

Opposition wants dates, agenda for fall session

The provincial opposition says it is getting frustrated waiting for the government to announce plans for the opening of the fall session of the House of Assembly and their expected legislative agenda.

"Most legislatures across Canada are already open and debating legislation," said Opposition House Leader Kelvin Parsons in a news release.

"There is a continuous trend developing in this province that our current government will wait until the absolute last minute to open the legislature and then rush towards closure in the shortest time possible. We know that the premier and his government do not enjoy the House of Assembly and the daily scrutiny the government receives, but the people of the province deserve their legislature opened and issues debated."

Parsons said the opposition has not been told what legislation will be presented when the house does sit, and no timelines to allow detailed and proper preparation for this debate.

He said the opposition parties need proper notice to research legislation so members can offer points for debate.

"These are the continued actions of a government that dislikes criticism and refuses to act in an open, transparent and accountable manner," he said.

"I challenge the premier to provide us with a clear date as to when the House of Assembly will open and immediately give us some indication as to what legislation we will be asked to research, prepare and debate in the coming weeks on behalf of the people of Newfoundland and Labrador."