

INJURY FREE
NOVA SCOTIA
NOUVELLE-ÉCOSSE
SANS BLESSURES

December 9, 2011

Honourable Ross Landry
Minister of Nova Scotia Department of Justice
Chair of the Law Amendments Committee
5151 Terminal Road, P.O. Box 7,
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2L6

Re: Snow Sport Helmet Act, Bill 131

Honourable Ross Landry,

On behalf of Injury Free Nova Scotia, we want to confirm our full support for Bill 131, The Snow and Sport Helmet Act, announced on December 6th by the Minister of Health, Honourable Maureen MacDonald. We also want to acknowledge the leadership taken by the department, in approaching the issue with a process of inclusive engagement.

As our work engages us in partnership to alleviate preventable injuries within the province, we are aware of the sizeable costs related to traumatic brain injury. We also know that the sizeable economic cost, estimated at \$400,000 a year, does not even begin to represent the human cost of such injuries.

Nova Scotia has some wonderful ski hills, and we want to encourage people to continue pursuing the kind of active lifestyle that includes activities such as skiing and snowboarding. With helmets decreasing severity of head injury by as much as 88%, we believe this important piece of legislation helps manage the level of risk inherent within these activities.

Sincerely,



Shirley Ann Rogers, Executive Director



Dr. Natalie Yanchar, Board President