



ALPINE SKI NOVA SCOTIA

December 8, 2011

Honourable Ross Landry
Minister of Nova Scotia Department of Justice
Chair of the Law Amendments Committee
5151 Terminal Road
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Re: Snow Sport Helmet Act, Bill 131

Honourable Ross Landry,

I was pleased to hear the announcement of the Snow and Sport Helmet Act, Bill 131 by the Minister of Health, Honourable Maureen MacDonald on December 6th.

This is a very bold step and shows leadership, by the Province of Nova Scotia. I have been an advocate for helmets since I was made aware of what could have been the end result of a skiing accident at Ski Wentworth approximately 10 years. The individual involved was, a very competent skier, who simply had an accident. Fortunately, he was wearing a helmet, yet sustained a head injury that put him on a coma for a several weeks and then months of therapy. All indications are that without a helmet the outcome would have been very different including the strong possibility of death. I am pleased to state he is fine now, due to the excellent treatment he received here in Nova Scotia. My belief is that "a commercial helmet of any type" is far better than "no helmet".

It is a fact that skiing and snowboarding injuries occur on NS ski hills and the severity of head injury while skiing and snowboarding can be decreased by as much as 88% with the use of helmets; therefore, I strongly encourage you to pass this very important piece of legislation. It is simply and clearly the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

Edward C Wilton
President

CC: Gordon Hebb, Chief Legislative Counsel
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