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## **Regan: NDP Plan to Address Fire Marshal Problems Overdue**



Liberal labour critic Kelly Regan says the NDP government is late in delivering its plan to address the serious shortcomings at the provincial Fire Marshal's Office.

During question period on May 19th, the Minister of Labour and Advanced Education told the legislature that she "asked the associate deputy minister to work full time, effective immediately, on this file, to indicate the seriousness with which we take the recommendations from the Auditor General" and that her government was "releasing our action plan on May 31st."

"The minister told us there would be a strategy released on May 31st - that date has come and gone with no public release of this plan. It doesn't appear the NDP government takes this significant safety concern seriously," said Regan. "Nova Scotians deserve to know if the building they are working in or where they send their children to school has been inspected."

Regan also expressed concern with the minister's failure to reform the Fire Marshal's Office before the Auditor General's report made the issue public.

"The minister knew about this problem for a year and she did not warn Nova Scotians," said Regan. "The Labour Department has neglected the problems at FMO, so I have doubts about how effectively they will address the issue now, if at all."

Regan believes the government should release a list of all of the buildings the FMO has inspected in the meantime.

"While we're waiting for her government to finally take action, perhaps the minister can tell us which buildings the Fire Marshal's Office actually inspected," said Regan. "At least that way, some Nova Scotians will have peace of mind."