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Politics

War brides motion close to passing

Legislature Journal Briefs

FREDERICTON - The New Brunswick legislature could pass a motion as early as next week recognizing 2006 as the Year of the War Bride.

Fredericton North Liberal MLA T.J. Burke introduced the motion in the legislature Friday, making him the first Canadian MLA to throw his support behind a campaign urging Ottawa to declare next year in honour of war brides to mark the 60th anniversary of the arrival of the majority of them in Canada.

Government House Leader Brad Green and Premier Bernard Lord both applauded as Mr. Burke read his motion and Mr. Green later confirmed the government will support it. He said it is expected to pass next Thursday.

Mr. Burke, whose grandmother was a war bride, said he hopes his motion will encourage other legislatures to follow suit.

About 40,000 war brides plus their children came to Canada in 1946. About 3,000 came to New Brunswick.