
From: kathrin winkler [REDACTED]
Sent: October 28, 2019 10:45 AM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Submission regarding Bill 213

**** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE ****

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RE: BILL 213 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS ACT Monday, October 26
Submission by kathrin winkler [REDACTED]

Dear Members of the Provincial Legislature,

I write to you this morning with urgency and with respect. Representation calls you to great privilege and great responsibility. We, as a society, a human family, are moving through a small window of possibility. The house is on fire, and as elected officials you can choose whether we enter deeper into the flames or whether we move towards a breathable, liveable future for all beings.

Five years ago a report, entitled **Now or Never** set the sails for economic development and business expansion in this province. That report was based on the false promise of a vibrant future. There is feeble mention of the environment, let alone any mention of the gathering surge of scientific evidence proving that business as usual has guided us toward mass extinction, social collapse and ecocide.

Old political language that "our economy is thriving" headed the weekend newspaper and it is outrageous to claim, as the honourable Premier did on that front page, that "tough decisions have helped Nova Scotia prosper." Prosper for whom? What is the true cost to future generations of this 'prosperity'? 10,000 Nova Scotians marching for climate action have demanded a new "Now or Never" that speaks the truth and acts on that truth- and what you offer in Bill 213 is not good enough. We can do better. Why not aspire to Norway's leadership - to be carbon neutral by 2030? Don't underestimate the capability we have and the responsibility that is ours - now or never.

The proposed GHG emissions targets are not good enough. It's that simple. We don't get a second chance here. The IPCC Report and the Paris Agreement must be the guide in setting those targets. The targets must be based in science and must represent our fair share. We have to reimagine what 'sustainable prosperity' looks like, because it does not look like greenwashing Muskrat falls or piping waste into the ocean. Sustainable prosperity does not look like a mess of tailing ponds from gold mines, or flushing salt into rivers or clear cutting, or fracking, spraying glysophate, burning coal. It does not look like building a road through old growth forest...or paying lawyers to argue that shall is not an imperative when it comes to consultation with conservationists.

A legislated target of 53% below 2005 levels by 2030, for Nova Scotia fails us all. Bill 213 is a **now or never bill**. We need a legislated target of 50% below 1990 levels by 2030 (equivalent to 58% below 2005 levels by 2030).

This spring while speaking at the Chamber of Commerce, about his role in managing this province to grow population, control government spending, to provide economic opportunity for more job

growth, Mr. McNeil said that, "as a parent, I was never afraid of my children leaving, as a matter of fact I would encourage it...but I wanted them to have a path back. "

And the grandchildren? What of our grandchildren? What will that path back look like for them? There will be no land path any more. The oceans will have risen. Will they head back from the mainland by boat over waters too warm for the salmon farms, where the right whale is a distant memory... and in the scorched silence that surrounds the children of our future there will be no birdsong to accompany their burdened steps.

If we fail... all our achievements and progress have been for nothing, and all that will remain of our political leaders' legacy will be the greatest failure of human history. And they will be remembered as the greatest villains of all time, because they have chosen not to listen and not to act." Greta Thunberg

all the best
kathrin winkler

I am acknowledging that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.