From: AnneCamozziArtStudio <camozziartstudio@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 02, 2017 11:28 AM **To:** Office of the Legislative Counsel

Cc: McFadyen, Sandra D; randy@delorey4antigonish.ca

**Subject:** Accessibility legislation submission

To whom it may concern:

I wish this letter to be read into the record of the hearings about the accessibility legislation being held today.

I am a 62 year old disabled individual who uses both a manual and power wheelchair, living in Antigonish NS. Due to medical issues I am unable to attend a video session, or attend the hearings in person.

There are many things about the legislation that are critical to the future of this province, but also to me as an individual, who faces many barriers, sometimes just getting to medical appointments. The same barriers that I face, affect young families with baby carriages and the elderly. It's time people starting understanding the connections between accessibility and economics. If disabled people can't get into a workplace, who is paying their groceries and rent? If I can't get to a medical appointment and develop a health issue, the province then spends more money on me. If I can't into an eating establishment or it doesn't have a bathroom for me, I can't spend my money there but it also poses a health risk to me as I might try and eat there anyway, without any opportunity to wash my hands, or use a washroom. If a young person with a baby carriage has the same problem, they can't spend their money there either, never mind that this is just not fair. Since when has it been allowed to discriminate so openly against so many people? Is this not enshrined in the rights we enjoy in our constitution? Does it not enshrine equality for all?

If we are to build an economic future for this province, truly inclusive of everyone, as well as a fair society that takes into account the social determinants of health, this legislation is critical to our shared futures.

I would like it officially added to the record that <u>I strongly support and endorse a document that is being</u> submitted to the legislature, entitled

## **Principles to Redraft Bill 59**

## The Nova Scotia Accessibility Act

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you wish further information.

Can you please acknowledge that this has been received and added to the commentary on the legislation? If I have not directed this email to the correct person can you please see that it is directed so that it is added to the record. It is the only way I am able to input.

Thanks so much.

Anne Camozzi, Antigonish, Nova Scotia