

Nippard said if the petition, and Liberal motion, don't get action from government, his committee will hold town hall meetings so the public can voice their concerns.

And he said if that doesn't work, his group will march on Confederation Building and "make a big scene."

Jones to take petition to House

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TRANSCONTINENTAL MEDIA

ST. JOHN'S — A citizens' committee says it's time the government did something about the number of moose/vehicle accidents on the province's highways.

A half-dozen members of the Save Our People Action Committee presented the province's official Opposition with a 20,000-name petition Tuesday.

Each of the half-dozen committee members had either been in a collision with a moose or had a loved one injured or killed in a moose/vehicle accident.

"We've been fighting tooth and nail with the PC party since the third of July," committee chairman Eugene Nippard told reporters and Liberal Leader Yvonne Jones at her office.

But he said the committee's efforts have "hit a brick wall."

"Nothing's been done," Nippard said. "They say they're cutting a bit of extra brush (along the roadsides) but that doesn't cut it."

He said "nuisance moose" need to be taken off the highway.

"If we take the moose off the highway, then we won't run into them," Nippard said. "And if they are going to keep the moose in the province, we've got to fence the highway."

Nippard said New Brunswick has 500 kilometres of moose fencing on its roads, and claims moose/vehicle accidents in that province have declined by 80 per cent.

"We've got close to 150,000 moose in our province compared to 50,000 in New Brunswick," Nippard said.

Jones has heard many tragic stories about moose/vehicle collisions and how they have affected families across the province. She thanked Nippard and the committee for all their hard work doing research and collecting names.

"As the leader of the Opposition, I'm more than happy to bring the petition to the House of Assembly, but we will do more than that," Jones said.

She said the Liberals will also put a motion on the floor of the House asking the government to commission a study on how to cut down on moose accidents. Jones said it's been about 12 years since the last study was done.

"If you look at where the statistics are today, they are telling us that the moose population is growing, the number of accidents is growing (and) the number of fatalities on our roads is growing as a result of it," she said.