

**BILL 53 - An Act Respecting the Fur Industry
"Fur Industry Act"**

**Presentation by: Hazen Prime, owner of 340 Feeds & Freezers Ltd,
to Standing Committee on Law Amendments, May 5, 2010.**

Thank you Mr. Chair.

My name is Hazen Prime. I own 340 Feeds & Freezers Ltd. which is a feed kitchen and freezer plant.

My plant is located in Havelock, Digby County. It is approximately 10 miles from Weymouth on the 340 Highway.

At the present time I have 28 feed customers from my community to Berwick that we deliver feed to on a daily basis.

We will be feeding 200,00 plus mink this growing season that will consume or eat up 18 million lbs of feed.

My feed kitchen feeds about 15% of the mink produced in Nova Scotia. There are also two other large feed kitchens, Nova Feeds Ltd. and Sea Crest Fisheries Ltd. along with half a dozen feed kitchens that feed between 20,000 and 100,000 mink each.

With all feed kitchens put together approximately 120 million lbs of feed is fed to mink each year in Nova Scotia. That would be 60,000 tons which would be 2,700 tractor trailer loads in one year. 52 tractor trailer loads a week or 7 tractor trailer loads a day.

We the feed kitchens that supply this great industry buy fish waste and herring from the fishing industry, plus we have to import some from the States and other provinces.

We could use every lb of chicken offal or waste there is in Nova Scotia if we can get it. We also bring in chicken from Ontario and Quebec to feed our animals.

Where would all of this waste product go if we were not here?

We are all aware of environmental issues and how important our environment is to us. We must work together to protect it.

That brings me to another very important note.

My feed kitchen was in the news last year as polluting a lake near by it and the Metegan River water system.

We proved this to be wrong. I hired an engineer and he designed me a system so none of my waste water from my plant goes into the old lagoons.

This cost me tens of thousands of dollars but I did it to fix what was thought by the Department of Environment to be the problem. My engineer proved that the nitrate levels in the lake were higher than the lagoons.

So I have fixed a problem that was thought to be a problem but turned out not to be.

In closing I would like to say this is one of the few industries in agriculture that is profitable and there is room for expansion.

I support Bill 53 and thank you for this chance to come and share my story with you today.