November 30th, 2010

To: Members of the Law Amend

Nova Scotia Chambers of Commerce

Re: Bill 100 - An Act to Create a 605 Prince Street

Dear Committee Members

Truro, NS

B2N 1G0

The Nova Scotia Chambers of Commerce is adding its voice to the many businesses and business organizations expressing concern over Bill 100 and, more specifically, clauses that have been added to the Bill.

The original intent of the Bill – to create a unified Labour Board – is a laudable one. Unfortunately, it appears the Bill has been moved far beyond its original intention and without the consultation of the business community.

Some of the issues that are of particular concern to our organizations and our members include:

Establishment of a Labour Management Review Committee (What would be the proposed mandate, responsibilities and composition of this committee?)

Requiring, by legislation, those who take over government contracts for service to also accept the union that represented the government workers who performed the function, their collective agreement and, as we understand it, all employees. (This would limit the ability of governments, now and in the future, to explore private sector-based solutions and would limit the contractor's ability to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the service)

Requiring employers to post a bond when appealing a labour decision

The Nova Scotia Chambers of Commerce, comprised of 33 Chambers of Commerce throughout the province, is respectfully requesting that this Bill be delayed, allowing for proper consultation to take place between departmental staff and the business community. This proposed policy could weigh heavily on Nova Scotia businesses; particularly the small business sector, which makes up the majority of this province's business community.

Sincerely,

Tim Tucker

Executive Director

Tim Tucker

Nova Scotia Chamber of Commerce