

Presentation to law Amendments Committee
concerning Bill 163
October 7, 2019

Philip Connolly
Roger Porter

Law Amendments, Monday, October, 7, 2019. Bill 163

Mr. Chair, Members of the Law Amendments Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before this committee, the only one of its kind in the whole of this country. We need to guard our democracy jealously, and this committee provides a valuable venue for citizens to make their views known.

My name is Roger Porter and my colleague is Phillip Connolly. It has been 10 years since we last presented here, and, today we speak to the very same subject as we did then, but this time in a much different and satisfying light.

We are addressing and supporting Bill 163, in its entirety, and specifically, Item 5, (2), Subsection 23(4C), (a) through to (e), the Grant Lake-Ross Lake trail.

We commend Premier Stephen McNeil, the Minister of Environment, The Honorable Gordon Wilson, his staff, especially Mr. Peter Labor, and the Minister of Transportation Infrastructure and Renewal, the Honorable Lloyd Hines, for bringing this forward. In addition, we commend Mr. Raymond Plourde and staff of the Ecology Action Centre for their cooperation and understanding.

The long existing connector Grant Lake-Ross Lake Trail in the Ogden Round Lake Wilderness Area, when brought up to standard, will have a dramatic effect on wilderness access and enjoyment, in addition to a very positive effect on the economy of Eastern Nova Scotia. Also, the Trans Canada Trail can now be completed.

It is our desire to work with NSE, and the other stakeholders to upgrade this trail that has existed for generation. We assure you there will be no shortage of help.

As we reach the autumn, perhaps winter, of our lives we look back on our successes and failures. Although this may not seem like much to some, considering the effort and time involved, we must consider the designation of this trail among our major achievements.

Once again, **thank you**, and we will be celebrating with music, refreshments and song for God knows how long in Guysborough County, District Two, when this Bill is proclaimed into law.

Respectfully Submitted,

Philip Connolly and Roger Porter
Representing the citizens of Guysborough County