérébrales.*

Stratégie nationale

Élaboration

2 (1) Le ministre de la Santé, en consultation avec les représentants des gouvernements provinciaux responsables de la santé, des groupes autochtones et des parties concernées, élabore une stratégie nationale visant à promouvoir et à améliorer la sensibilisation aux lésions cérébrales, la prévention et le traitement de ces lésions ainsi que la réadaptation et le rétablissement des personnes cérébrolésées.

Contenu

(2) La stratégie prévoit des mesures visant à :

- a)** promouvoir la mise en place de mesures préventives destinées à réduire les risques de lésions cérébrales;
- b)** déterminer les besoins en formation, information et orientation des professionnels de la santé et d'autres domaines en matière de prévention et de traitement des lésions cérébrales ainsi que de réadaptation et de rétablissement des personnes cérébrolésées;
- c)** promouvoir la recherche et améliorer la collecte de données sur l'incidence et le traitement des lésions

(d) promote information and knowledge sharing with respect to brain injury prevention, diagnosis and treatment and the rehabilitation and recovery of persons living with a brain injury;

(e) create national guidelines on the prevention, diagnosis and management of brain injuries in all communities, including recommended standards of care that reflect best methodological, medical and psychosocial practices;

(f) promote awareness and education with particular emphasis on improving public understanding and protecting the rights of persons living with a brain injury;

(g) foster collaboration with and provide financial support to national, provincial and local brain injury associations and brain injury service providers to develop and provide enhanced and integrated mental health resources for persons living with a brain injury and for their families;

(h) encourage consultation with mental health professionals, particularly in educational institutions, sports organizations and workplaces, to provide persons who are suffering from the effects of a brain injury, including mental health and addiction problems, with a support system within the community;

(i) identify challenges resulting from brain injury, such as mental health problems, addiction, housing and homelessness issues and criminality, including intimate partner violence, and work to develop solutions in collaboration with stakeholders;

(j) maintain, in collaboration with Brain Injury Canada, a national information website providing current facts, research and best practices related to the diagnosis and management of brain injuries, as well as other relevant resources; and

(k) establish a task force to include policy makers, stakeholders, community agencies, brain injury associations and Indigenous groups, as well as persons who have experienced a brain injury and their families, to make recommendations in relation to the national strategy.

cérébrales de même que sur la réadaptation et le rétablissement des personnes cérébrolésées;

d) promouvoir la communication de l'information et des connaissances sur la prévention, le diagnostic et le traitement des lésions cérébrales et sur la réadaptation et le rétablissement des personnes cérébrolésées;

e) établir des lignes directrices nationales sur la prévention, le diagnostic et la prise en charge des lésions cérébrales dans toutes les collectivités, lesquelles doivent comprendre la recommandation de normes de soins qui reflètent les meilleures pratiques méthodologiques, médicales et psychosociales;

f) promouvoir la sensibilisation et l'information, et viser en particulier l'amélioration de la compréhension du public et la protection des droits des personnes cérébrolésées;

g) favoriser la collaboration avec les associations nationales, provinciales et locales de personnes cérébrolésées et avec les fournisseurs de services à ces personnes et les soutenir financièrement de manière à proposer aux personnes cérébrolésées et à leur famille des ressources en santé mentale bonifiées et intégrées;

h) encourager la consultation de professionnels de la santé mentale, en particulier au sein des établissements d'enseignement, des organisations sportives et des lieux de travail, de sorte que les personnes qui subissent les effets d'une lésion cérébrale, dont des problèmes de santé mentale ou de toxicomanie, bénéficient d'un réseau de soutien dans leur collectivité;

i) cerner les difficultés qu'occasionnent les lésions cérébrales, telles que des problèmes de santé mentale, de toxicomanie, de logement et d'itinérance ainsi que de criminalité, notamment de violence contre un partenaire intime, et œuvrer à trouver des solutions en collaboration avec les parties intéressées;

j) tenir, en collaboration avec Lésion cérébrale Canada, un site Web national d'information servant à diffuser l'actualité des faits, de la recherche et des pratiques exemplaires concernant le diagnostic et la prise en charge des lésions cérébrales, ainsi que d'autres ressources pertinentes;

k) créer un groupe de travail composé de responsables des politiques, de parties intéressées, d'organismes communautaires, d'associations de personnes cérébrolésées, de groupes autochtones ainsi que de personnes ayant subi des lésions cérébrales et de leur famille qui aura pour mandat de formuler des recommandations relativement à la stratégie nationale.

Reports to Parliament

Tabling of strategy

3 (1) Within one year after the day on which this Act comes into force, the Minister of Health must prepare a report setting out the strategy and cause the report to be tabled before each House of Parliament on any of the first 15 days on which that House is sitting after the report is completed. 5

Publication

(2) The Minister must publish the report on the website of the Department of Health within 10 days after the day on which the report is tabled in both Houses of Parliament. 10

Report

4 (1) Within five years after the day on which the report referred to in section 3 has been tabled in both Houses of Parliament, the Minister of Health must, in consultation with the parties referred to in subsection 2(1), evaluate the effectiveness of the strategy and the situation with respect to brain injury awareness, prevention and treatment, and to the rehabilitation and recovery of persons living with a brain injury, and prepare a report setting out conclusions and recommendations regarding the strategy. 15 20

Tabling of report

(2) The Minister must cause the report to be tabled before each House of Parliament on any of the first 15 days on which that House is sitting after it is completed.

Rapports au Parlement

Dépôt de la stratégie

3 (1) Dans l'année suivant la date d'entrée en vigueur de la présente loi, le ministre de la Santé établit un rapport énonçant la stratégie et le fait déposer devant chaque chambre du Parlement dans les quinze premiers jours de séance de celle-ci suivant son achèvement. 5

Publication

(2) Le ministre publie le rapport sur le site Web du ministère de la Santé dans les dix jours suivant la date de son dépôt devant les deux chambres du Parlement.

Rapport

4 (1) Dans les cinq ans suivant la date de dépôt du rapport prévu à l'article 3, le ministre de la Santé, en consultation avec les parties visées au paragraphe 2(1), évalue l'efficacité de la stratégie et la situation en matière de sensibilisation aux lésions cérébrales, de prévention et de traitement de ces lésions ainsi que de réadaptation et de rétablissement des personnes cérébrolésées et établit un rapport qui énonce ses conclusions et recommandations relativement à la stratégie. 10 15

Dépôt du rapport

(2) Le ministre fait déposer le rapport devant chaque chambre du Parlement dans les quinze premiers jours de séance de celle-ci suivant son achèvement. 20