

MOTION

No. 77

Urging government to explore the feasibility of a four-day work week in Prince Edward Island

Peter Bevan-Baker gives notice that tomorrow he will move, seconded by Lynne Lund, the following motion:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted work schedules and the economy generally;

AND WHEREAS an opportunity exists to reimagine how our work lives are organized;

AND WHEREAS individual companies, municipalities and indeed nation states are all experimenting with the notion of a four-day work week;

AND WHEREAS productivity gains related to the establishment of a four-day work week have been shown to be substantial;

AND WHEREAS a four-day work week provides for better work-life balance and improved quality of life;

AND WHEREAS flexible hours allow for expanded services and enhanced worker satisfaction;

AND WHEREAS evidence suggests that a four-day work week closes the gender wage gap and increases diversity in the workforce;

AND WHEREAS a reduction in commuting hours is good for mental and physical health, saves money, and takes pressure off road infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS a four-day work week will reduce office operating costs such as heating and lighting;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislative Assembly urge government to study the feasibility of P.E.I.'s civil service adopting a four-day work week where practicable;

AND THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that government study measures that could be taken to encourage flexible hours and a four-day work week throughout the economy.

Signed: Peter Bevan-Baker

Signed: Lynne Lund

Date: 16 June 2020