From:

K.J.Jacques

Sent:

Wednesday, March 01, 2017 4:44 PM

To:

Office of the Legislative Counsel

Subject:

Bill 59 - written submission to Law Amendments Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to present a written submission on Bill 59 (the"Accessibility Act").

Firstly, let me express my pride in residing in a Province committed to fairness and equality for all - including citizens living with disabilities. I am in favour of all provisions and supports currently outlined in the legislative proposal.

However, as former Director of the Canadian Association for Community Living, Clare Branch, I urge the Law Amendments Committee to add a further crucial provision - the enshrinement in law for safe, accessible and affordable housing in community as a guaranteed right for all persons with disabilities. I am not referring to segregated housing in group homes or other institutions - I am urging the Committee to ensure that persons with disabilities can live as full community members, with provisions for necessary supports provided in their own homes. This is an issue of human dignity and full citizenship.

Thank you, once again,

Kathleen Jacques

Kathleen Jacques, Ph.D.

New Edinburgh, NS