

Legislative Library Bibliothèque de l'Assemblée législative

January 24, 2023

Dear Members and Legislative staff,

Next week the Legislative Assembly will begin the fourth year of its Legislative Internship program. This program introduces New Brunswick university students to Members, Legislative Officers, and staff of the Legislative Assembly, and enables them to participate in important non-partisan projects. The goal of the program is to help these students better understand the various roles and activities of the legislative branch of government and to prepare them for possible careers in public service.

The Legislative Internship program is the initiative of Dr. Tom Bateman of the Department of Political Science at St. Thomas University, in cooperation with colleagues from other New Brunswick universities. The program also has the support of the Future GNB Initiative of the Finance and Treasury Board and the Assembly's Legislative Administration Committee.

Two students have been selected for the internship program for 2023. Each are full-time students who will complete their internship on a part-time basis (20 hours per week). This year's interns are Naïkema Nicolas and Drew Richardson. Ms. Nicolas, a fourth year student, is working towards a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in political science and a minor in public relations at the Université de Moncton. Mr. Richardson, a fifth year student, is working towards a Bachelor of Arts degree with honours in political science and a minor in economics at the University of New Brunswick. Their internships will start January 30th and end May 19th, and most, if not all, of their tasks will be completed remotely. The interns will fall under the responsibility of the Legislative Library with direct supervision provided by our Research Officer, Shannon Armstrong.

The internship initiative is strictly non-partisan. Ms. Nicolas and Mr. Richardson will sign a standard affirmation/oath of office and will be held to the highest standards of professionalism, integrity and discretion. They will be available to work with all MLAs, the Officers of the Legislative Assembly, and standing committees.

The following are examples of the type of work you may wish to request of the interns:

- Background research on legislative or committee consideration of bills, motions, questions, and other investigations;
- Work on constituents' requests, problems, or proposals of a non-partisan character;
- Help with planning public engagement activities.

In keeping with the non-partisan character of this program, Ms. Nicolas and Mr. Richardson cannot be asked to assist with party-related activities.

I hope you will consider obtaining the interns' assistance for any upcoming projects you may have. Please send all requests to Shannon Armstrong at shannon.armstrong@gnb.ca. She will distribute the requests evenly between the two interns.

Sincerely,

Kenda Clark-Gorey Legislative Librarian