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**From:** Judith Fingard <judith.fingard@dal.ca>  
**Sent:** December-03-12 2:16 PM  
**To:** Office  
**Subject:** Bill 157

To: Law amendments committee  
From: Judith Fingard, 605-5839 Cunard Street  
Re: Bill 157

I would like to add a few comments to those of the Friends of the Halifax Common as I cannot attend the Tuesday meeting to present in person.

As a citizen who lives on the edge of the North Common and also one who has skated on the boring and windy Oval, I am very disappointed to see priority given and exceptions made with respect to our sadly neglected Halifax Common for an activity that is individualistic (not team), commercially-driven (likely to result in advertising signs), and nuisance-prone (loud "music" and ridiculously bright lights). Why skaters deserve a permanent building for three months of the year when for generations sports teams of many varieties have coped for at least six months of the year without changing rooms, lockers, toilets, showers, and social space is difficult to fathom. To say nothing of the little children from poor neighbourhoods who have to share their wading pool with copious weeds and old people (like me) who have no place to sit during our perambulations. I do not recall this currently promoted feature being subjected to public consultations or any ideas being solicited for alternatives to permanent structures or ways to hide the unspeakably ugly machinery and barns that pertain to ice-making. In my humble opinion, HRM needs guidance from the provincial government on how to follow its own planning documents, not encouragement to adopt ad hoc schemes.