

**KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE**  
**MACA Legislation Agenda**  
**Committee of the Whole—2019-2020 Operating Budget Review**  
**Dept. of Municipal and Community Affairs—February 27, 2019**

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. I think this is the part of the department that is responsible for, as it says here, overall direction and planning. This is a big department, in that they have a whole bunch of legislative responsibilities that include things like consumer protection and a number of other areas that I just can't put my fingers on, but legislation coming out the other end hasn't been very quick. I know the previous Minister had talked about sort of a legislative priority-setting exercise to look at the big backlog of requirements in terms of legislative change. I haven't seen anything happening over the last several months, that I'm aware of. Is this something that's still going on within the department to help set legislative priorities? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson):** Thank you. Minister.

**HON. ALFRED MOSES:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes, we do have a list of legislation through the department. Obviously, we want to prioritize them. We have one before standing committee right now, and it's something that I will continue to work on. As I mentioned, the department, we only have so many resources to do the work that we can. There is a list of legislation that needs to be done, and we are working on it. When we did get the mandates from the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly, it did take away some of our resources to focus on getting this mandate done. At the same time, as you heard earlier, we are continuing to work with municipalities on addressing some of the issues there. It is a challenge to get all this done, but I just wanted to inform the Member that we do have a list of legislation that will need to get done, and we're doing the best that we can in that area. I think 911 is one of the areas that we are focusing on, and I appreciate the committee for working with us on that. I'm looking forward to getting that one passed. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson):** Thank you. Mr. O'Reilly.

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair, and I recognize the good work that the department has done in terms of implementing, or beginning to implement, 911, and I commend them for that, but there is a number of other things here; the Fire Prevention Act, Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Property Tax Relief Act, Home Ownership Property Tax Rebate Act, Consumer Protection Act, further changes to the Cities, Towns and Villages Act. The Minister knows the backlog better than I. Does the department have a process for setting priorities amongst those? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson):** Minister.

**HON. ALFRED MOSES:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. As I mentioned, I know that there are a lot of acts within this department that need to be addressed. I think 911 is going to be one that is going to be very successful, and one that we're going to monitor and evaluate as it proceeds. Yes, we do have a plan, based on our resources, that we can address some of these legislation priorities. We will deal with them the best that we can.

I know, during business plans, we did have questions whether or not our department was resourced well enough to address some of these issues, and as I just previously mentioned, we're doing the best that we can with the resources that we have.

I know there are some concerns. I know we're going into a new election this fall. We do have a transition committee and, if there is any legislation that Members would like to see moved forward into the next government, I encourage them to bring them forward. We only have about seven months until the writ is dropped, and I know some of our committees have a lot of bills on their plate at the moment. We do have a plan. We're working on it. We're doing the best that we can with the resources that we have. Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson):** Thank you. Mr. O'Reilly.

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. Can the Minister share that plan with standing committee? Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson):** Thank you. Minister.

**HON. ALFRED MOSES:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. As we are working on this legislation, once we have a document done, we will share it with committee. We will make sure that it is shared before the transition documents are completed so that the next government that comes in knows what legislation needed to be completed within our department. Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson):** Thank you. Mr. O'Reilly.

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. Yes, I want to thank the Minister for that commitment. I look forward to seeing the priorities that the department has set for legislative change. That will be a very helpful and interesting document to look at for transition planning. Thank you, Mr. Chair. That is all I have.