

A Helping Hand to a New Beginning



BIANS

Brain Injury Association of Nova Scotia

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December 10, 2011

The Honourable Ross Landry
Minister of Nova Scotia Department of Justice
Chair of the Law Amendments Committee
5151 Terminal Rd.
P O Box 7
Halifax, NS B3J 2L6
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Re: Snow Sport Helmet Act, Bill 131

To The Honourable Ross Landry & Law Amendments Committee members,

The Brain Injury Association of Nova Scotia was pleased to hear the December 6th, 2011 announcement regarding proposed Bill 131, The Snow and Sport Helmet Act, by The Minister of Health and Wellness, The Honourable Maureen MacDonald.

We know that skiing and snow-boarding head injuries occur on Nova Scotia ski hills. We also know that the severity of head injuries can be decreased by very high percentages with the use of helmets.

It is not only severe traumatic brain injuries that this legislation will help to prevent but also the unknown number of milder traumatic brain injuries commonly referred to as concussions.

The Brain Injury Association of Nova Scotia (BIANS) strongly encourages the government of Nova Scotia to pass this very important legislation.

Brain injuries of any severity affect more than just us as individuals. The human cost can be staggering and often lasts a lifetime for brain injury survivors and their families. It is estimated that a substantial brain injury costs up to \$400,000.00 for each survivor per year.

If this legislation saves one family from dealing with even a mild traumatic brain injury and the frustration, anxiety, depression and loss of income (not to mention the huge cost to the health care and related systems), then it is worth passing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don Sullivan". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Don Sullivan
President, BIANS