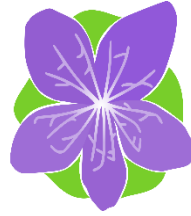


**NEW BRUNSWICK  
ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK**



**RÉSEAU ENVIRONNEMENTAL  
DU NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK**

**Results of the meeting between members of the Environmental Rights Caucus and the New Brunswick Liberal Party Caucus**

March 15th, 2022, meeting minutes

Saadia Hara, Environmental Health Programs Coordinator,

New Brunswick Environmental Network

On March 15th, 2022, the NB Liberal Party Caucus met with members of the Environmental Rights Caucus to discuss the ***NB Environmental Bill of Rights: An Act to Protect Children, all New Brunswickers and Nature***. Lois Corbett of the Conservation Council of New Brunswick, Marg Milburn, retired Public Health Nurse and Bonnie Hamilton Bogart of Voices for Sustainable Communities and Environments presented the —the Bill. The presentation was followed by a series of questions from the NB Liberal Party Caucus.

Marg Milburn and Bonnie Hamilton Bogart, shared that the purpose of the Bill is to ensure that all children, citizens and future generations in New Brunswick have the right to a healthy environment. The legislation will also define the obligations of the government to protect the rights of children, the entire population as well as the environment and put in place mechanisms that will allow them to access relevant environmental information and participate fully in decision-making processes. They also mentioned the different organizations and individuals who have signed on to support the bill. The commitment of the various community associations demonstrate that this Bill is very important to New Brunswickers.

The Liberal Party caucus members asked if there were similar bills in other provinces in Canada.

Lois Corbett of the Conservation Council of New Brunswick responded that to date, only three Canadian provinces (Ontario, Quebec and Prince Edward Island) have passed legislation that recognizes the human right to a healthy environment and NB is not one of them. This bill is therefore extremely important for the province.

Members of both caucuses also discussed jurisdictional issues related to the Bill and the impact that the Bill may have on the province if passed.

The meeting ended on a positive note and the Liberal Party caucus congratulated the members of the Environmental Rights Caucus and the NBEN for the excellent work that had been done.

**NGO participants:**

Conservation Council of NB: Lois Corbett

NB Environmental Network: Saadia Hara

**NB Environmental Rights Caucus Representatives**

Marg Milburn, Retired Public Health Nurse

Bonnie Hamilton Bogart, Voice for Sustainable Communities and Environments

**NB Liberal Party Caucus**

Francine Landry, MLA, Madawaska-Les-Lacs-Edmundston

Nicole Picot, Chief of Staff, Office of the Official Opposition

Roger Melanson, Interim Leader of the Official Opposition of New Brunswick

Benoît Bourque, MLA, Kent South

Other members of the Liberal Party Caucus