
From: jordan zukowski [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 19, 2015 2:59 PM
To: Minister of Communities, Culture & Heritage; Office of the Legislative Counsel; Minister, Internal Services
Subject: Proposed Changes to NS Heritage Properties Act

Hon. Labi Kousoulis, Hon. Tony Ince & Hon. Diana C. Whalen,

I am writing to you today regarding Bill 118 which proposes amendments to the Heritage Properties Act.

If passed, this legislation will weaken the protection of valuable heritage properties within the province. In order to preserve our diverse history and culture we should encourage the listing of an increased amount of heritage properties within the province, rather than encouraging deregistration.

Clauses 1,3 and 8 of Bill 118 will make it easier to remove a heritage building from the listing due to 'hardship to the owner.' However, the registration of a heritage building should be based on architectural significance, not an owners financial difficulty. Additionally clause 9 will repeal permanent protection of municipal heritage properties in conservation districts, weakening the protection in neighbourhood areas such as Barrington Street in Halifax. Finally, clauses 2 and 7 will also make it easier to deregister parts of heritage properties. As a hearing is necessary to designate a heritage property, deregistering it should also involve a mandatory hearing.

Please consider the significant alterations that Bill 118 will make to the Heritage Properties Act in terms of weakening heritage protection within the province as Bill 118 goes to the Law Amendments Committee on Monday November 23.

Thank you for your time,

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