

Submission to Law Amendments

Bill No. 50

An Act to Amend Chapter 37 of the Acts of 2005, the Correctional Services Act, and Chapter 31 of the Acts of 2004, the Police Act.

7 May 2010

The Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia fully supports Bill No. 50, "An Act to Amend Chapter 37 of the Acts of 2005, the Correctional Services Act, and Chapter 31 of the Acts of 2004, the Police Act."

Uniform training programs and guidelines for correctional services employees and police officers who work with individuals who have or develop schizophrenia, as well as other mental disabilities such as psychosis and bipolar disorder, are important public health and safety requirements. Some of these individuals have special needs with respect to their illnesses and medical interventions are required under certain circumstances. Uniform training programs and guidelines for correctional services employees and police officers would ensure that the required medical interventions were timely, and effective.

Stephen W. Ayer, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia

Phone: (902) 465-2601
Toll-free (Nova Scotia): 1-800-465-2601
Cell: (902) 237-0018

Room B23, E.C. Purdy Building
300 Pleasant Street
P.O. Box 1004, Station Main
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B2Y 3Z9