

[REDACTED]

From: Shannon Libby [REDACTED]
Sent: May-05-15 8:53 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Sickened by Bill No. 108

RE: NS Film Tax Credit Change

Dear Law Amendments Committee,

My son has been an aspiring actor since the age of 9. He is 15 and is a member of the ACTRA Union. He has been diagnosed with 2 learning disabilities as well as Dysgraphia. Had it not been for the amazing skills he's developed in the film industry, I feel he just couldn't have had the opportunity to flourish in every area of his life so quickly like he has. Being in this industry has helped him in every aspect of his life... personally, professionally, socially, academically and especially spiritually. He now has a resume and a work history that is impressive compared for a kid his age.

My heart is breaking for our Nova Scotia film industry family who have worked so hard. The dedication I've seen doesn't come because of a pay cheque. It comes from the soul. The blood. The spirit of who they are meant to be.

How can you justify taking so much away from this profitable and vibrantly growing industry, that is vitally important to our province in so many ways, when we were promised by Mr. McNeil it would be protected until 2020?

Does what was done to the Nova Scotia Film Tax Credit come from a heart that has Nova Scotian culture and stories, our youth, jobs in it's

best interest? No. It doesn't come from the heart or any logical evaluation. It comes from somewhere, something else that we, the people, are not being considered.

It's shattered trust that the Liberal Party here in Nova Scotia may never ever be able to repair. This whole thing is a total mess. I see my film industry family fighting with smiles and hope on their faces and tears in their eyes, determined to fight the good fight in a fair and appealing way. We all feel so disheartened sitting on the edge of that brink of losing something so precious. We've always hugged each other, but now we hug longer and tighter.

I am asking you to carefully consider the implications of Clauses 15, 16 and 21 of Bill No. 108. With the broken trust issue, we are now looking at the dissemination of a prosperous film industry that has taken years of dedication and heart and soul to build. The film industry in Nova Scotia has proven its economic, cultural and social value. This value was not evaluated prior to the decision to cut the film tax credit or any other changes for that matter. Creative Industry NS was a vital component for many years to the film industry. The new production fund offered has created great instability on the business side of the industry. The industry is suffering terribly because of this lack of certainty, that the reputation it has gained is quickly fraying. The July 1st, 2015 effective date of this new fund is so inconsiderate it makes this whole situation even more sickening.

How could such decisions be made? How in God's Green Earth did this happen and Why??

Carefully consider what is happening here. Notice and consider what more and more citizens are waking up to. They're waking up and exercising to their democratic right to be heard and respected. If you don't start making some smarter decisions you will have your hands full

trying to deal with, us, the people, who are Beyond Fed Up. I say STOP giving tax breaks to the uber rich, and start getting smart about the things that really matter. I am so happy to have this opportunity to write to you. I am so very proud of the heart and solidarity we, as a province, as Canadians, have seen amongst not only the citizens who are directly affected by these changes to the film tax credit, but by all citizens affected by this austerity budget that has so blatantly pulled the rug out from under our youth, our sick, our elderly, our culture.

It's long, long overdue. We need to see change in our political system that obliterates this system of Government Over the People. We won't stop now until this is changed to Government for the people and by the people. So please make your decisions wisely.

Shannon Libby
Dartmouth, NS