

From: HEATHER MCLEAN <hmgm@live.com>
Sent: April-28-14 10:27 AM
To: Office
Subject: Financial Measures Act...

For the LAW AMENDMENTS COMMITTEE....

I am writing in regard to the elimination of the Graduation Retention Rebate. I have written several letters, including but not limited to, one published in the Chronicle Herald as well as one directed to the Minister of Finance.

I am a nursing student from Dalhousie University due to graduate next month, (May, 2014). I am also a mother. I have struggled through four though years of continuing education to obtain my Bachelor of Science Degree.

Prior to applying for university in 2010 I was aware of the graduate retention rebate. I have looked forward to some peace of mind that would come from obtaining the rebate at the end of my hard work and dedication, as I had planned to remain in Nova Scotia as an RN. I am bitterly disappointed to discover that the GRR I have depended on for myself as well as my family is now being taken away, seemingly without any thought of consequence.

I have had to work throughout the entirety of my degree; I have paid dearly for my education. I have also paid thousands of dollars over and above 'regular tuition costs' for clinical placements/internships for work experience over the past four years.

I have had several offers for nursing jobs as a Registered Nurse in Nova Scotia, but unfortunately due to the combination of the essential services legislation leaving little to negotiate with, coupled with the retraction of the graduate retention rebate, I am not certain of what incentive I have to keep myself as well as my family in the province of Nova Scotia.

This decision to recede the GRR has been a devastation to many upcoming university graduates, furthermore it has breached confidence in the governing system.

Sincerely,
Heather M.G. McLean