



# SEN. PJ PROSPER SEEKS TO RE-INTRODUCE:

## AN ACT RESPECTING A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE REPATRIATION OF INDIGENOUS HUMAN REMAINS AND CULTURAL PROPERTY



Introduced in the House of Commons - Feb. 1, 2018 by MP Bill Casey (Cumberland-Colchester)

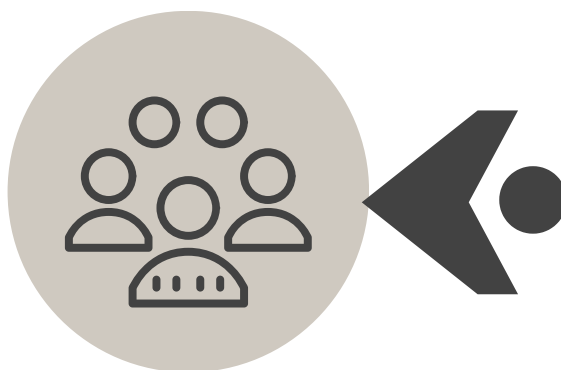


Received in the Senate - Feb. 20, 2019  
Died on the Order Paper when Parliament was recessed in June, 2019 and a federal election was called that fall.



### 6 DAYS OF DEBATE

There was a total of 3 days debate at 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, 1 day of consideration at report stage, and two days of debate at 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading. There was no debate in the Senate.



### 5 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

15 different witnesses appeared before committee, representing 6 different Indigenous organizations from across Canada.



### UNANIMOUS VOTE

There were 10 minor amendments made during committee consideration and the bill subsequently passed unanimously at 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading.

#### Pros and Cons of a Private Member's Bill/Senate Public Bill

##### Pros

- Highlights the importance of an issue or initiative by spurring debate in both Chambers
- Generates a body of evidence including affected peoples and subject matter experts through committee studies
- Creates action and progress on topics important to the group the Senator is hoping to serve by introducing the Bill

##### Cons

- Cannot include any measures that would create new government expenditures

**Example of Note:**  
*The Federal Framework on Autism Spectrum Disorder Act was introduced as a Senate Public Bill and resulted in a co-developed national framework as well as major budget commitments.*

### SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS

1. The definition of *Minister* was amended to specify the Minister of Canadian Heritage.
2. A reference to the inclusion of provinces and territories in the co-development of the strategy was added.
3. Explicit reference to Article 31 of UNDRIP was added
4. The scope of the bill was expanded to include human remains in addition to cultural property.

5. The Bill was changed to specify that a report on the national framework must be tabled in both Houses of Parliament within three years of receiving Royal Assent.
6. The scope of the report to be tabled two years after the launch of the national strategy was expanded to "include the Minister's conclusions and recommendations regarding the strategy and any outcomes that result from its implementation and it may include appropriate information on repatriated Indigenous human remains and cultural property and any repatriation efforts currently under way".
7. The title and short title were changed to reflect the expanded scope from an earlier amendment.



### CONTACT US

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### Important Disclaimer

As a Senator, Senator Prosper is not a member of the Government; he is a federal Parliamentarian dedicated to voicing regional and concerns from marginalized groups. His outreach is not considered consultation; rather, his dedication to hearing directly from those affected by federal actions is his way of ensuring that every intervention he makes in Parliament carries the weight and wisdom of those who offer their thoughts, ideas, aspirations and concerns to him.